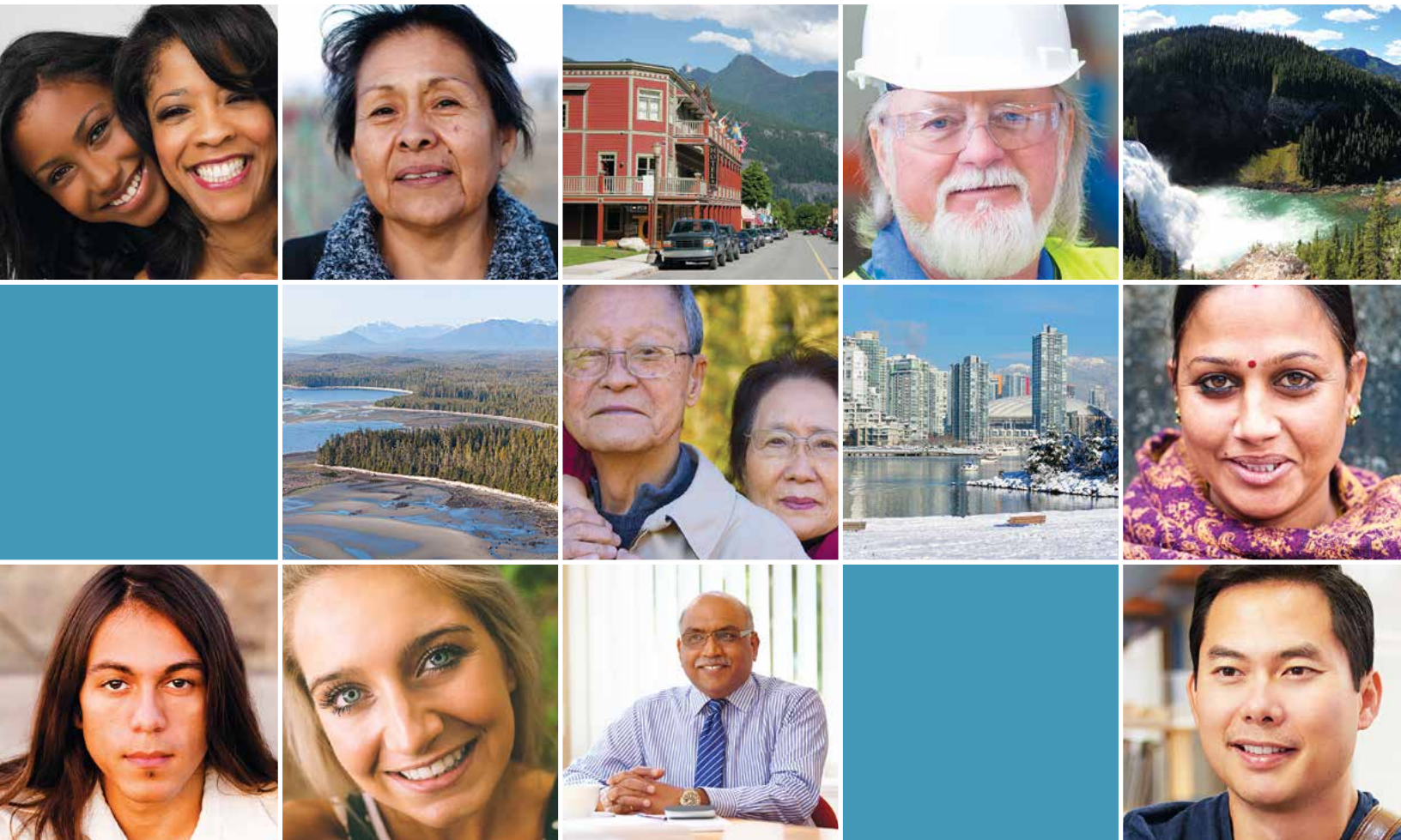




Preliminary Report



MARCH 26, 2015

March 26, 2015

Honourable Linda Reid
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
Province of British Columbia
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, British Columbia
V8V 1X4

Dear Madame Speaker:

We have the pleasure to submit our Preliminary Report in accordance with section 10(1) of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*.

Respectfully,



The Hon. Mr. Justice Thomas J. Melnick
Commission Chair



Beverley Busson, O.B.C.
Commissioner



Keith Archer, Ph.D.
Chief Electoral Officer
Commissioner



Table of contents

Table of contents	i
List of figures and tables	iii
Executive summary	2
Mandate.....	12
Process.....	20
Proposals.....	24
■ North Region.....	25
■ Cariboo-Thompson Region.....	35
■ Columbia-Kootenay Region	43
■ Okanagan/Shuswap.....	49
■ Lower Mainland	59
■ Greater Vancouver	59
■ Fraser Valley	64
■ Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast	116
Next steps.....	136
Appendices	138
■ Appendix A: Population estimates, current 85 electoral districts (2008 Commission)	138
■ Appendix B: Population estimates, proposed 87 electoral districts (2015 Commission)	141
■ Appendix C: First round public hearings schedule – Fall 2014	144



List of figures and tables

Figure 1: 2015 Electoral Boundaries Commission timeline	16
Figure 2: Map legend.....	24
Table 1: North Region	8
Table 2: Cariboo-Thompson Region	8
Table 3: Columbia-Kootenay Region.....	8
Table 4: Okanagan/Shuswap.....	8
Table 5: Lower Mainland – Greater Vancouver	8
Table 6: Lower Mainland – Fraser Valley.....	9
Table 7: Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast.....	9
Table 8: Defined regions.....	13
Table 9: Proposed electoral districts – North Region	25
Table 10: Proposed electoral districts – Cariboo-Thompson Region	36
Table 11: Proposed electoral districts – Columbia-Kootenay Region	43
Table 12: Proposed electoral districts – Okanagan/Shuswap.....	50
Table 13: Proposed electoral districts – Lower Mainland – Greater Vancouver.....	63
Table 14: Proposed electoral districts – Lower Mainland – Fraser Valley	65
Table 15: Proposed electoral districts – Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast	118



Executive summary

Executive summary

All British Columbians are represented in the Legislative Assembly by a Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA). There are currently 85 MLAs to represent the constituents of the 85 provincial electoral districts. In theory, in accordance with the principle of representation by population, each MLA should, to the degree possible, represent a similar number of constituents.

Recognizing that population growth is not uniform throughout the province, periodic reviews of the boundaries ensure that the representation of constituents by MLAs remains equitable and effective in all areas of the province. As prescribed by the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*, a new electoral boundaries commission must be established after every second general election to propose changes to the area, boundaries and names of the electoral districts of British Columbia.

Our commission was appointed on May 9, 2014. We are:

- Mr. Justice Thomas Melnick, Justice of the Supreme Court of British Columbia (Chair)
- Beverley Busson, O.B.C., former Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police
- Keith Archer, Ph.D., Chief Electoral Officer for the province of British Columbia

We began our duties by educating ourselves about the nature and process of assessing and setting electoral boundaries, and the history of electoral boundaries commissions in the province. It was important not to form early opinions about what any of the electoral district boundaries should be. We wanted to keep an open mind and first hear from British Columbians about their opinions of the current electoral districts, and what changes, if any, they would suggest.

Between September and November 2014 we travelled the province, visiting 29 communities and hearing from 128 presenters. We received an additional 295 written submissions, largely through our website, during this same period. All of this input has been very helpful in understanding how British Columbians interact with their elected representatives and how the electoral boundaries affect and enable these interactions and effective representation.

In making our proposals we are guided first and foremost by the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* and the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. We have considered all of the input received from British Columbians about the existing boundaries and where they feel change is warranted. Reflecting upon their input, we developed additional guidelines flowing from the legislation that would assist our decision-making within this framework.

Amendments to the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* in May 2014 defined three regions of the province (the North Region, the Cariboo-Thompson Region, and the Columbia-Kootenay Region) in which the number of electoral districts cannot be reduced from their current number. This has, of course, influenced in large measure our ability to propose electoral districts that are equal in population. It has also influenced our decision to propose 87 electoral districts, an increase of two from the current number, and the maximum allowable by the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*.

Further to these two additional electoral districts, we propose changes to 49 of the current 85 districts. Most of the changes are relatively minor. Substantial changes are proposed in the Lower Mainland, particularly in Richmond and Surrey where we added a district to each community.

The substantial changes are summarized below. More detail about all the changes, along with maps of our proposed electoral districts are contained in the Proposals section of this report. An interactive map of current and proposed electoral districts will be available on the commission website.

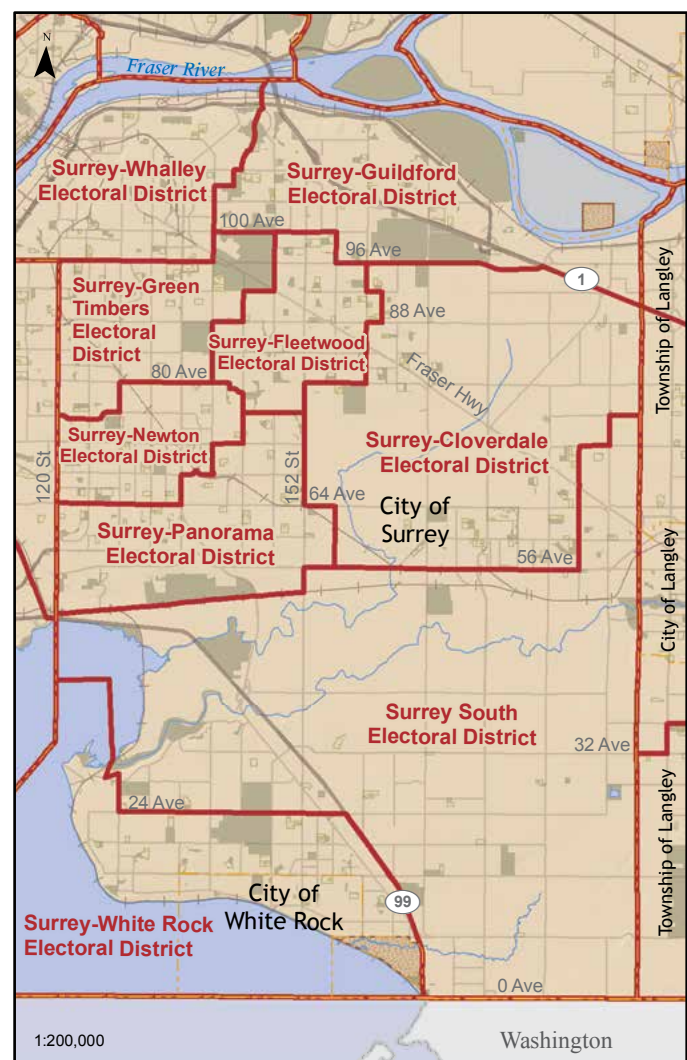
With the release of this Preliminary Report, we look again to British Columbians to present your opinions of our proposals. We encourage you to submit your

input to us online, by email or mail by 11:59 p.m. on May 26, 2015. We also will conduct public hearings in communities across British Columbia in April and May. We then will analyze this input over the summer before producing our final proposals. According to the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*, these final proposals must be submitted as recommendations to the Legislative Assembly by September 25, 2015 – six months after the submission of this report.

Substantial changes

Surrey

- Current districts are well over the provincial average (two of eight more than 25% over) and this is also an area of high growth
- An electoral district is added to this area and boundaries are substantially altered to rebalance the population
- The Cloverdale community is too large for a single district and parts of the community are included in two electoral districts. Efforts were made to maintain the entire downtown core in one district
- We strived to maintain communities of interest to the extent possible



Richmond/New Westminster

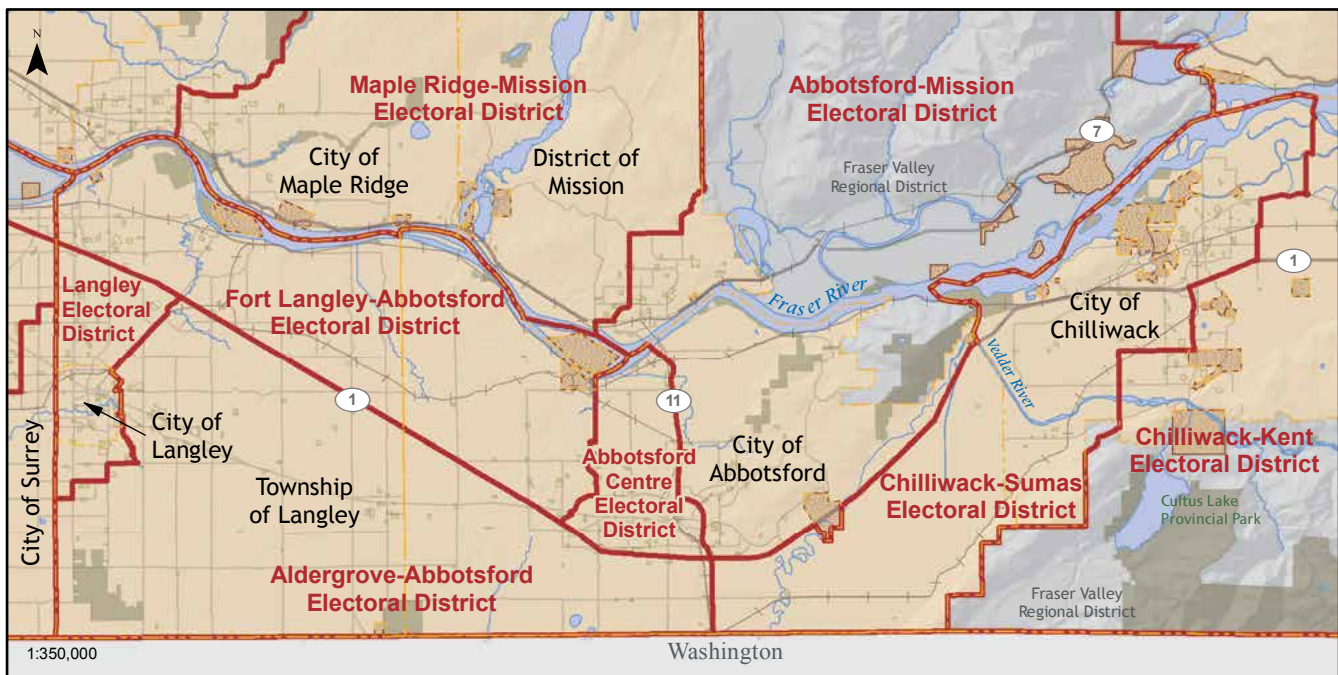
- Current districts are well over the provincial average (three of four more than 25% over) and this is also an area of high growth
- An electoral district is added to this area and boundaries are substantially altered to rebalance the population
- The Queensborough neighbourhood of New Westminister is combined with residents in Richmond to create a joint Richmond and Queensborough electoral district
- We strived to maintain communities of interest to the extent possible



Executive summary

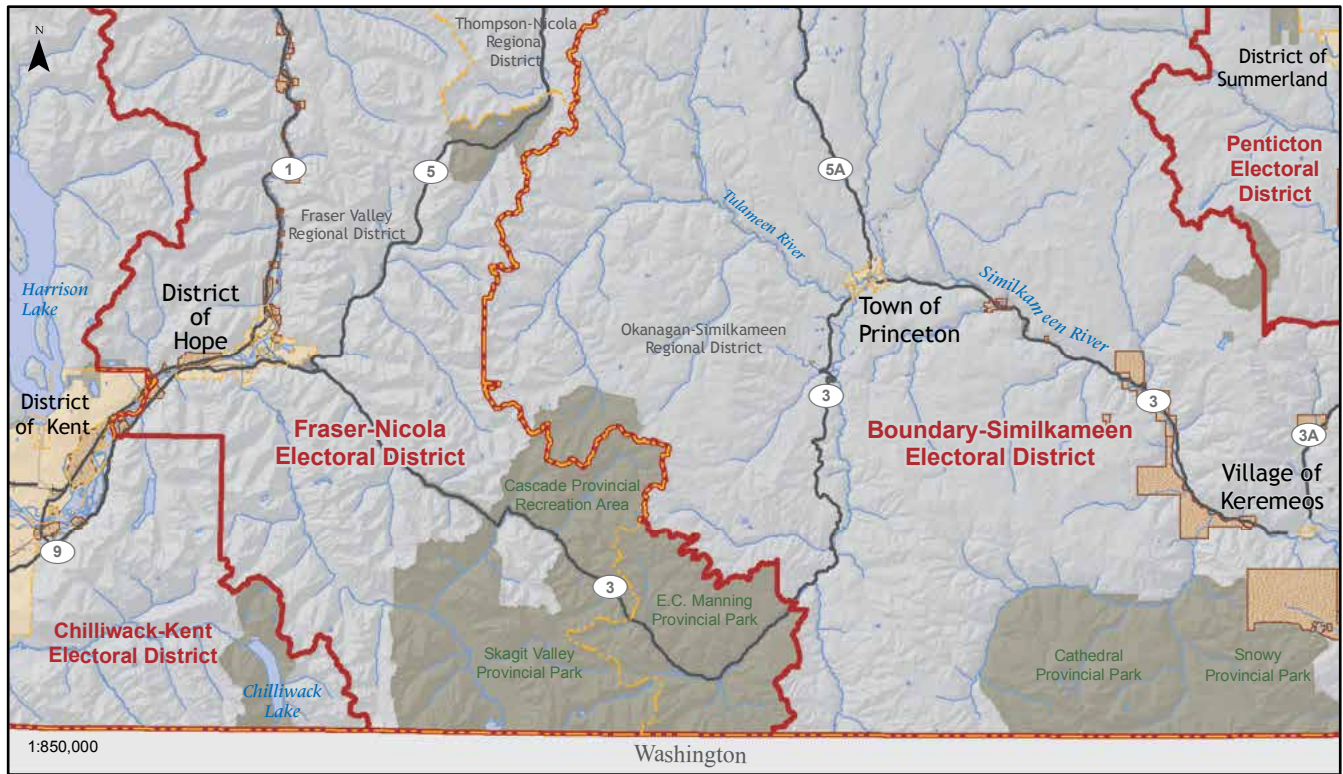
Fraser Valley

- Current districts around Langley are well over the provincial average necessitating substantial changes to most of the Fraser Valley
- The proposed Langley area electoral districts are reduced in size (both geographically and in population), requiring the remaining district boundaries to shift east
- Major highways are used as natural boundaries to divide the electoral districts
- There is one district centred around the City of Langley
- The Township of Langley is split by Highway 1 north/south rather than east/west
- The Abbotsford area electoral district boundaries follow Highway 1 and Highway 11 and strive to keep established neighbourhoods together
- Hope is moved into Fraser-Nicola and the Chilliwack area electoral boundaries are redrawn to incorporate some of Abbotsford



Hope and Princeton

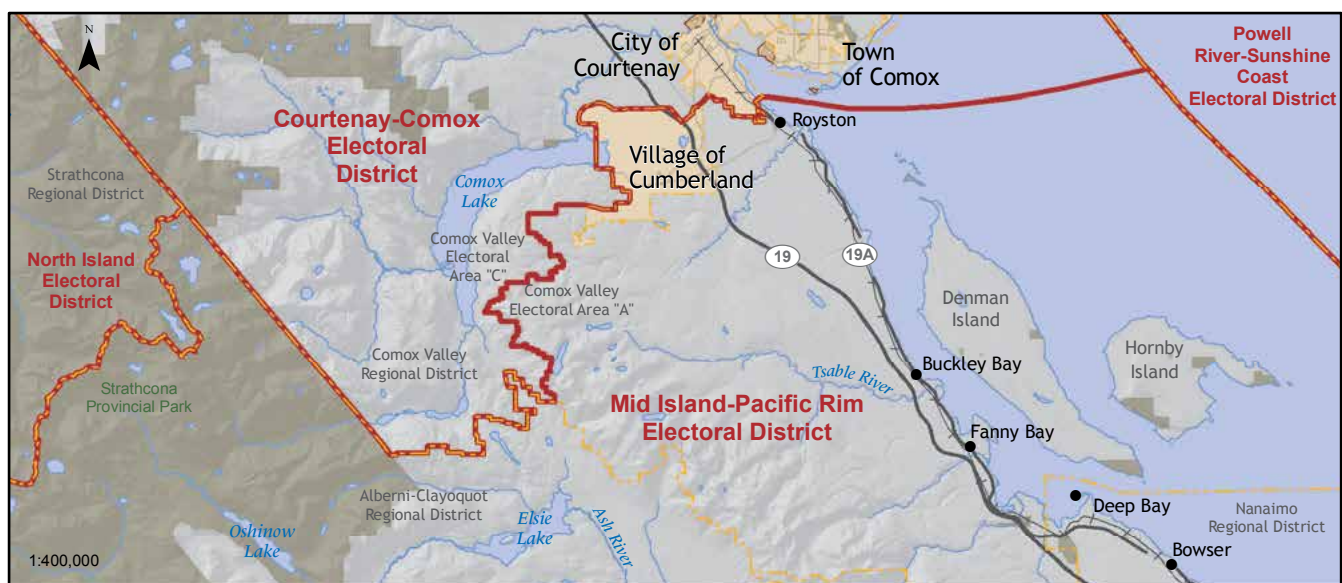
- The Hope and Fraser Canyon communities are added to Fraser-Nicola to provide for more effective representation
- Princeton is added to Boundary-Similkameen to bring the population of the district within the acceptable deviation from the provincial average, and to reflect a more consistent community of interest



Executive summary

Comox Valley and mid-Vancouver Island

- The disparity between the neighbouring districts of Comox Valley (22% over the provincial average) and Alberni-Pacific Rim (18% under the provincial average) is too great
- Despite many submissions requesting no change to the Comox Valley we concluded that the relative disparity (both now and in the near future) is too great to ignore
- With the proposed changes, Cumberland, Royston and the southern Comox Valley are now part of our proposed Mid Island-Pacific Rim electoral district, bringing both districts much closer to the provincial average while ensuring strong communities of interest in both



Other communities in which changes are proposed are:

- Burnaby
- Capital Region
- Cranbrook area
- Kamloops area
- Nanaimo area
- North Shore
- Prince George
- Tri-Cities
- Vancouver
- Vernon/Swan Lake
- Williams Lake

The following tables show the population and deviation from the provincial average in each of our proposed electoral districts.

Table 1: North Region¹

Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)
Stikine	20,616	-61.2
Peace River North	43,263	-18.6
Peace River South	28,104	-47.1
Prince George-Valemount	48,267	-9.1
Prince George-Mackenzie	46,894	-11.7
Nechako Lakes	27,692	-47.9
Skeena	30,240	-43.1
North Coast	22,382	-57.9

Table 2: Cariboo-Thompson Region

Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)
Cariboo North	29,542	-44.4
Cariboo-Chilcotin	33,520	-36.9
Kamloops-North Thompson	54,014	1.7
Kamloops-South Thompson	56,410	6.2
Fraser-Nicola	33,980	-36.0

Table 3: Columbia-Kootenay Region

Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)
Kootenay West	41,302	-22.2
Nelson-Creston	36,907	-30.5
Kootenay East	40,466	-23.8
Columbia River-Revelstoke	31,907	-39.9

Table 4: Okanagan/Shuswap

Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)
Shuswap	59,572	12.1
Vernon-Monashee	58,886	10.9
Kelowna-Lake Country	61,113	15.0
Kelowna West	59,750	12.5
Kelowna-Mission	60,403	13.7
Penticton	56,722	6.8
Boundary-Similkameen	42,340	-20.3

Table 5: Lower Mainland – Greater Vancouver

Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)
Vancouver-Point Grey	60,611	14.1
Vancouver-Quilchena	59,953	12.9
Vancouver-Fairview	59,701	12.4
Vancouver-Langara	60,041	13.0
Vancouver-Kensington	61,250	15.3
Vancouver-Fraserview	62,885	18.4
Vancouver-Kingsway	62,459	17.6
Vancouver-Hastings	59,491	12.0
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant	58,041	9.3
Vancouver-False Creek	57,261	7.8
Vancouver-West End	57,287	7.8
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky	54,894	3.3
West Vancouver-Capilano	57,173	7.6
North Vancouver-Lonsdale	57,431	8.1
North Vancouver-Seymour	58,120	9.4
Port Moody-Coquitlam	59,355	11.7
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain	59,029	11.1
Port Coquitlam	60,813	14.5
Coquitlam-Maillardville	58,351	9.8
Burnaby-Lougheed	59,797	12.6
Burnaby North	58,159	9.5
Burnaby-Deer Lake	58,195	9.6
Burnaby-Edmonds	60,439	13.8
New Westminster	61,422	15.6
Richmond-Queensborough	55,627	4.7

¹ All population figures in this report are as of May 10, 2014. All population deviations are based on a provincial population of 4,621,394, the proposed 87 electoral districts and an electoral quotient of 53,119.

Table 5: Lower Mainland – Greater Vancouver continued

Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)
Richmond North Centre	49,157	-7.5
Richmond South Centre	50,101	-5.7
Richmond-Steveston	55,539	4.6
Delta South	47,577	-10.4
Delta North	55,011	3.6
Surrey-Whalley	58,668	10.4
Surrey-Guildford	58,037	9.3
Surrey-Cloverdale	61,060	14.9
Surrey-Fleetwood	59,066	11.2
Surrey-Green Timbers	58,816	10.7
Surrey-Newton	58,340	9.8
Surrey-Panorama	60,128	13.2
Surrey South	57,807	8.8
Surrey-White Rock	58,527	10.2

Table 6: Lower Mainland – Fraser Valley

Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)
Langley	60,535	14.0
Fort Langley-Abbotsford	61,113	15.0
Aldergrove-Abbotsford	59,203	11.5
Abbotsford Centre	59,330	11.7
Abbotsford-Mission	60,962	14.8
Chilliwack-Sumas	52,632	-0.9
Chilliwack-Kent	51,310	-3.4
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows	58,287	9.7
Maple Ridge-Mission	58,697	10.5

Table 7: Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast

Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)
Powell River-Sunshine Coast	50,039	-5.8
North Island	55,633	4.7
Courtenay-Comox	54,816	3.2
Mid Island-Pacific Rim	52,833	-0.5
Parksville-Qualicum	54,089	1.8
Nanaimo	55,998	5.4
Nanaimo-North Cowichan	53,424	0.6
Cowichan Valley	59,232	11.5
Saanich North and the Islands	56,492	6.3
Saanich South	51,661	-2.7
Victoria-Swan Lake	51,569	-2.9
Oak Bay-Gordon Head	55,689	4.8
Victoria-Beacon Hill	54,707	3.0
Esquimalt-Metchosin	51,450	-3.1
Langford-Juan de Fuca	51,782	-2.5



Mandate

Mandate

Commission

After every second provincial general election, a new electoral boundaries commission is appointed to propose changes to the provincial electoral boundaries.

Under the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*, the British Columbia Electoral Boundaries Commission must consist of:

- A judge or retired judge of the Supreme Court or the Court of Appeal who is nominated by the Lieutenant Governor in Council;
- A person who is not a member of the Legislative Assembly or an employee of the government and who is nominated by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, after consultation with the Premier and the Leader of the Official Opposition; and
- The Chief Electoral Officer appointed under the *Election Act*.

One of these individuals must be appointed as Chair.

On May 9, 2014, our three-person, independent, non-partisan electoral boundaries commission was appointed. Our commissioners are:

- Mr. Justice Thomas Melnick, Justice of the Supreme Court of British Columbia (Chair)
- Beverley Busson, O.B.C., former Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police
- Keith Archer, Ph.D., Chief Electoral Officer for the province of British Columbia



Left to right: Keith Archer, Beverley Busson and Thomas Melnick (Chair).

Mandate

Our function is to make proposals to the Legislative Assembly as to the area, boundaries, and names of provincial electoral districts. If our deliberations dictate that the number of electoral districts should be increased, the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* allows us to make proposals for up to two additional electoral districts, to a maximum of 87. We cannot recommend fewer than 85 electoral districts. The Legislative Assembly is responsible for approving or amending our proposals before they are passed into law.

Electoral Boundaries Commission Act

In carrying out our mandate, we are guided by the requirements of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* which sets out the process for reviewing the area, boundaries and names of electoral districts in British Columbia.

When developing our proposals, section 9(1) of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* instructs us to be governed by the following:

- The principle of representation by population be achieved, recognizing the imperatives imposed by geographical and demographic realities, the legacy of our history and the need to balance the community interests of the people of British Columbia;
- To achieve that principle, the commission be permitted to deviate from the provincial electoral quotient by no more than plus or minus 25 percent; and,
- We may propose electoral districts with population deviations exceeding +/- 25% where we consider that very special circumstances exist.



Representation by population
Method of using population as the primary factor in determining electoral districts.



Electoral quotient (the provincial average)
The provincial population divided by the number of current electoral districts.



Deviation
Electoral district population above or below the electoral quotient.

As an exception to these principles, the *Act* defines three regions of the province in which, for the purpose of effective representation in the Legislative Assembly, the number of electoral districts may not be reduced from their current number. For this purpose we are permitted to exceed the +/- 25% population deviation rule.

Table 8: Defined regions

Defined region	Electoral districts within region
Cariboo-Thompson Region	Cariboo North Cariboo-Chilcotin Fraser-Nicola Kamloops-North Thompson Kamloops-South Thompson
Columbia-Kootenay Region	Columbia River-Revelstoke Kootenay East Kootenay West Nelson-Creston
North Region	Nechako Lakes North Coast Peace River North Peace River South Prince George-Mackenzie Prince George-Valemount Skeena Stikine

Section 9(2) of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* requires us to take into account the following additional factors when making our proposals for all electoral districts:

- Geographic and demographic considerations, including the sparsity, density or rate of growth of the population of any part of British Columbia and the accessibility, size or physical configuration of any part of British Columbia; and,
- The availability of means of communication and transportation between various parts of British Columbia.

The right to vote and population equality

The Supreme Court of Canada's decision in the Saskatchewan Reference² in 1991 provides considerable guidance to electoral boundaries commissions as to the standard for relative equality of voting power among citizens. Section 3 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms provides that all citizens have the right to vote in periodic elections, and the right to be a candidate for elective office. The question for the Court, in examining the implications of this right for electoral boundaries, was whether the right to vote meant that citizens had the right to vote in electoral districts that were comprised of populations equal in size or whether some variation from equality was permissible, and, if variation from equality was permissible, what was the limit of permissible variation.

It is notable that Courts in the United States have interpreted voting rights as requiring almost no deviation from population equality among electoral districts. In the words of Professor John Courtney, "the Supreme Court of Canada's sole decision on electoral boundary readjustments (i.e., the Saskatchewan Reference case) deliberately eschewed strict American notions of voter equality. In its place the court advanced the notions of 'relative equality of voting power,' 'better government,' and 'effective representation'" as the core principles used in boundary readjustment in Canada. (Courtney, *Commissioned Ridings*, 2001, pp. 151-2).

The meaning of the right to vote was discussed in considerable detail by the Supreme Court in the Saskatchewan Reference. Writing for the majority, Madam Justice McLachlin stated,

the purpose of the right to vote enshrined in s. 3 of the Charter is not equality of voting power per se, but the right to "effective representation". Ours is a representative democracy. Each citizen is entitled to be represented in government (p. 183).

The Court then went on to ask,

What are the conditions of effective representation? The first is relative parity of voting power. A system which dilutes one citizen's vote unduly as compared with another citizen's vote runs the risk of providing inadequate representation to the citizen whose vote is diluted.... The result will be uneven and unfair representation (pp. 183-4).

However, the Court continued, equality of voting power is not the only factor that affects effective representation. First, this is the case because strict equality of voting power is not achievable, since there is a continual change to the electorate. In addition,

factors like geography, community history, community interests and minority representation may need to be taken into account to ensure that our legislative assemblies effectively represent the diversity of our social mosaic (p. 184).

The Court did not directly take up the question in the Saskatchewan Reference of whether there are absolute limits on variations in electoral district populations when taking into account these other factors of representation, such as geography, community history and the like. However, the Court did review the limits as then outlined in the Saskatchewan *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*. The *Act* provided for the creation of 66 electoral districts. Of these, 64 were urban and rural districts in the southern half of the province, and two were rural districts in the northern half of the province. The 64 southern districts were required to have a variation within +/- 25% of the provincial electoral quotient, and the two northern districts could be as much as 50% below the electoral quotient.

² Ref. re *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* (Sask.) (1991), 81 D.L.R. (4th) 16 (S.C.C.).

The Court found that the electoral maps, based on these legislative requirements, provided effective representation, and thus did not violate section 3 of the Charter. Thus, effective representation, which is the purpose of the right to vote, is provided when electoral districts contain relative equality of voting (that is, where variation generally is within +/- 25% deviation from average, and possibly greater where special or unusual circumstances require). Deviations from population equality provide a capacity to take into account other factors important in effective representation, such as geography, community history, community interests, minority representation, or other factors relevant to the locality.

Effective representation

In May 2014, the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia passed the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Amendment Act, 2014*. This revised *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* defined three regions, including the North Region (with eight electoral districts), the Cariboo-Thompson Region (with five electoral districts), and the Columbia-Kootenay Region (with four electoral districts). These regions comprise much of the remote and rural areas of British Columbia, characterized by relatively large geographical areas and relatively small populations. In general, population growth has been lower in these regions than in the province as a whole.

The *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* provides in general that electoral districts should have a population within +/- 25% of the provincial electoral quotient, although it also provides that in very special circumstances, an electoral district can have a population outside this range. The *Act* further provides that in the three defined regions, variations can be outside the +/- 25% range.

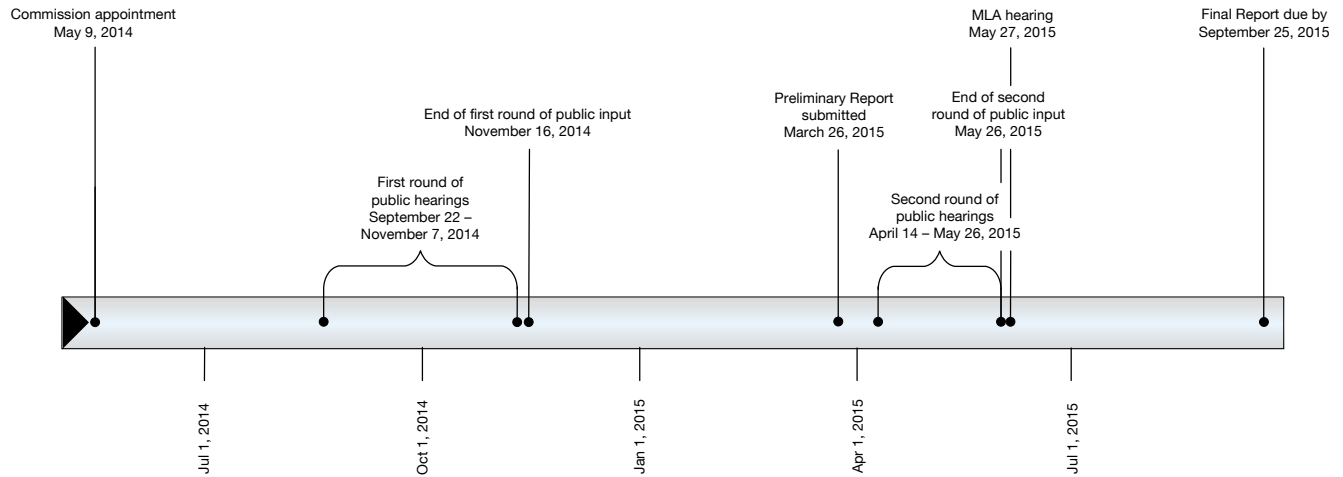
The populations in the three defined regions are presented in Tables 1-3 (pp. 7-8). As can be seen in Table 1, the population in the North Region (based on 87 electoral districts, and using 2014 population

estimates), is 267,458. The average electoral district in the North Region has a population of 33,432, which is 37.1% below the average electoral district population in British Columbia as a whole (53,119). In the Cariboo-Thompson Region (Table 2), total population is 207,466 and the average electoral district population is 41,493, which is 21.9% below the average electoral district in British Columbia. Table 3 shows that in the Columbia-Kootenay Region, the total population for the four electoral districts is 150,582, for an average of 37,646, which is 29.1% below the average electoral district in British Columbia.

It is evident that the defined regions each will have a number of electoral districts more than 25% below the provincial electoral quotient. Tables 1 to 3 illustrate the extent of the variation in these regions. In the North Region, two of the electoral districts have populations more than 50% below the provincial average, three districts are between 25% and 50% below average, and three districts are between +/- 25% from the provincial average. In the Cariboo-Thompson Region, three of the electoral districts are between 25% and 50% below the provincial average, whereas the other two districts are within the +/- 25% variation (and in fact are both slightly over the provincial average population). In the Columbia-Kootenay Region, two districts are between 25% and 50% below average and two are within the +/- 25% range.

Timeline

Figure 1: 2015 Electoral Boundaries Commission timeline



Under the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*, a new electoral boundaries commission must be appointed one year after every second provincial general election. Our commission was formed on May 9, 2014.

We began our duties by developing work plans and educating ourselves over the summer about the nature and process of electoral boundary setting. We invited experts to brief us on subjects such as electoral boundaries legislation, the role of electoral districts in election administration, the evolution of electoral boundaries in British Columbia, and demographics and population statistics.

At the beginning of September 2014, following our learning phase, we established our website and, on our website, began soliciting input from British Columbians regarding their opinions about the current electoral districts and if and where they thought changes were required. We also held a series of public hearings in 29 communities across the province between September 22 and November 7 to hear from British Columbians who were able to attend in-person. The public input period, during

which submissions could also be made through the website and by mail, closed at midnight on November 16.

We subsequently met to consider all of the public input and begin our deliberations. Our intent was to first hear from British Columbians about their opinions of the current electoral districts and their recommendations before we turned our attention to developing our proposals.

After reviewing all public input we deliberated and finalized our proposals for the number of electoral districts and the area, boundaries and names for each district in this report which we have submitted to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly on March 26, 2015.

Following the submission of this Preliminary Report, we will hold a second series of public hearings to receive responses to our proposals. After having heard and examined the input of individuals, organizations and MLAs, we will make any appropriate amendments and table our final proposals in the Legislative Assembly by September 25, 2015.

The final decision regarding the adoption of our proposals remains with the Legislative Assembly. The Legislative Assembly may approve our proposals as submitted or with alterations. If the Legislative Assembly does so, it must pass legislation to establish the electoral districts during the same legislative session. The electoral boundaries will come into force at the time of the next provincial general election and will apply to the anticipated 2017 and 2021 provincial general elections.



Process

Process

Data

We are relying on population estimates and projections from BC Stats to draw our proposed electoral boundaries. These estimates are based on the 2011 Census Count, which is the most recent and reliable population data. The 2014 population estimates show that as of May 10, 2014³, there are 4,621,394 people in British Columbia, an increase of nine percent since the current boundaries were established in 2008. This growth, however, has been uneven across the province.

Electoral quotient

The electoral quotient is the average population per electoral district and is calculated by dividing the provincial population by the number of electoral districts.

Absent a finding of very special circumstances, the population of each of our proposed electoral districts outside of the defined regions is permitted to deviate from the electoral quotient by no more than +/- 25%. That is, each electoral district's population must be no more than 25% under the provincial average and no more than 25% above the provincial average. The greater the number of electoral districts, the smaller the electoral quotient (or average population per district) will be and the smaller the electoral quotient, the smaller the permissible range will be.

We are permitted to propose between 85 and 87 electoral districts. We conclude that 87 electoral districts are necessary to ensure the effective representation of all British Columbians and recognize the growth in the more densely populated Lower Mainland.

With 87 electoral districts, the electoral quotient is 53,119.

Deviation and "very special circumstances"

Based on an electoral quotient of 53,119 we may make proposals for electoral districts with populations as high as 66,399 (25% above the electoral quotient) and as low as 39,839 (25% below the electoral quotient), while maintaining relative parity of voter power. As an exception to this requirement, the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* permits electoral districts within the three defined regions to be beyond +/- 25%.

The Act also allows us to exceed the minimum and maximum population size where very special circumstances exist. All of our proposed electoral districts outside of the defined regions are within +/- 25%.

³ This date corresponds with the start of the commission's work.

Approach

We developed the following guidelines based on the principles established by legislation to further assist our decision-making process.

Because we wanted to consider the historic configuration of our province's electoral districts, we took the existing boundaries into consideration. Based on what we heard from people across the province, we concluded that we should propose changes to these boundaries only where logical and necessary.

We tried to balance the populations of electoral districts in the same area or municipality where possible, respecting trends for future growth while ensuring effective representation.

Natural boundaries such as rivers, heights of land, rights of way, parks and major highways make good electoral district boundaries as well because they typically divide communities and provide clear demarcations between distinct areas. We looked to use such natural boundaries as electoral district boundaries where possible.

We also tried to align electoral district boundaries with municipal boundaries and sought to avoid splitting local jurisdictions such as cities or towns across multiple electoral districts. In densely populated areas this was not possible. In those communities we tried to draw boundaries that followed neighbourhoods and attempted to keep like-communities together.

In sparsely populated areas of the province we sought to use other existing jurisdictional boundaries. We were told during the public input period that using regional district, electoral area, and school district boundaries helps to eliminate voter confusion as these are boundaries with which many people are familiar.

We also considered the impact of our decisions on First Nations communities. We tried to avoid splitting

reserves and when possible we endeavoured to propose boundaries that would not split bands or nations.

The consideration of these guidelines, together with the considered judgment of the commission, has produced the electoral boundaries recommended in this Preliminary Report.



Proposals

Proposals









A consistent message from the public was that change should be made only where necessary. When questioned, many of the presenters at our public hearings were content with their current electoral district boundaries and were satisfied with their level of representation, even if the population of their electoral district was well above or well below the provincial average. Relative parity of voting power was not as significant to most of these British Columbians as simply feeling well represented. We agree that changes to the existing boundaries should be made only where necessary and this principle is reflected in our proposals.

More than 40% of the existing electoral districts are not changed under our proposal. Because the number of electoral districts in the three defined regions cannot be reduced, those regions saw very little change. More substantial changes are proposed in the Lower Mainland to address communities that have grown much faster than the rest of the province and where electoral districts are more than 25% over the provincial average. An additional district has been added in each of Richmond and

Surrey in response to exceptional growth in these two communities and also in the case of Richmond, to combine with the Queensborough residents of New Westminster. Outside of the Lower Mainland, our proposals contain more modest changes that are intended largely to rebalance populations within communities while also providing for the representation of communities of interest.

Of the proposed 87 electoral districts, 18 vary from the provincial average by less than +/- 5%. Nearly half of all districts (39) are within +/- 10% of the provincial average, and almost 80% (69) are within +/- 15% of the average. Ten electoral districts, all located in one of the three defined regions, have populations more than 25% below the provincial average. None have populations more than 25% above the provincial average. Within the context of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*, these boundaries will provide British Columbians in all areas of the province with effective representation.

Figure 2: Map legend

	Greenspace		Municipality
	Park		Administrative Boundary
	First Nations Reserve		Electoral District Boundary
	First Nations Land Claim Settlement		Coincidental Electoral District/Admin Boundary

North Region

The electoral districts within the area defined by the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* as the North Region are vast in size but are sparsely populated. For example, the Stikine electoral district is almost 200,000 square kilometres, but has a population of only 20,616 – more than 61% below the provincial average. Although the population of six of the eight North Region electoral districts are well below the -25% deviation, the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* exempts the districts in the three defined regions from this standard, and requires that the number of electoral districts in the North Region not be reduced. We were reminded regularly during the public input period by those living in the North Region of the accessibility challenges presented by the geography, transportation routes and weather, and of the impact these challenges have on MLAs and constituents travelling to meet with each other. These challenges were particularly significant outside of the larger population centres of the region. The vast majority of the input we received from the public about this region argued that there is no need for change.

Therefore, we propose no changes to the boundaries of most of the electoral districts in the North Region. We are proposing no changes to the boundaries of the electoral districts of Stikine, Peace River North, Peace River South, Nechako Lakes, Skeena and North Coast.

Prince George

In contrast to the public input received about most of the North Region, the commission received a number of requests to adjust the boundaries of the two electoral districts around Prince George. Prince George is the North Region's largest urban centre with a population of 74,133 people. It is made up of three communities: the Hart, the Bowl and College Heights. Those who spoke to us about these communities explained each is distinct and should not be split across multiple districts. We determined it is important to keep entire communities of interest

in the same electoral district where possible and have adjusted the boundaries of Prince George-Valemount and Prince George-Mackenzie where they divide the city of Prince George.

