

## Motion

### **Guidelines for NWT Electoral Boundaries Commission, 2012**

WHEREAS the Legislative Assembly has established and appointed members to the Northwest Territories Electoral Boundaries Commission, 2012;

AND WHEREAS Section 9(k) of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* enables the Legislative Assembly to establish guidelines or criteria that shall be taken into consideration by the Commission;

NOW THEREFORE I MOVE, seconded by the Honourable Member for Monfwi, that the following guidelines are set down for the Northwest Territories Electoral Boundaries Commission, 2012:

1. The Commission shall review the existing electoral districts using the most recent and accurate census and other population data available;
2. In keeping with Canadian constitutional conventions and the notion of effective representation, the Commission shall make recommendations to achieve relative parity between electoral districts while balancing community of interest considerations;
3. For greater certainty, relative parity means that the percentage variation between the number of persons in a riding and the average mean should be within plus or minus 25 per cent, except where special circumstances warrant exceptional deviation;
4. The Commission shall recommend how electoral boundaries should be drawn if the Legislative Assembly comprises (a) eighteen members, or (b) nineteen members, or (c) twenty-one members;
5. The Commission shall prepare an interim report with proposed electoral district boundaries for review by the public and discussion at public hearings;



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Date of Notice:	October 18, 2012	Moved by:	Mr. Bouchard
Date of Introduction:	October 22, 2012	Seconded By:	Mr. Lafferty
Disposition:	Carried		
Carried:	October 22, 2012	Ruled Out of Order:	

6. The Commission shall establish a website or other publically accessible mechanism(s), in addition to public hearings, to receive submissions on the existing and/or proposed boundaries;
7. All submissions to the Commission shall be considered public documents;
8. Simultaneous translation of official languages shall be available at public hearings where the use of an official language in a particular community or region is sizable enough to warrant the employ of translation services;
9. If the Commission is not in a position to accomplish its mandate within the existing budget allocated, it may return to the Legislative Assembly for additional funds;
10. The final report of the Commission, complete with recommendations, shall be submitted in English and in French to the Speaker and the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly no later than seven months after the Commission is struck; and
11. The Chief Electoral Officer shall serve as Secretary to the Commission.