

FILE: 09-4200-01/22

**REPORT DATE:** May 08, 2022                      **MEETING DATE:** May 17, 2022  
**TO:** Mayor and Council  
**FROM:** Kate Barchard, Corporate Officer  
**SUBJECT:** 2022 Federal Electoral Districts Redistribution

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REVIEW/APPROVAL:**



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**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

THAT Council:

- A. Direct staff, under the Mayor's signature, to submit written comments in opposition to the newly proposed electoral district boundaries; AND
- B. Direct staff to share news of the electoral district redistribution plan through the City's social media channels and encourage public participation at the upcoming public hearings; AND
- C. Direct staff to share this staff report with Katzie First Nation leadership to ensure their awareness of these pending changes; AND/OR
- D. Other.

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**PURPOSE**

To inform Council and the public of the Federal government's intention to redistribute the electoral districts in BC and the potential impact on Pitt Meadows.

Information Report                       Decision Report                       Direction Report

## **DISCUSSION**

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### **Background:**

The Constitution of Canada requires that federal electoral districts be reviewed after every 10-year census, to reflect changes and movements in Canada's population. Based on the representation formula found in the Constitution, the number of federal electoral districts in British Columbia will increase from 42 to 43.

The current federal redistribution process began in October 2021 with the establishment of 10 provincial commissions to review and report on the readjustment of the representation of the provinces in the House of Commons.

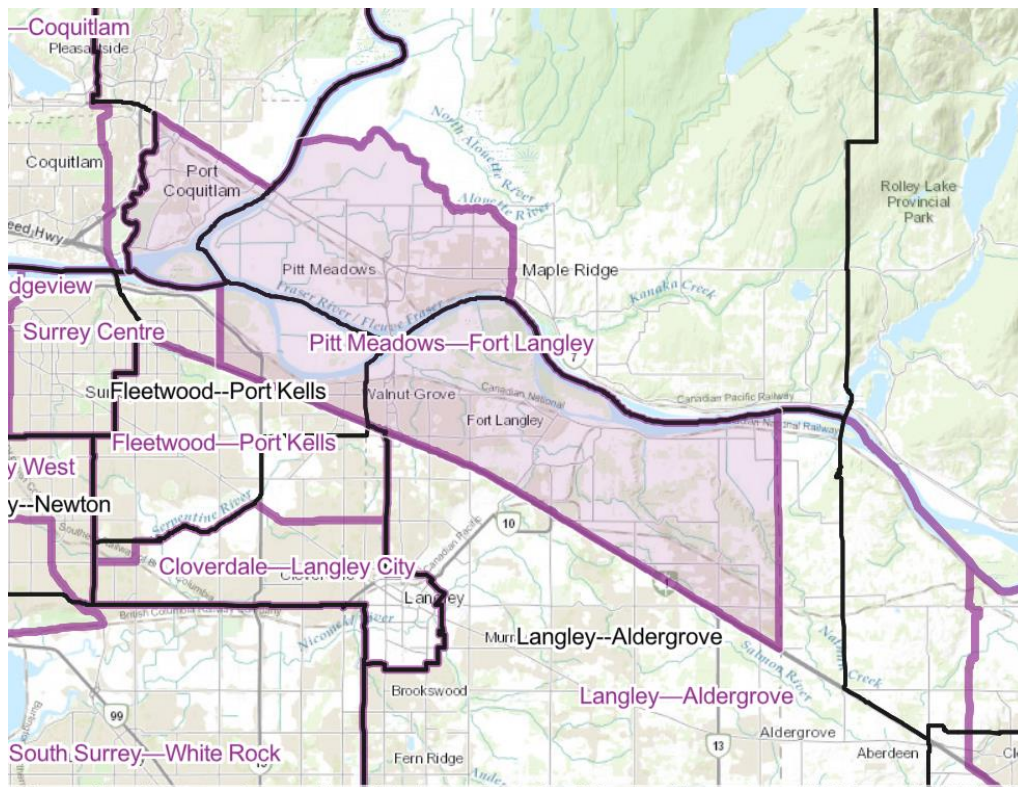
### **Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for British Columbia**

The Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for British Columbia was established and tasked with adding one additional riding to BC and adjusting the boundaries of existing ridings to maintain effective federal representation for all British Columbians. The increase in electoral districts to 43 is the result of increased population in the province. The 2021 decennial census reports an increase of about 600,000 residents to a current population of 5,000,879. On the basis of 43 electoral districts, this translates into an average of **116,300 people per electoral district**. This number is called the **electoral quota**.