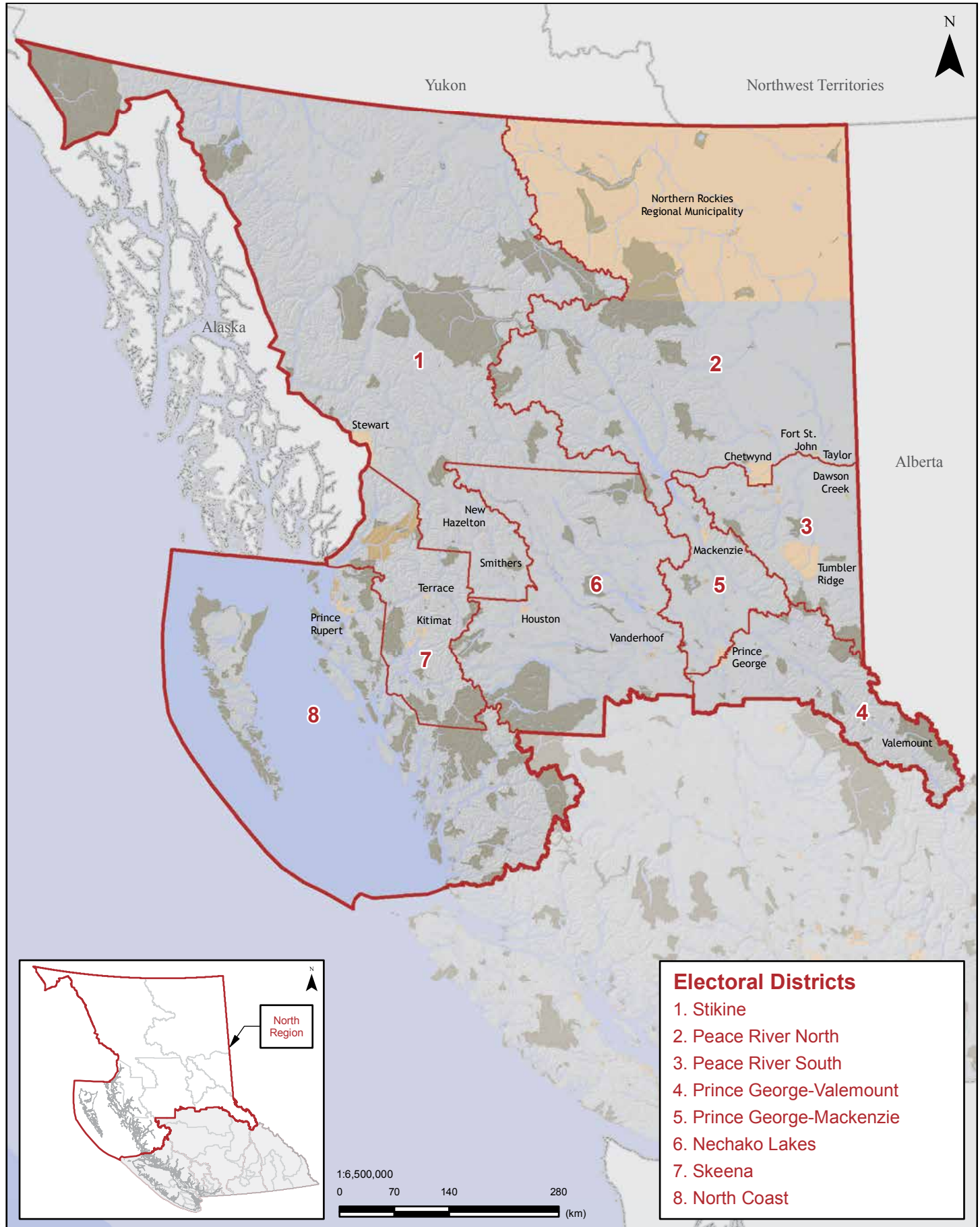
Instead of following Highway 97 through the centre of Prince George, dividing the Hart neighbourhood, the new boundary follows the Fraser and Nechako rivers to the John Hart Bridge, thereby placing the entire Hart neighbourhood in Prince George-Mackenzie. We have also avoided splitting the College Heights neighbourhood by moving the boundary from Highway 16 and instead follow major roads west of Highway 16, and University Way and Tyner Boulevard. This change places the entire College Heights neighbourhood in Prince George-Valemount.

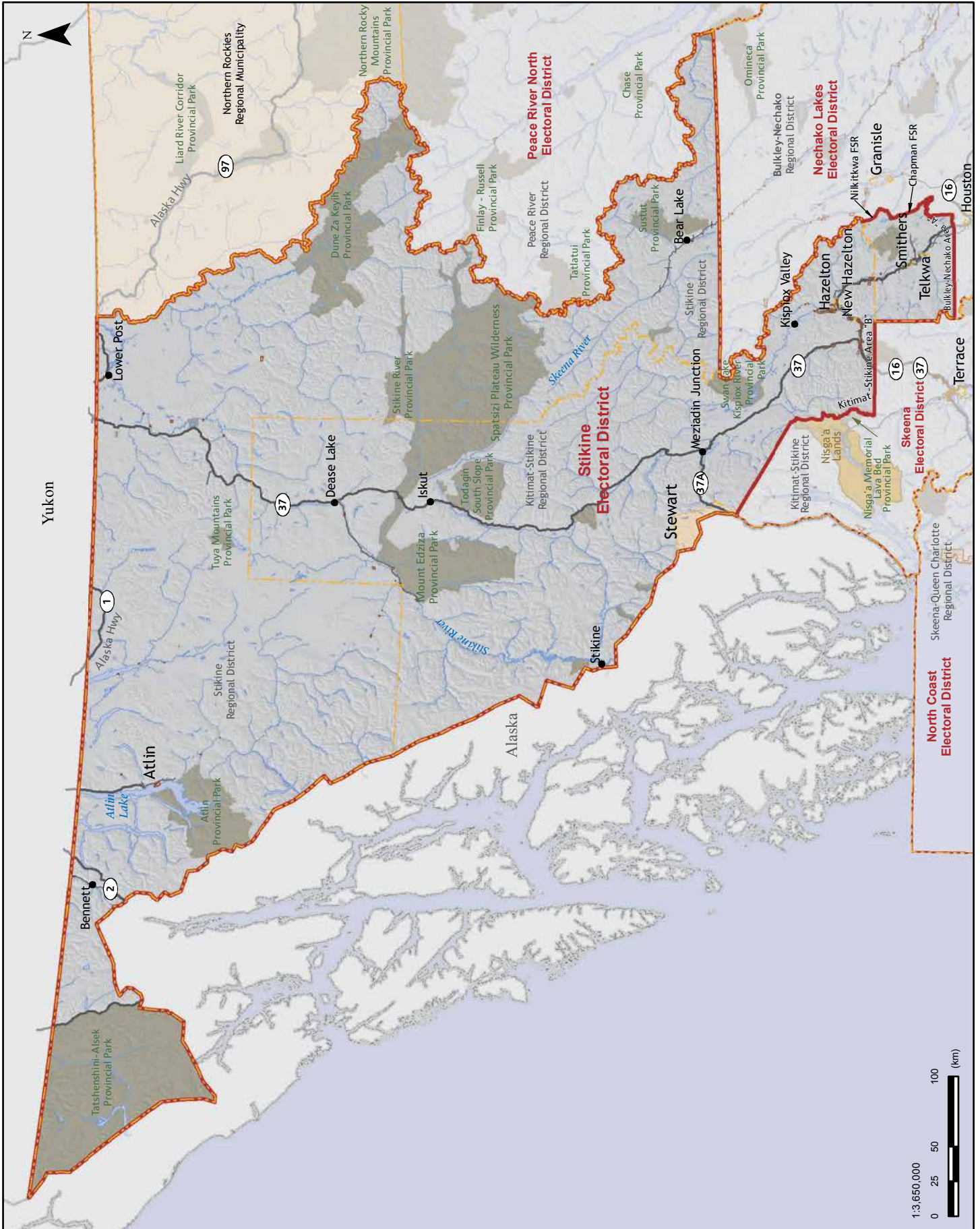
Table 9: Proposed electoral districts – North Region⁴

Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Stikine	20,616	-61.2	196,446
Peace River North	43,263	-18.6	175,813
Peace River South	28,104	-47.1	30,364
Prince George-Valemount	48,267	-9.1	31,467
Prince George-Mackenzie	46,894	-11.7	20,511
Nechako Lakes	27,692	-47.9	73,795
Skeena	30,240	-43.1	31,649
North Coast	22,382	-57.9	143,856

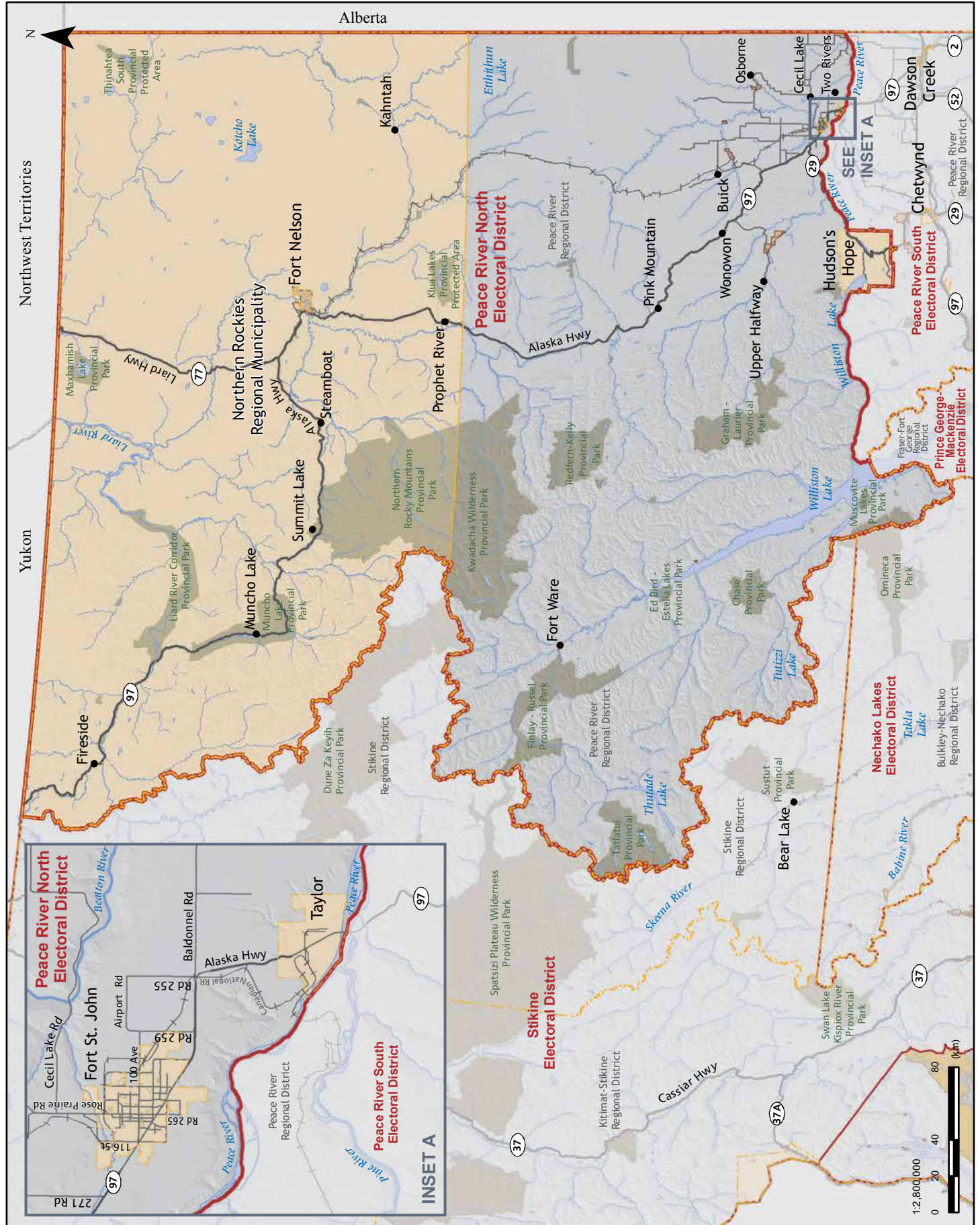
⁴ All population figures in this report are as of May 10, 2014. All population deviations are based on a provincial population of 4,621,394, in the proposed 87 electoral districts and an electoral quotient of 53,119.

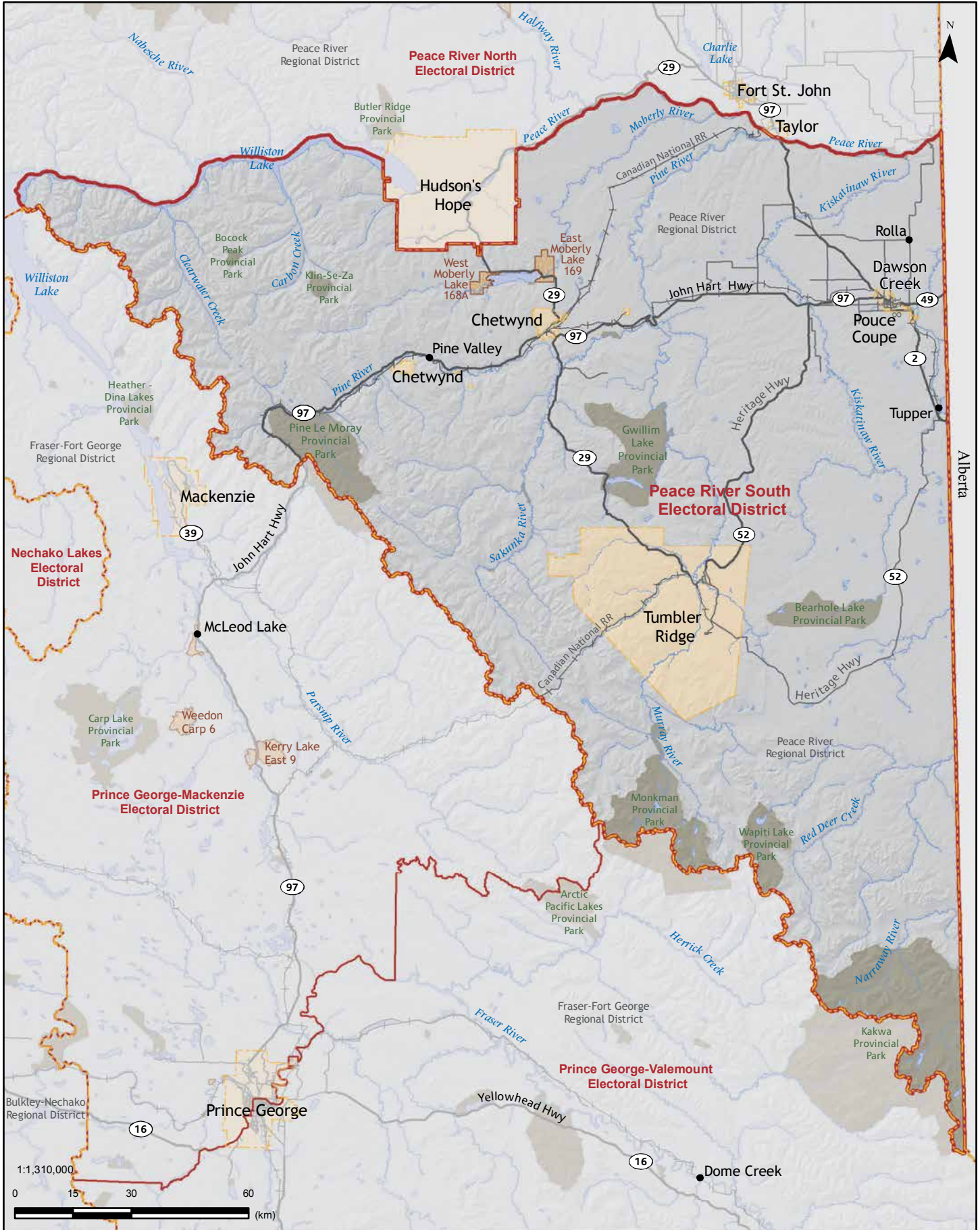
North Region



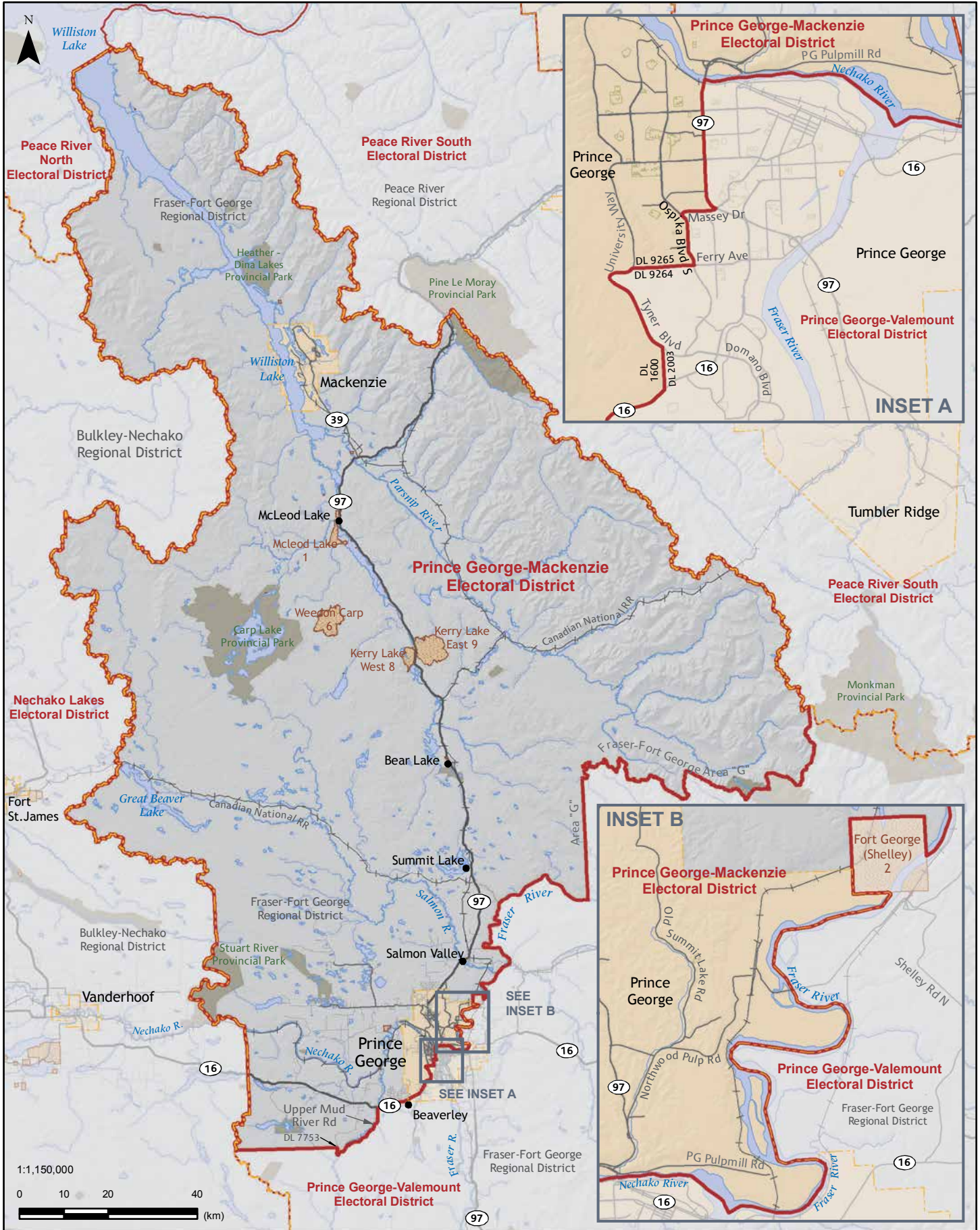


Peace River North



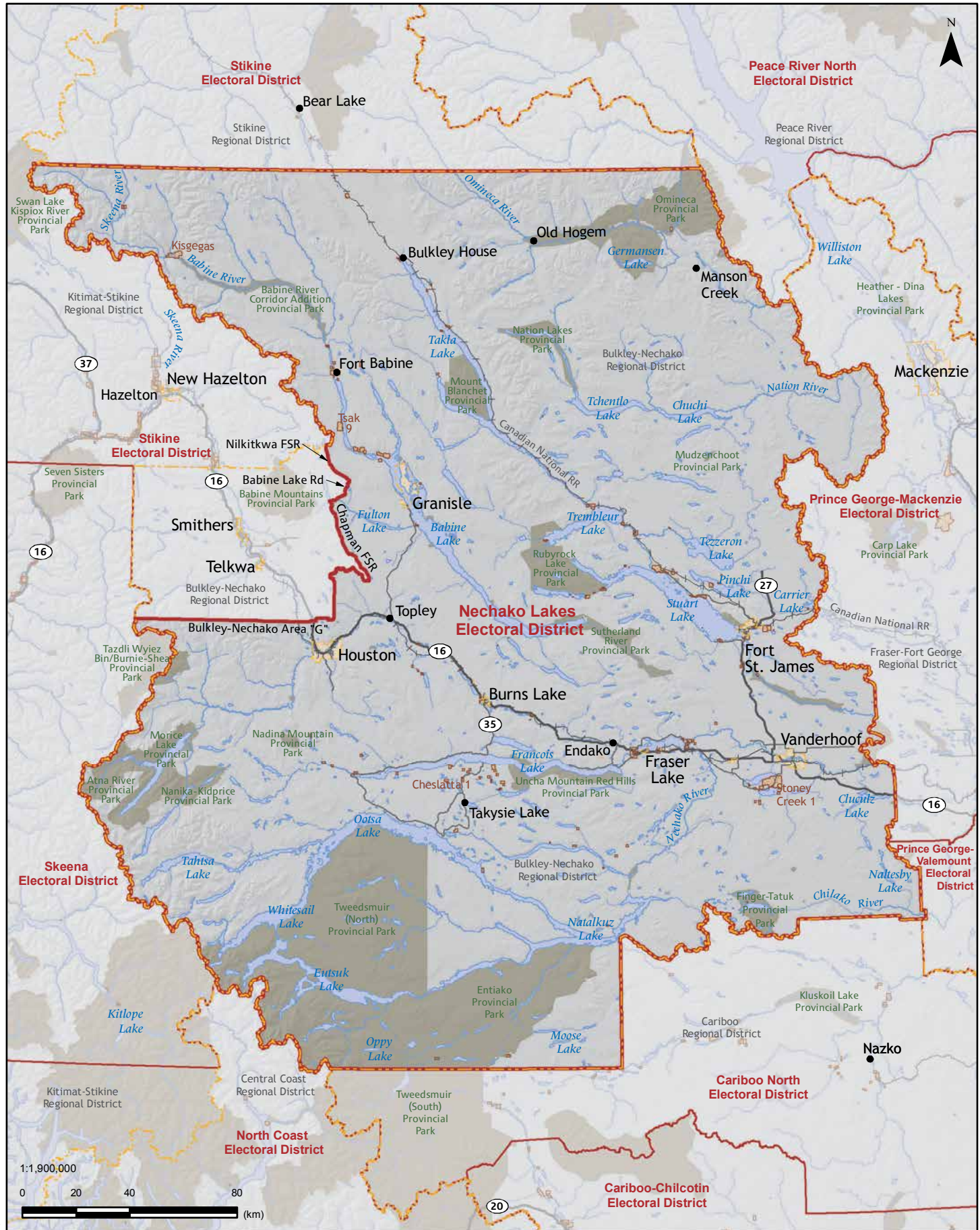


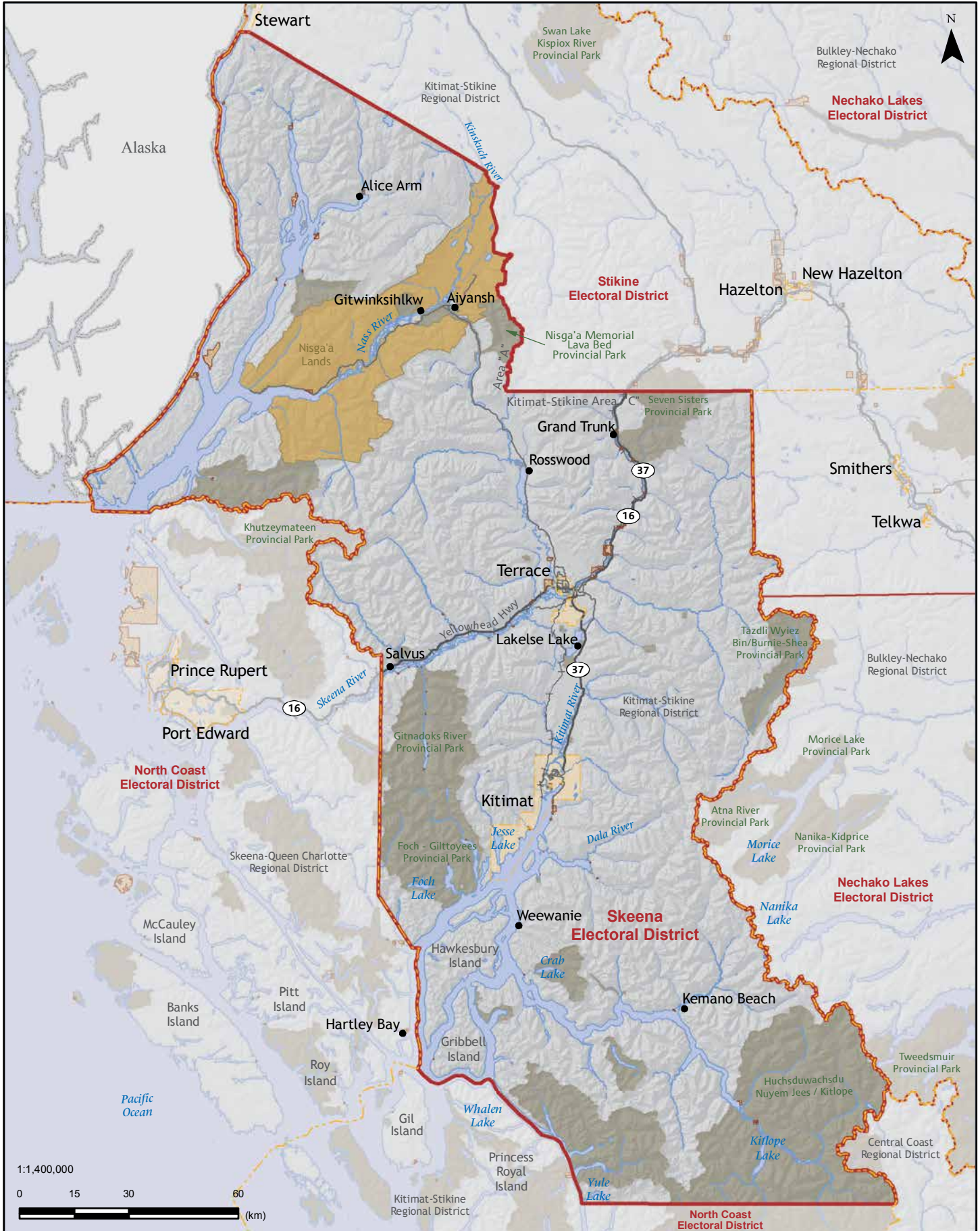
Prince George-Mackenzie



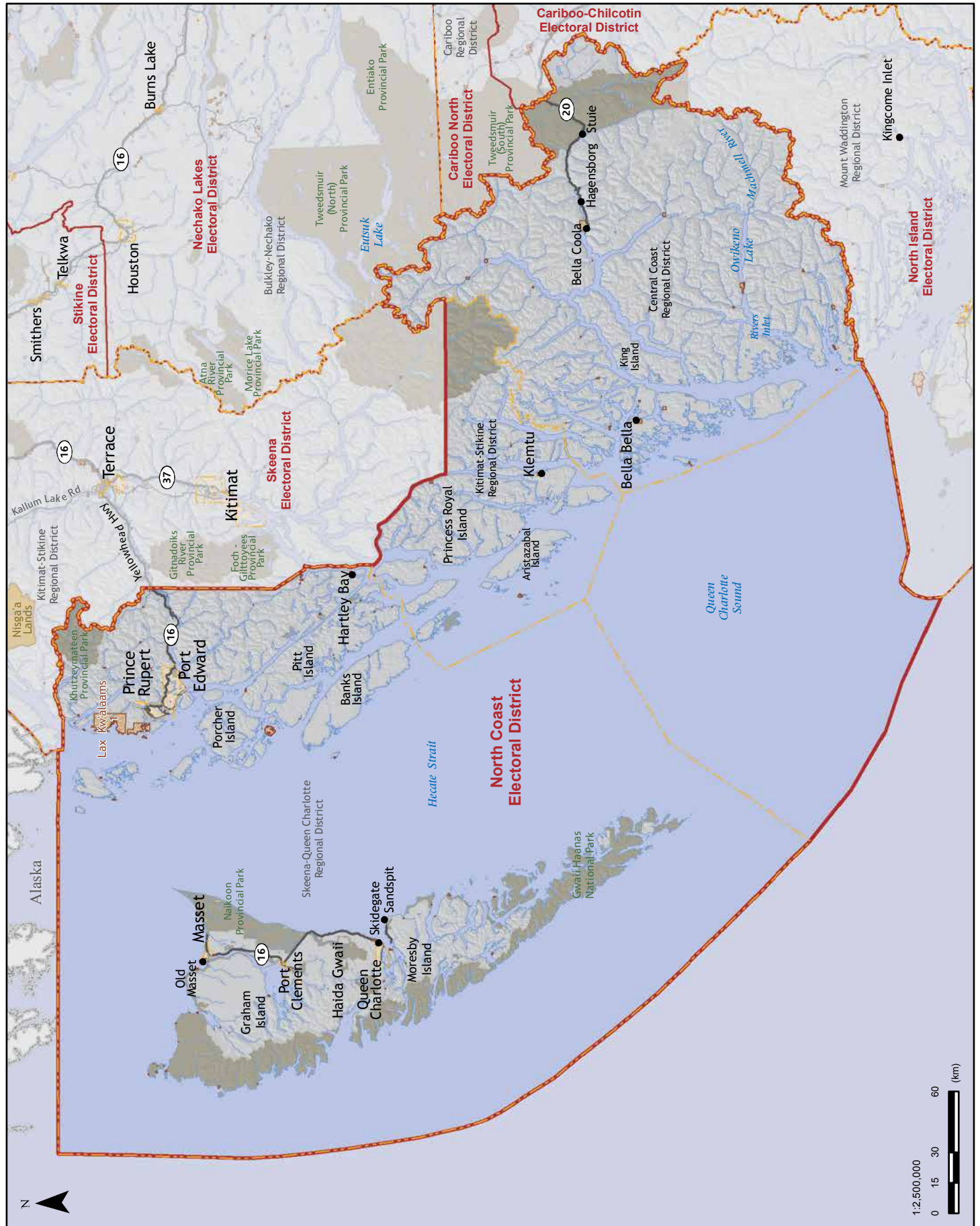
Nechako Lakes

Proposals – North Region





North Coast



Cariboo-Thompson Region

The Cariboo-Thompson is the second of the three defined regions which cannot have the number of electoral districts reduced. It includes the districts of Cariboo North, Cariboo-Chilcotin, Kamloops-North Thompson, Kamloops-South Thompson, and Fraser-Nicola. It shares many of the accessibility challenges seen in the North Region. While the Cariboo-Thompson Region contains the City of Kamloops, a dense urban centre with a high rate of growth, it also contains many smaller and slower growing towns and rural communities spread across a very large geographic area.

The residents of this region who provided input to the commission were largely seeking little to no change. We heard that the current configuration of districts makes sense and respects the transportation and communication linkages that exist between like-minded communities in this region.

The exception to this trend related to the request to change the boundaries of the defined region in the south west and include the District of Hope and the communities up the Fraser Canyon within a Cariboo-Thompson Region electoral district. Of the public input we received in this area, this issue was the most widely discussed.

We propose no change to Kamloops-North Thompson, small changes to Cariboo North, Cariboo-Chilcotin and Kamloops-South Thompson, and substantive changes to Fraser-Nicola.

Williams Lake

Williams Lake is one of the major urban centres of the Cariboo area (the other being Quesnel) and is located on the border between the Cariboo North and Cariboo-Chilcotin electoral districts. While Williams Lake is largely within the Cariboo-Chilcotin electoral district, the existing boundary follows Highway 97 through the city resulting in a

small portion of the city on the north east side of the highway being in the Cariboo North electoral district. We heard from the public that it would be logical from a community of interest perspective to reunite Williams Lake in a single electoral district. We were therefore persuaded that this community of interest should exist in one electoral district.

The community of 150 Mile House and the Sugar Cane Reserve belonging to the T'exelcenc (Williams Lake Band) are located just east of the City of Williams Lake, but are on the other side of the boundary between Cariboo-Chilcotin and Cariboo North. We decided that the Sugar Cane Reserve and 150 Mile House should be located within the same electoral district as the City of Williams Lake.

By following the municipality boundary and part of the Cariboo Electoral Area D boundary we were able to unite the entire city of Williams Lake, the airport, and all of the reserves of the T'exelcenc in Cariboo-Chilcotin with the exception of the Tillion Reserve west of Williams Lake. We deviated from the Cariboo Electoral Area D boundary in order to include the community of 150 Mile House.

Kamloops area

We have made some alterations to the boundary between Kamloops-South Thompson and Fraser-Nicola south of Knutsford to include more of the community around Knutsford in the Kamloops-South Thompson electoral district. This change respects the stronger ties the residents in this community have to Kamloops than to Merritt which is much farther south. The change also provides more effective representation to the community between Campbell Creek and Thompson-Nicola Regional District Electoral Area J, approximately 5km south of the Kamloops municipal border.

Hope

The placement of Hope and the Fraser Canyon communities was widely discussed in public input. Hope has historically been included in a Cariboo-Thompson Region electoral district, but was moved into a Fraser Valley electoral district in 2008. Nine presentations in Kamloops and Abbotsford and 29 written submissions debated whether these communities had stronger ties to the Fraser Valley or the Cariboo-Thompson.

Those in favour of Hope remaining in a Fraser Valley electoral district pointed to their inclusion in the Fraser Valley Regional District and Hope’s relationship with Chilliwack as the regional hub where citizens do their shopping and receive services. Those in favour of these communities returning to the Cariboo-Thompson highlighted the differences between the urbanizing, high growth, agricultural-based Fraser Valley and the more rural, resource and tourism-focused Cariboo-Thompson. They argued these communities were more closely matched to the character of Hope and the Fraser Canyon. A majority of the comments favoured Hope’s inclusion in a Cariboo-Thompson Region electoral district over the Fraser Valley.

Prior to making our decision, we turned our attention to the impact our decision would make on the populations of Fraser-Nicola and the surrounding electoral districts. While the population of Fraser-Nicola is beyond the -25% deviation from the provincial average, the electoral district is in a defined region and thus it is not necessary to satisfy that requirement. Therefore, the addition of the populations of Hope and the Fraser Canyon communities to Fraser-Nicola would not be necessary as a means principally to increase population in Fraser-Nicola. However, population pressures further east in the Lower Mainland and west in the southern Okanagan could be lessened by this change.

We chose to include Hope and the Fraser Canyon communities in Fraser-Nicola. We believe that this decision will provide more effective representation

for the residents of Hope and the Fraser Canyon and also will allow us to provide for more effective representation for residents of the neighbouring electoral districts.

In the south-west, the boundary of Fraser-Nicola has been extended west largely to follow the Fraser Valley Electoral Area B boundary to include Hope and the Fraser Canyon communities. We varied from the electoral area boundary around the Lukseetsissum in order to keep all of the Yale First Nation reserves in Fraser-Nicola.

Princeton

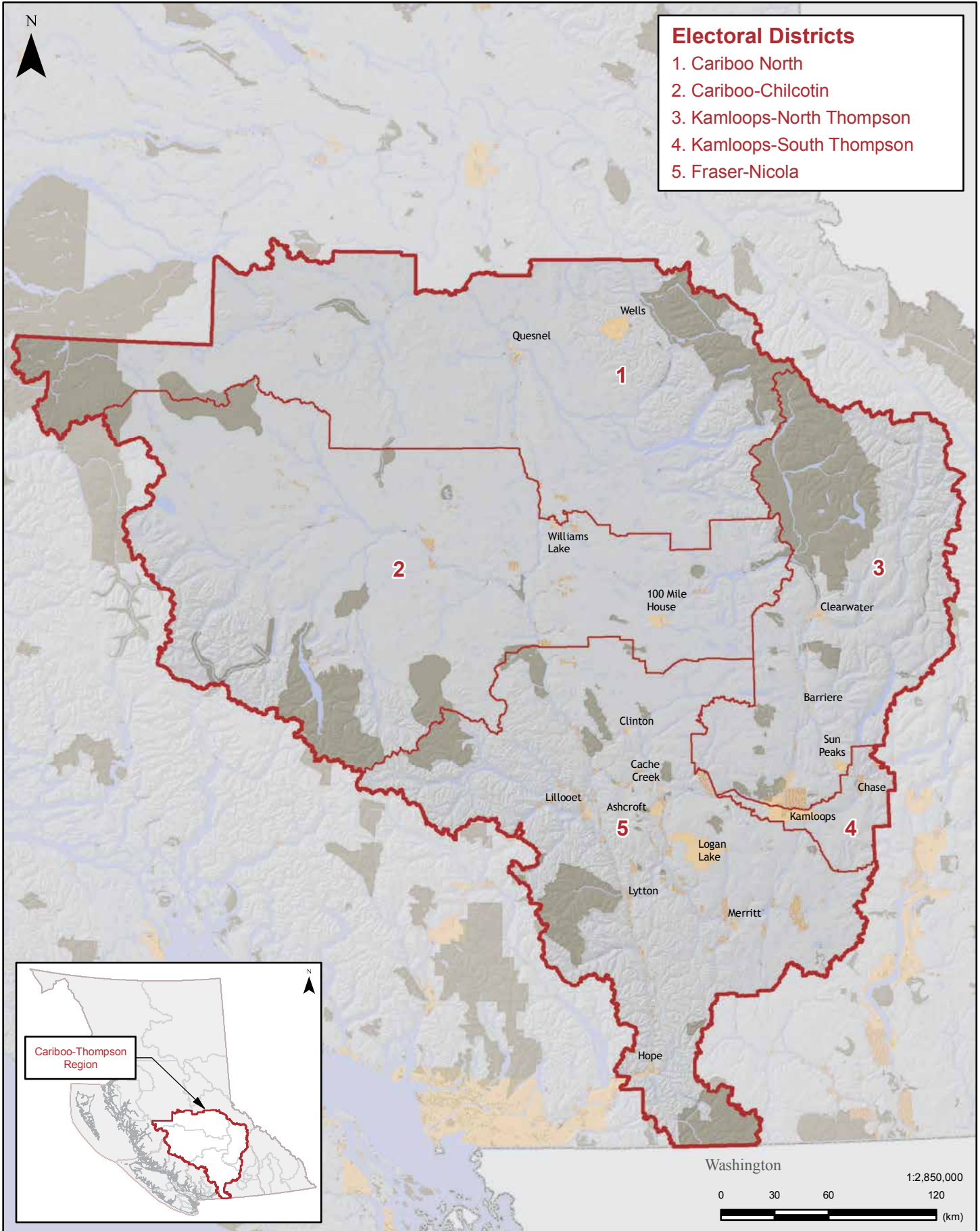
The addition of communities to south-west Fraser-Nicola and the resulting population shift enables us to solve another issue to the south-east of Fraser-Nicola in Boundary-Similkameen. Boundary-Similkameen is also more than 25% below the provincial average and is not in a defined region. Therefore, we have moved the western border of Boundary-Similkameen farther west so that it now includes Princeton and the small communities around it. For more on this change, see page 49.

To the south-west, the Fraser-Nicola boundary now largely follows the western boundary of the Okanagan-Similkameen Regional District. It varies from this regional district boundary to follow the northern and eastern boundary of Manning Park.

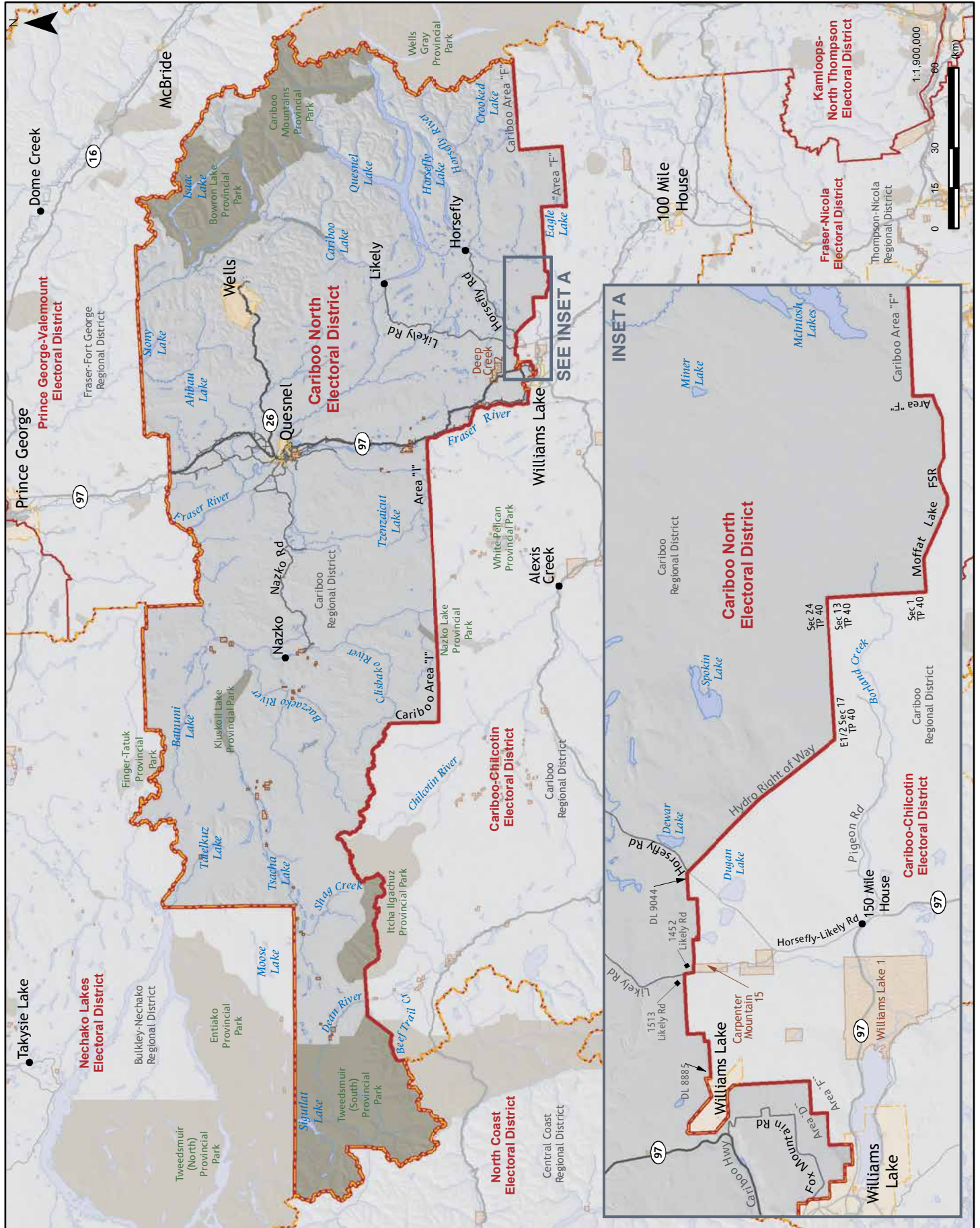
Table 10: Proposed electoral districts – Cariboo-Thompson Region

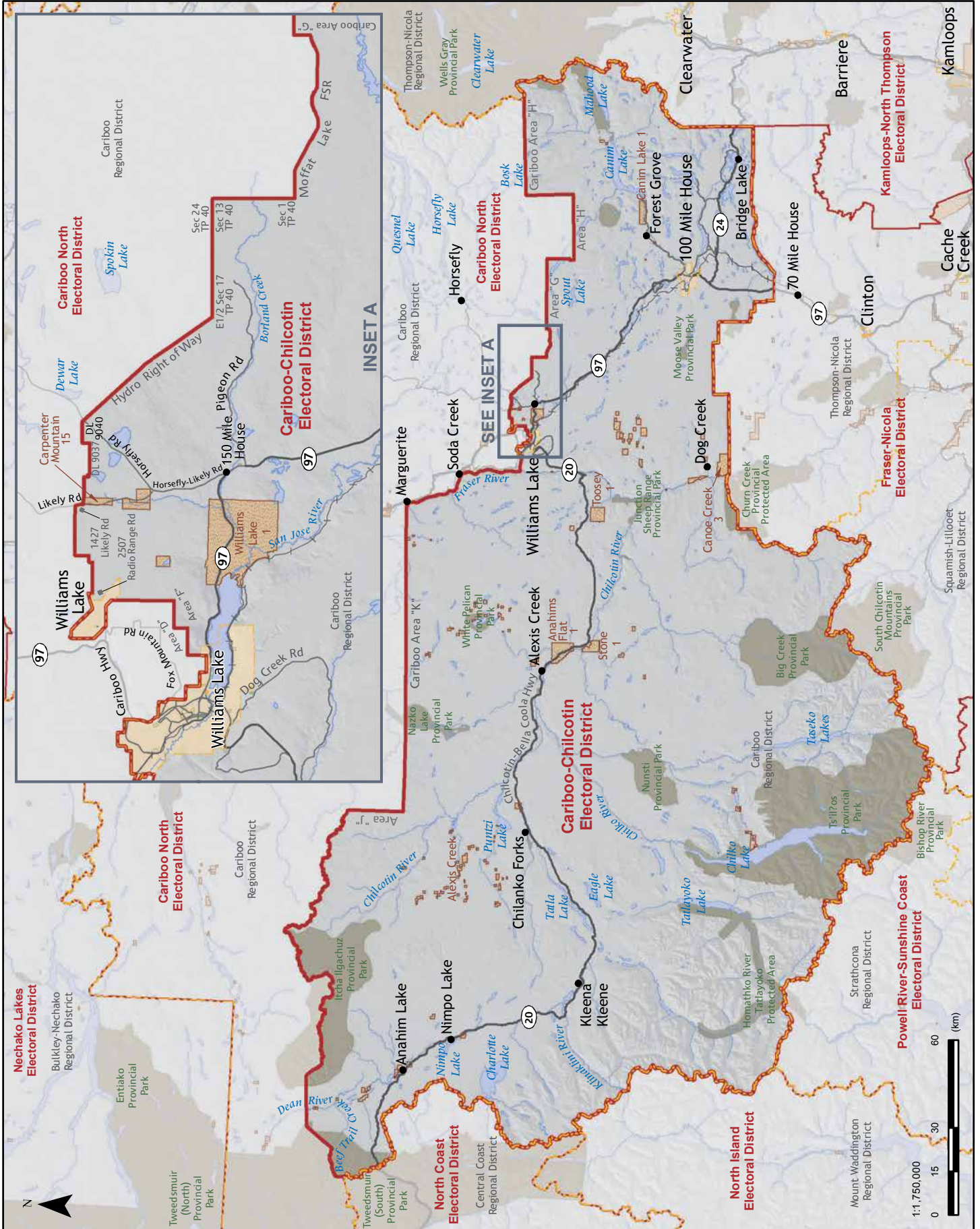
Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Cariboo North	29,542	-44.4	38,579
Cariboo-Chilcotin	33,520	-36.9	44,512
Kamloops-North Thompson	54,014	1.7	21,641
Kamloops-South Thompson	56,410	6.2	2,437
Fraser-Nicola	33,980	-36.0	34,829

Cariboo-Thompson Region

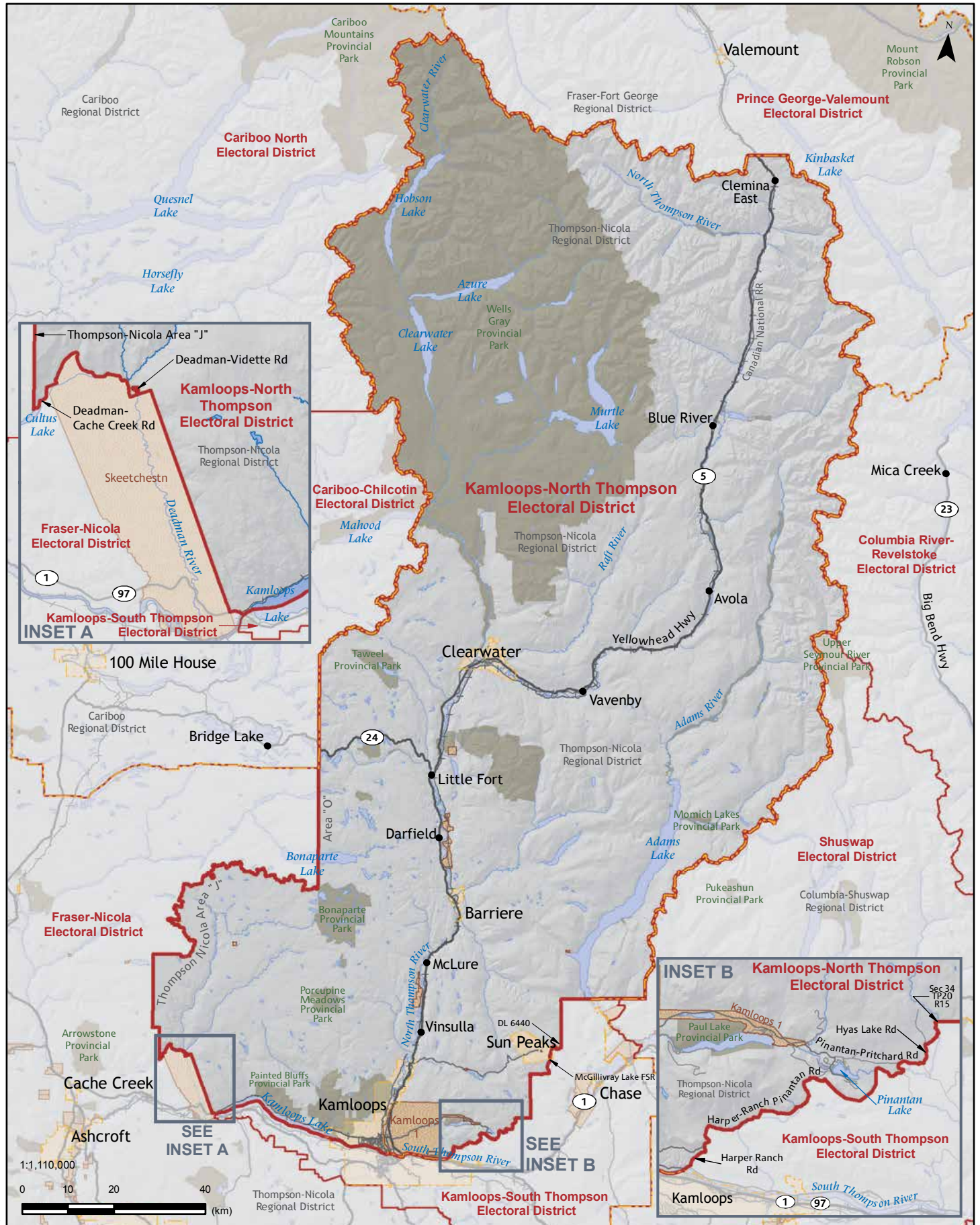


Cariboo North

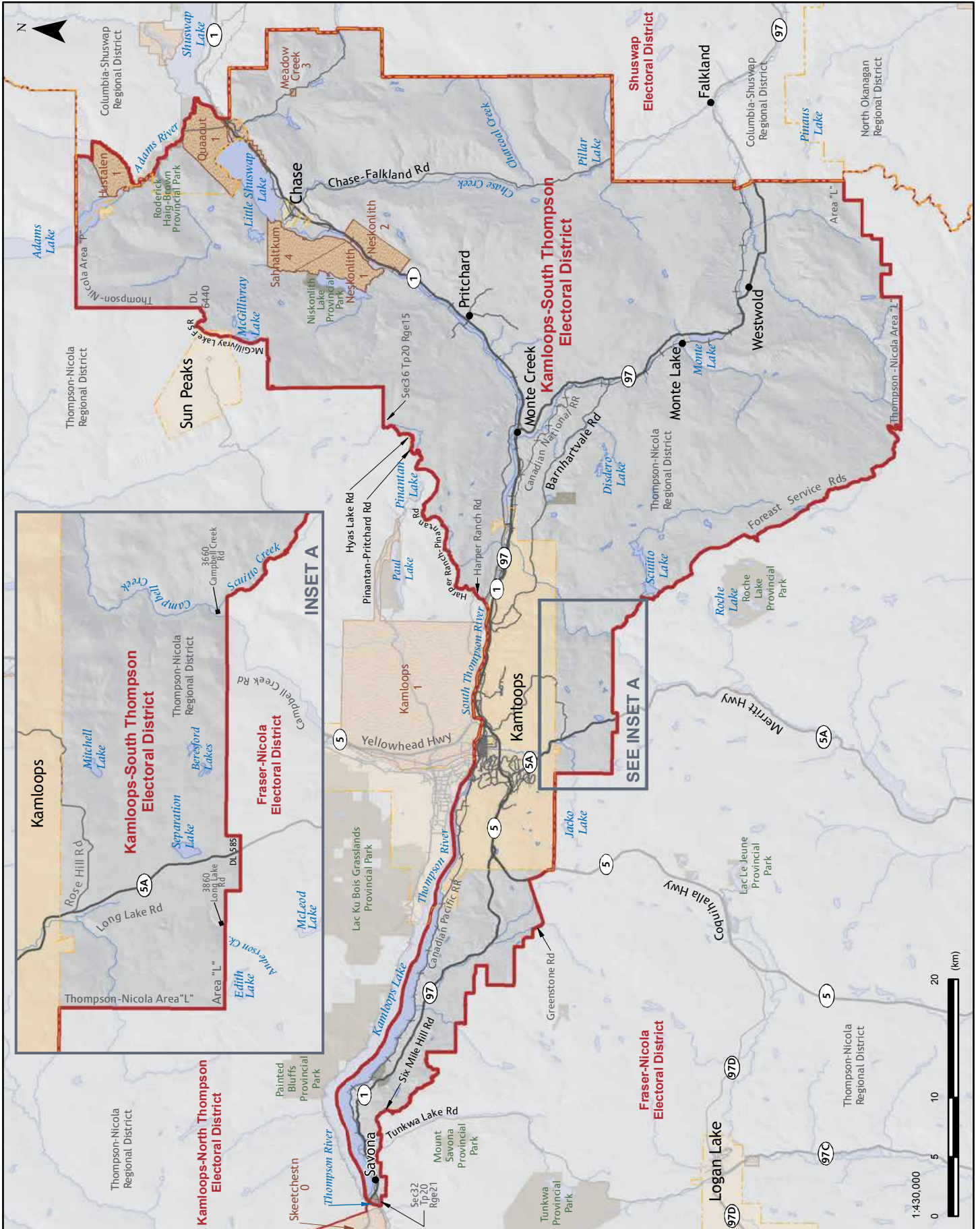




Kamloops-North Thompson



Kamloops-South Thompson



Fraser-Nicola



Columbia-Kootenay Region

The third defined region, Columbia-Kootenay, is a geographically large but sparsely populated area made up of four electoral districts: Columbia River-Revelstoke, Kootenay East, Nelson-Creston and Kootenay West. We were told that the electoral districts in this region are difficult to represent due to the physical geography and challenging transportation routes. Despite these challenges, submissions and presentations from residents of the Columbia-Kootenay Region indicated satisfaction with their electoral boundaries and the majority indicated there are no significant changes that could provide more effective representation.

We propose no changes to the Kootenay West or Nelson-Creston electoral districts and a small change to the boundary between Kootenay East and Columbia River-Revelstoke.

Cranbrook area

At our public hearing in Cranbrook we were advised of an issue south-east of Cranbrook where the use of the Kootenay River as an electoral district boundary has the consequence of placing communities on either side of the river, that have close ties to one another and to Cranbrook, in different electoral districts. Students from Wardner on the west bank and Bull River and Fort Steele on the east bank attend the same secondary school in Cranbrook. However, as Wardner is in Kootenay East and Bull River and Fort Steele are in Columbia River-Revelstoke, young people in this area don't have a shared political experience and some believed this led them to be less likely to participate in the electoral process.

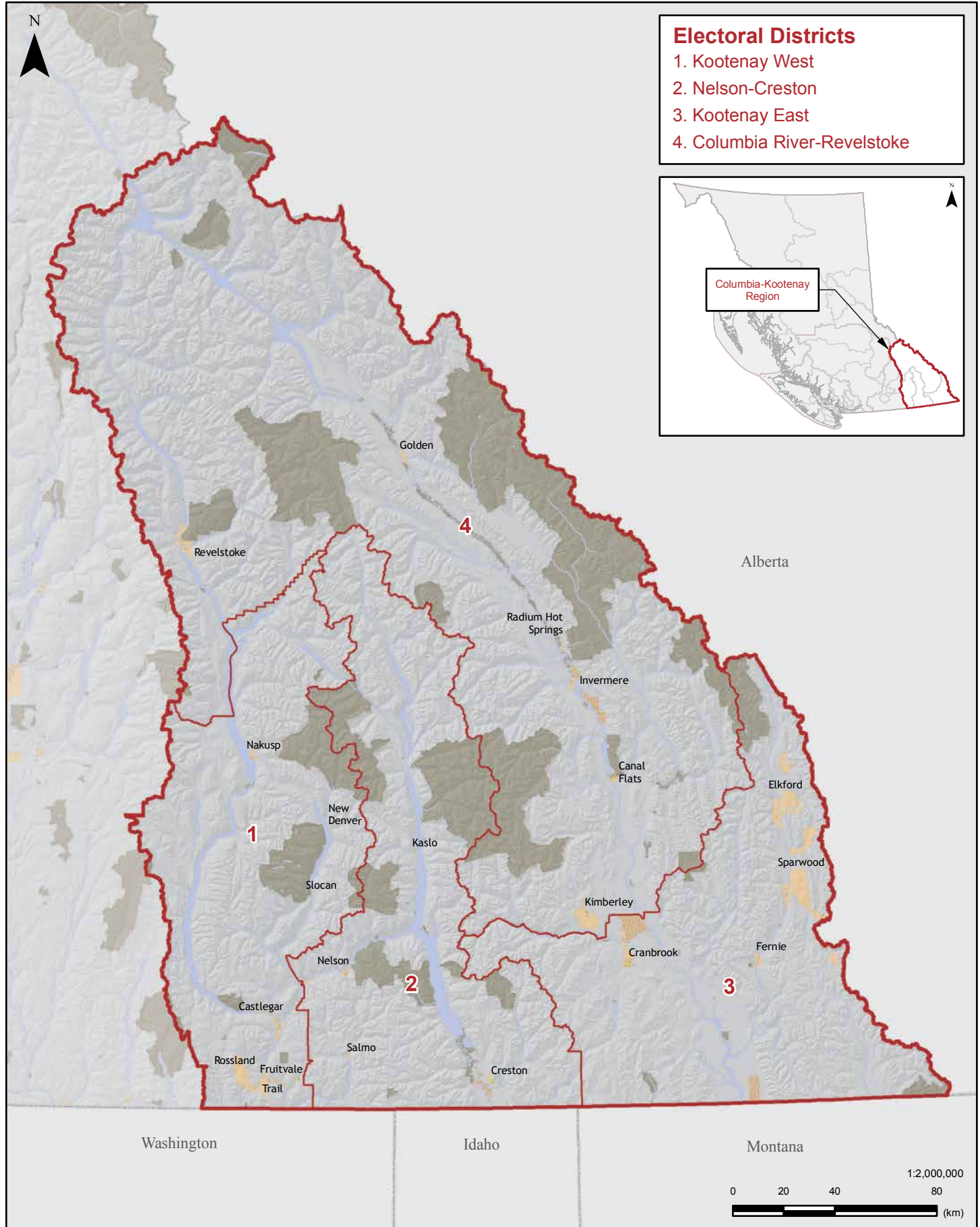
By using the East Kootenay Regional District Electoral Area C and the Southeast Kootenay School District boundary in this area, these towns east of Cranbrook will be included in the same electoral district (Kootenay East). Following this boundary also has the effect of moving a small area around

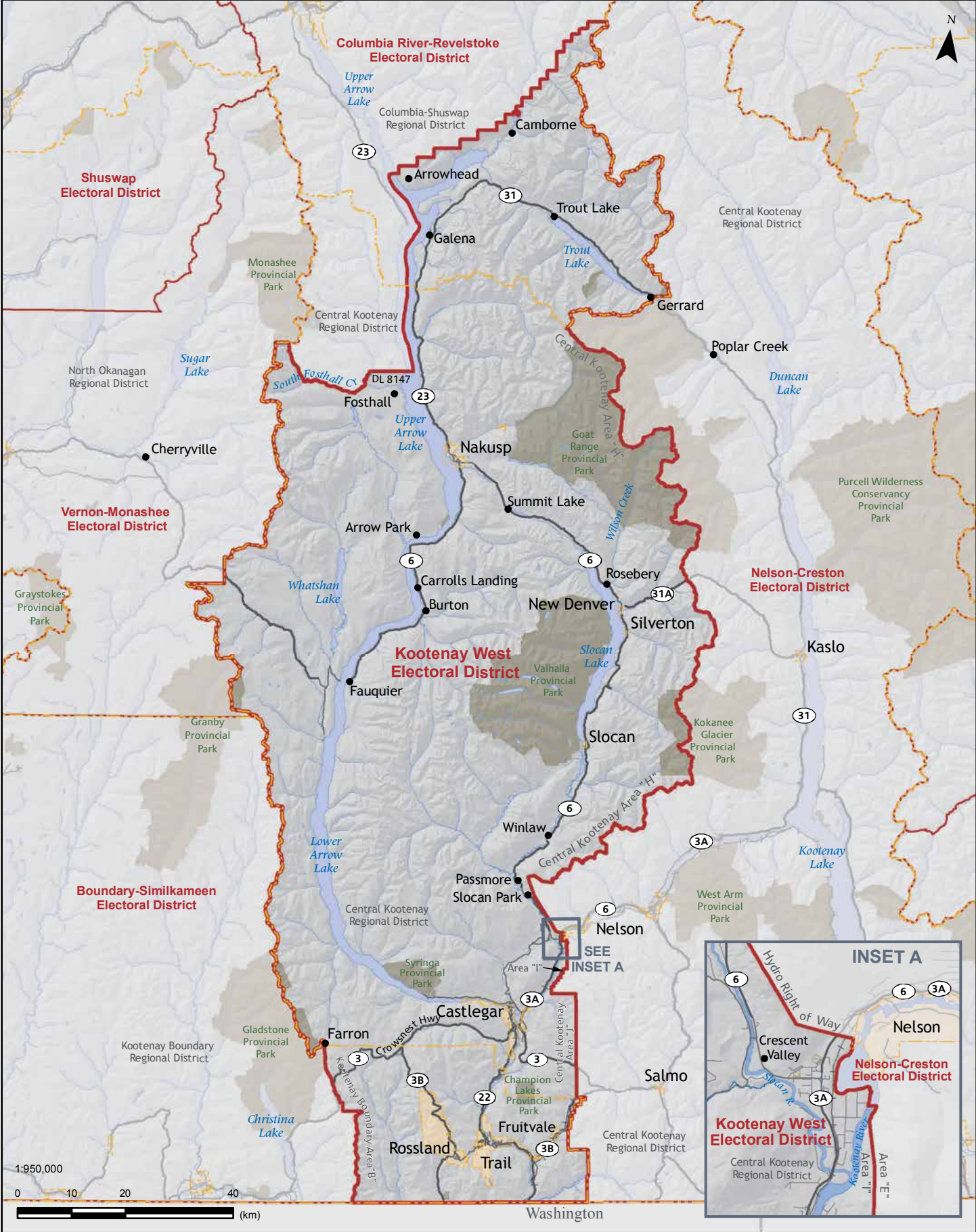
the airport west of Cranbrook into Kootenay East from Columbia River-Revelstoke. While these changes affect only a small number of people, it will provide more effective representation for these communities.

Table 11: Proposed electoral districts – Columbia-Kootenay Region

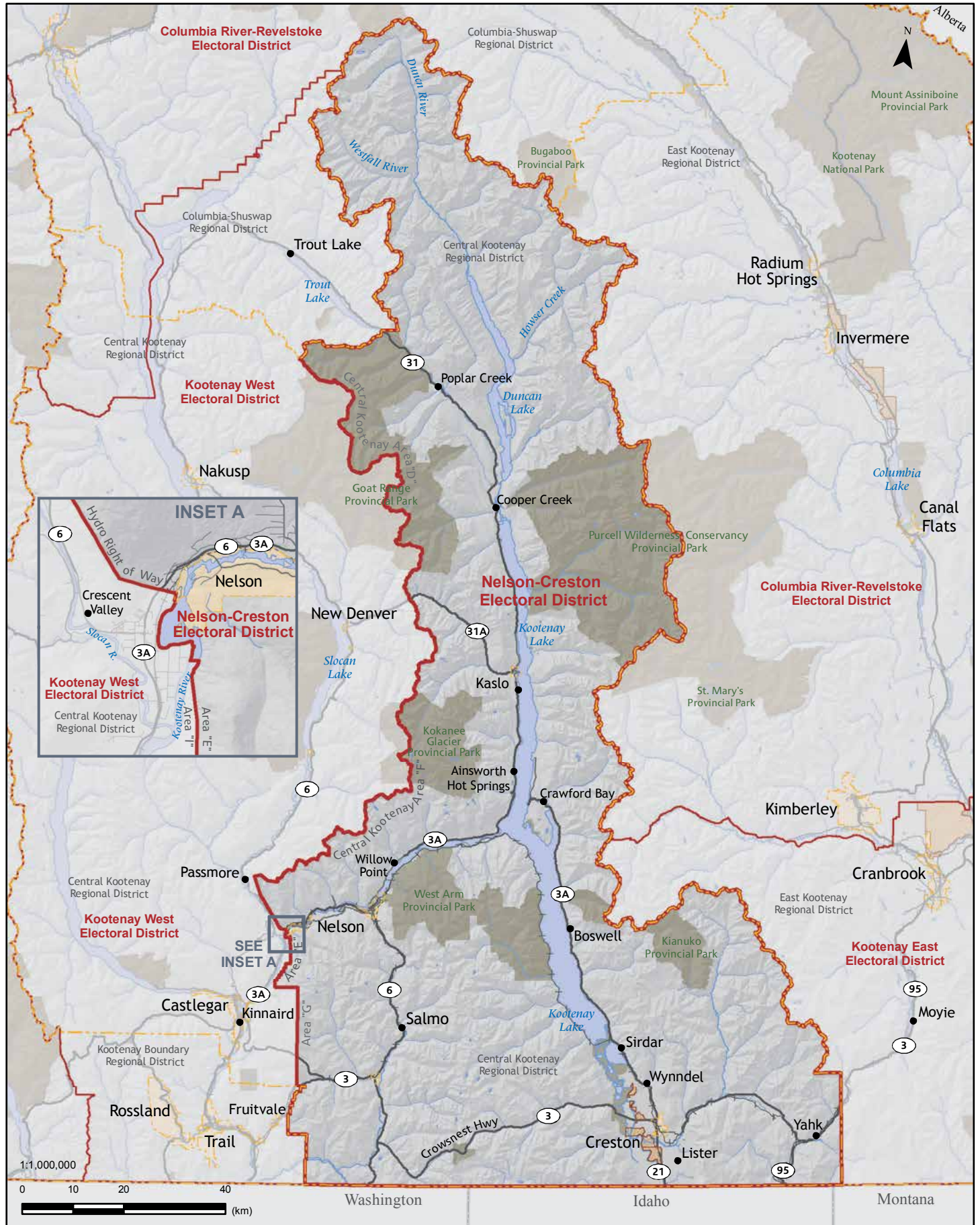
Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Kootenay West	41,302	-22.2	12,009
Nelson-Creston	36,907	-30.5	13,212
Kootenay East	40,466	-23.8	13,210
Columbia River-Revelstoke	31,907	-39.9	37,704

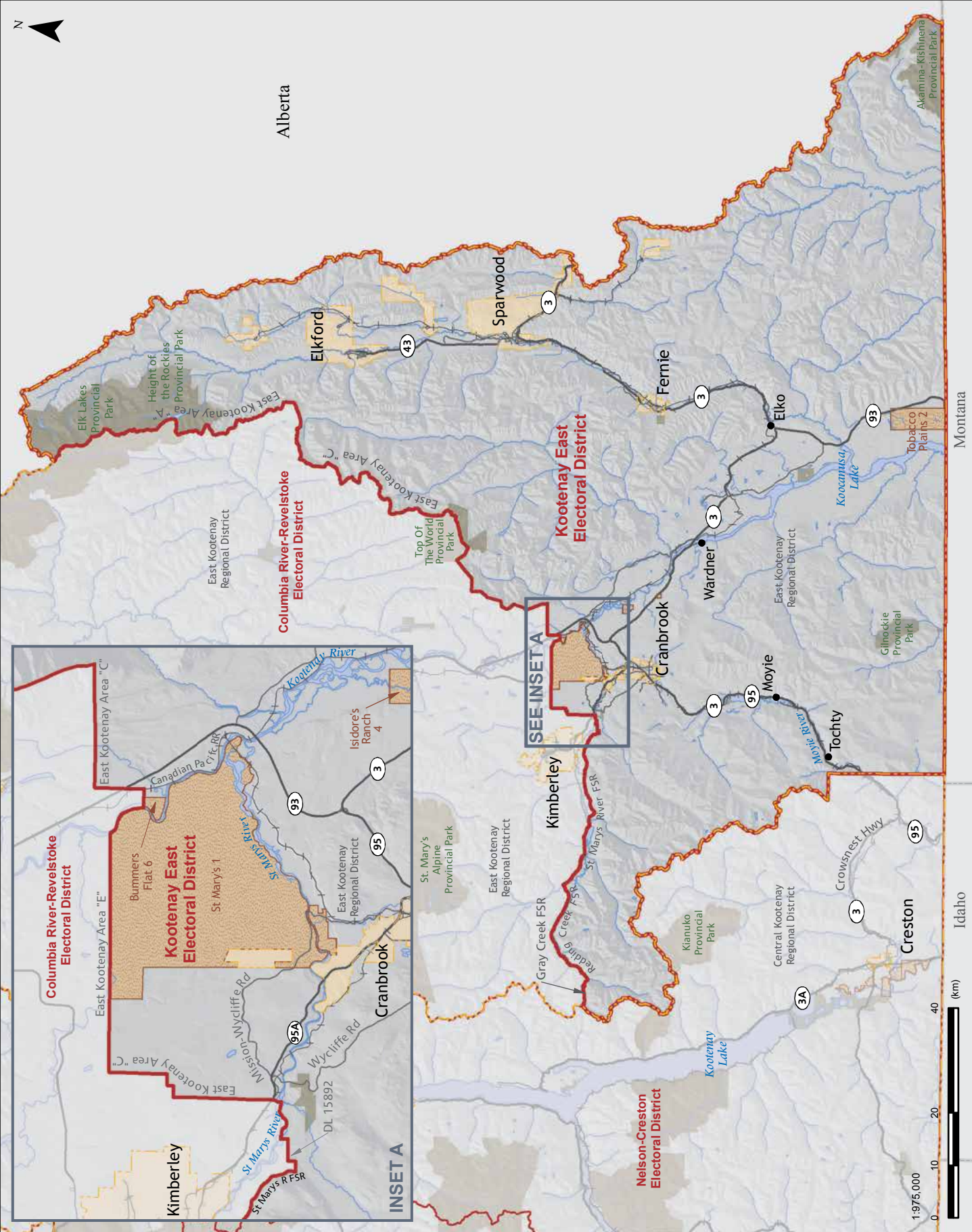
Columbia-Kootenay Region



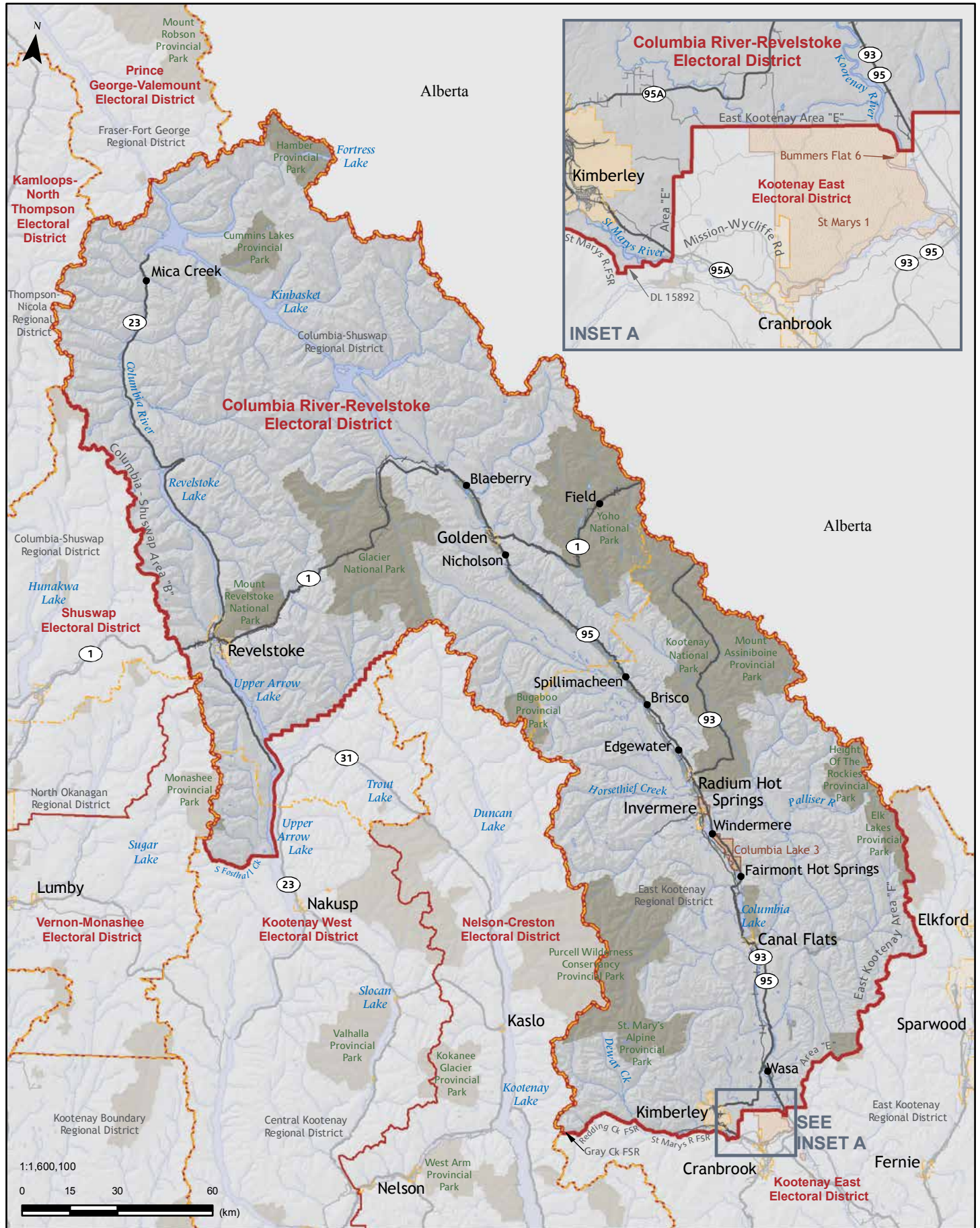


Nelson-Creston





Columbia River-Revelstoke



Okanagan/Shuswap

The Okanagan/Shuswap area consists of both rural communities and urban, fast growing centres such as Vernon, Kelowna and Penticton. Unlike the faster growing electoral districts in the rest of the Okanagan/Shuswap, Boundary-Similkameen is expected to grow at a slower rate.

In contrast to the defined regions, the public input we received for this area was more specific to individual communities and electoral districts and varied as to the level of satisfaction with the existing boundaries. To the north around Salmon Arm and Vernon, input we received indicated satisfaction with existing boundaries and proposed only small changes to rebalance the population to reflect the high rate of growth. We received more varied input for the Kelowna area. Some wanted to see substantial changes to the boundaries of these districts, including the addition of a fourth electoral district or the creation of districts that did not cross Okanagan Lake, while others suggested that the current Westside-Kelowna district should include more of the downtown Kelowna area. We propose to change the name of Westside-Kelowna to Kelowna West. However, we chose not to make any changes to the boundaries of the three Kelowna area electoral districts since their populations are similar, and we were not convinced changes would achieve more effective representation.

Vernon/Swan Lake

Vernon-Monashee currently is the most populated electoral district in the Okanagan/Shuswap. Like most of the electoral districts in the area, it is expected to continue to grow steadily. Shuswap's population is the second smallest of the electoral districts in the area. Public input recommended that if changes were needed to balance the population in this area, we could consider moving the community of Swan Lake from Vernon-Monashee to Shuswap without reducing the effectiveness of representation.

To better balance the population in this area we propose to move the boundary between Vernon-Monashee and Shuswap south to include Swan Lake in the Shuswap electoral district. The electoral district boundary will follow the Vernon municipal boundary around Swan Lake and Silver Star Foothills to the Spallumcheen municipal boundary.

Boundary-Similkameen

Boundary-Similkameen is rural in nature and, unlike the rest of the Okanagan/Shuswap, it does not have a major urban centre and instead is made up of many dispersed smaller communities. It is also not expected to see the same levels of growth as the rest of the Okanagan/Shuswap.

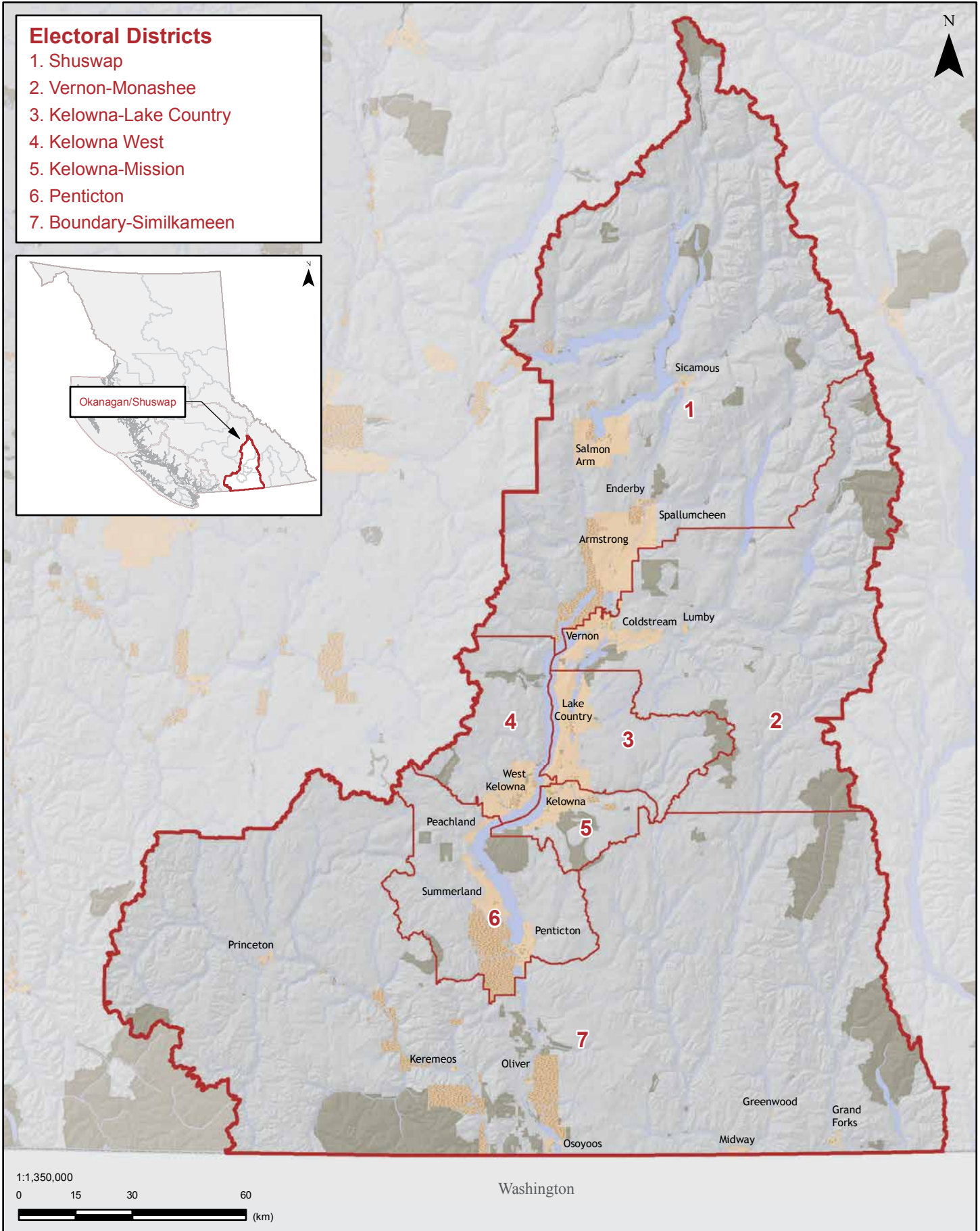
At -28.8%, Boundary-Similkameen is more than 25% under the provincial average. To bring the population of Boundary-Similkameen within +/- 25%, we chose to expand the electoral district boundaries west to include the town of Princeton and its surrounding communities. While some of the public input we received requested that Princeton stay within the Fraser-Nicola electoral district, we conclude that our proposals provide for the most effective representation for residents of both Fraser-Nicola and Boundary-Similkameen.

The boundary between Fraser-Nicola and Boundary-Similkameen now largely follows the western and north-western boundary of the Okanagan-Similkameen Regional District, but varies from this boundary to place Manning Park entirely within Fraser-Nicola.