Under the *Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act*, the Commission's main aim in redrawing boundaries is to divide the province into 43 electoral districts that are as close to the electoral quota as reasonably possible, while considering BC's historical patterns, geographic size and the communities of interest or identity.

The Commission has now proposed a new electoral map for the province. Unfortunately, they are proposing that Pitt Meadows be severed into two constituencies, with Pitt Meadows south of the Alouette River belonging to a new constituency called 'Pitt Meadows-Fort Langley', and the northern part of Pitt Meadows joining Maple Ridge, Mission, Harrison Hot Springs and other communities to form the 'Mission-Maple Ridge' constituency. Following is the official descriptors for these two new electoral areas:

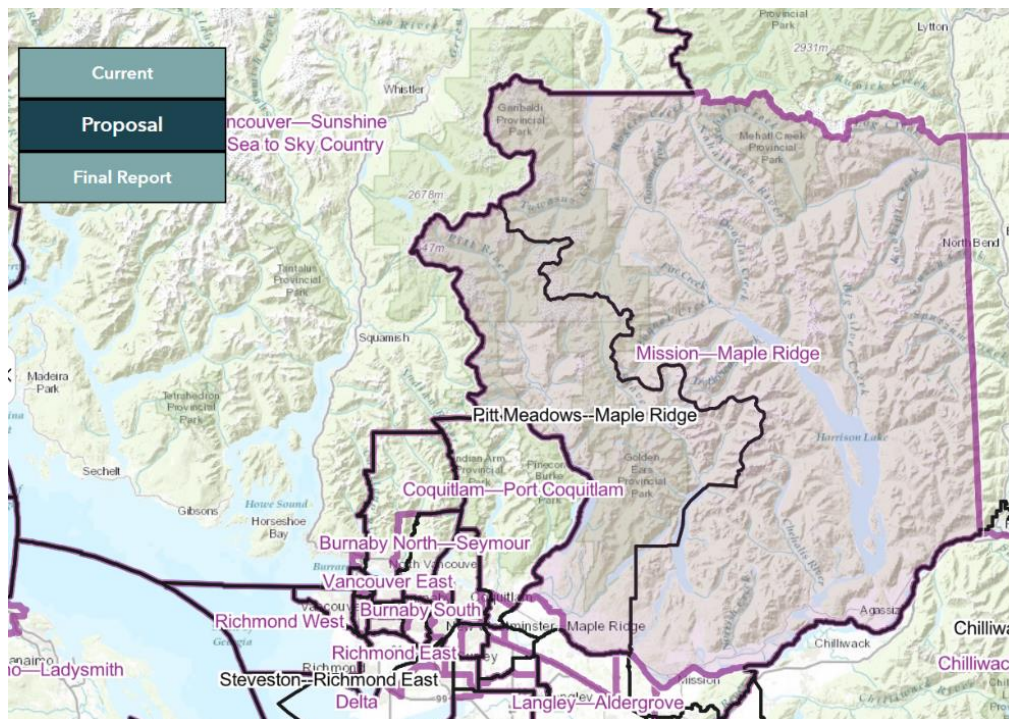
**Pitt Meadows—Fort Langley Electoral Area (Population: 116,538)**



Consists of those parts of the Metro Vancouver Regional district comprising:

- a) that part of Metro Vancouver Electoral Area A comprising Barnston Island;
- b) that part of the City of Maple Ridge lying southwesterly of a line described as follows:  
commencing at the intersection of the westerly limit of said city and the Alouette River;  
thence generally southeasterly along said river to 224 Street; thence southerly along said street and its production to the southerly limit of said city;
- c) **that part of the City of Pitt Meadows lying southwesterly of a line described as follows:  
commencing at the intersection of the easterly limit of said city and the Alouette River;  
thence generally northwesterly along said river to the westerly limit of said city;**
- d) that part of the City of Port Coquitlam lying southwesterly of a line described as follows:  
commencing at the intersection of the easterly limit of said city and the Pitt River Bridge;  
thence northwesterly along said bridge and Lougheed Highway (Highway 7) to the westerly limit of said city;
- e) that part of the City of Surrey lying northerly and easterly of a line described as follows:  
commencing at the intersection of the easterly limit of said city with the Trans-Canada Highway (Highway 1); thence northwesterly along said highway to its intersection with the production of 168 Street (approximate latitude 49°11'14"N and longitude 122°45'23"W); thence northerly along said street and its production to 108 Avenue; thence northerly in a straight line to the northerly limit of said city (approximate latitude 49°12'54"N and longitude 122°45'24"); and
- f) that part of the Township of Langley lying northerly of the Trans-Canada Highway (Highway 1).