**Table 12: Proposed electoral districts
– Okanagan/Shuswap**

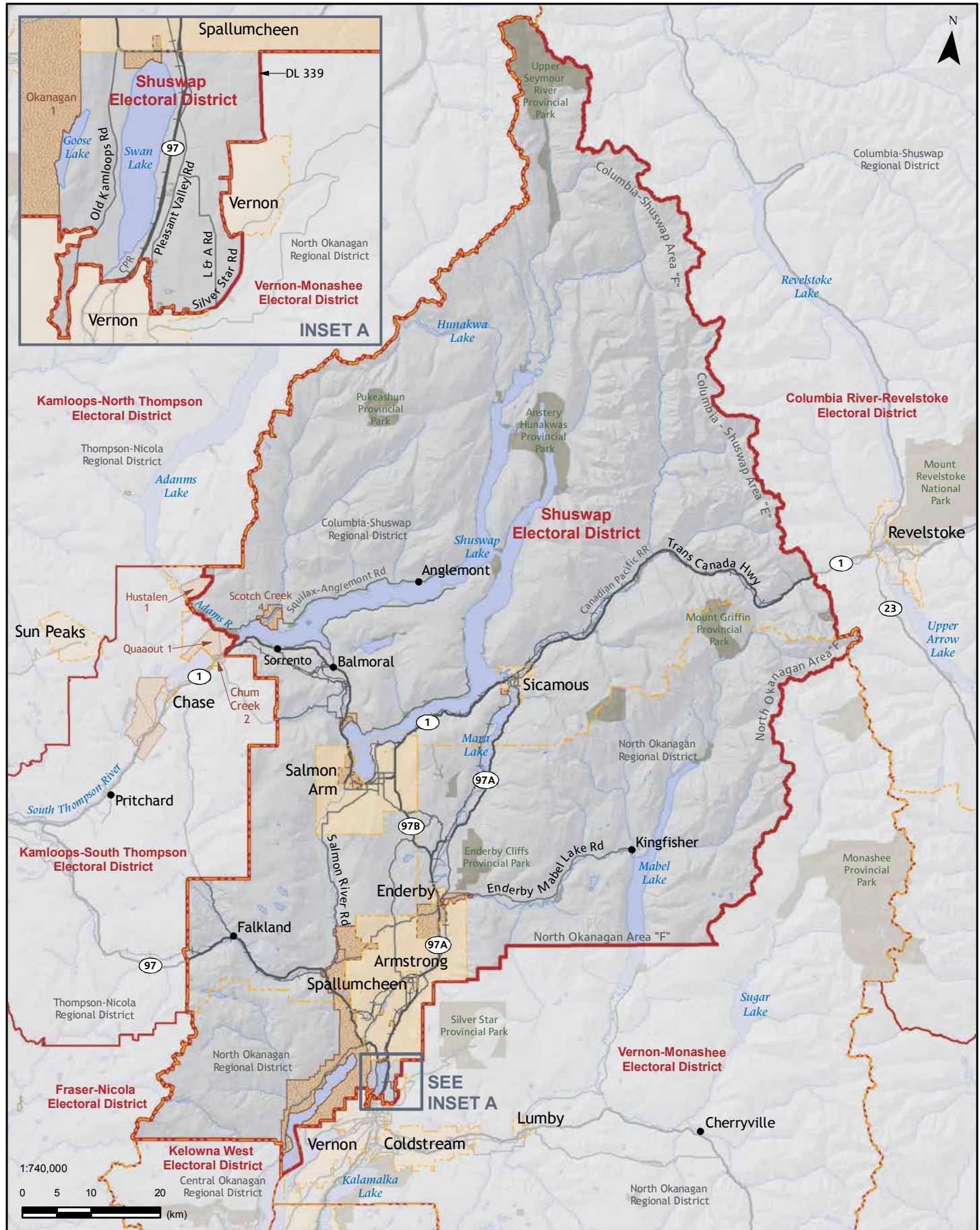
Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Shuswap	59,572	12.1	8,637
Vernon-Monashee	58,886	10.9	5,009
Kelowna-Lake Country	61,113	15.0	1,165
Kelowna West	59,750	12.5	1,140
Kelowna-Mission	60,403	13.7	528
Penticton	56,722	6.8	1,910
Boundary-Similkameen	42,340	-20.3	15,614

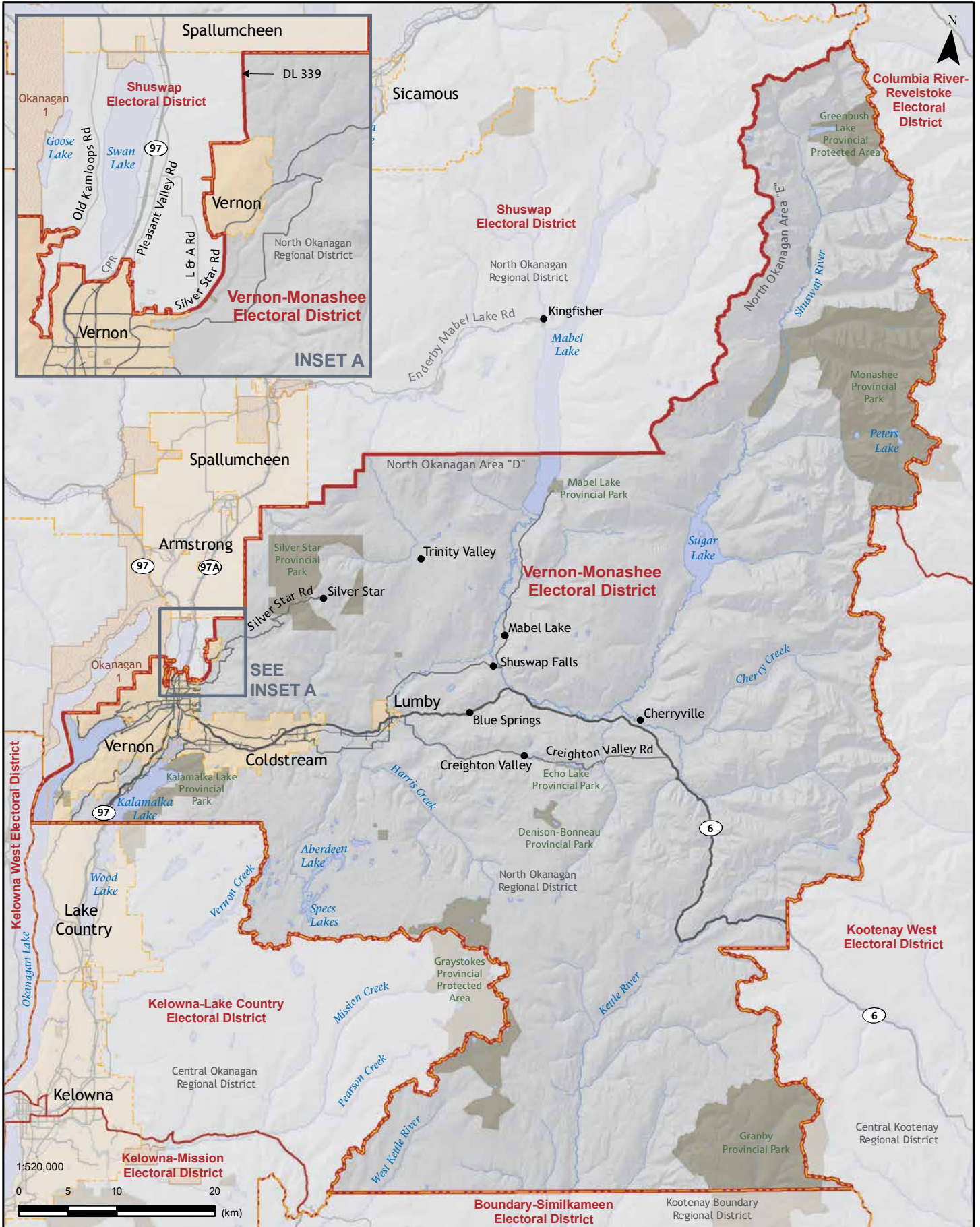




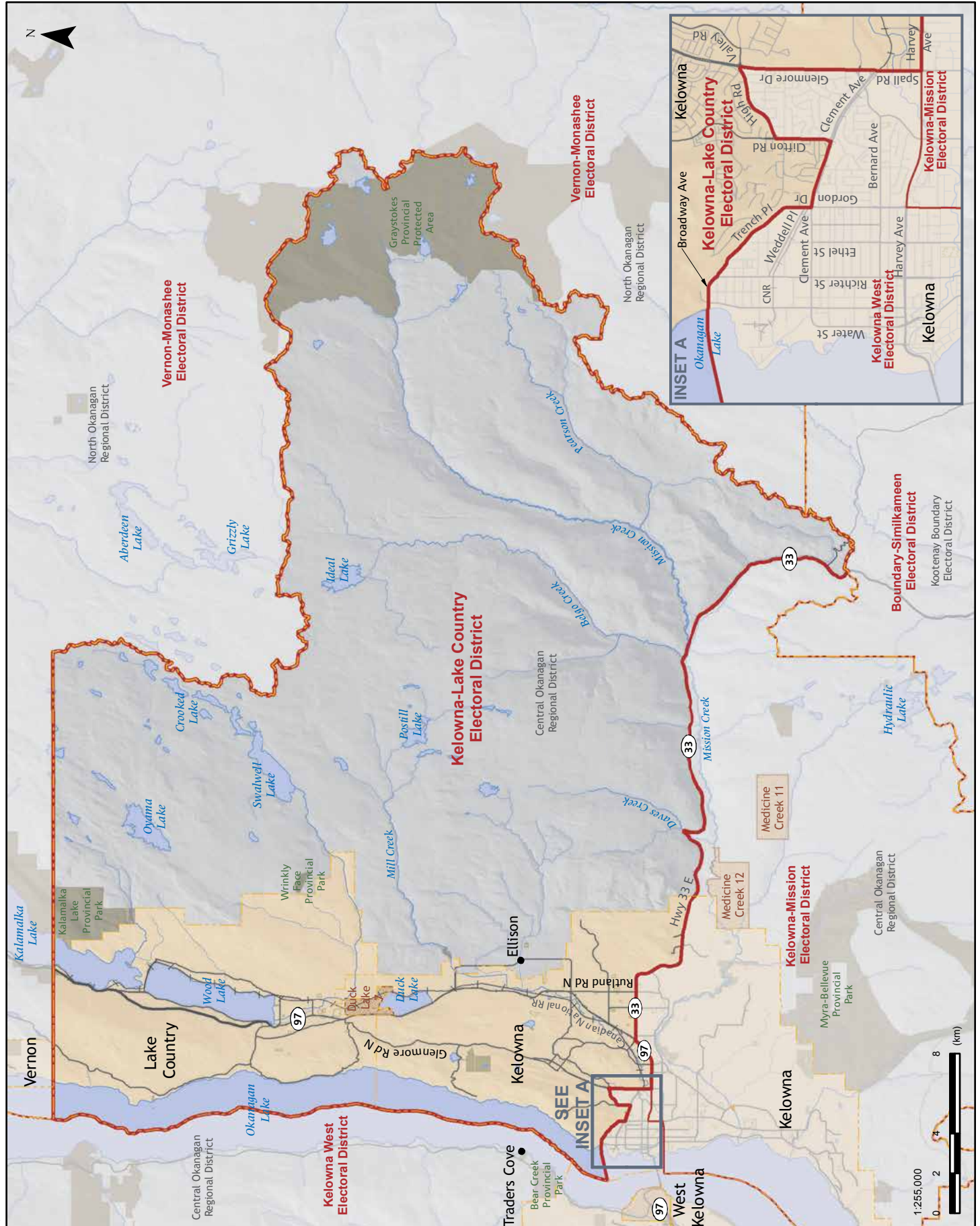
Shuswap

Proposals – Okanagan/Shuswap

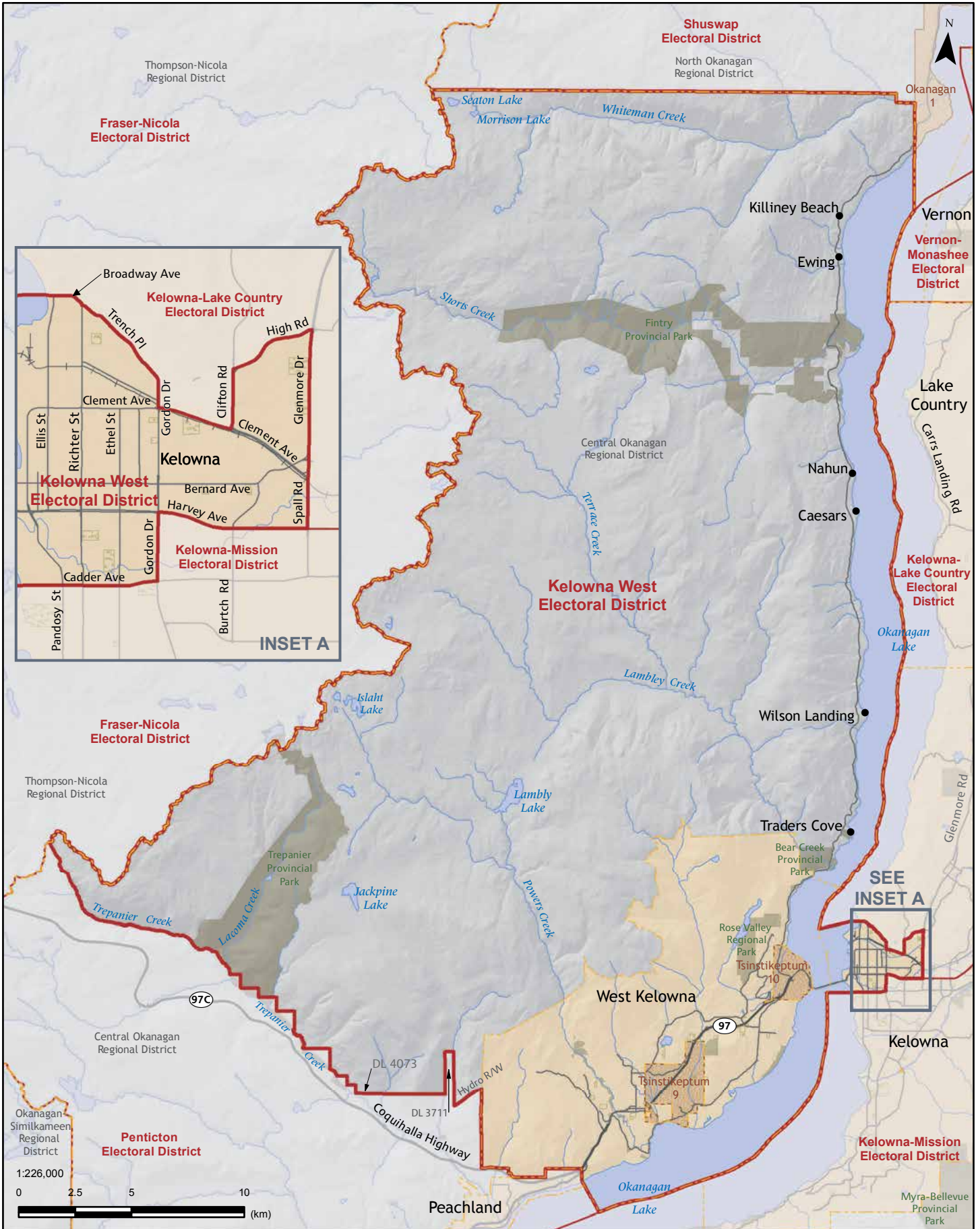




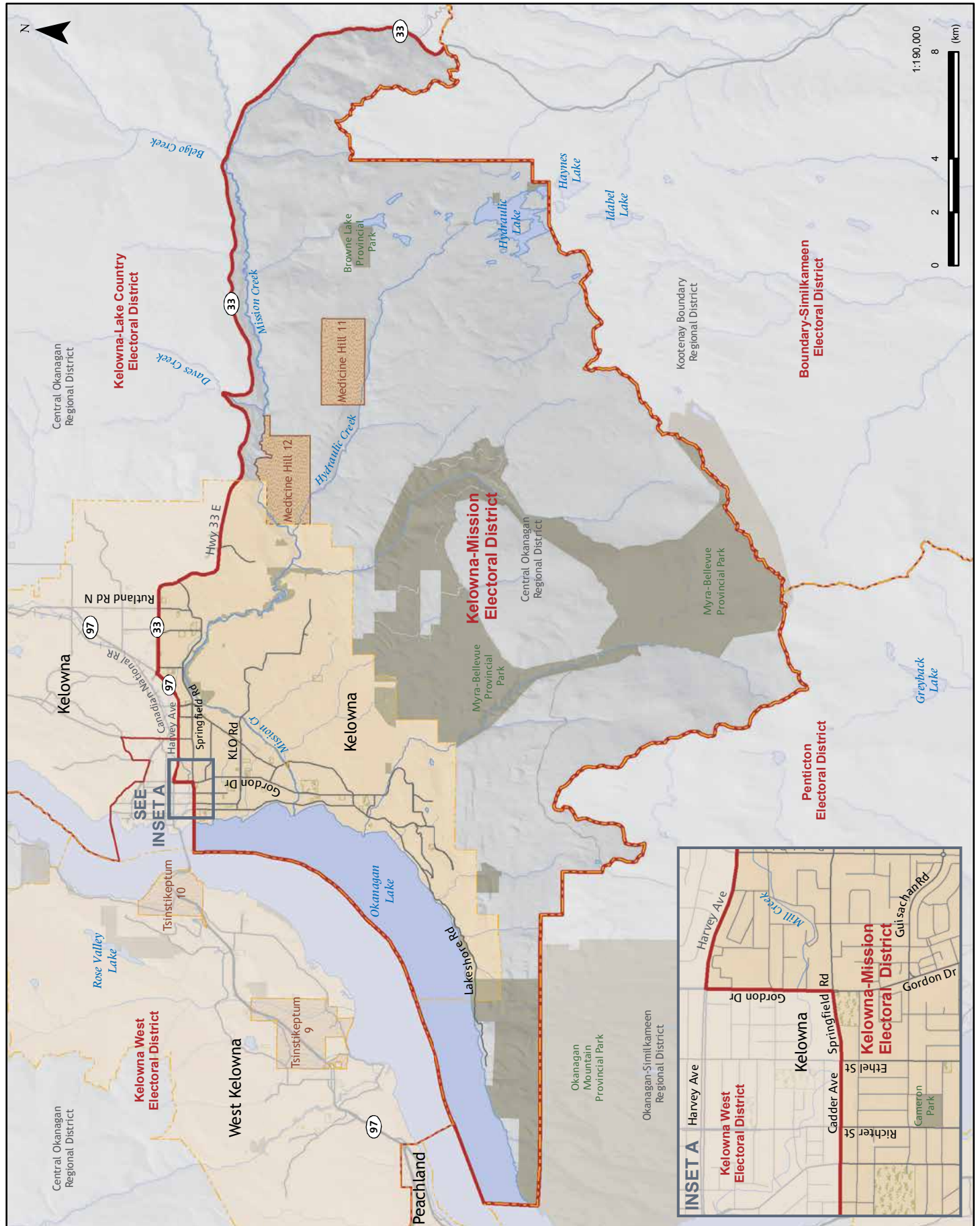
Kelowna-Lake Country

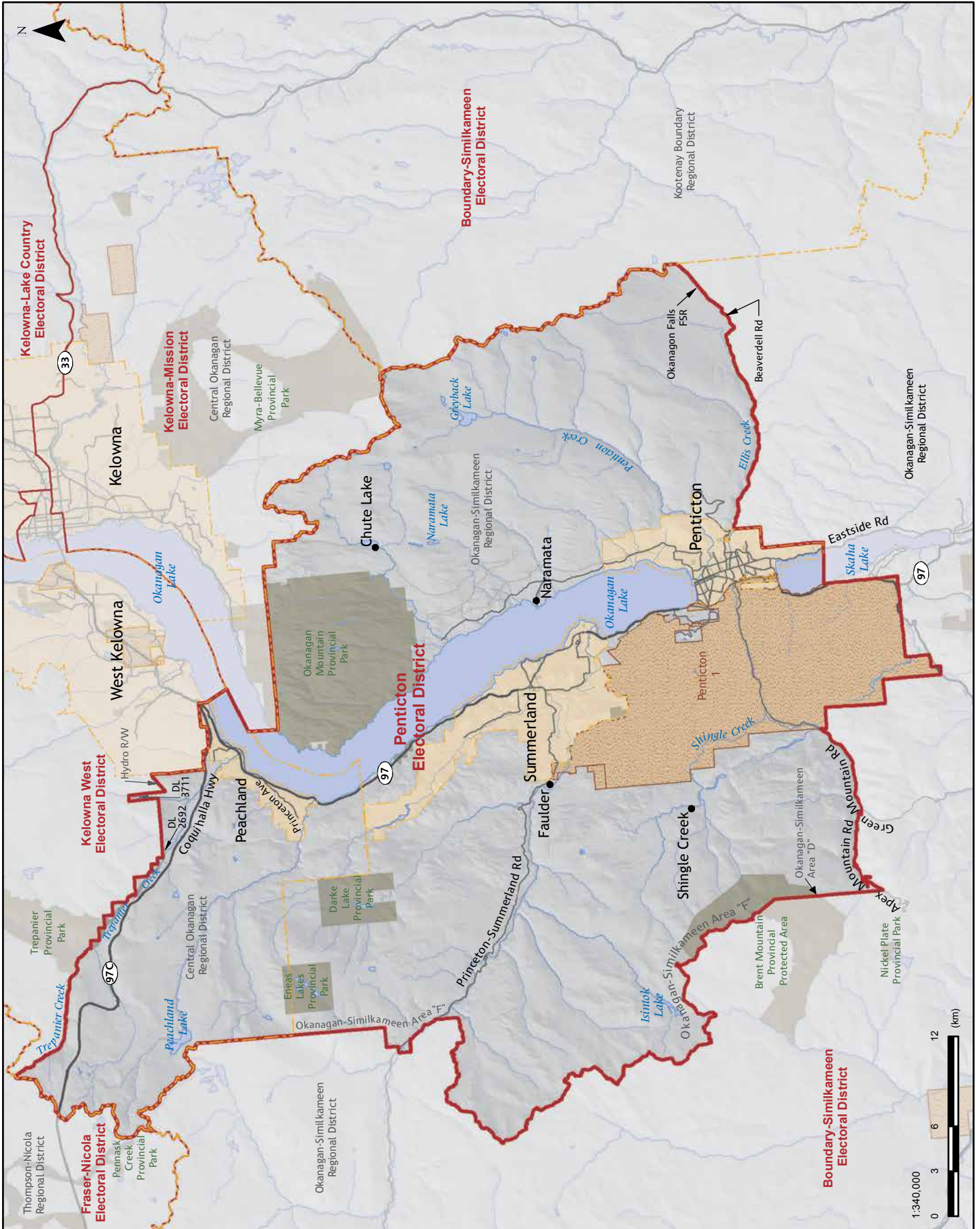


Kelowna West



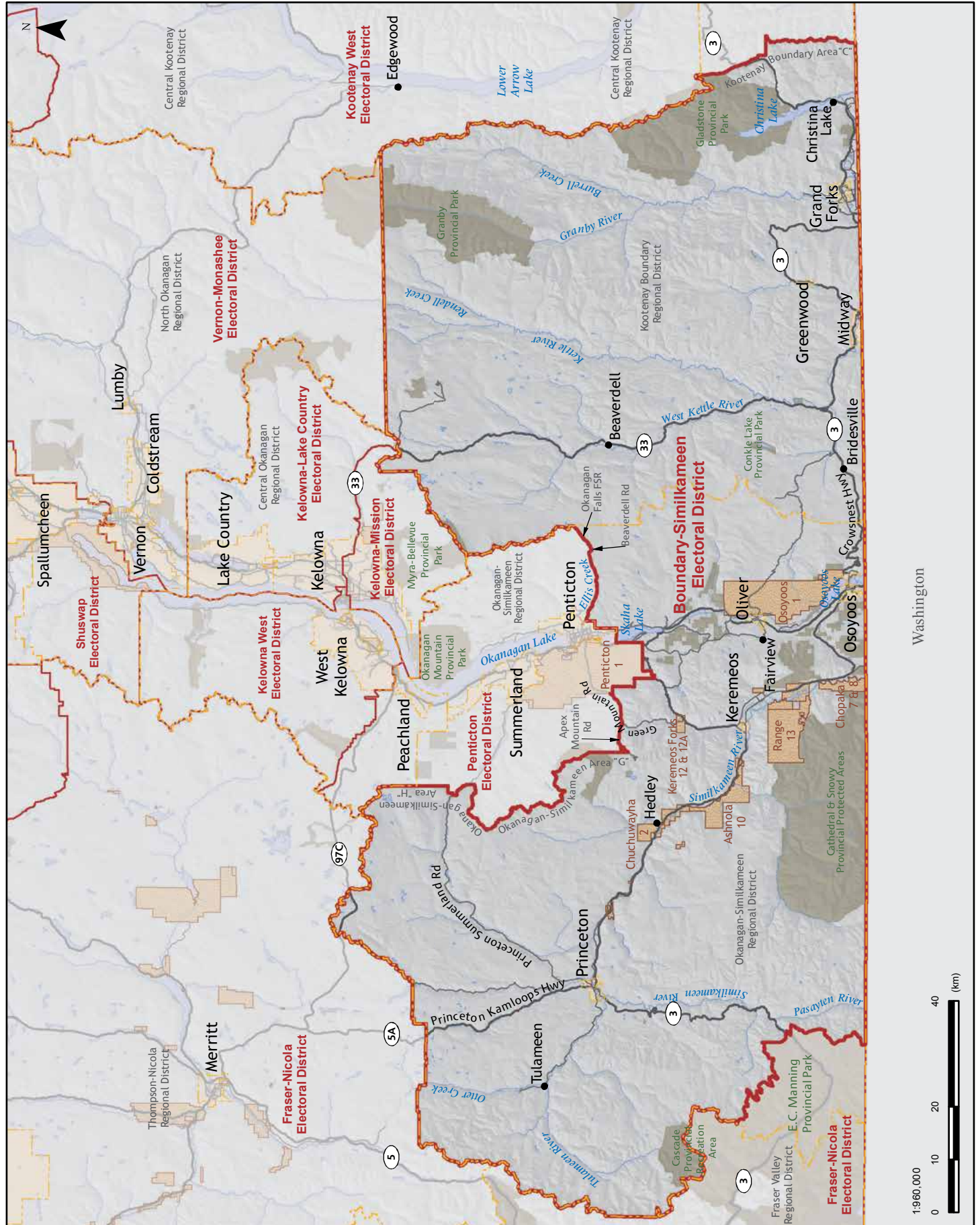
Kelowna-Mission





Boundary-Similkameen

Proposals – Okanagan/Shuswap



Lower Mainland

The majority of British Columbians live in the Lower Mainland in either the Greater Vancouver or the Fraser Valley Regional Districts. These areas largely are made up of electoral districts with populations well above the provincial average and with high rates of growth.

Greater Vancouver

The highest growth areas in the Lower Mainland are in Greater Vancouver, resulting in most of its electoral districts exceeding the provincial average and some even exceeding the permissible +/- 25% range. Surrey and Richmond are two cities with especially high growth. These cities currently do not have adequate seats to ensure effective representation for their populations and thus we have proposed to add an electoral district in each of Richmond and Surrey.

Changes to electoral district boundaries across Greater Vancouver are a result of the locations of these new electoral districts. Aside from Richmond and Surrey, much of the input we received from people in Greater Vancouver indicated a preference for limited changes to electoral boundaries there. Further, there was a desire that proposed electoral districts not cross municipal boundaries. We have been able to achieve this result in most of the Greater Vancouver area. We also received input on the importance of keeping neighbourhoods within municipalities intact. This has been more challenging to adopt as the boundaries of neighbourhoods in some areas are not always well defined and in areas of high growth, can be quite fluid. Therefore, our proposals try to respect the spirit of this input where possible.

No changes are proposed for the districts of: Vancouver-Point Grey, Vancouver-Quilchena, Vancouver-Fairview, Vancouver-Langara, Vancouver-Kensington, Vancouver-Fraserview, Vancouver-Kingsway, Vancouver-Hastings,

Vancouver-Mount Pleasant, West Vancouver-Sea to Sky, West Vancouver-Capilano, Coquitlam-Burke Mountain, Port Coquitlam, Burnaby-Deer Lake, Burnaby-Edmonds, Delta South, and Delta North.

Vancouver

Vancouver is a growing area of Greater Vancouver and every electoral district is over the provincial average. However, we heard from a number of presenters in Vancouver that the need to add an electoral district was greater in Surrey and Richmond than in Vancouver. Submissions requested that we maintain the existing number of districts in Vancouver and we rebalance the populations among the districts.

Coal Harbour is currently divided between Vancouver-West End and Vancouver-False Creek. We have reunited the entire Coal Harbour neighbourhood in Vancouver-West End by continuing the existing boundary between Vancouver-West End and Vancouver-False Creek up Burrard Street to the Burrard Inlet. This change has the additional benefits of better balancing the populations between the two districts and providing more room for growth in Vancouver-False Creek.

No further changes to Vancouver electoral districts are proposed.

North Shore

The North Shore is a diverse community containing urban and suburban cities along the Burrard Inlet and more rural and remote communities in the mountains and up the Sea to Sky Highway to Squamish, Whistler, Pemberton and beyond.

Both of the West Vancouver-Sea to Sky and West Vancouver-Capilano electoral districts have populations very close to the provincial average and have logical boundaries. Therefore, the changes we

have proposed to the North Shore are exclusively within North Vancouver.

The two North Vancouver electoral districts are currently aligned to include the entire City of North Vancouver in North Vancouver-Lonsdale and most of the District Municipality of North Vancouver in North Vancouver-Seymour. We view this divide as logical, but following suggestions from the public we have made small changes to the boundary between these two districts around Lynn Valley to follow Highway 1 to better reflect communities of interest and to balance the population between the two electoral districts while taking into account future growth areas.

Tri-Cities

Unlike other areas of the Lower Mainland that either correspond to municipal boundaries or have a number of electoral districts contained exclusively within a municipality, the Tri-Cities is an area where this is not possible. The Tri-Cities is made up of the cities of Port Coquitlam, Port Moody, and Coquitlam. Although they are three distinct municipalities, these cities work closely together and many residents view this area as a community in itself. We heard from the public that it is important to keep the four Tri-Cities electoral districts within the boundaries of the Tri-Cities area, as we have done with single municipalities. The changes we propose in the Tri-Cities take into account the public input we received and rebalance population between Port Moody-Coquitlam and Coquitlam-Maillardville. We propose shifting the south-west boundary of Port Moody-Coquitlam north to Foster Road and moving the south-east boundary south to Como Lake Road and the right of way east of Pinnacle Creek Ravine Municipal Park.

Burnaby

The City of Burnaby has four electoral districts contained entirely within its municipal boundaries. They each currently revolve around a town centre: Brentwood, Lougheed, Metrotown, and Royal Oak/Edmonds. We believe this is a logical way to divide these communities into electoral districts. However, the Brentwood area is growing significantly more than Lougheed and the other neighbourhoods. We have, therefore, acknowledged this growth by rebalancing the population between these highest and lowest growth areas.

Consistent with a recommendation made by the public, we shifted the boundary between Burnaby-Lougheed and Burnaby North from Sperling Avenue to Kensington Avenue. This relatively small adjustment enables us to rebalance the populations of the two districts and to account for the higher rate of growth in the Brentwood area.

Richmond/New Westminster/Delta

Richmond, New Westminster, and Delta are populous areas with electoral districts entirely within each municipality's borders. Unlike Richmond and New Westminster, both Delta electoral districts have populations much closer to the provincial average and relatively low rates of growth. We concluded that the current boundaries are effective in dividing the population between the two major communities of interest within Delta. Therefore, no changes are proposed to Delta North or Delta South.

In contrast to Delta, two of Richmond's current three electoral districts already have exceeded the allowable population deviation and are projected to see significantly more growth. However, the population of Richmond does not warrant four electoral districts contained within Richmond's municipal boundaries. At 29.65%, the current electoral district of New Westminster also exceeds the +/- 25% deviation. Although the city of New Westminster historically has had an electoral district that matches its municipal boundaries, its

population has now grown too large to maintain this. We heard from numerous members of the public that the Queensborough neighbourhood of New Westminster on Lulu Island has ties to Richmond in addition to its ties to the rest of New Westminster and that if changes to New Westminster are required, Queensborough residents could be effectively represented in a Richmond-Queensborough electoral district. Therefore we propose combining the Queensborough neighbourhood with the East Richmond neighbourhood on Lulu Island. This shift brings New Westminster within the +/- 25% deviation range without requiring any further changes.

With the addition of Queensborough, the population of the entire Lulu Island now warrants a fourth electoral district. Our proposals combine Queensborough with the Hamilton neighbourhood of Richmond, most of East Richmond and a small part of the South Arm community. We call this electoral district Richmond-Queensborough.

The community known as Richmond City Centre is the most populous part of the city and is also the fastest growing. Our proposals proportion this very dense community between two electoral districts.

Richmond North Centre includes the area north-west of Richmond City Hall, including Sea Island. Richmond South Centre is oriented south-east of Richmond City Hall.

Our proposals largely retain the existing Richmond-Steveston electoral district as it is. However, to allow for future growth we have removed three blocks in the north-east of the district north of Francis Road and east of No. 2 Road from the current Richmond-Steveston and placed this area in Richmond South Centre.

Surrey

The City of Surrey continues to be a high growth area of the province. Seven of the eight electoral districts in Surrey are well over the provincial average and this rate of growth is projected to continue. Two districts already exceed the maximum allowable population range and two more are very close. The significantly higher than average population of the Surrey electoral districts leads to concerns about effective representation. In our view Surrey's existing population and continued high growth warrants an additional electoral district in the area. Therefore, we are proposing that the number of electoral districts in the area be increased from eight to nine.

We found it challenging to follow community boundaries as closely in Surrey as we have in other areas of the Lower Mainland due to the large populations in some of these communities. Many, such as Fleetwood and Newton, are too large for a single electoral district but not large enough for two. This has required us to propose electoral districts in Surrey that divide some communities between multiple electoral districts. We have divided these communities along natural boundaries such as rights of way, parks and major roads.

Adding a new electoral district within the Surrey municipal boundaries that appropriately balances the population between the districts requires a substantial reconfiguration of the electoral districts. While a few districts in the north-west of the city and the district around White Rock are similar to the existing electoral districts in those areas, the remainder of the electoral districts in Surrey are substantially different from the current districts.

Our proposed Surrey-Whalley electoral district has boundaries relatively similar to the current Surrey-Whalley, with the exception of four square blocks north of 100 Avenue between 140 Street and 148 Street that have been removed from the current Surrey-Whalley and placed in Surrey-Guildford.

In contrast to the current Surrey-Tynehead electoral district, our proposed Surrey-Guildford electoral district includes four additional blocks in the Guildford area and will use Tynehead Park and Golden Ears Way as its southern boundary.

Since 2008 the population of the current Surrey-Cloverdale district has grown by more than 55%, with almost all of this growth occurring in the dense Cloverdale and Clayton areas. These communities are now too large for a single electoral district and their population must be assigned to two districts. Our proposed Surrey-Cloverdale electoral district includes the Cloverdale community north of Highway 10 and west of 188 Street. This district also includes parts of the current Surrey-Fleetwood and Surrey-Tynehead districts north of Cloverdale.

Our proposed Surrey-Fleetwood electoral district is more compact than the current Surrey-Fleetwood district, losing the neighbourhoods south of 80 Avenue and east of 160 Street to Surrey-Cloverdale, but adding blocks in the south and west.

Our proposed Surrey-Green Timbers electoral district is also similar to the current Surrey-Green Timbers with the exception of two blocks that have been removed east of Bear Creek Park.

The eastern boundary of our proposed Surrey-Newton electoral district ends at 144 Street, but now includes an additional block east of King George Boulevard north of 68 Avenue. Otherwise it largely is consistent with the current Surrey-Newton district.

Our proposed district south of Surrey-Newton largely consists of the area that was in the Surrey-Panorama district north of the BC Rail line. We propose this district be named Surrey-Panorama.

South of Surrey-Panorama is our proposed Surrey South electoral district. Surrey South is the largest of our proposed Surrey electoral districts geographically. It stretches from Mud Bay east to the Langley border and from the Peace Arch border crossing north to East Cloverdale and Clayton.

Our proposed Surrey-White Rock electoral district boundaries largely are consistent with the existing Surrey-White Rock; however we propose the district also include the community west of 128 Street, including the Crescent Beach neighbourhood.

Since 2008 the population of the current Surrey-Cloverdale district has grown by more than 55%, with almost all of this growth occurring in the dense Cloverdale and Clayton areas. These communities are now too large for a single electoral district and their population must be assigned to two districts. Our proposed Surrey-Cloverdale electoral district includes the Cloverdale community north of Highway 10 and west of 188 Street. This district also includes parts of the current Surrey-Fleetwood and Surrey-Tynehead districts north of Cloverdale.

Our proposed Surrey-Fleetwood electoral district is more compact than the current Surrey-Fleetwood district, losing the neighbourhoods south of 80 Avenue and east of 160 Street to Surrey-Cloverdale, but adding blocks in the south and west.

In contrast to the current Surrey-Tynehead electoral district, our proposed Surrey-Guildford electoral district includes four additional blocks in the Guildford area and will use Tynehead Park and Golden Ears Way as its southern boundary.

Table 13: Proposed electoral districts – Lower Mainland – Greater Vancouver

Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Vancouver-Point Grey	60,611	14.1	42
Vancouver-Quilchena	59,953	12.9	23
Vancouver-Fairview	59,701	12.4	9
Vancouver-Langara	60,041	13.0	15
Vancouver-Kensington	61,250	15.3	9
Vancouver-Fraserview	62,885	18.4	13
Vancouver-Kingsway	62,459	17.6	9
Vancouver-Hastings	59,491	12.0	14
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant	58,041	9.3	13
Vancouver-False Creek	57,261	7.8	6
Vancouver-West End	57,287	7.8	14
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky	54,894	3.3	9,598
West Vancouver-Capilano	57,173	7.6	80
North Vancouver-Lonsdale	57,431	8.1	25
North Vancouver-Seymour	58,120	9.4	388
Port Moody-Coquitlam	59,355	11.7	85
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain	59,029	11.1	620
Port Coquitlam	60,813	14.5	35
Coquitlam-Maillardville	58,351	9.8	30
Burnaby-Lougheed	59,797	12.6	37
Burnaby North	58,159	9.5	23
Burnaby-Deer Lake	58,195	9.6	14
Burnaby-Edmonds	60,439	13.8	22
New Westminster	61,422	15.6	14
Richmond-Queensborough	55,627	4.7	92
Richmond North Centre	49,157	-7.5	440
Richmond South Centre	50,101	-5.7	7
Richmond-Steveston	55,539	4.6	30
Delta South	47,577	-10.4	464
Delta North	55,011	3.6	32
Surrey-Whalley	58,668	10.4	27
Surrey-Guildford	58,037	9.3	42
Surrey-Cloverdale	61,060	14.9	57
Surrey-Fleetwood	59,066	11.2	14
Surrey-Green Timbers	58,816	10.7	18

Table 13: Proposed electoral districts – Lower Mainland – Greater Vancouver continued

Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Surrey-Newton	58,340	9.8	12
Surrey-Panorama	60,128	13.2	24
Surrey South	57,807	8.8	125
Surrey-White Rock	58,527	10.2	68

Fraser Valley

As in the Greater Vancouver area, the Fraser Valley has seen significant growth. Fewer of the Fraser Valley electoral districts however are significantly over the provincial average. Because the permitted two additional electoral districts have been added in Richmond and Surrey, the electoral districts that exceed the +/-25% range in the Langley area need to be adjusted by pushing the boundaries of the Fraser Valley electoral districts farther east.

Many of the communities in the Fraser Valley have populations either too large (e.g. Maple Ridge - 80,434) or too small (e.g. Mission - 37,539) to have electoral districts aligned with municipal boundaries. Therefore, to balance the populations and continue to respect inter-governmental and community ties our proposed electoral districts in this area continue to cross municipal boundaries.

Langley

The Langley area electoral districts typically have been self-contained electoral districts that have not crossed into other municipalities. However, this area has seen significant growth since 2008 and now its population is too high for two self-contained districts but does not yet warrant a third. Therefore we propose one electoral district centred around the City of Langley and two districts that combine the Township of Langley with the more rural areas of Abbotsford.

One of our Langley area electoral districts consists of the City of Langley, and the Township of Langley neighbourhoods of Willowbrook and Willoughby south of Highway 1, and Brookwood.

Throughout the province we received many suggestions to use natural boundaries such as rivers, mountains, highways and major arterial routes as electoral district boundaries. Our proposals for Langley and much of the Fraser Valley follow this guideline to create electoral districts that rely on these natural boundaries.

We propose using Highway 1 to create two electoral districts that will combine parts of the Township of Langley with parts of Abbotsford. The first of these districts is north of Highway 1 and includes Fort Langley, the remainder of the Township of Langley north of Highway 1 (including McMillan Island), and the Bradner-Mount Lehman, West Townline and East Townline neighbourhoods of Abbotsford. Its eastern boundary is the Fishtrap Creek Trail south of Maclure Road and Maclure, Clearbrook and Glenmore roads. We propose this district be named Fort Langley-Abbotsford.

The second proposed district contains the remainder of the Township of Langley south of Highway 1 including Aldergrove, and the Aberdeen and South Poplar neighbourhoods of Abbotsford south of Highway 1 and west of the Sumas Way border crossing. We propose this district be named Aldergrove-Abbotsford.

Abbotsford

Abbotsford is another rapidly growing area of the Fraser Valley. Unlike Langley, the Abbotsford area electoral districts often have crossed municipal boundaries into Mission and Chilliwack. Input to the commission suggested that many people in this area, especially in Mission, view dual-municipality districts in this area as an effective way to provide a high quality of representation. We have, thus, continued this tradition. Along with Aldergrove-Abbotsford and Fort Langley-Abbotsford, we propose two other Abbotsford electoral districts: Abbotsford Centre and Abbotsford-Mission.

Abbotsford Centre is an exclusively Abbotsford electoral district which combines parts of the current Abbotsford South and Abbotsford West electoral districts. It encompasses the Abbotsford neighbourhoods north of Highway 1 and west of Highway 11 and east of Clearbrook and Glenmore roads. It is bounded by the Fraser River to the north.

The proposed Abbotsford-Mission electoral district contains the remainder of the city of Abbotsford north of Highway 1, the Fraser Valley Regional District Electoral Area H, the eastern part of Mission and the communities east of Mission to Harrison River. South of the Fraser River, this dual-municipality district will be bounded by Highway 11 to the west and Highway 1 to the south and east to the Abbotsford-Chilliwack municipality borders at the Vedder River. North of the Fraser River we propose only one very small change to the current Abbotsford-Mission electoral district boundaries at Stave Lake.

Chilliwack

Our proposed Fraser-Nicola electoral district includes the District of Hope and the communities in Fraser Valley Regional District Electoral Area B (for more on this change, see page 36). Therefore, the remaining population in Chilliwack and the eastern end of the Fraser Valley must be rebalanced. We propose two electoral districts for this area centred around Chilliwack: Chilliwack-Sumas and Chilliwack-Kent.

Our proposed Chilliwack-Sumas electoral district includes the Sumas Prairie community of Abbotsford south of Highway 1 and the Greendale and Downtown Chilliwack neighbourhoods of Chilliwack. The electoral district boundary follows Vedder, Prest, Reeves and Jespersion roads to the east.

Our proposed Chilliwack-Kent electoral district includes the neighbourhoods of Vedder Crossing, Rosedale, East Chilliwack and Camp River, as well as Cultus Lake, Kent, Agassiz and Harrison Hot Springs.

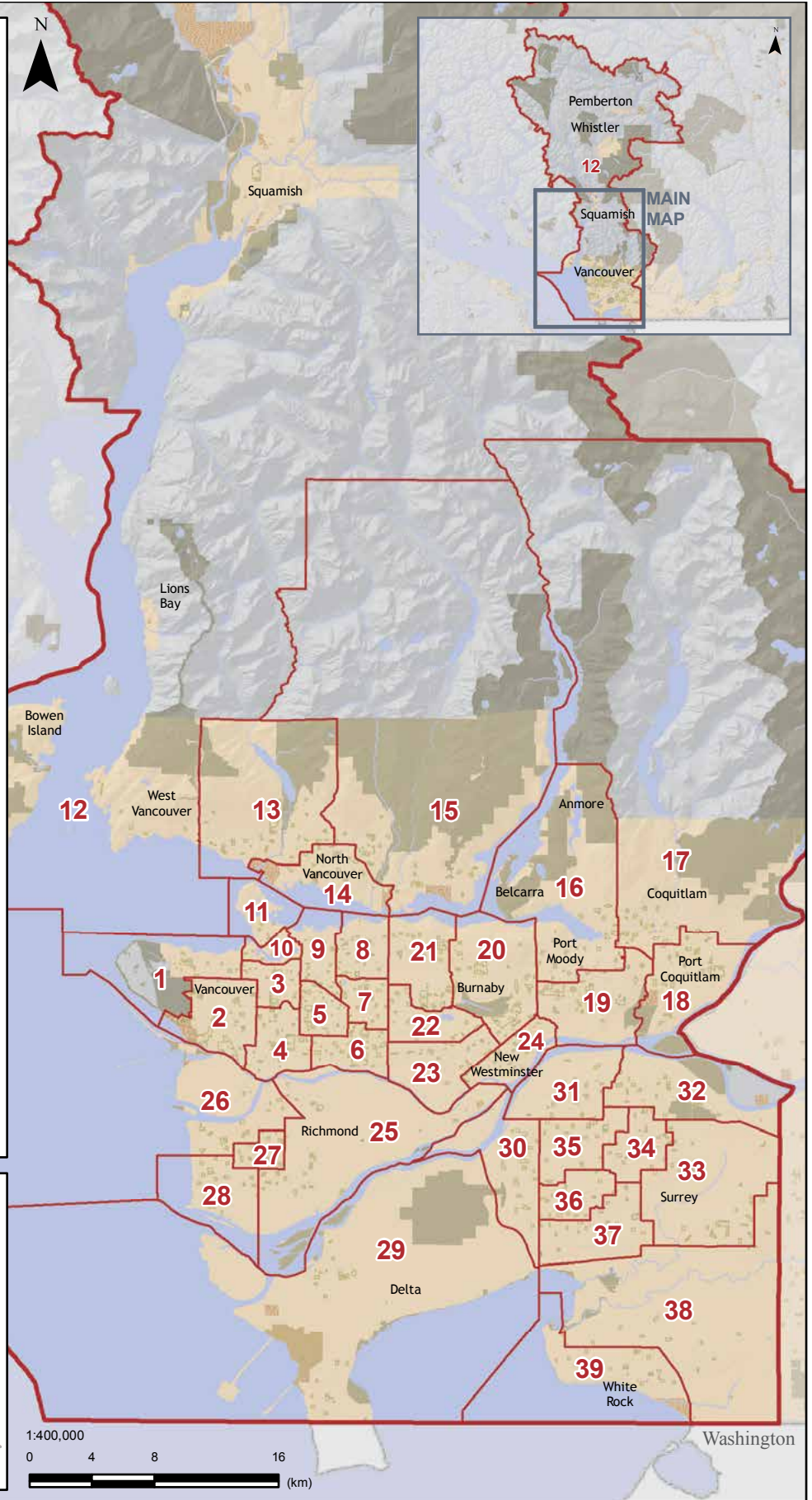
Table 14: Proposed electoral districts – Lower Mainland – Fraser Valley

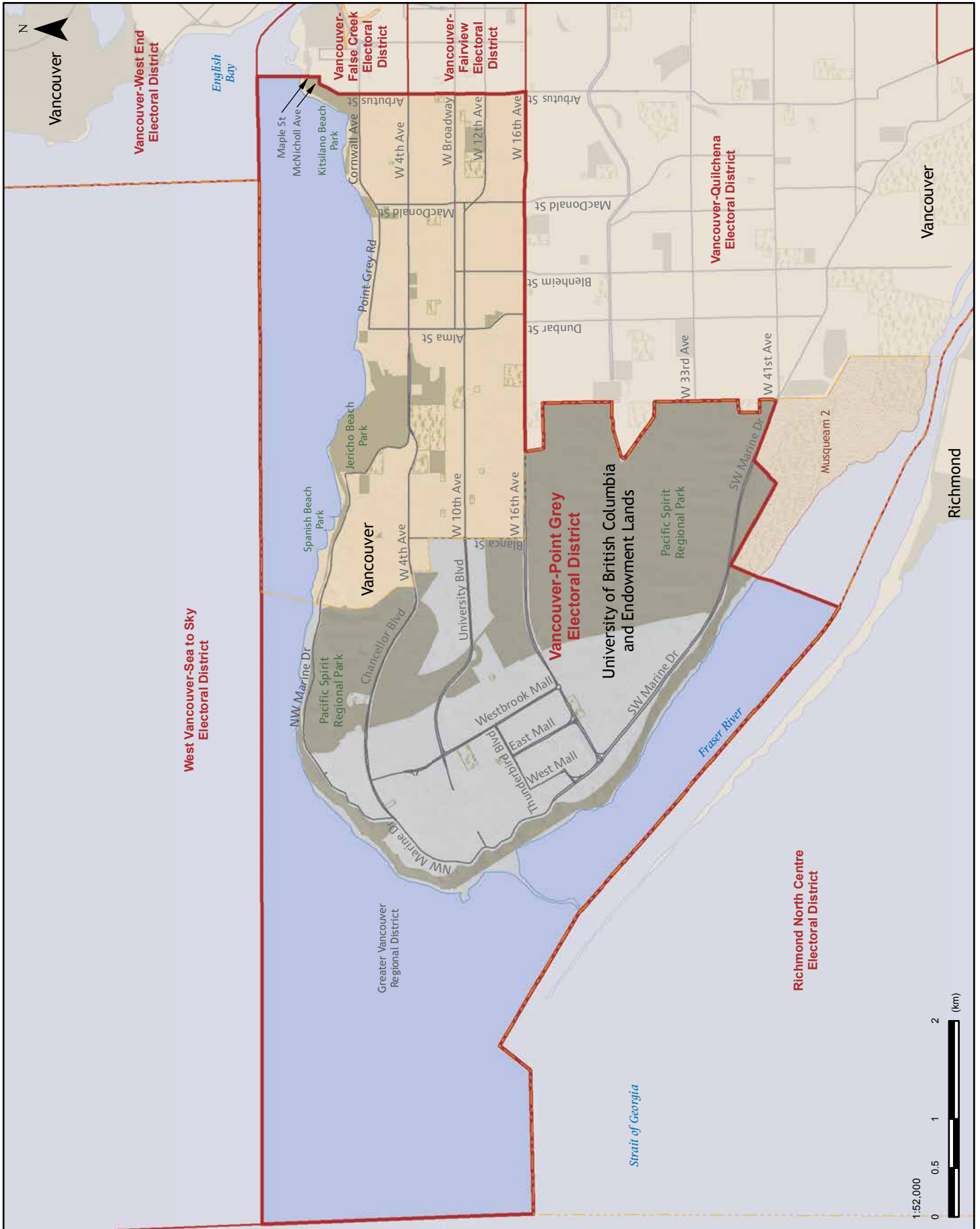
Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Langley	60,535	14.0	38
Fort Langley-Abbotsford	61,113	15.0	182
Aldergrove-Abbotsford	59,203	11.5	272
Abbotsford Centre	59,330	11.7	40
Abbotsford-Mission	60,962	14.8	660
Chilliwack-Sumas	52,632	-0.9	224
Chilliwack-Kent	51,310	-3.4	5,279
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows	58,287	9.7	1,980
Maple Ridge-Mission	58,697	10.5	392

Greater Vancouver

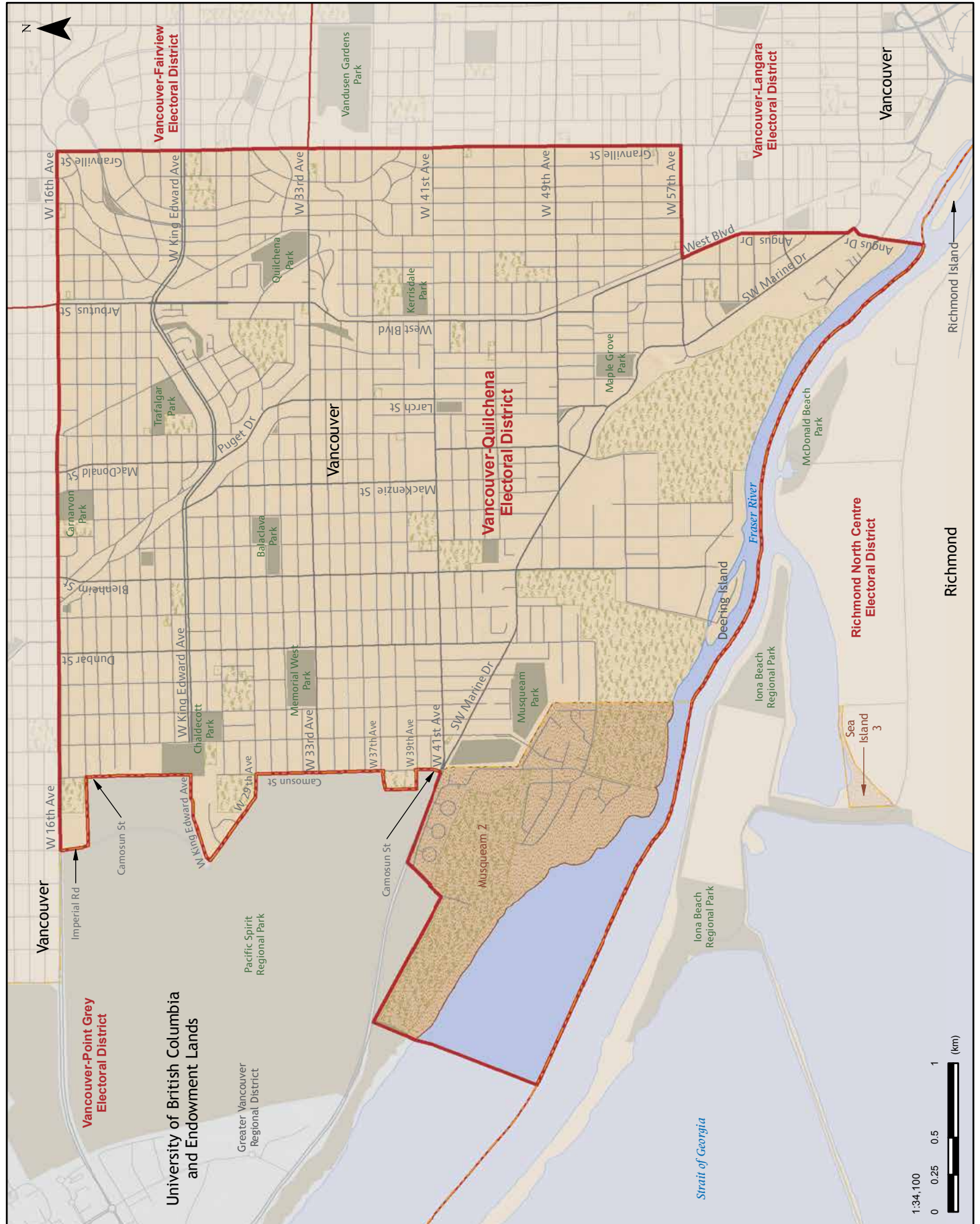
Electoral Districts

1. Vancouver-Point Grey
2. Vancouver-Quilchena
3. Vancouver-Fairview
4. Vancouver-Langara
5. Vancouver-Kensington
6. Vancouver-Fraserview
7. Vancouver-Kingsway
8. Vancouver-Hastings
9. Vancouver-Mount Pleasant
10. Vancouver-False Creek
11. Vancouver-West End
12. West Vancouver-Sea to Sky
13. West Vancouver-Capilano
14. North Vancouver-Lonsdale
15. North Vancouver-Seymour
16. Port Moody-Coquitlam
17. Coquitlam-Burke Mountain
18. Port Coquitlam
19. Coquitlam-Maillardville
20. Burnaby-Lougheed
21. Burnaby North
22. Burnaby-Deer Lake
23. Burnaby-Edmonds
24. New Westminster
25. Richmond-Queensborough
26. Richmond North Centre
27. Richmond South Centre
28. Richmond-Steveston
29. Delta South
30. Delta North
31. Surrey-Whalley
32. Surrey-Guildford
33. Surrey-Cloverdale
34. Surrey-Fleetwood
35. Surrey-Green Timbers
36. Surrey-Newton
37. Surrey-Panorama
38. Surrey South
39. Surrey-White Rock