## Mission—Maple Ridge Electoral Area (Population: 117,178)



Consists of:

- a) those parts of the Fraser Valley Regional District comprising:
  - a. the district municipalities of Kent and Mission;
  - b. the Village of Harrison Hot Springs;
  - c. Fraser Valley electoral areas C and F;
  - d. that part of Fraser Valley Electoral Area G lying north of the Fraser River;
  - e. that part of Fraser Valley Electoral Area A lying west of the line described as follows:  
commencing at the intersection of the northerly limit of Fraser Valley Electoral Area A and the Canadian Pacific Railway (approximate latitude 50°03'08"N and longitude 121°32'51"W); thence southerly in a straight line to a point at approximate latitude 49°42'11"N and longitude 121°31'28"W;
  - f. that part of Fraser Valley Electoral Area B lying westerly and northerly of a line described as follows: commencing at approximate latitude 49°42'11"N and longitude 121°31'28"W; thence southerly in a straight line to the Fraser River at approximate latitude 49°22'27"N and longitude 121°30'11"W; thence westerly along said river to the easterly limit of the district municipality of Kent; and
- b) those parts of the Metro Vancouver Regional District comprising:
  - a. **that part of the City of Pitt Meadows lying north of the Alouette River;**
  - b. that part of the City of Maple Ridge lying northeasterly of the line described as follows: commencing at the intersection of the Alouette River and the westerly limit of the City of Maple Ridge; thence generally southeasterly along said river to 224 Street; thence southerly along said street and its production to the Fraser River; thence generally southeasterly and easterly along said river to the easterly limit of the City of Maple Ridge.



## Public Hearings

The next step in the evaluation process is for the provincial Commission to hear representations to gather comments and feedback from impacted communities on the proposed boundary changes and electoral district names. The Commission will consider all views heard and then submit a report to the House of Commons. Members of Parliament may then have feedback for incorporation into the reports, after which the Commission will submit their final decisions, with the new boundaries most likely taking effect for the 2024 federal election.

Members of the public may make comment on the proposed electoral district changes in the following ways:

1. By attending an in-person or virtual public hearing. A full list of hearing opportunities can be found online at [https://redecoupage-redistribution-2022.ca/com/bc/phrg/index\\_e.aspx](https://redecoupage-redistribution-2022.ca/com/bc/phrg/index_e.aspx). There is a public hearing scheduled in Pitt Meadows at Meadows Gardens Golf Club on Wed Sept 21, 7:00 p.m.

*\*\*To attend a public hearing, you must send a notice of representation in writing no later than one week prior to the hearing at which you wish to make the representation.*

2. By submitting written comments through their online portal or by emailing them at [BC-CB@redecoupage-federal-redistribution.ca](mailto:BC-CB@redecoupage-federal-redistribution.ca):

We encourage members of the public who are concerned with the proposed electoral district changes to make their concerns known by attending a public hearing or submitting their concerns in writing. Further information can be found online at [https://redecoupage-redistribution-2022.ca/com/bc/index\\_e.aspx](https://redecoupage-redistribution-2022.ca/com/bc/index_e.aspx).

### Relevant Policy, Bylaw or Legislation:

*Constitution of Canada* – provides for review of federal electoral boundaries after every 10-year census.

*Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act* – provides for the establishment of provincial commissions to review the electoral boundaries and make recommendations to the House of Commons.

### **COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT**

- Principled Governance     Balanced Economic Prosperity     Corporate Excellence  
 Community Spirit & Wellbeing     Transportation & Infrastructure Initiatives

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### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- None     Budget Previously Approved     Referral to Business Planning

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Inform     Consult     Involve     Collaborate     Empower

Members of the public are encouraged to get involved and make their opinions known by participating in one of the upcoming public hearings related to the electoral boundaries redistribution in BC.

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## **KATZIE FIRST NATION CONSIDERATIONS**

Referral     Yes     No

A copy of this staff report will be shared with KFN to ensure they're aware of these proposed changes.

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## **SIGN-OFFS**

**Written by:**

Kate Barchard,  
Corporate Officer

**Reviewed by:**

Mark Roberts,  
Chief Administrative Officer

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## **ATTACHMENT(S):**

- A. May 2, 2022 letter from MP Ron McKinnon regarding the Proposal of the Electoral Boundaries Commission for British Columbia
- B. Proposal of the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for the Province of British Columbia