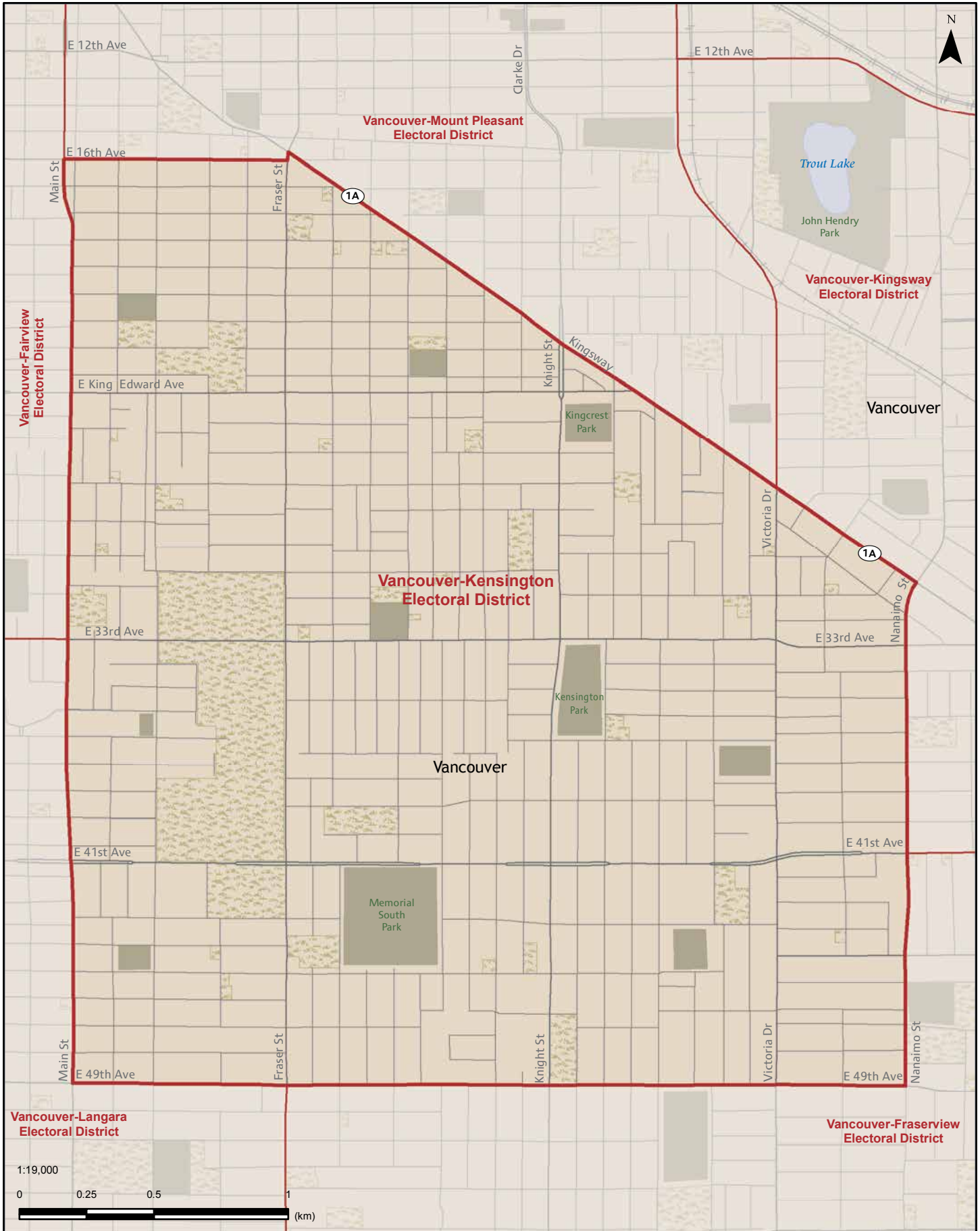




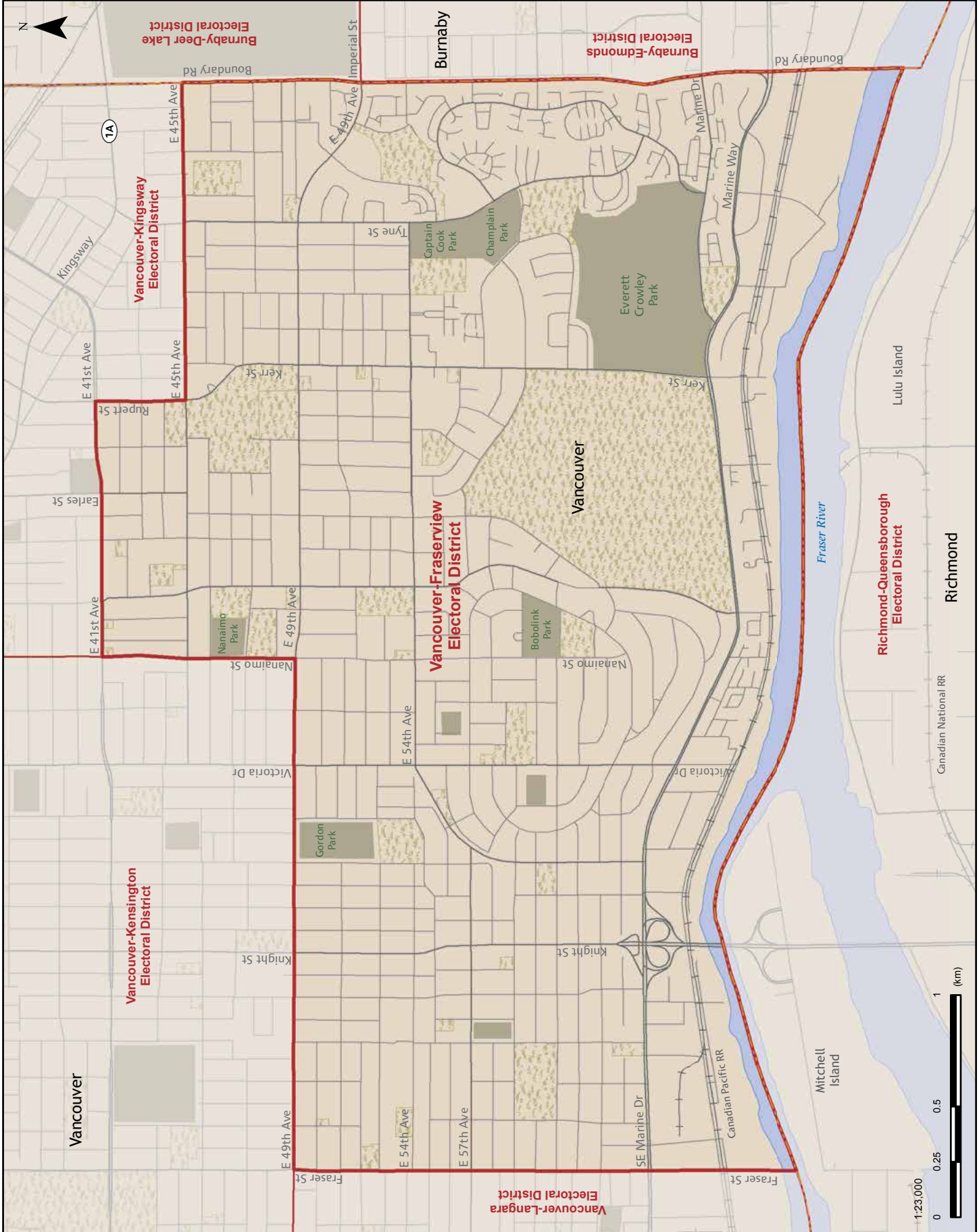
Vancouver-Quilchena

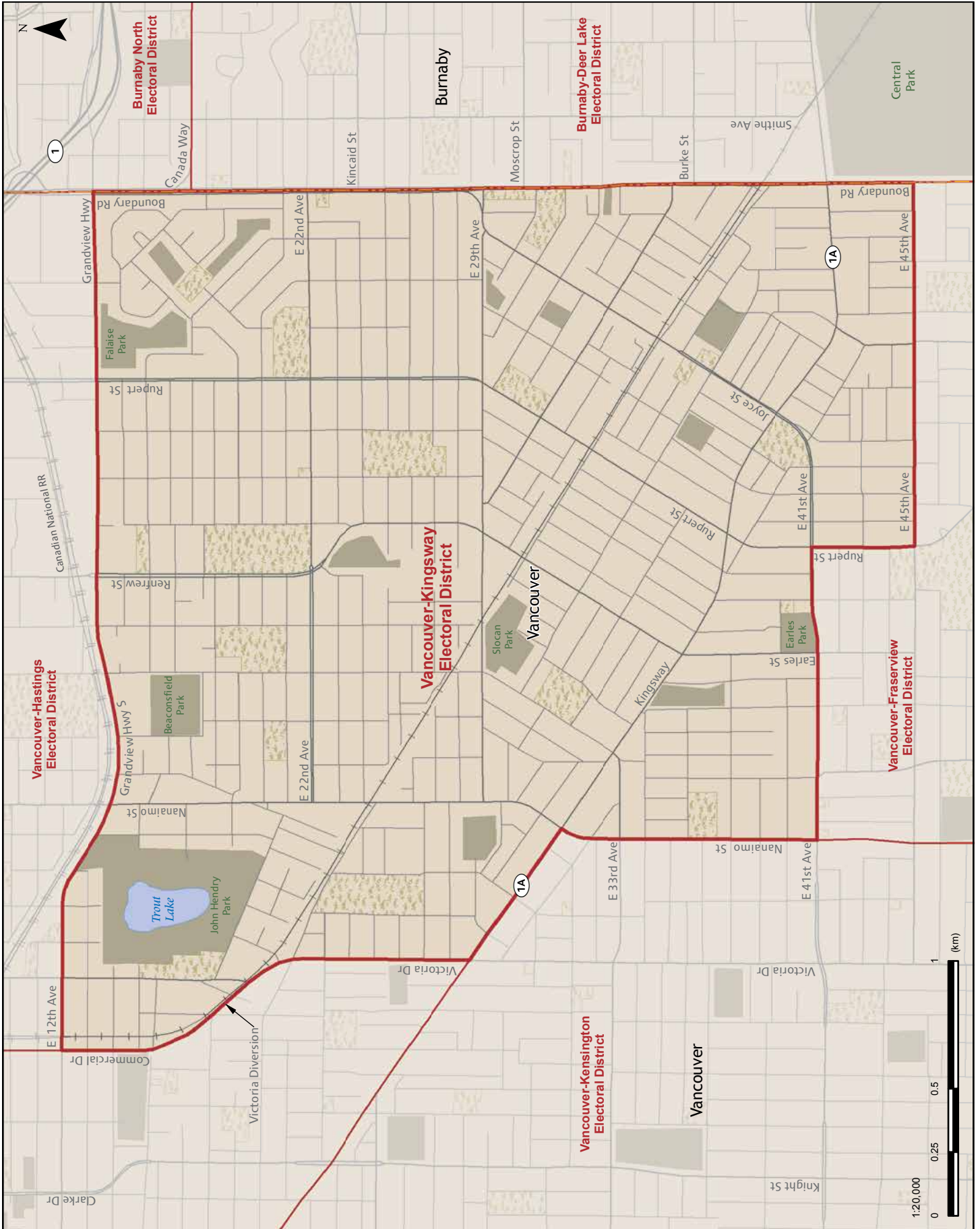


Vancouver-Kensington

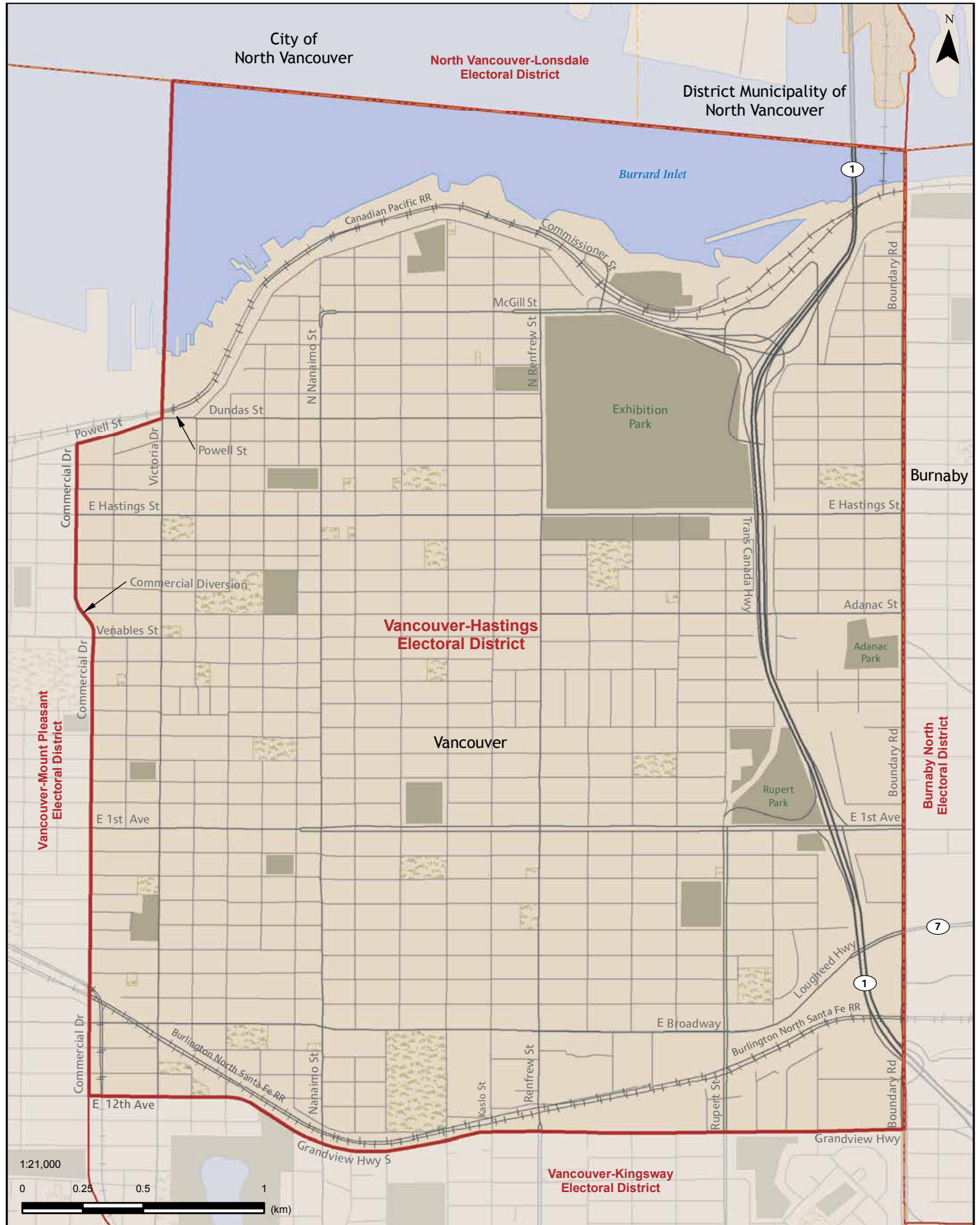


Vancouver-Fraserview





Vancouver-Hastings

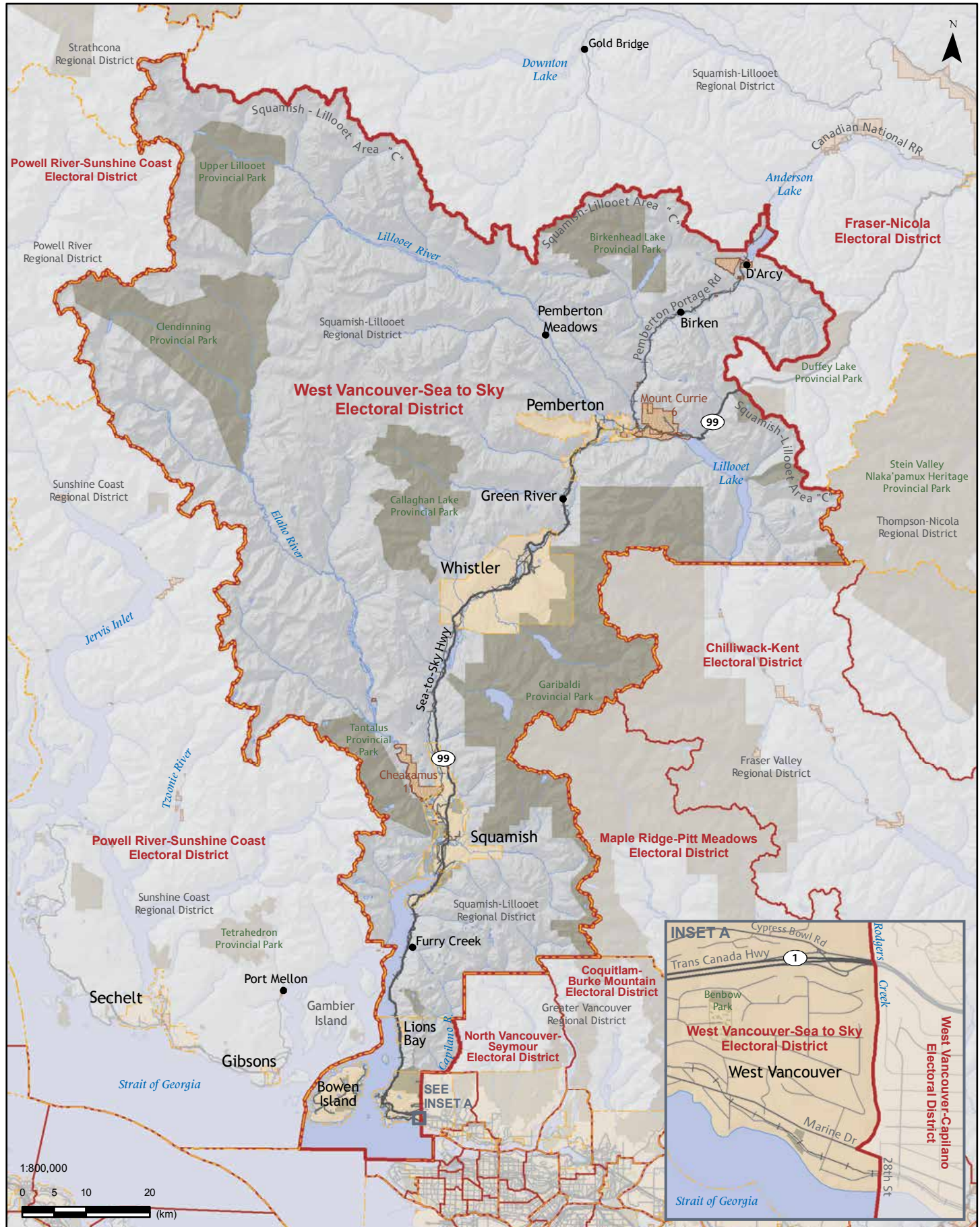




Vancouver-False Creek

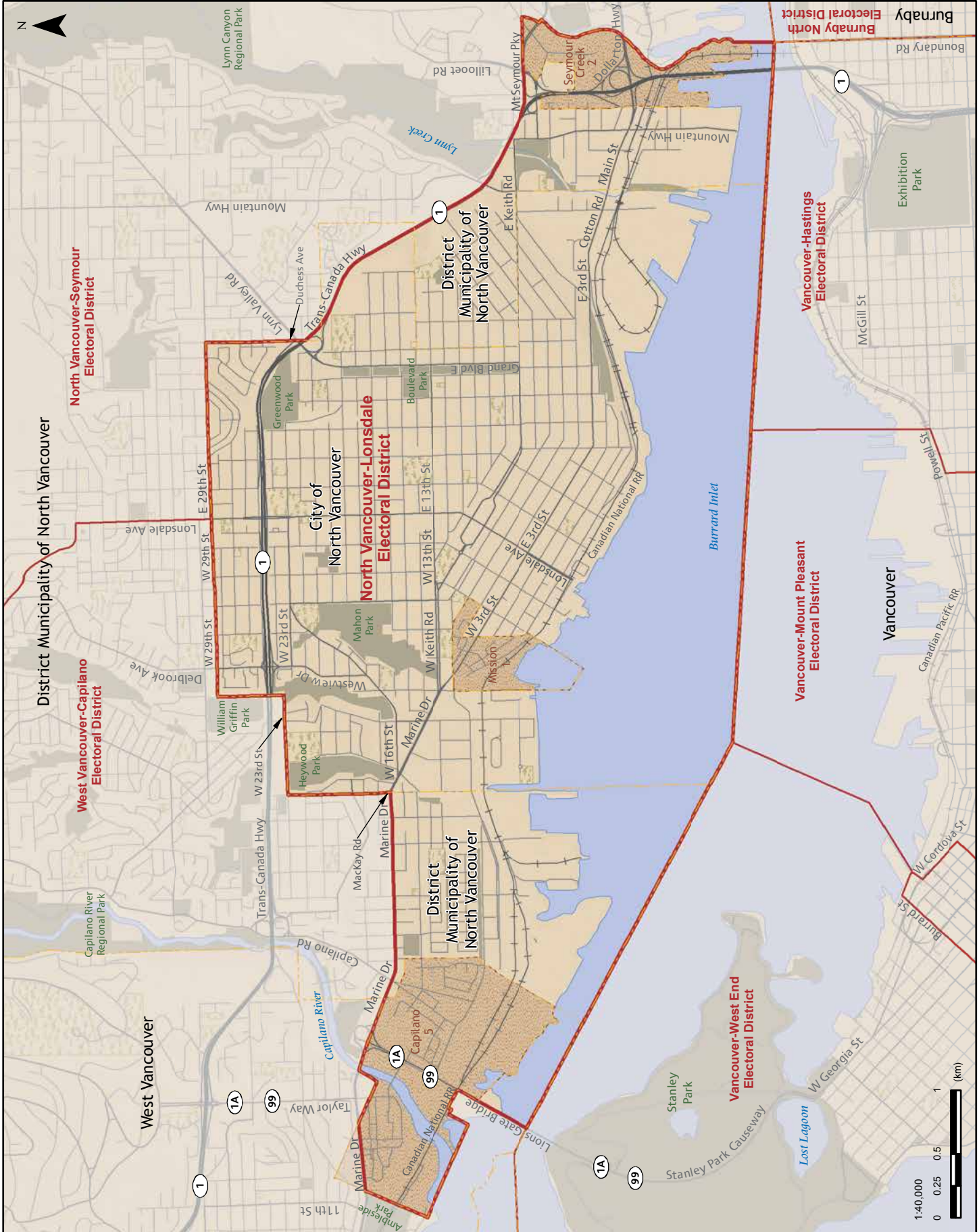


West Vancouver-Sea to Sky

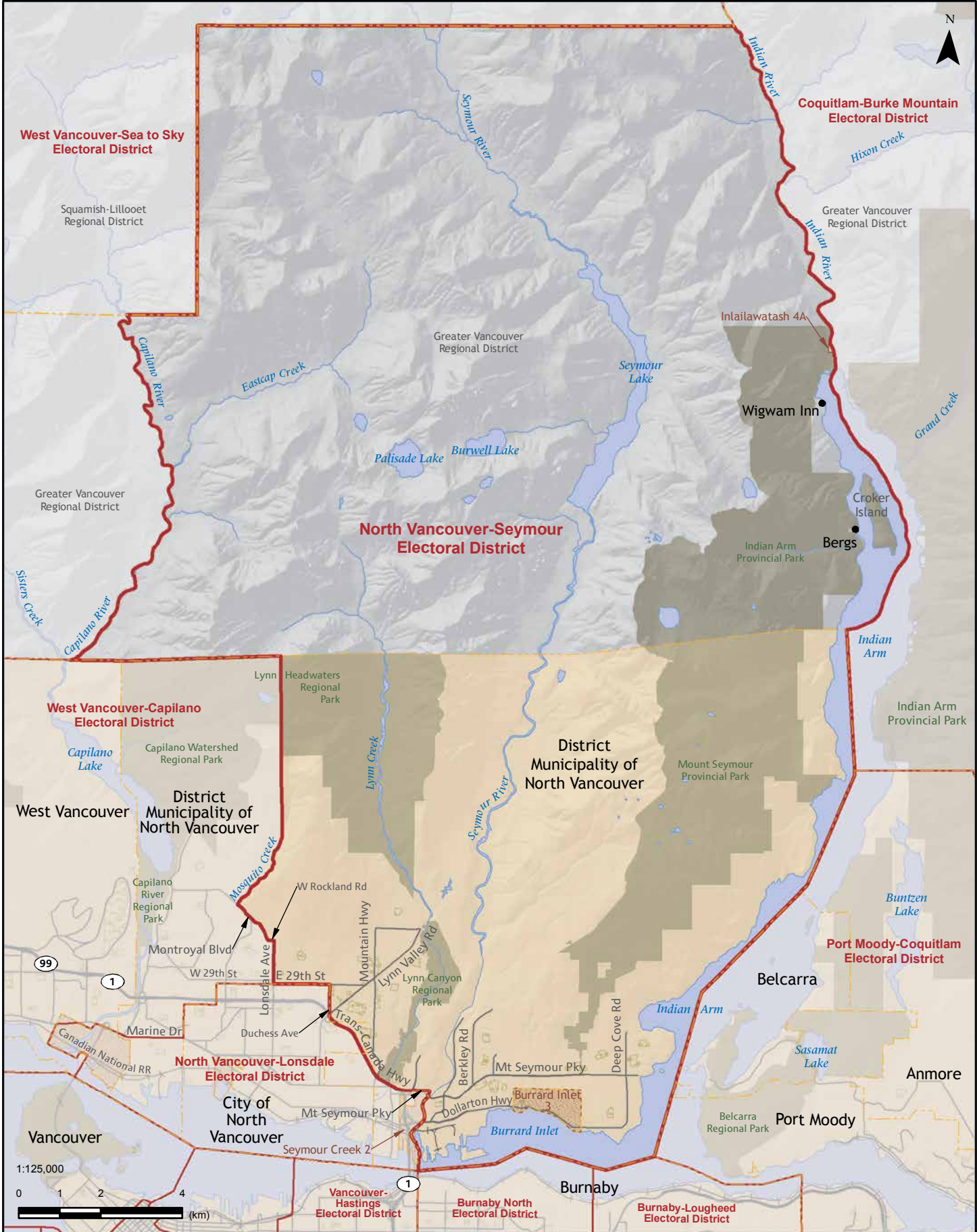




North Vancouver-Lonsdale

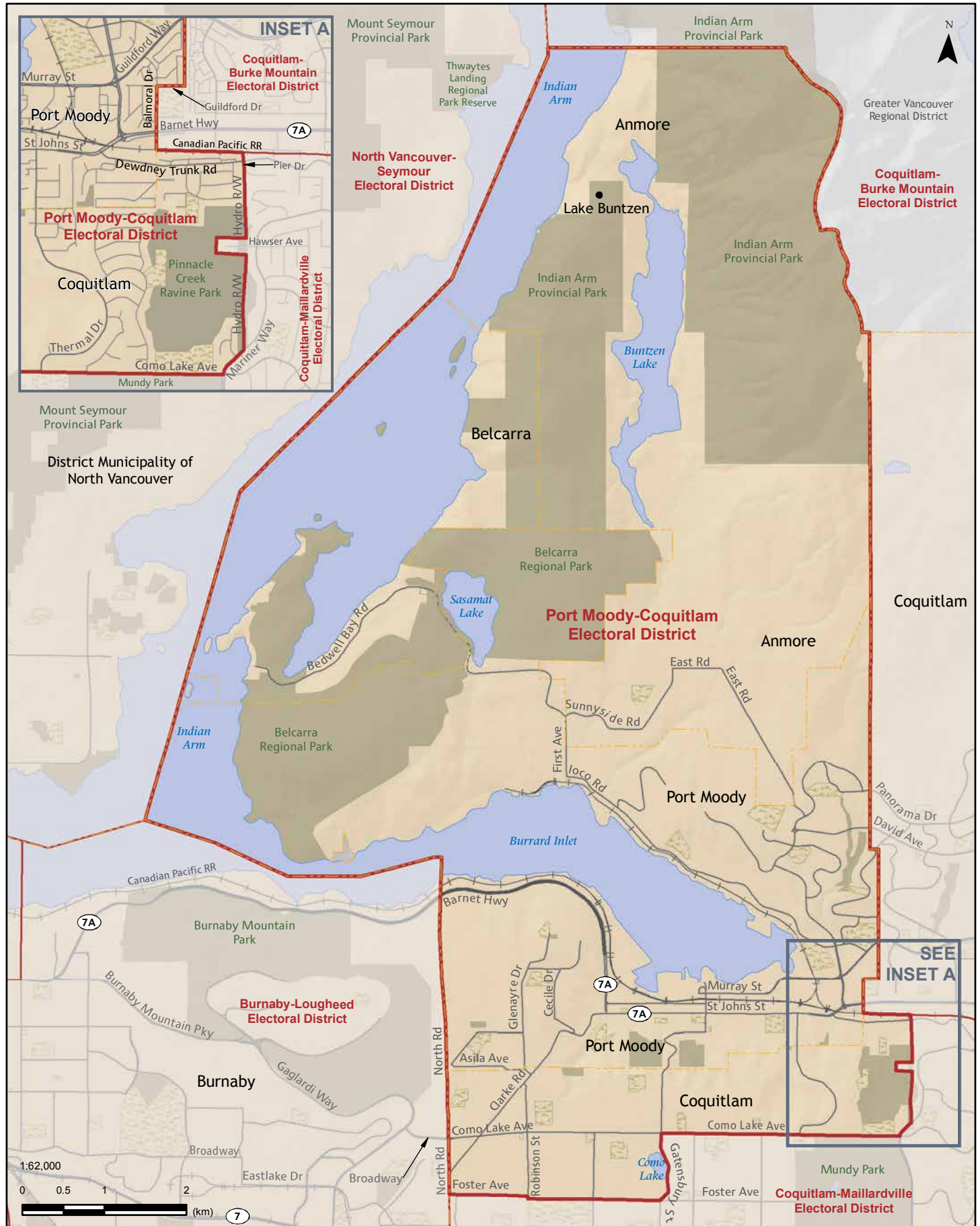


North Vancouver-Seymour

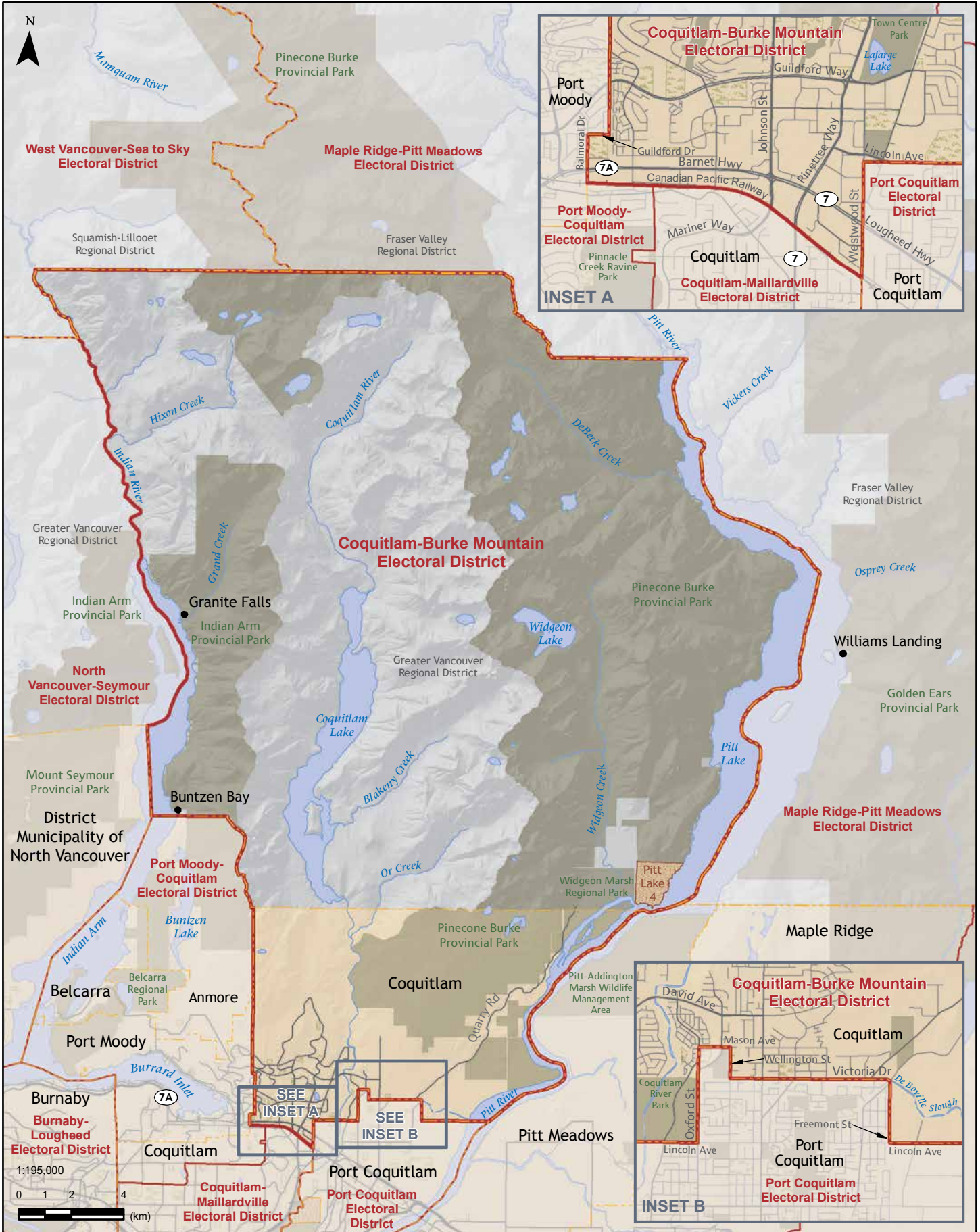


Proposals – Lower Mainland

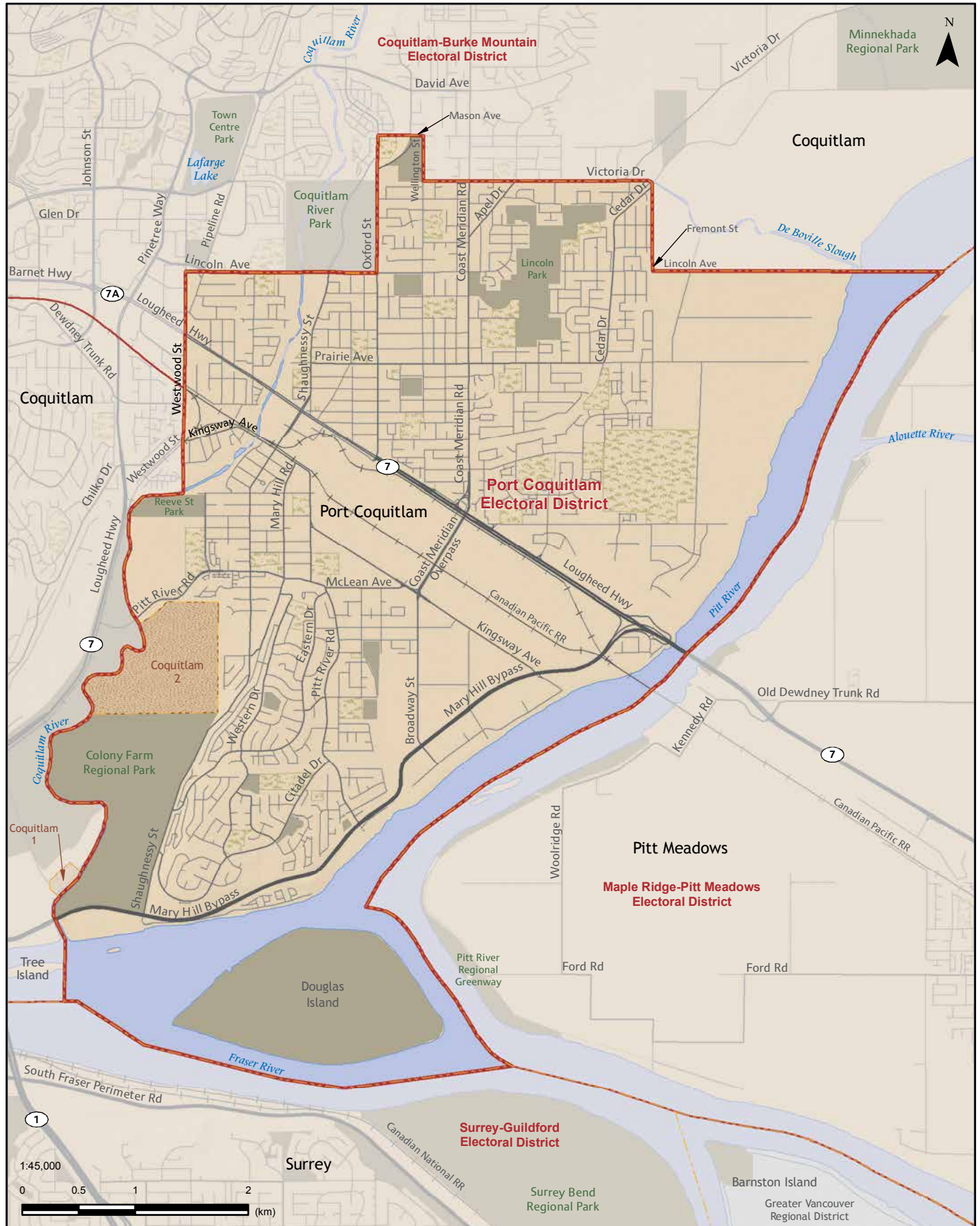
Port Moody-Coquitlam



Proposals – Lower Mainland



Port Coquitlam



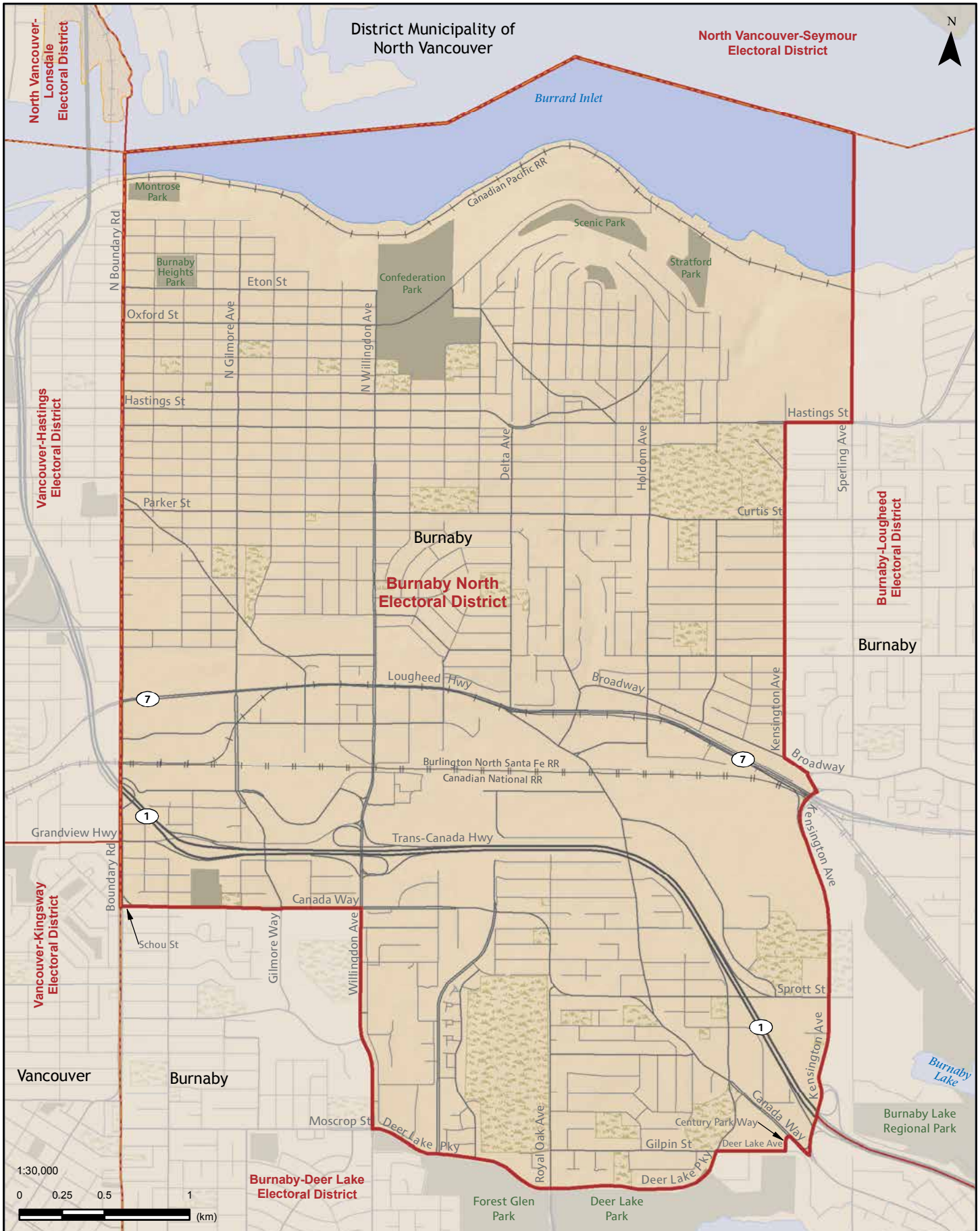
Coquitlam-Maillardville



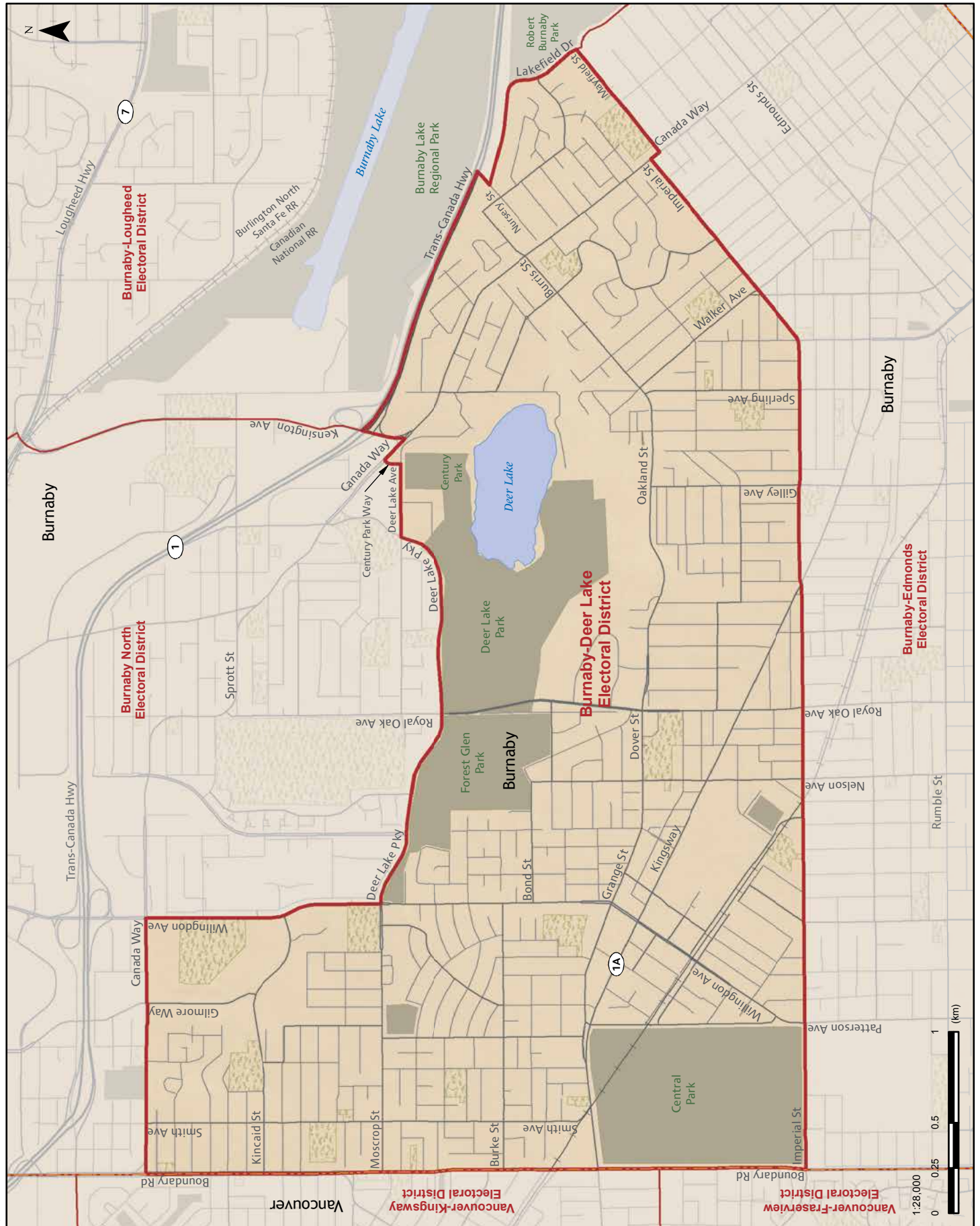
Burnaby-Lougheed



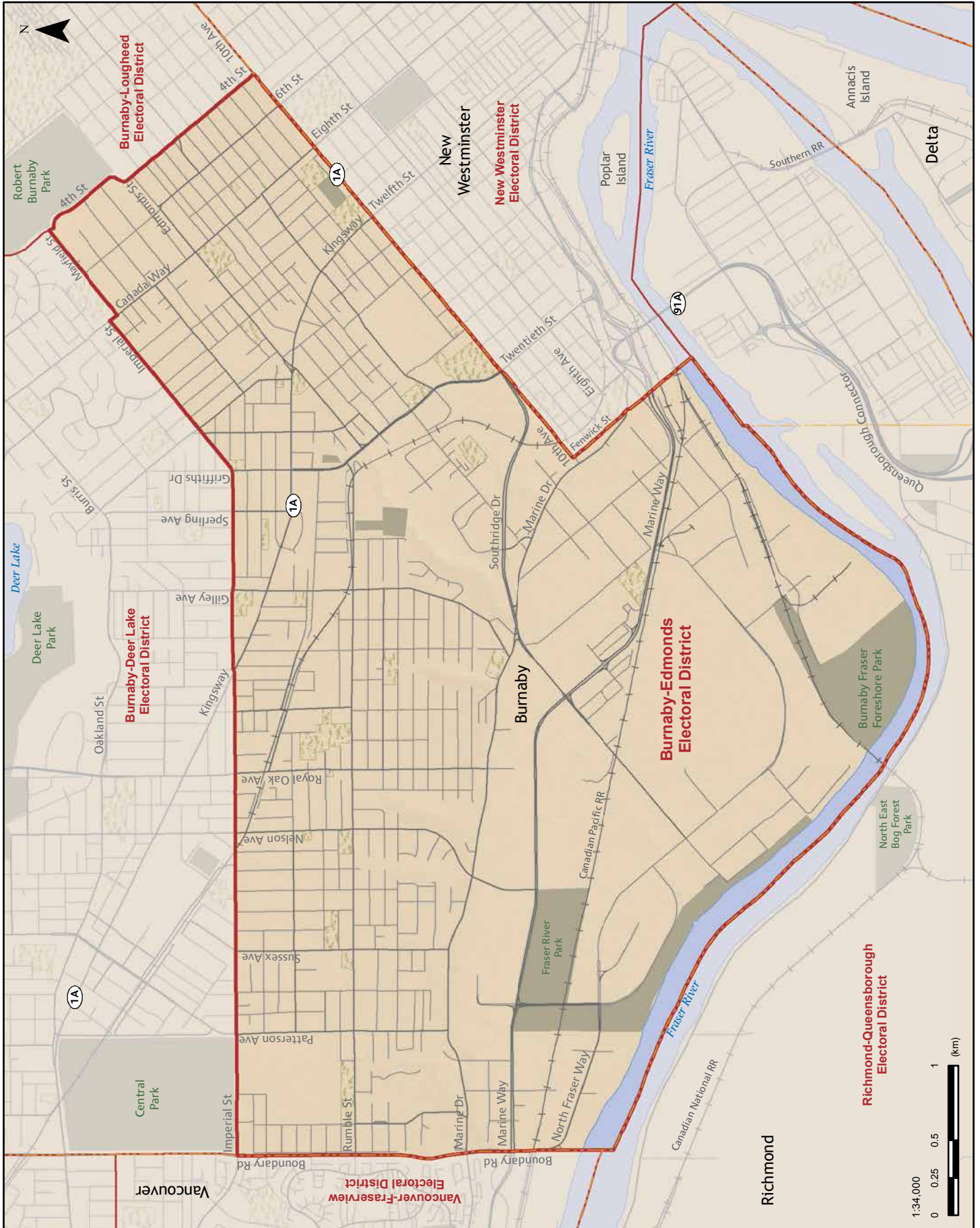
Proposals – Lower Mainland



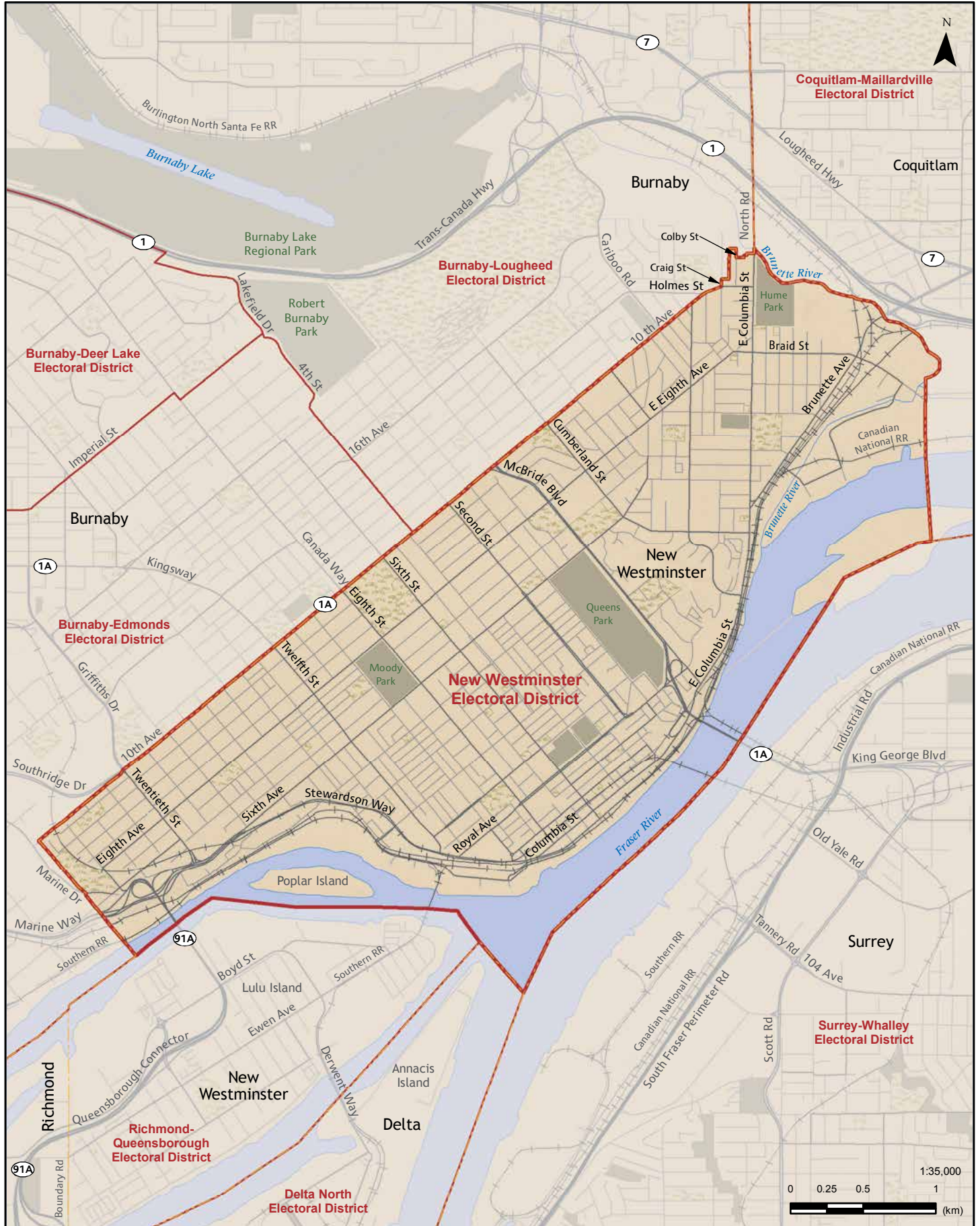
Burnaby-Deer Lake

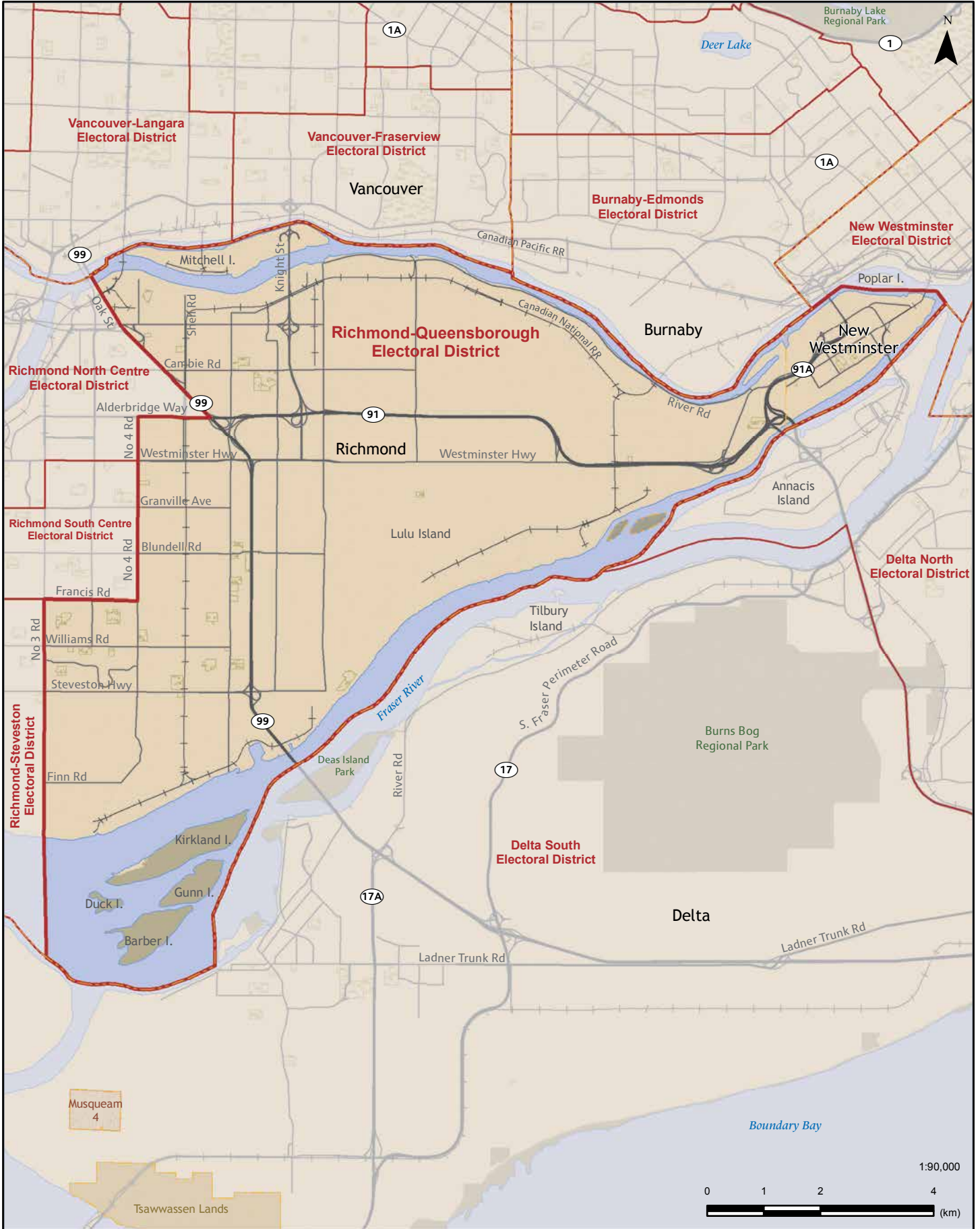


Burnaby-Edmonds



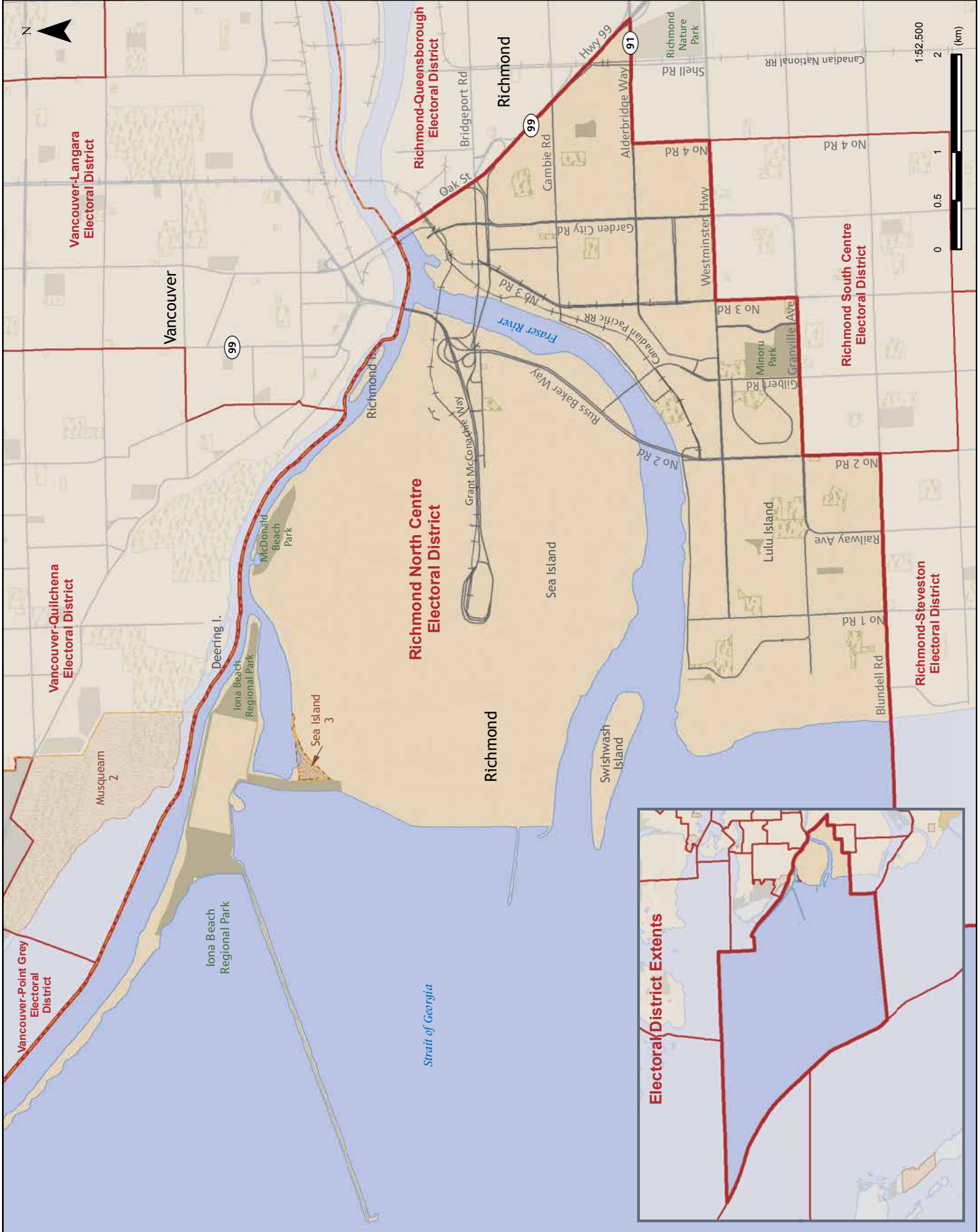
New Westminster

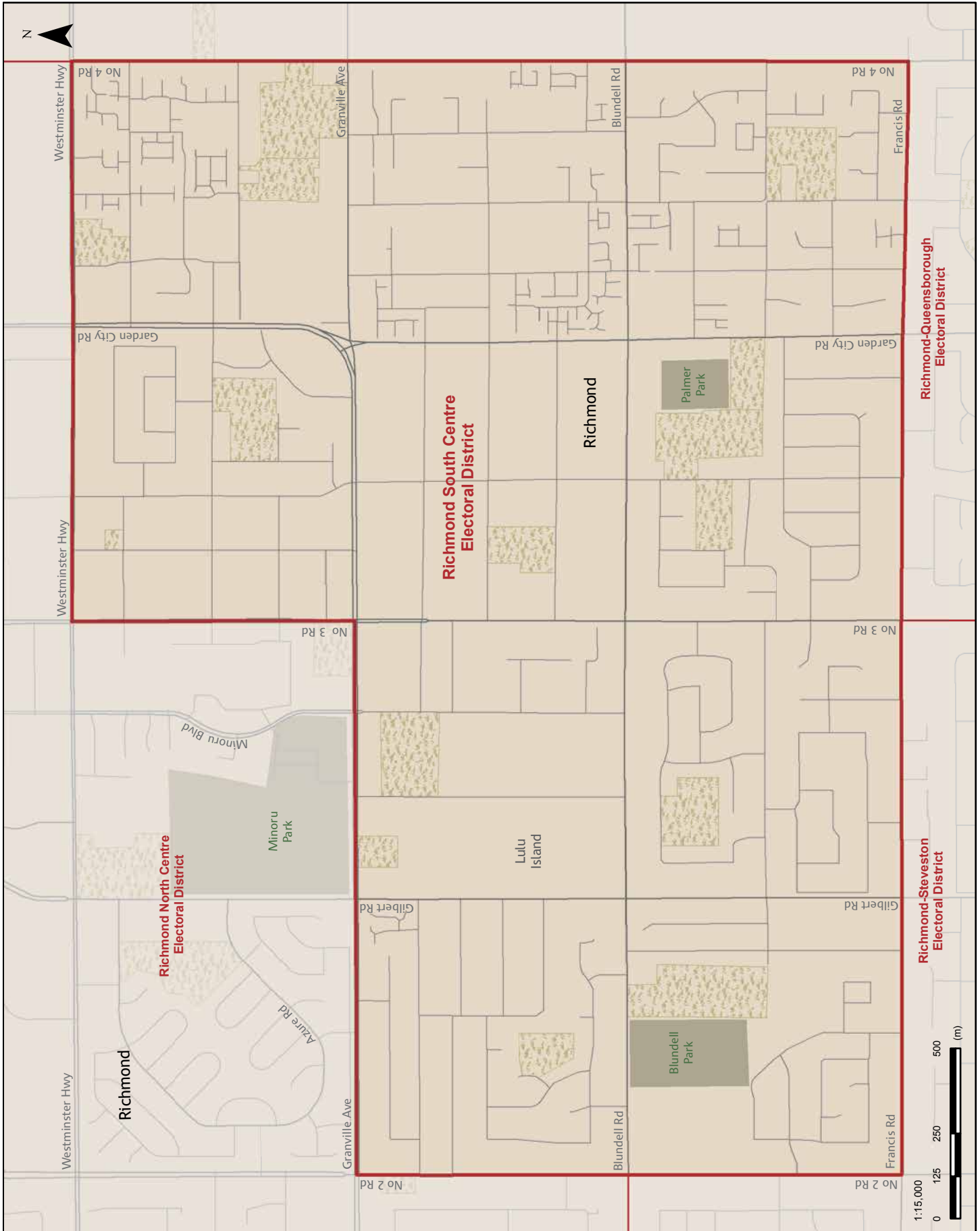




Proposals – Lower Mainland

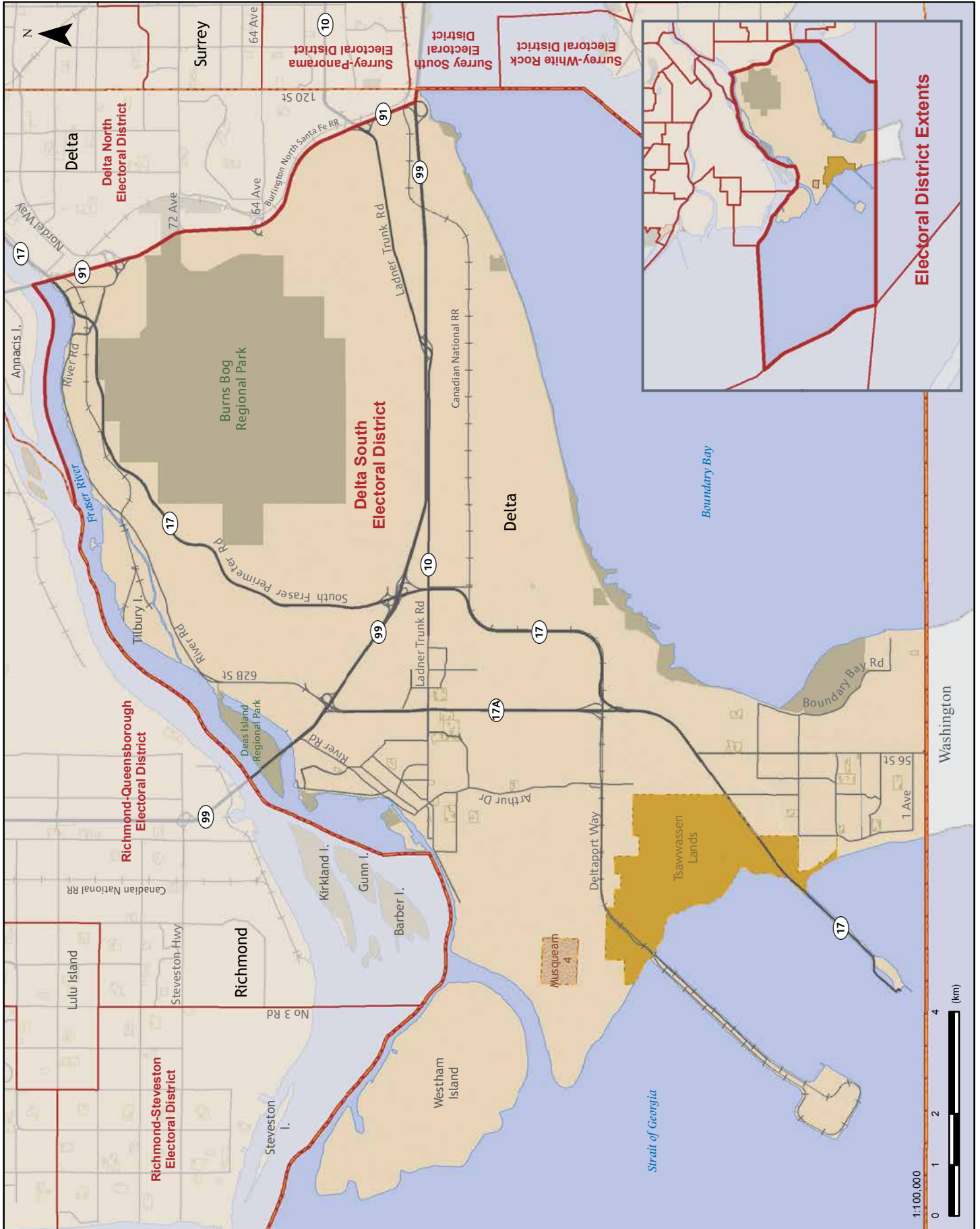
Richmond North Centre



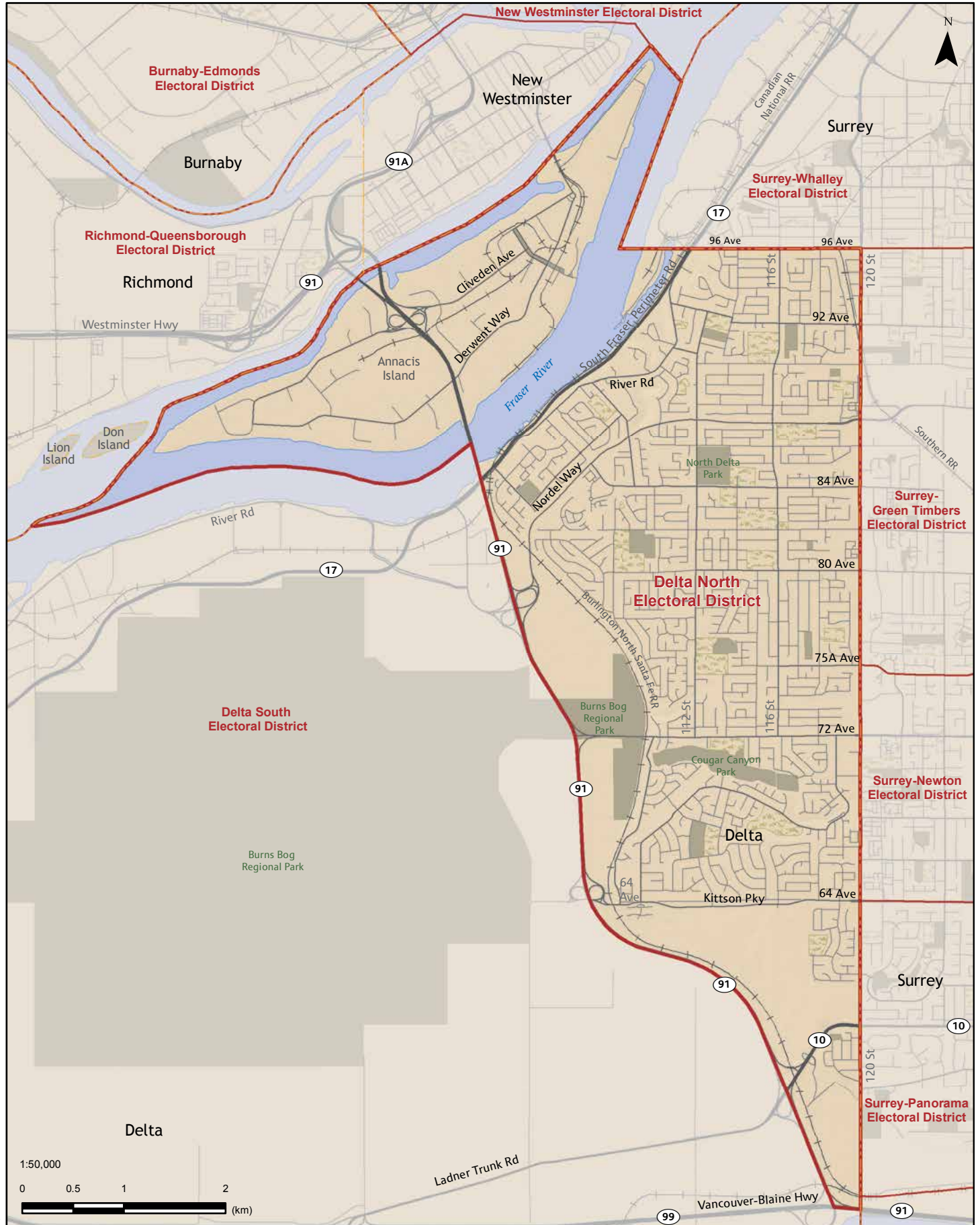


Richmond-Steveston





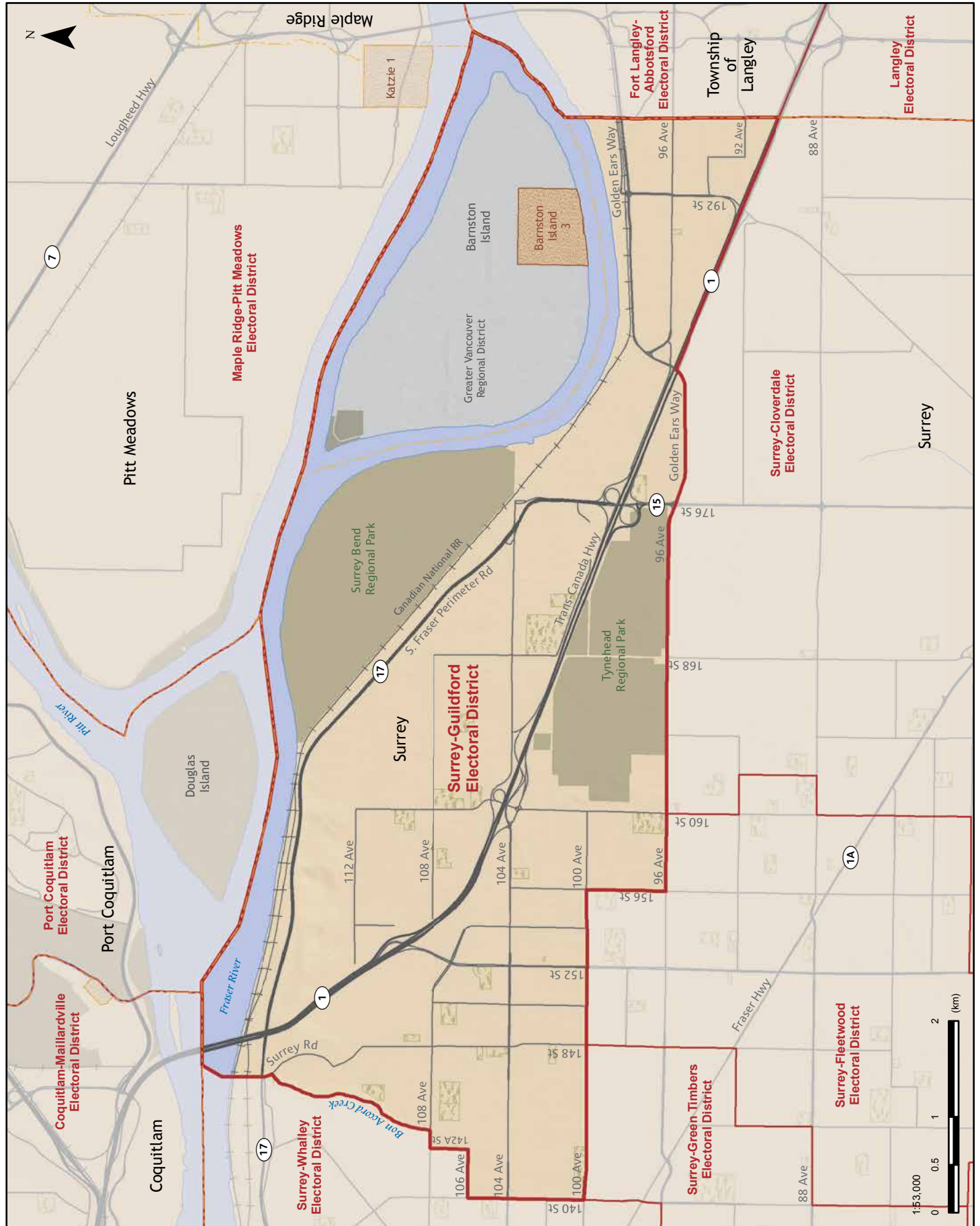
Delta North

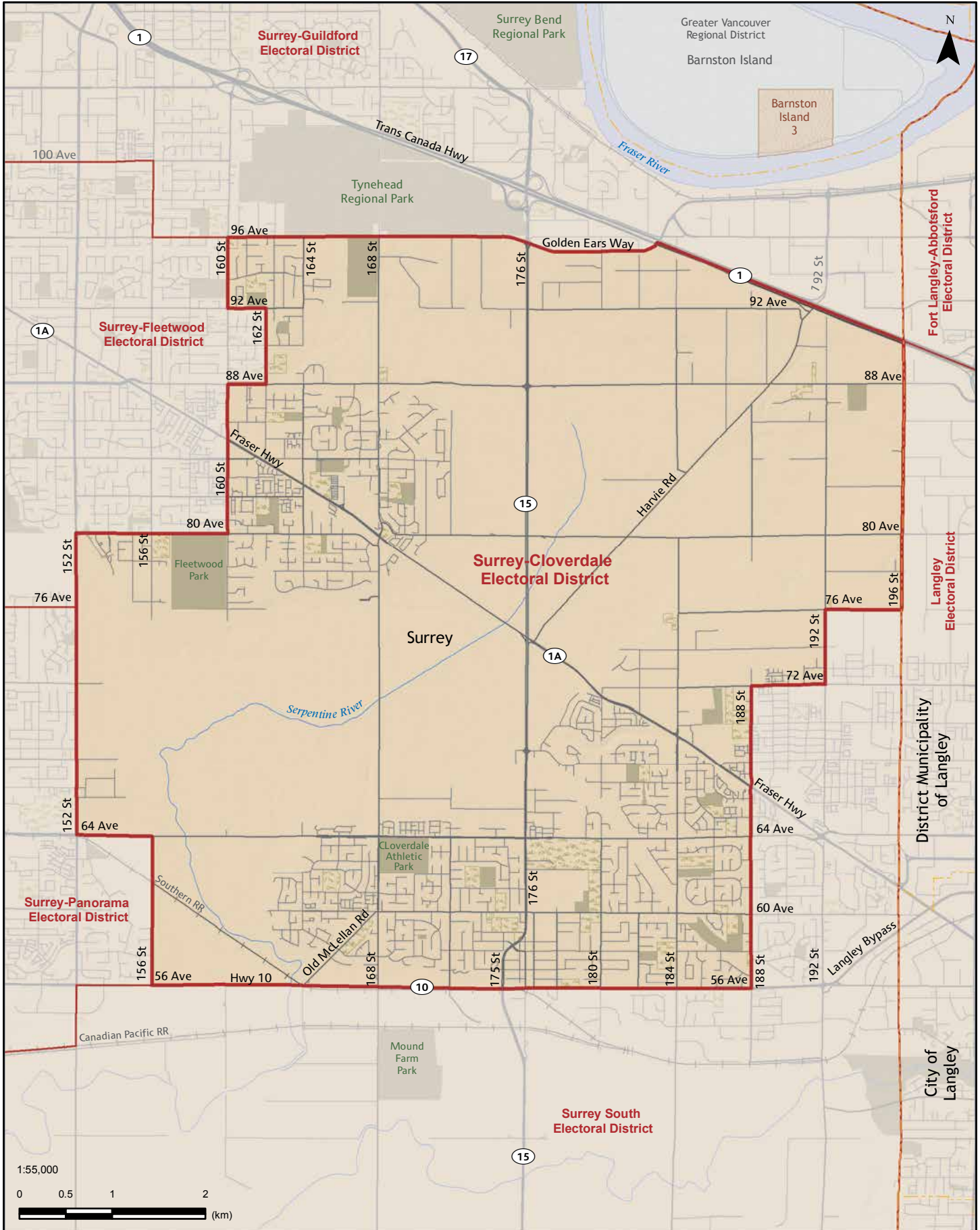


Proposals – Lower Mainland

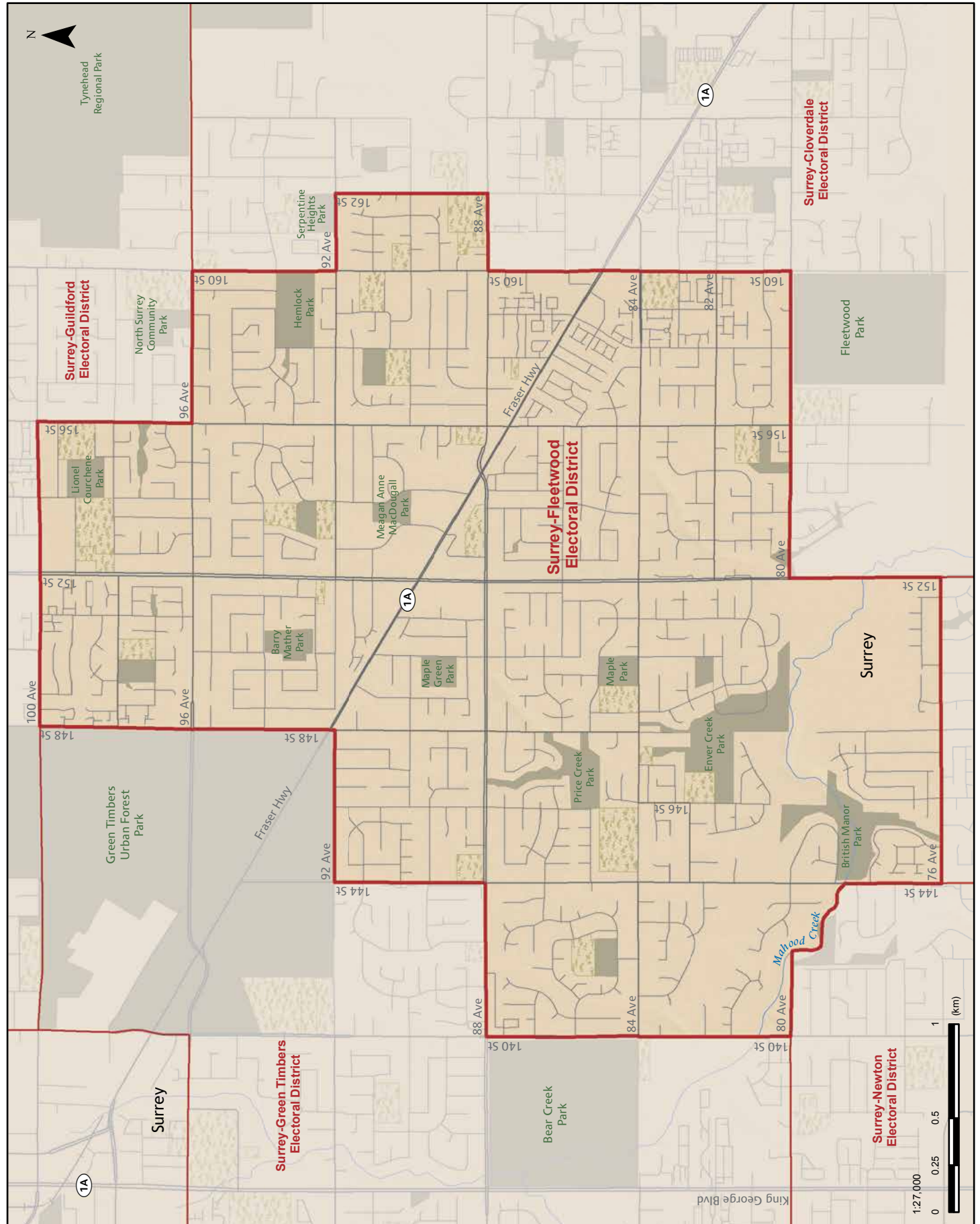


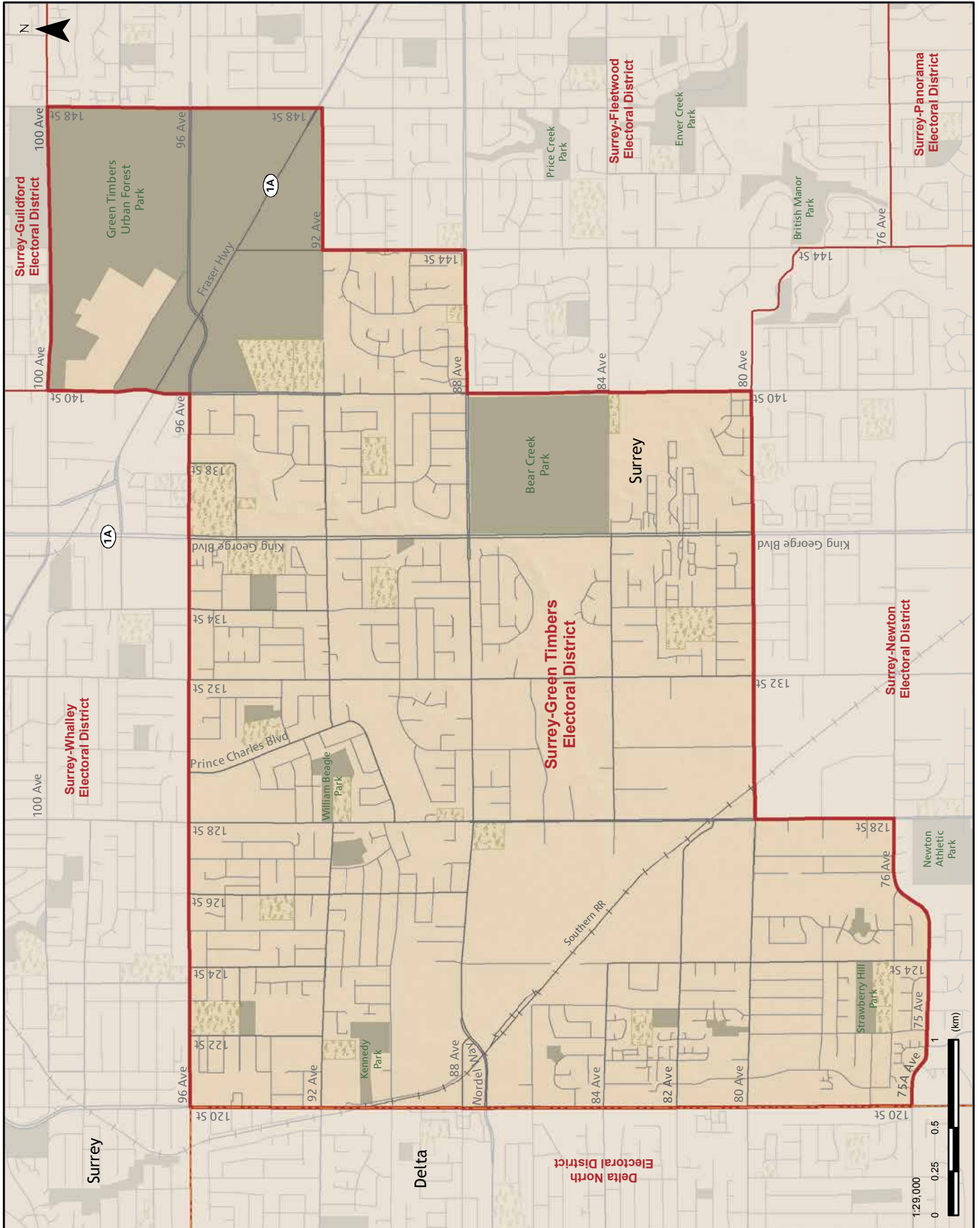
Surrey-Guildford



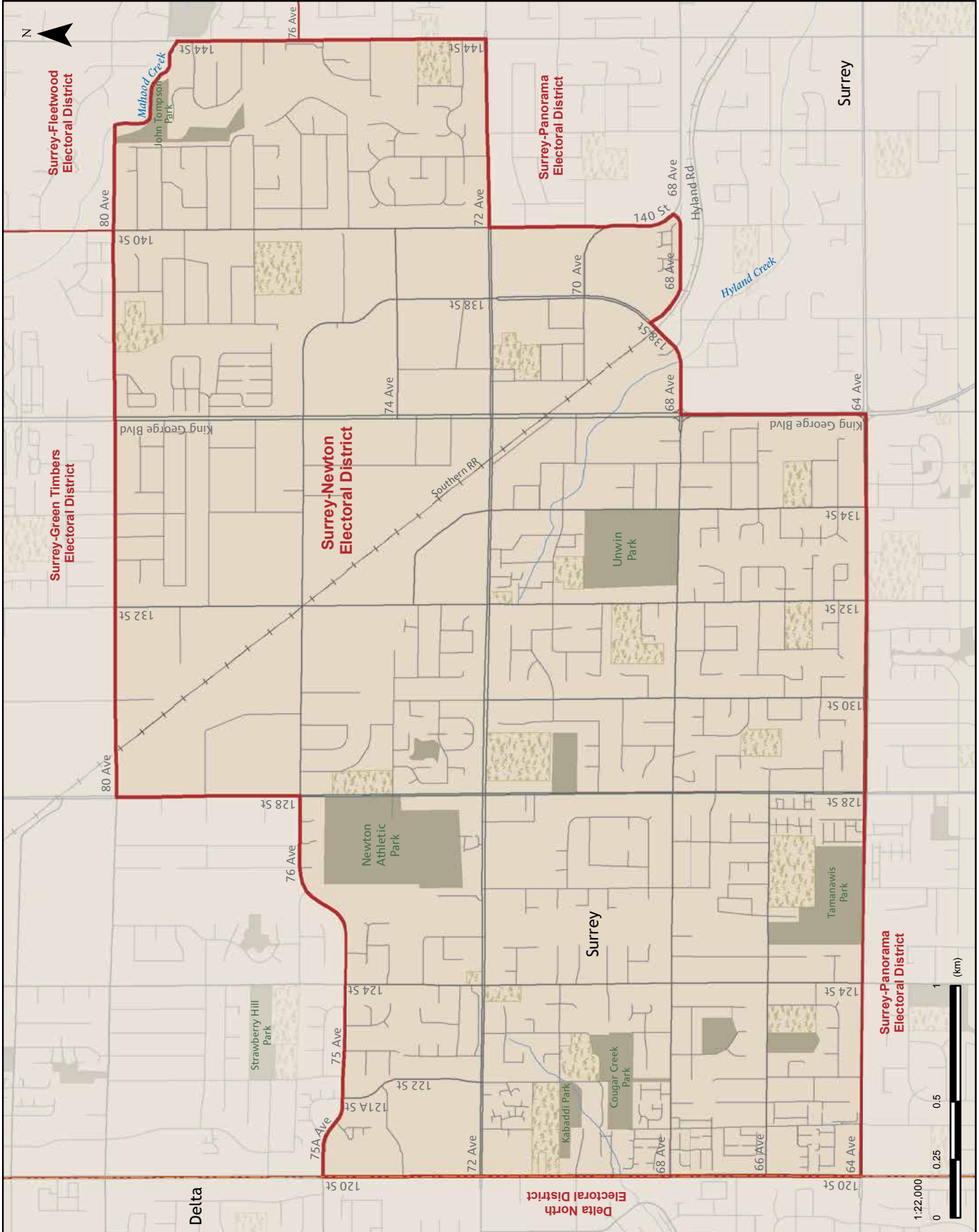


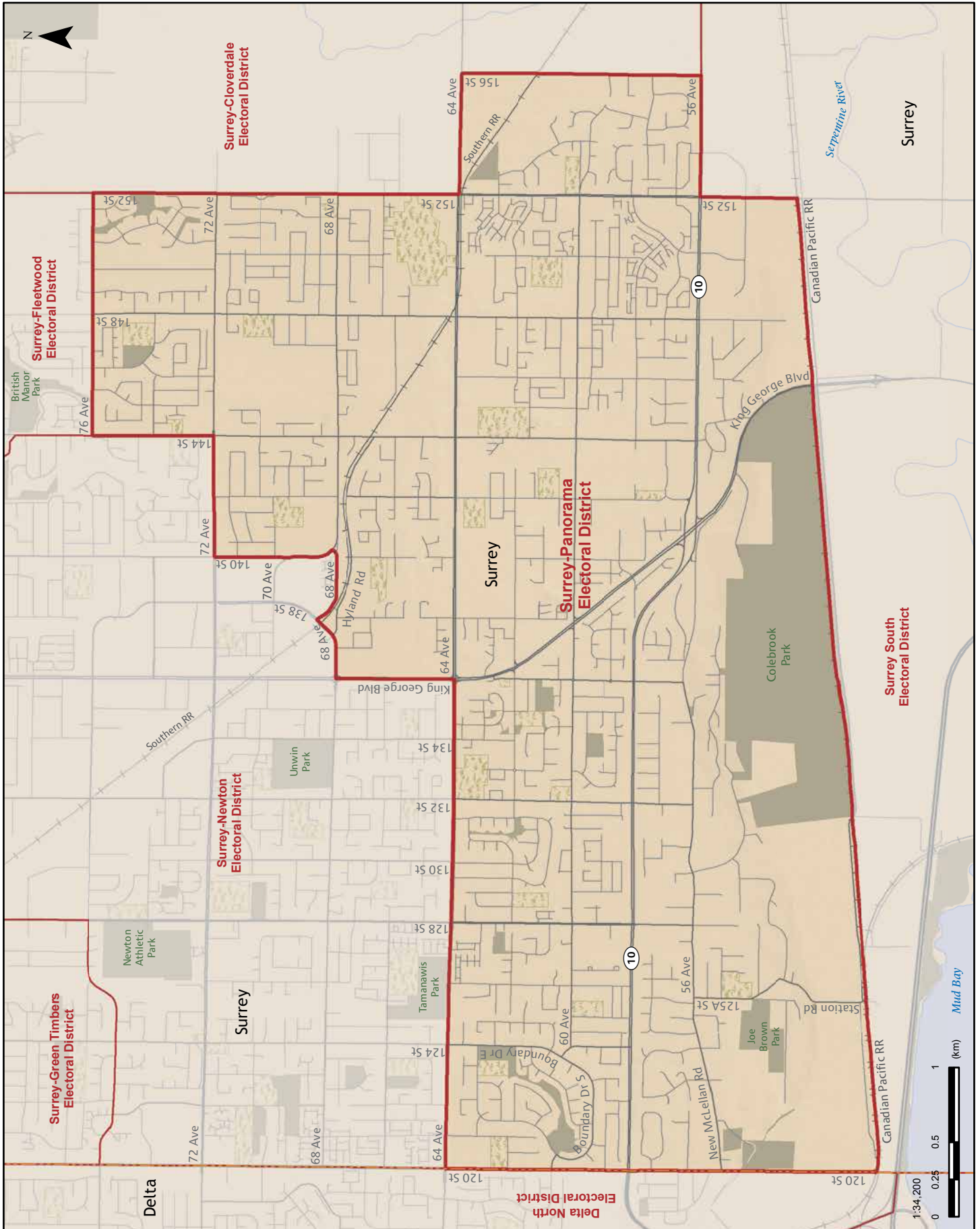
Surrey-Fleetwood



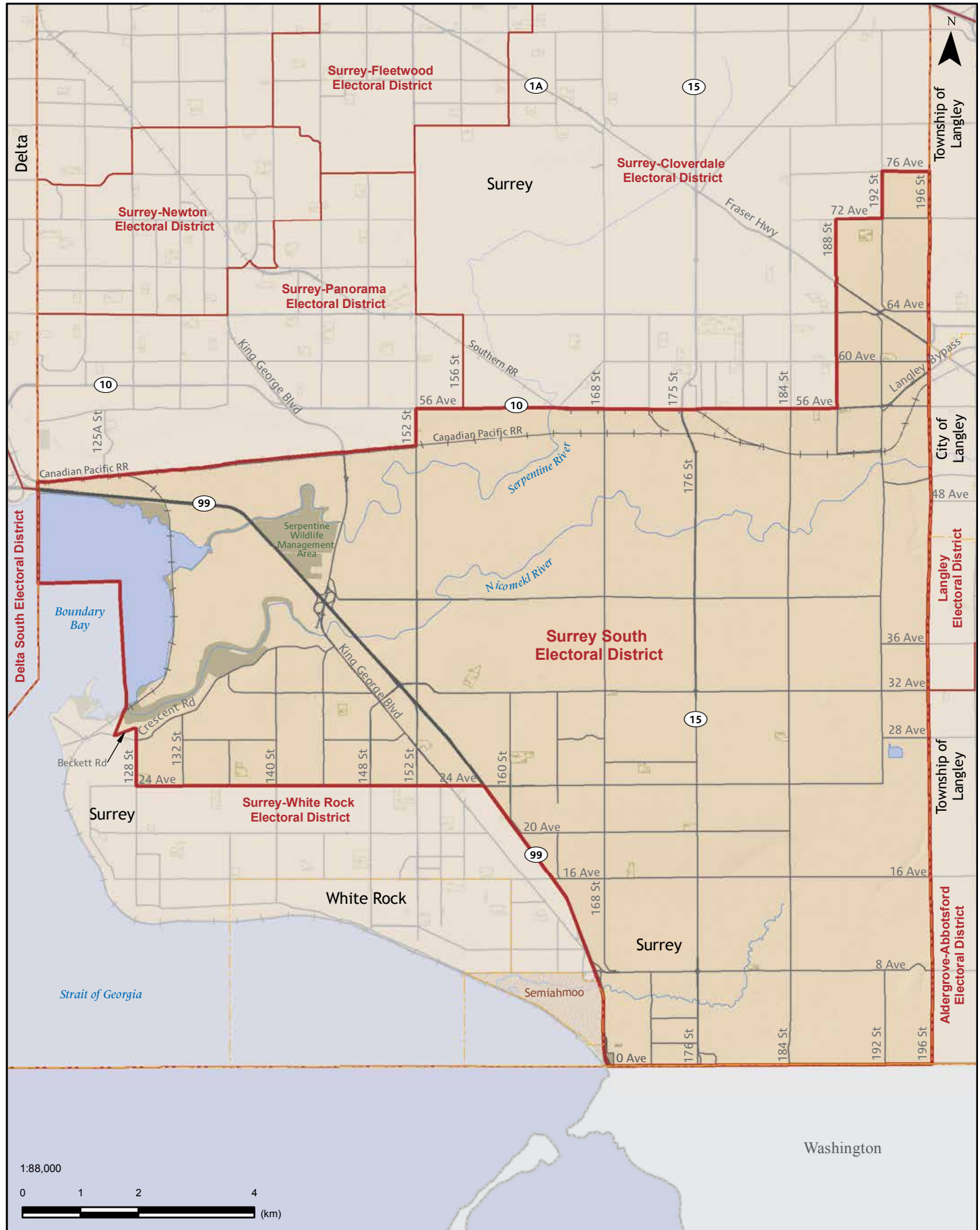


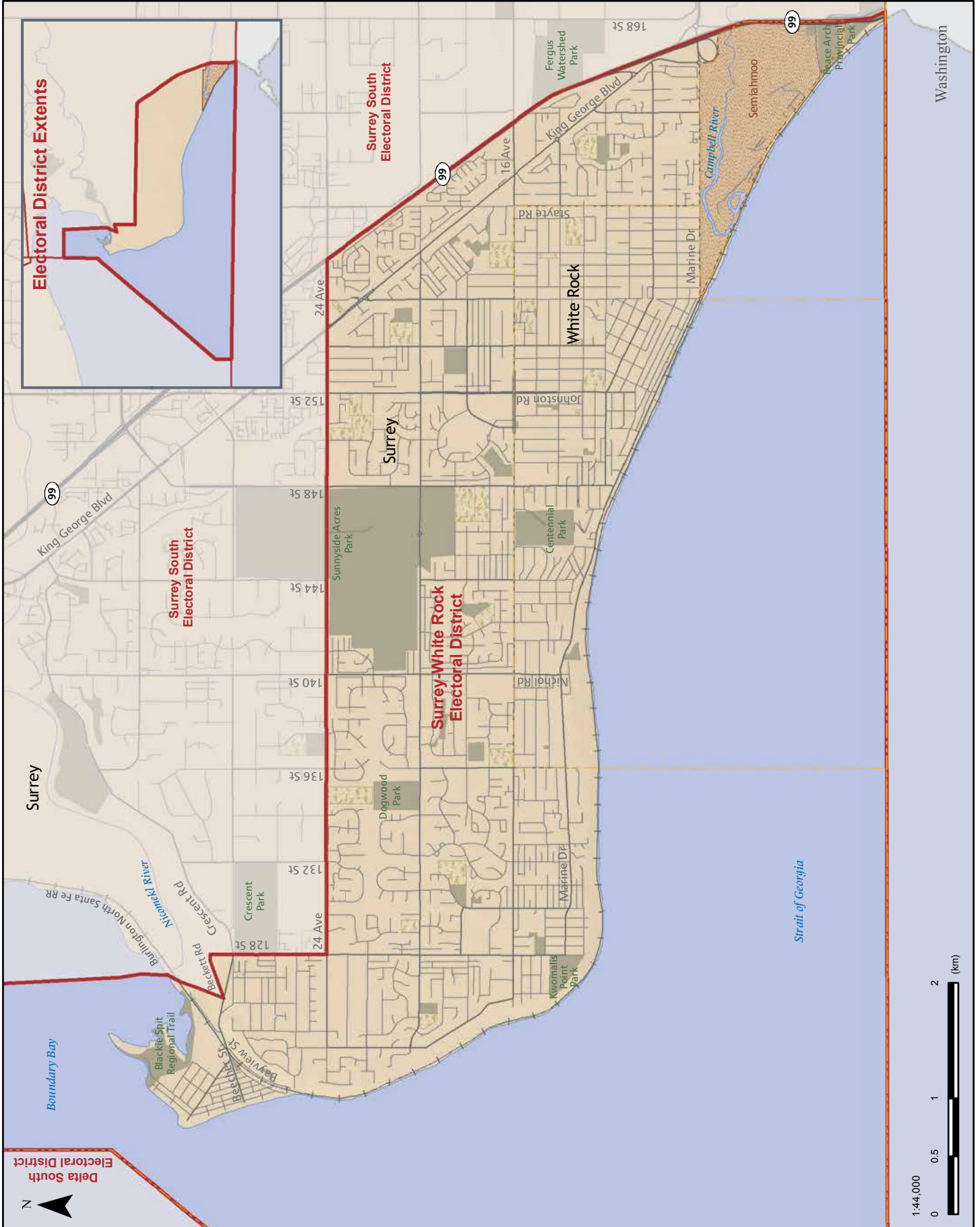
Surrey-Newton



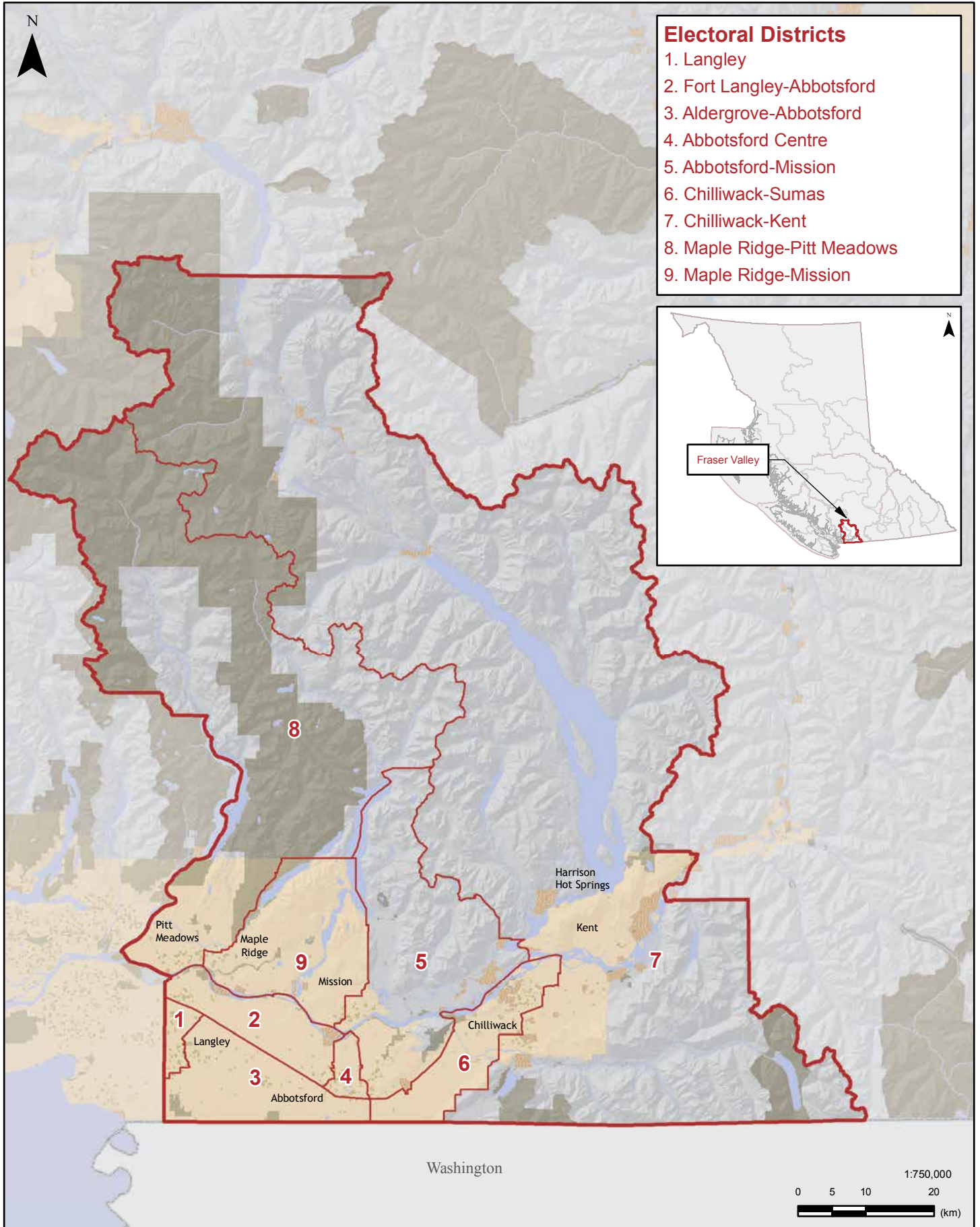


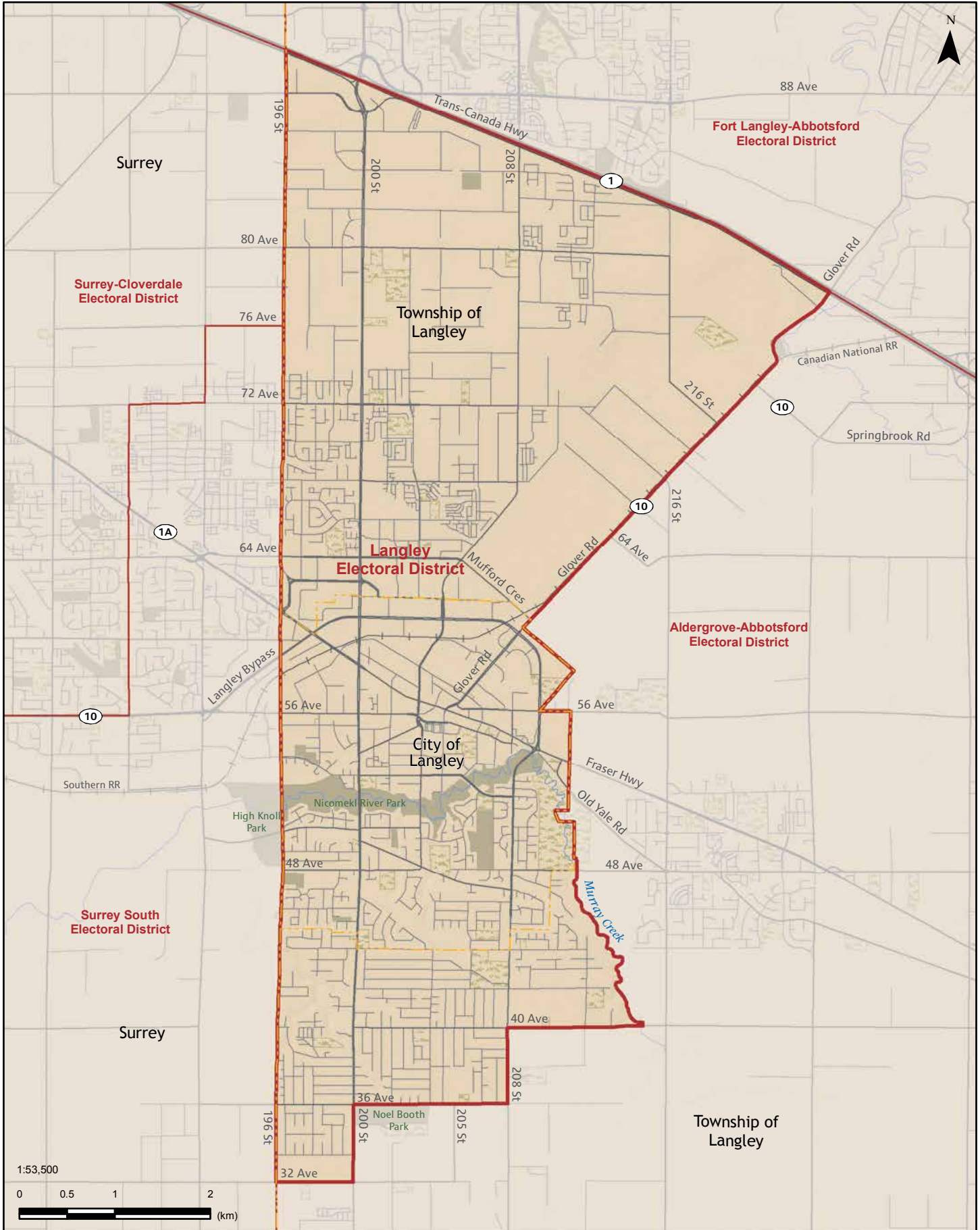
Surrey South



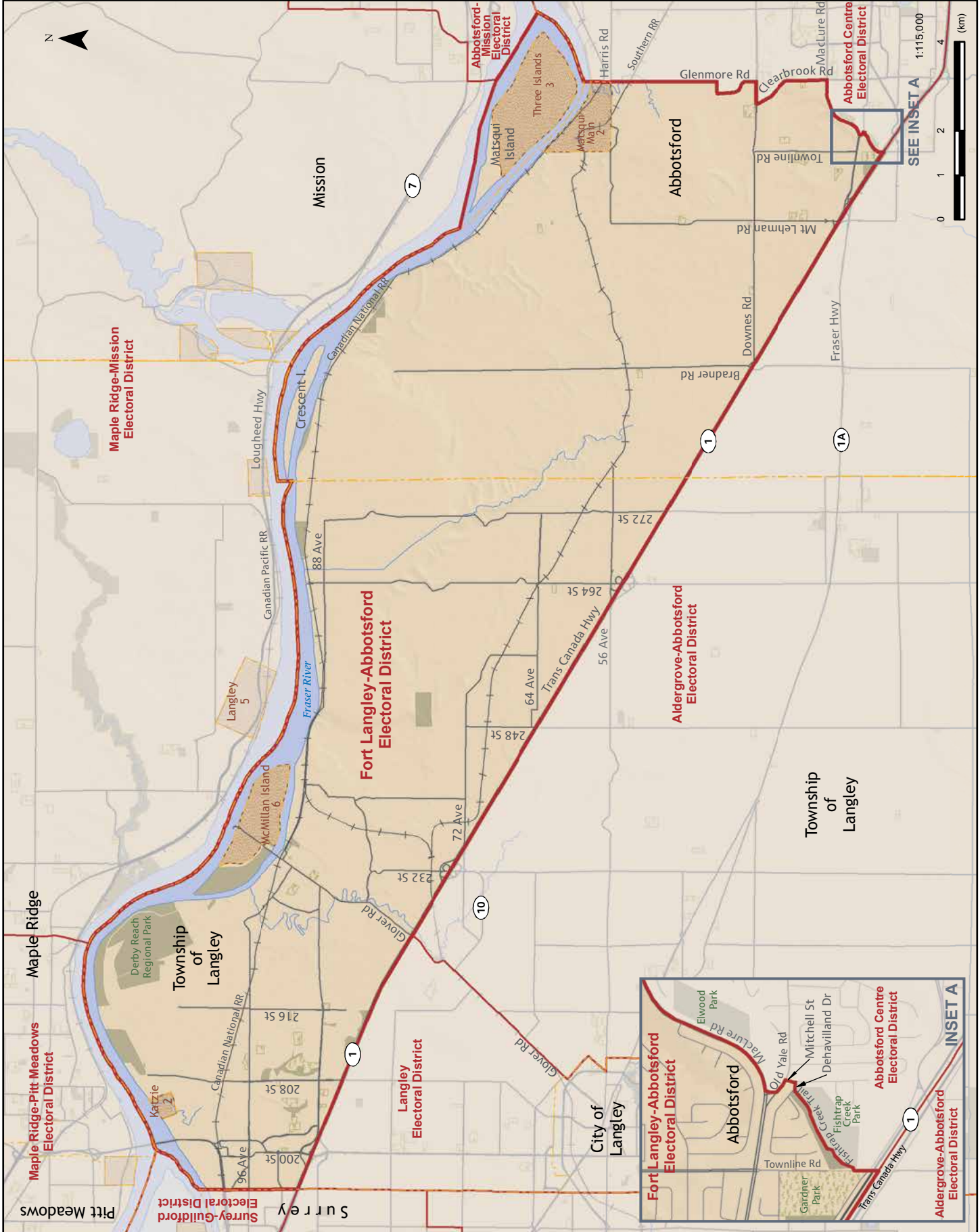


Fraser Valley

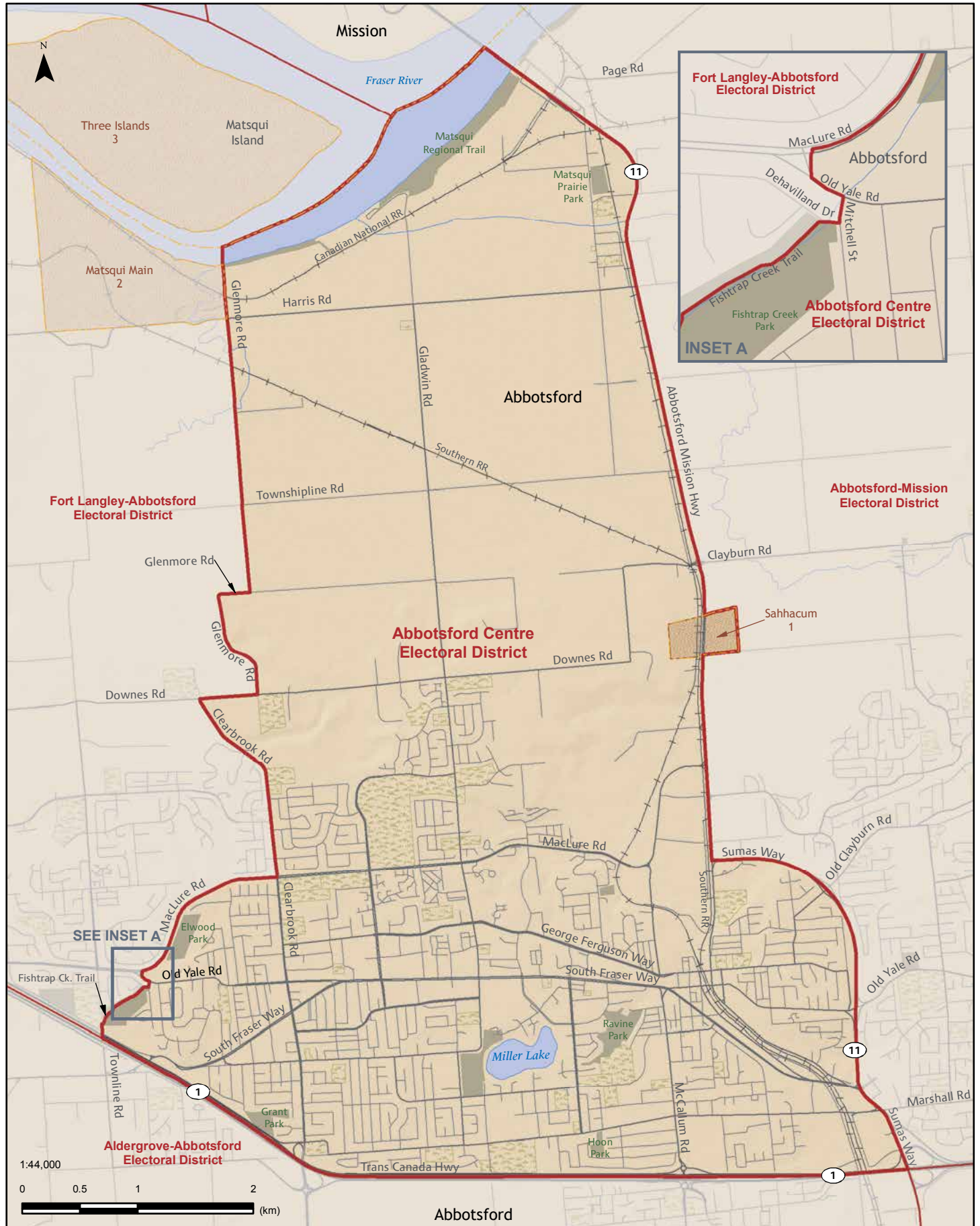




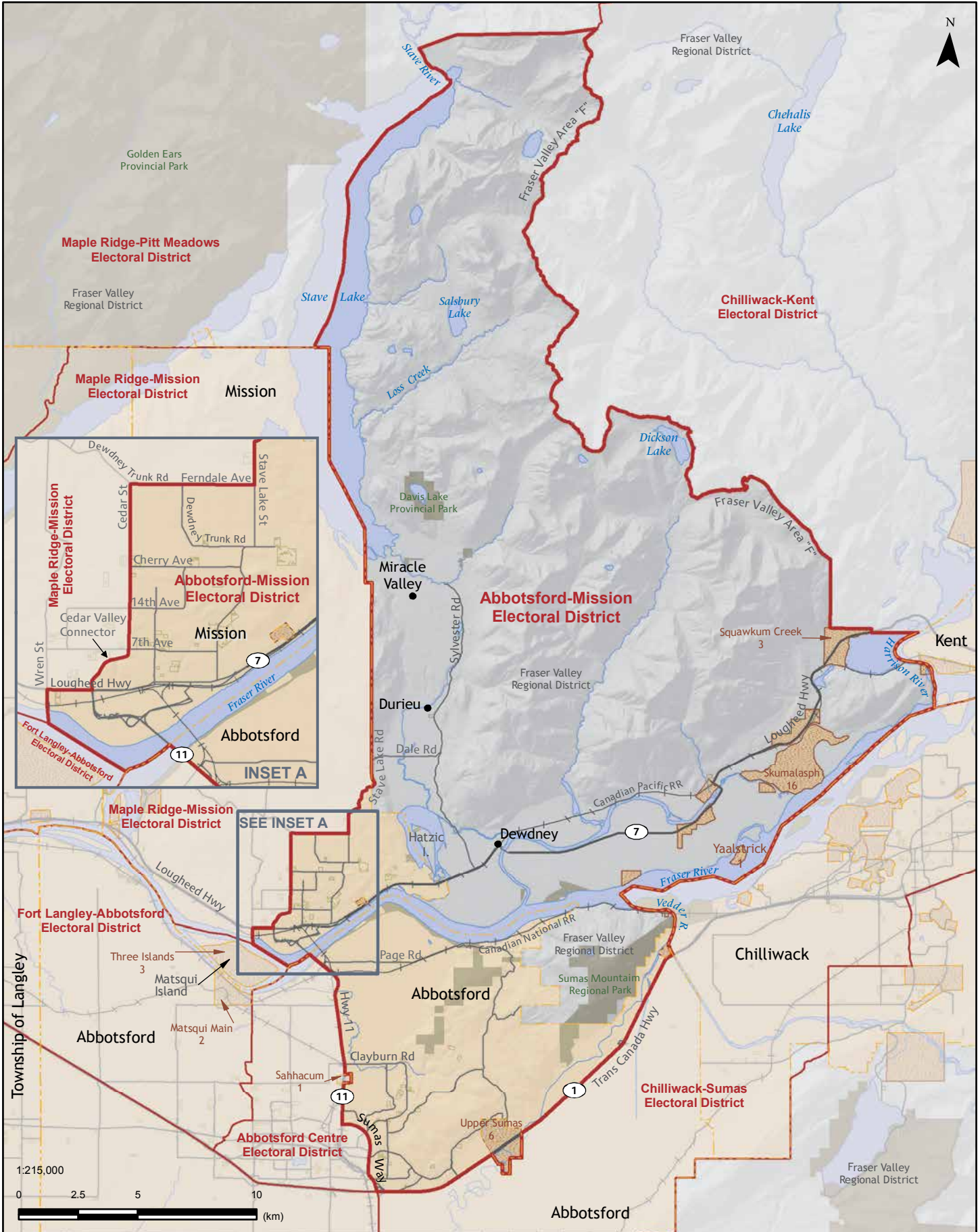
Fort Langley-Abbotsford



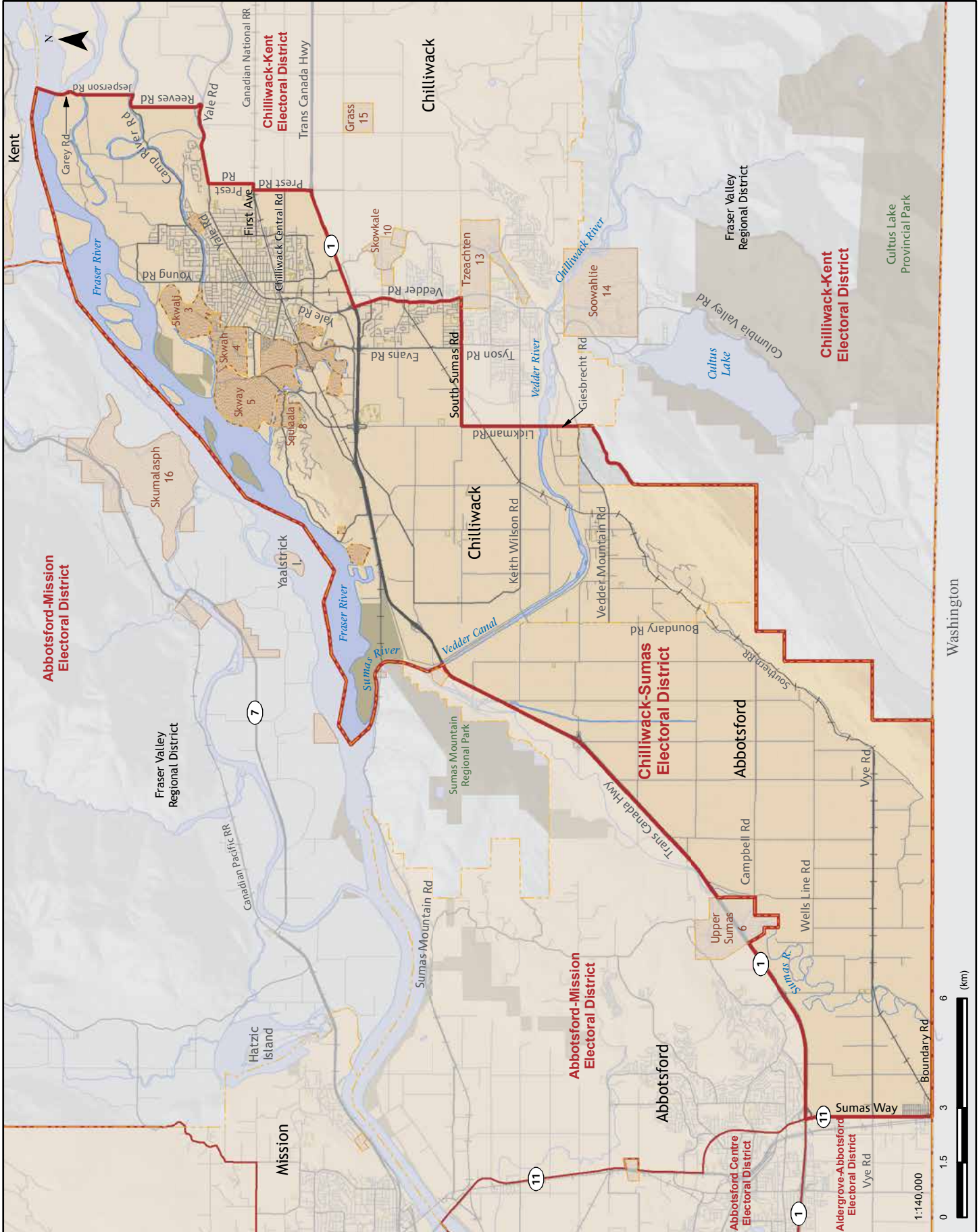
Abbotsford Centre

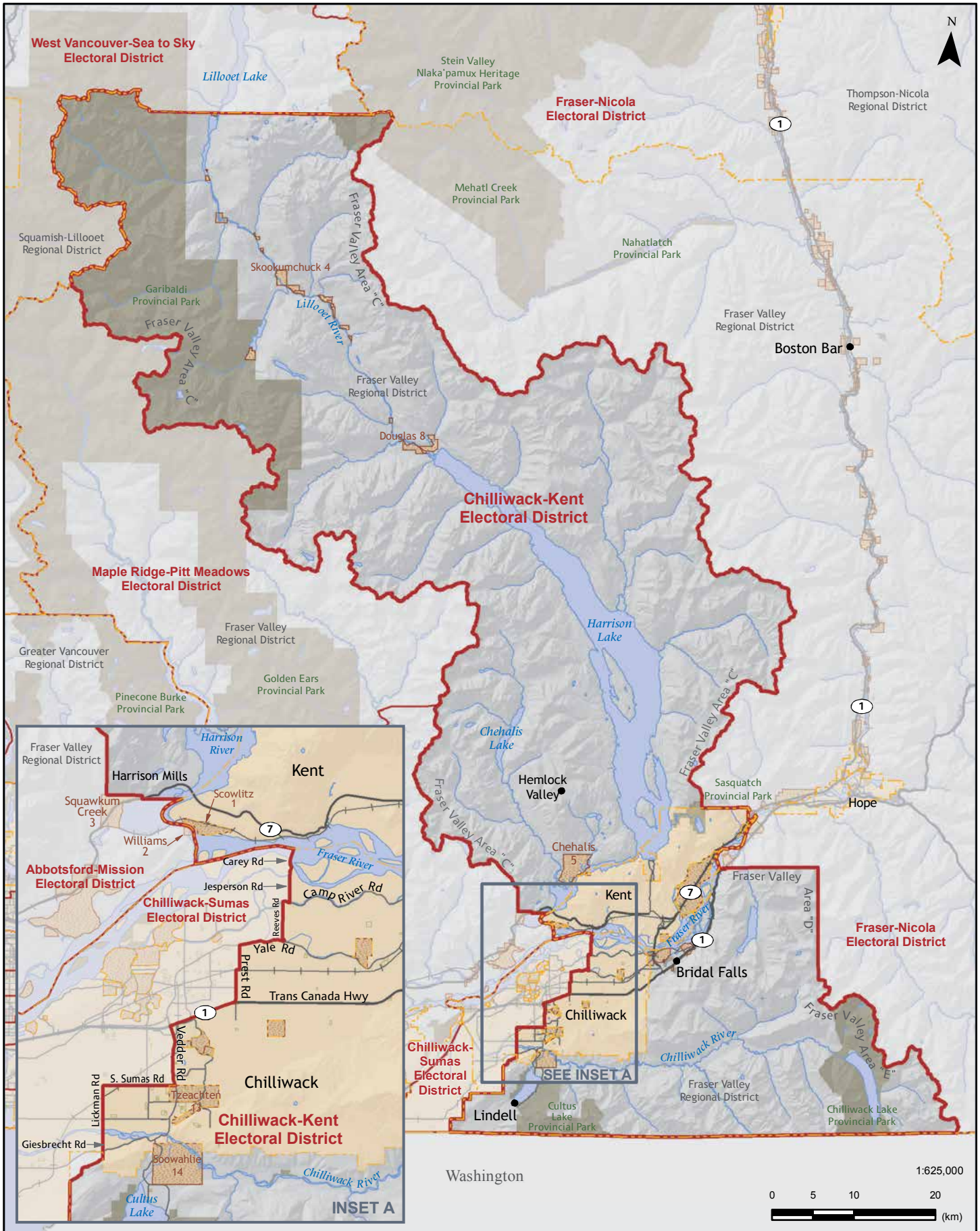


Proposals – Lower Mainland

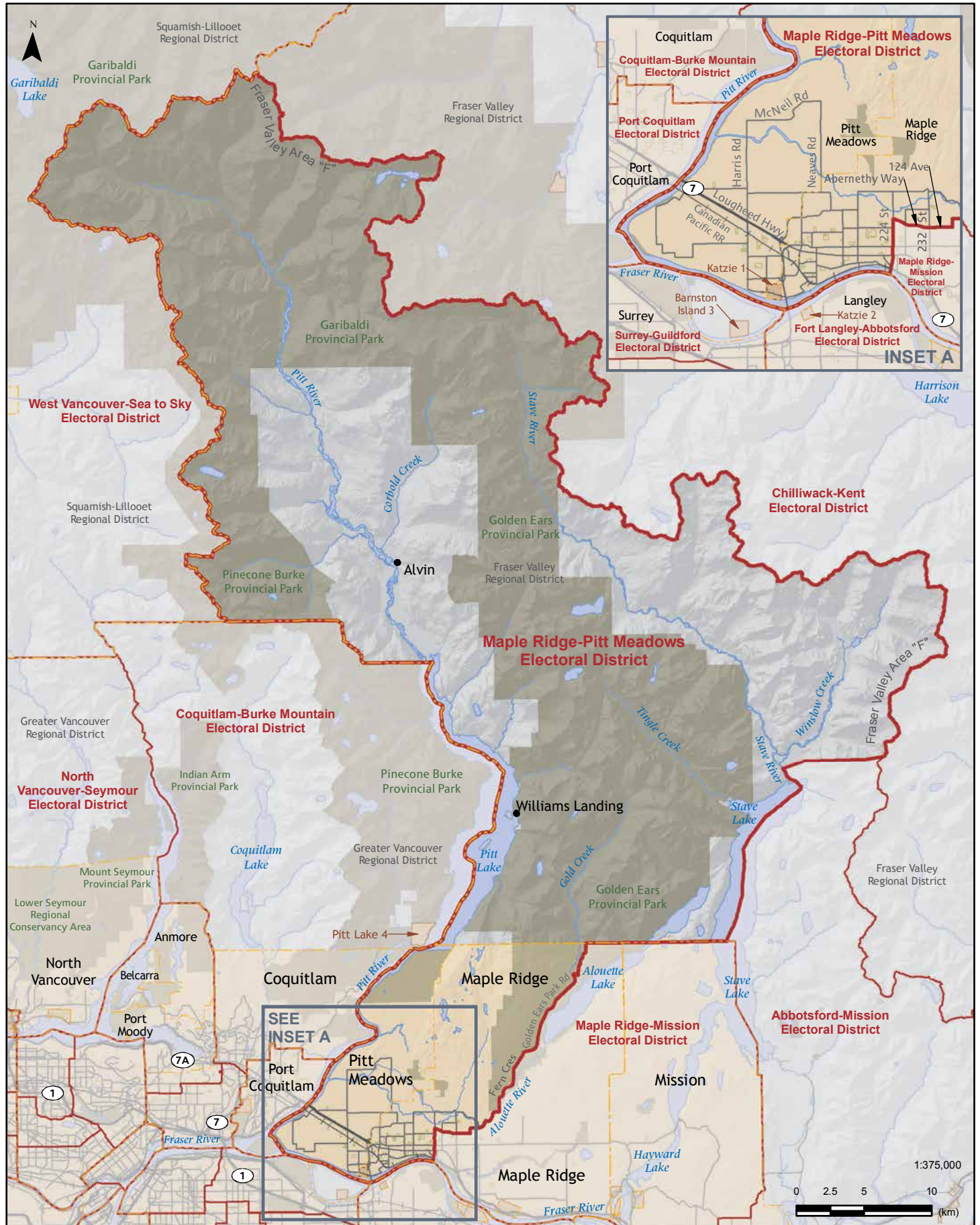


Chilliwack-Sumas



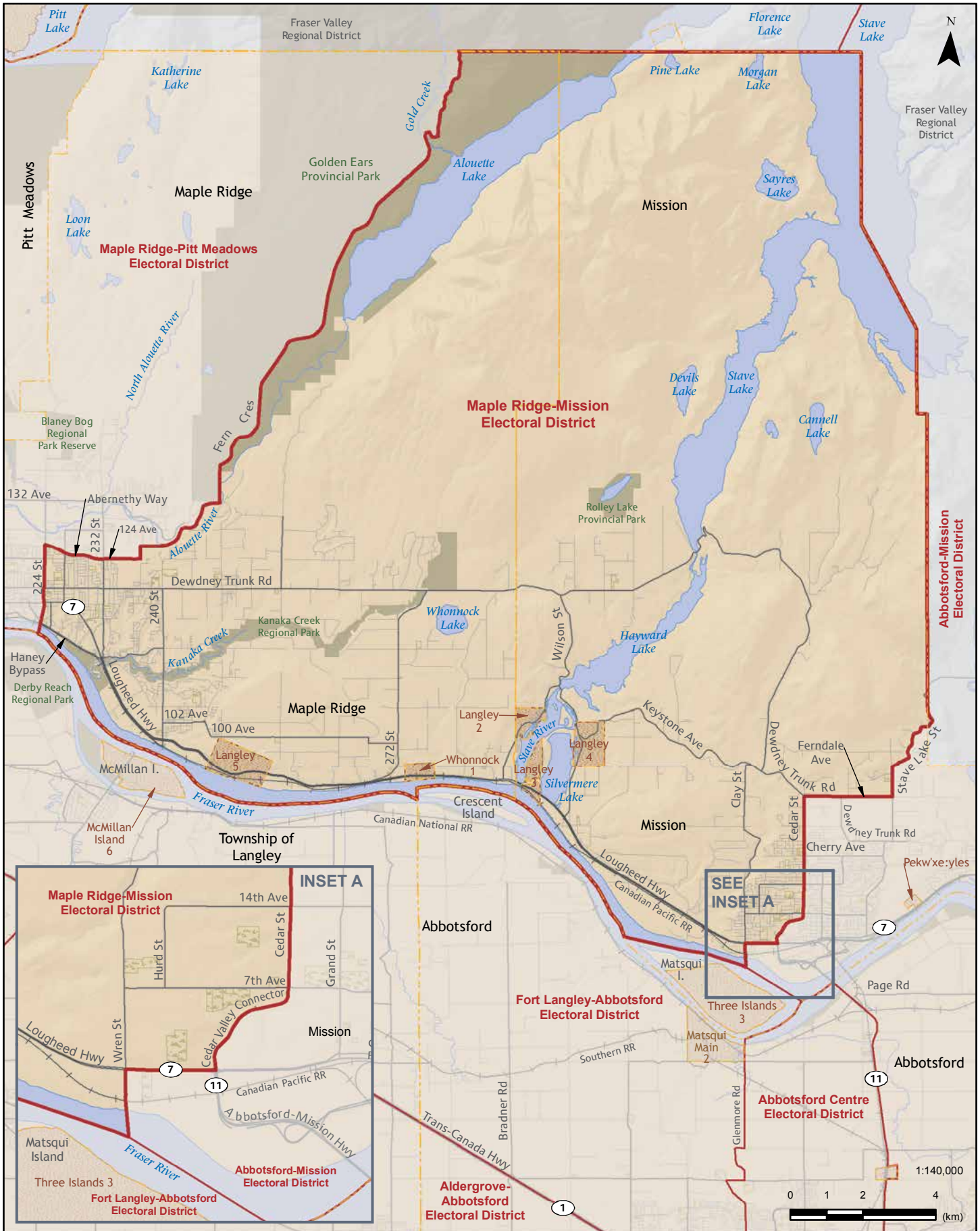


Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows



Proposals – Lower Mainland

Maple Ridge-Mission



Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast

Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast are a mix of urban, suburban and rural and remote communities. With a few notable exceptions they are not densely populated and share many of the accessibility challenges of other remote parts of British Columbia. Consistent with the message received elsewhere in the province, much of the input from residents of this area recommended little to no change. We were reminded of the transportation challenges faced by residents on the Sunshine Coast, the islands east and north of Vancouver Island, and the remote communities on the north and western coasts of Vancouver Island. They also emphasized the Malahat as a natural divide between districts in the south and the rest of Vancouver Island.

Most of the current electoral districts in this area are at or near the provincial average. The exceptions are the rapidly growing Comox Valley, which is currently more than 22% above the provincial average, and neighbouring Alberni-Pacific Rim at 18% below the provincial average. This created the necessity to rebalance the population in this area in order to provide more effective representation for both of these communities. We also propose changes in the Nanaimo and Greater Victoria areas to respond to public input, rebalance populations and provide more effective representation.

We propose no changes to the electoral districts of Powell River-Sunshine Coast, North Island, Cowichan Valley, Saanich North and the Islands, Saanich South, and Victoria-Swan Lake.

Comox Valley and mid-Vancouver Island

In recent years, the Comox Valley electoral district has shared the same boundaries as the Comox Valley Regional District in a manner similar to how the New Westminster electoral district boundaries perfectly aligned with the City of New Westminster municipal boundaries. However, like New Westminster, the population of Comox Valley has now outgrown a single electoral district. At 22% over the provincial average Comox Valley is just within the +/- 25% population range but is projected to exceed it by 2017. Therefore, we determined that we must address this issue now and propose boundaries that provide more effective representation by reducing the population within this district.

The current Alberni-Pacific Rim electoral district is by far the smallest electoral district on Vancouver Island by population. It is 18% under the provincial average and is projected to grow more slowly than the provincial average in the near future.

We conclude that to provide more effective representation for both communities the boundaries between the two districts should be altered to assign some of the population of Comox Valley to the other mid-island electoral district. While some of the public input from the Comox Valley requested we not make any changes to the current electoral district, it also emphasised that if we were to make changes, the communities of Courtenay and Comox would be best served in the same electoral district. We propose an electoral district that includes the communities of Courtenay and Comox, as well as the rest of the Comox Valley Regional District north-west of the Comox Valley Regional District Electoral Area A and Area C boundary. We propose this electoral district be named Courtenay-Comox.

The remainder of the Comox Valley Regional District, from Royston and Cumberland south, and including Hornby and Denman Islands, will be included in a new mid-Island electoral district that we propose be named Mid Island-Pacific Rim.

Nanaimo area

Nanaimo and the surrounding areas are experiencing moderate growth. The area includes Parksville, Qualicum, Nanaimo, and the Cowichan Valley. These areas share ties and, with the exception of the Nanaimo electoral district, combine various communities in one electoral district. The changes we propose address the growing population in this area and respond to requests to unite affiliated communities.

We propose a small change to the Parksville-Qualicum electoral district boundaries. We propose extending the northern boundary north-west to the Nanaimo Regional District Electoral Area G boundary north of Highway 19 in order to include the area of Dashwood on the north-west side of the Little Qualicum River in the Parksville-Qualicum electoral district.

We propose to include Vancouver Island University and the College Heights neighbourhood within the City of Nanaimo south of Jingle Pot Road and west of Highway 19 in the Nanaimo electoral district. This change will place Vancouver Island University in the same electoral district as the majority of its staff and students. To balance the increase in population to the Nanaimo electoral district, we propose moving the southern boundary between Nanaimo and Nanaimo-North Cowichan north from Fifth Street to Fourth Street.

Capital Region

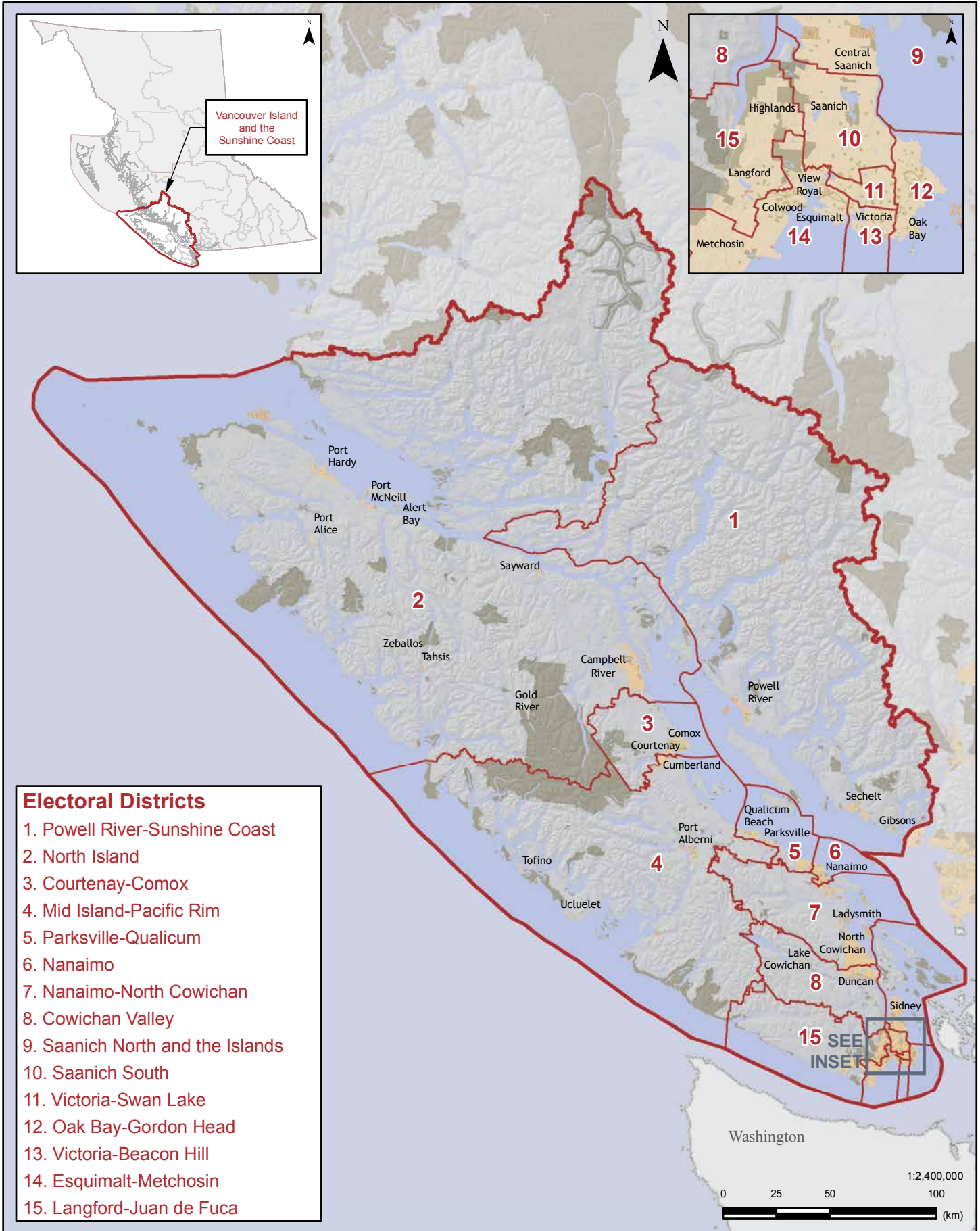
Vancouver Island south of the Malahat is made up of 13 municipalities and four unincorporated areas. The highest rates of growth in the Capital Region are in Langford and the West Shore in the suburbs of Greater Victoria. The populations of the existing electoral districts are relatively well balanced and we were not convinced of a need to propose more considerable changes to this area. We propose changes to the boundaries of the existing Victoria-Beacon Hill and Oak Bay-Gordon Head electoral districts to return the neighbourhood of Vic West to a Victoria electoral district and rebalance the population between these two districts. The western boundary of Victoria-Beacon Hill becomes the Victoria/Esquimalt border and the eastern boundary follows Richmond Avenue to Fairfield Road and along the east side of Ross Bay Cemetery to the ocean.

We also propose moving the District of Metchosin to an electoral district that includes Colwood, View Royal and Esquimalt and that this district be named Esquimalt-Metchosin. This change will balance the population across the area while providing room for continued growth in Langford. We propose the current Juan de Fuca electoral district be renamed Langford-Juan de Fuca.

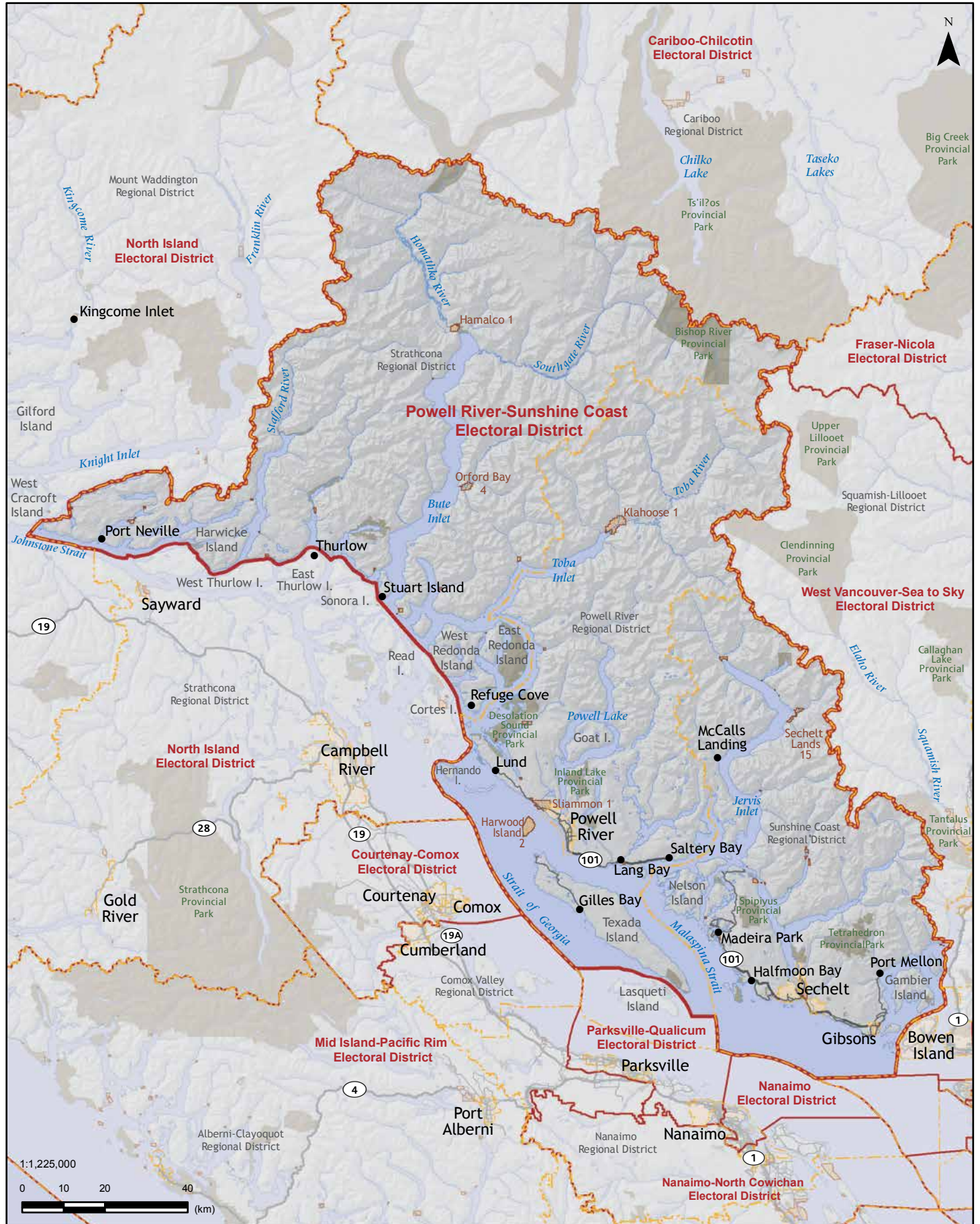
Table 15: Proposed electoral districts – Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast

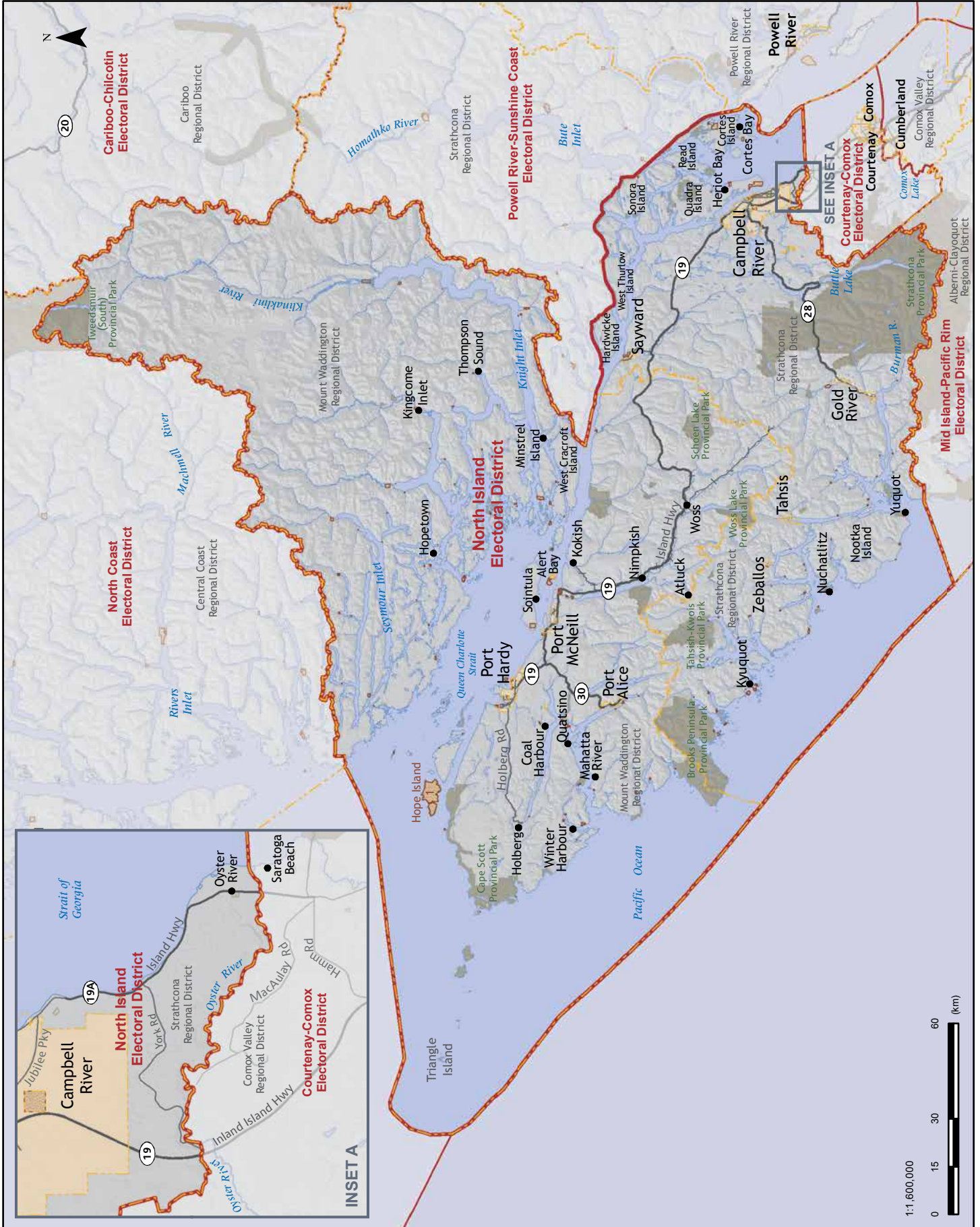
Electoral district	Population	Deviation (%)	Area(sq km)
Powell River-Sunshine Coast	50,039	-5.8	21,007
North Island	55,633	4.7	45,034
Courtenay-Comox	54,816	3.2	1,584
Mid Island-Pacific Rim	52,833	-0.5	14,098
Parksville-Qualicum	54,089	1.8	978
Nanaimo	55,998	5.4	455
Nanaimo-North Cowichan	53,424	0.6	2,703
Cowichan Valley	59,232	11.5	1,685
Saanich North and the Islands	56,492	6.3	1,519
Saanich South	51,661	-2.7	91
Victoria-Swan Lake	51,569	-2.9	18
Oak Bay-Gordon Head	55,689	4.8	330
Victoria-Beacon Hill	54,707	3.0	90
Esquimalt-Metchosin	51,450	-3.1	378
Langford-Juan de Fuca	51,782	-2.5	2,447

Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast

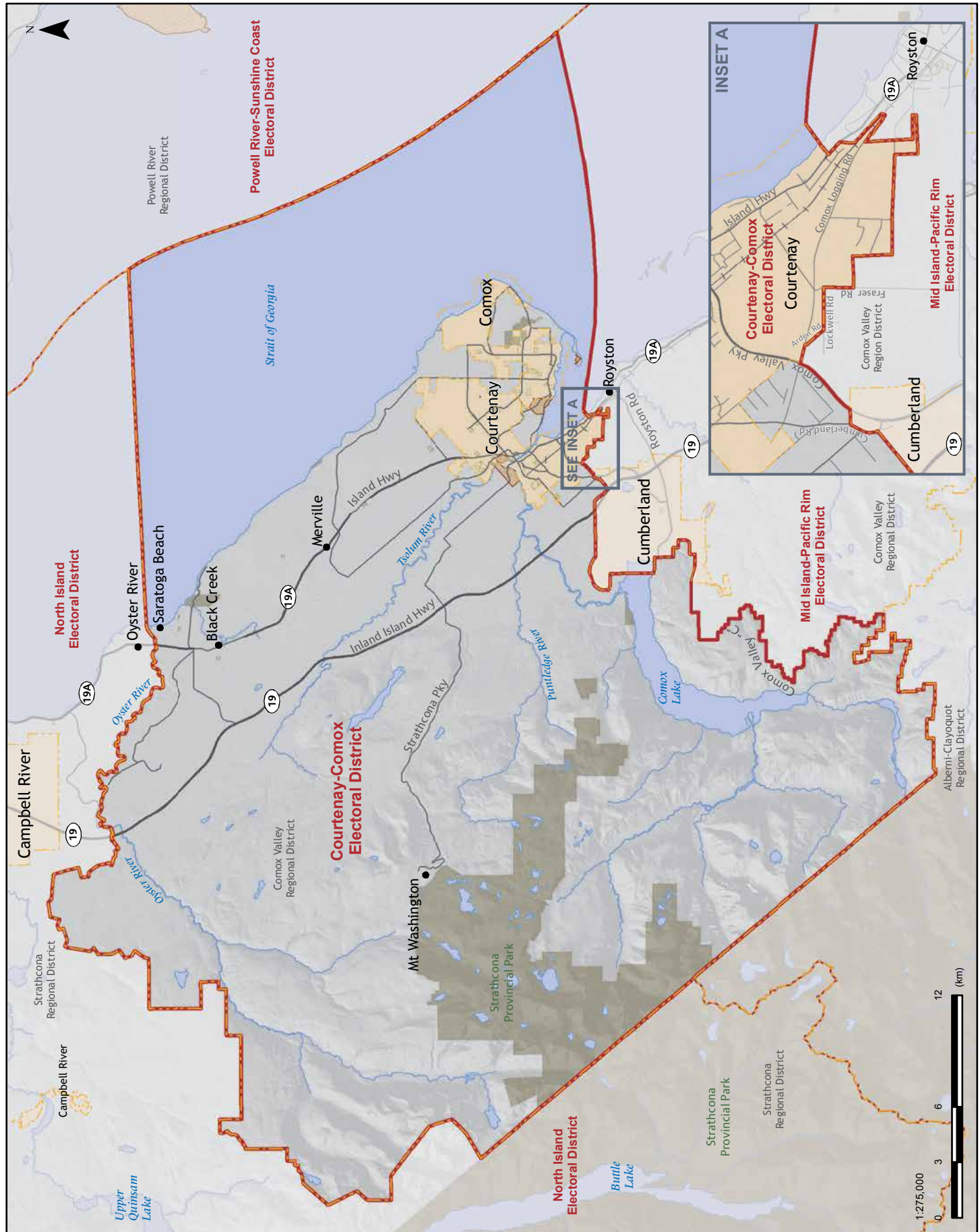


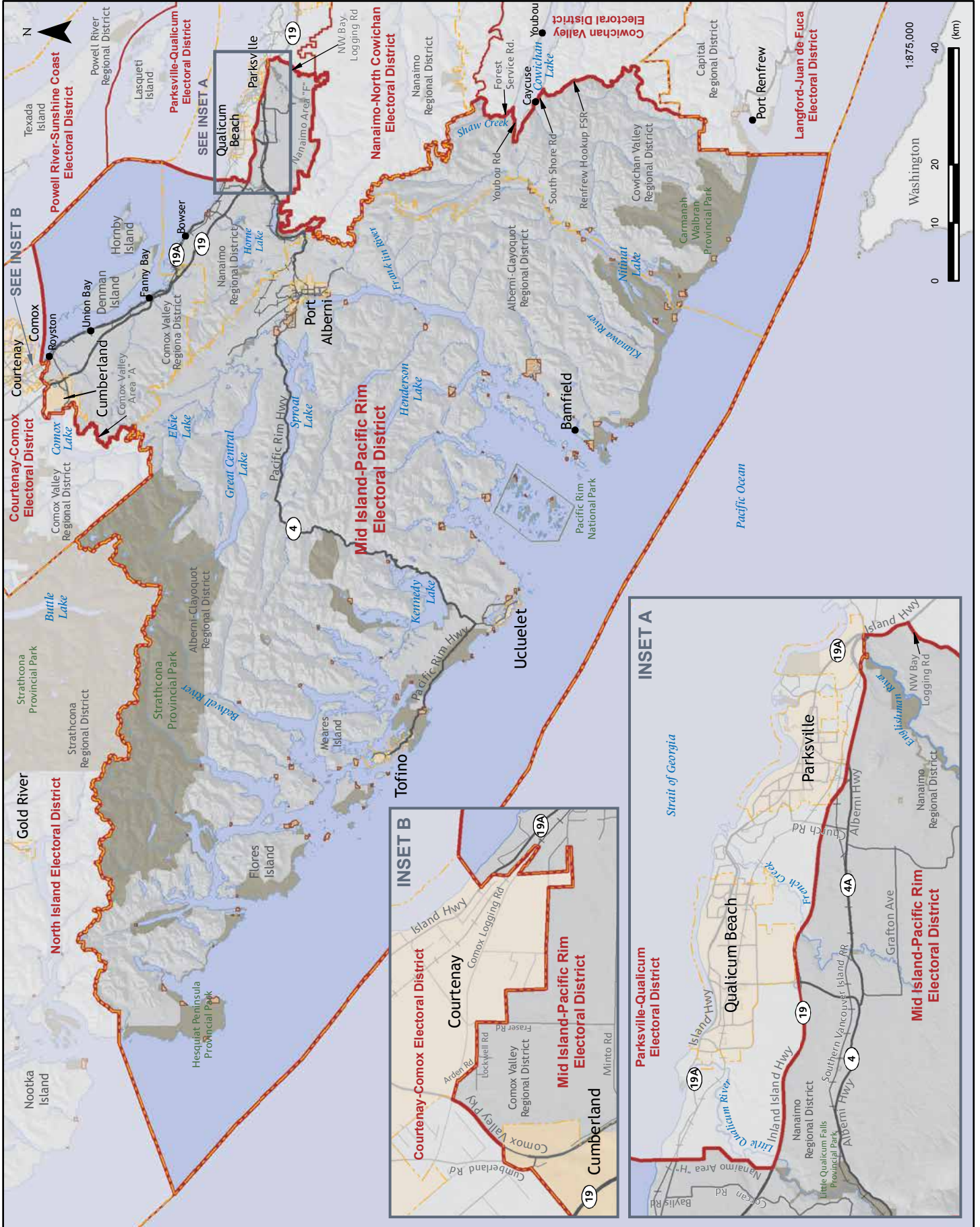
Powell River-Sunshine Coast



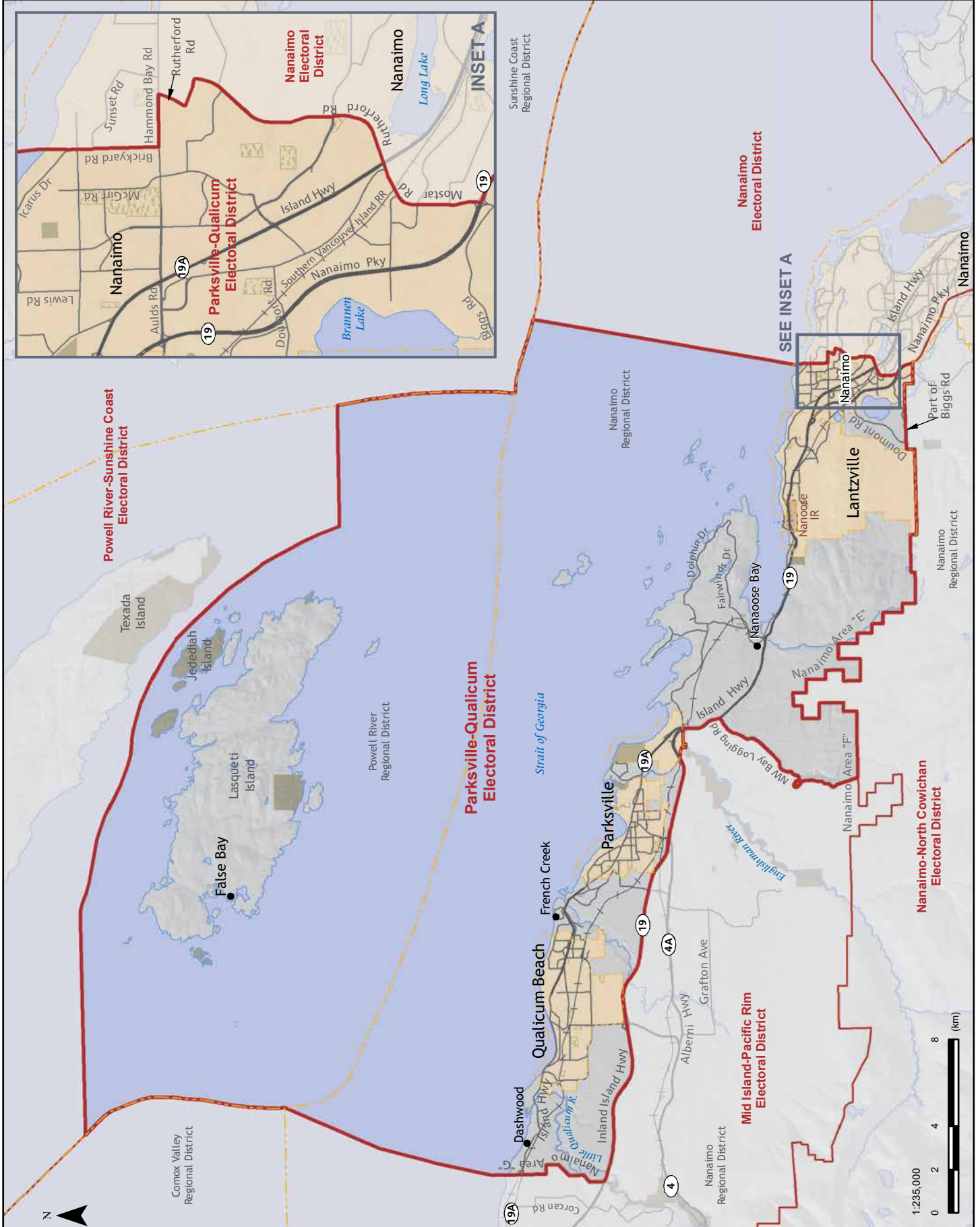


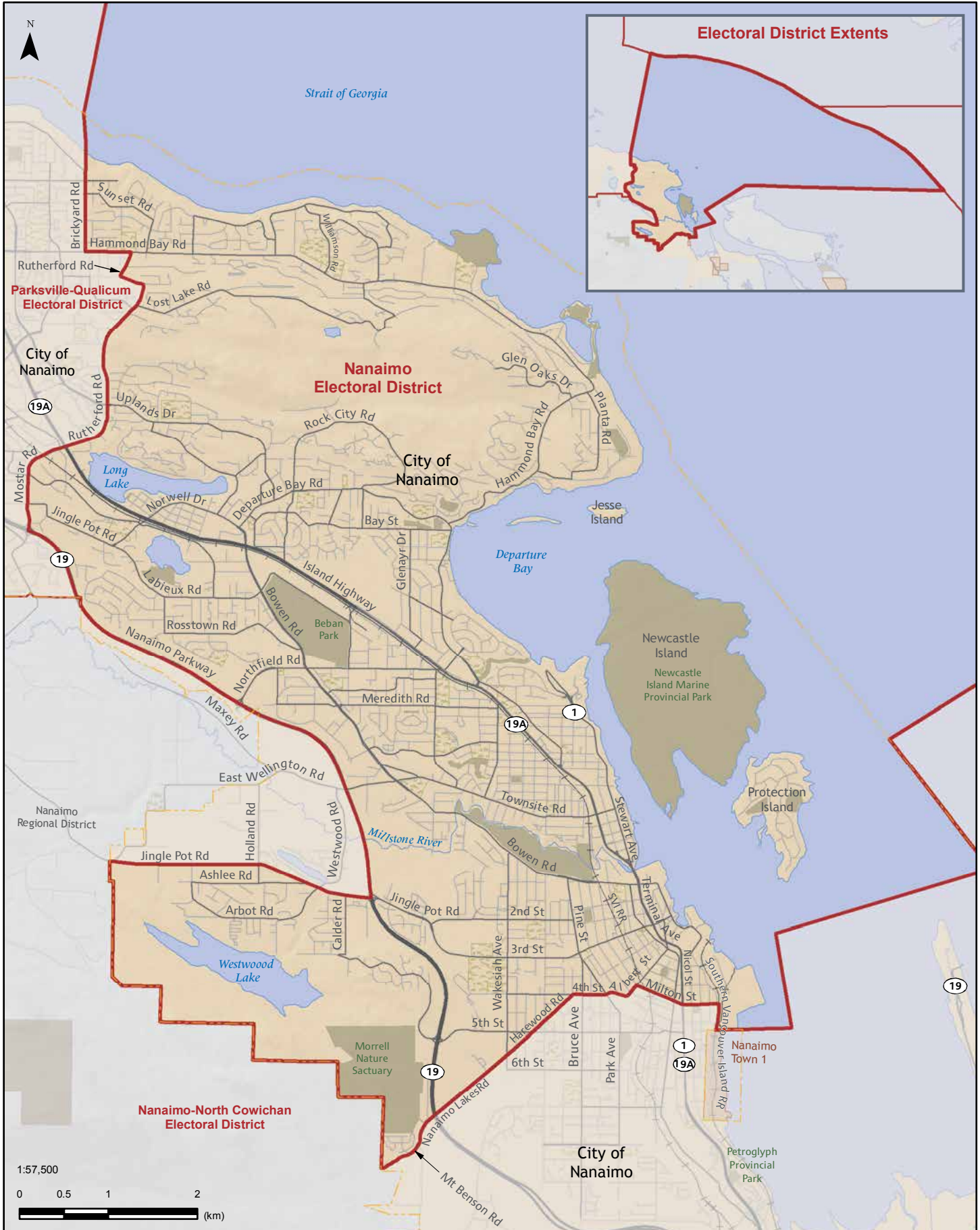
Courtenay-Comox



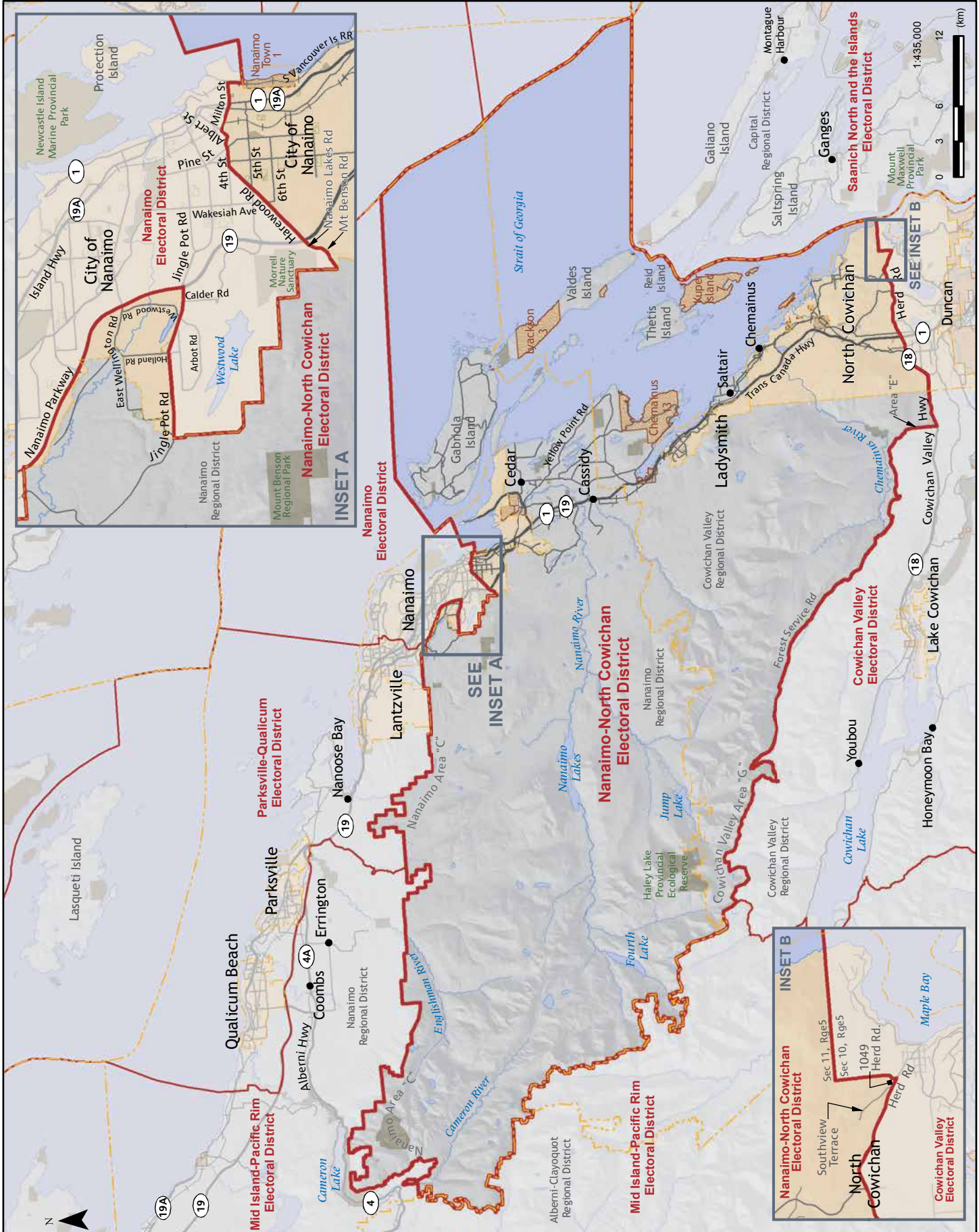


Parksville-Qualicum

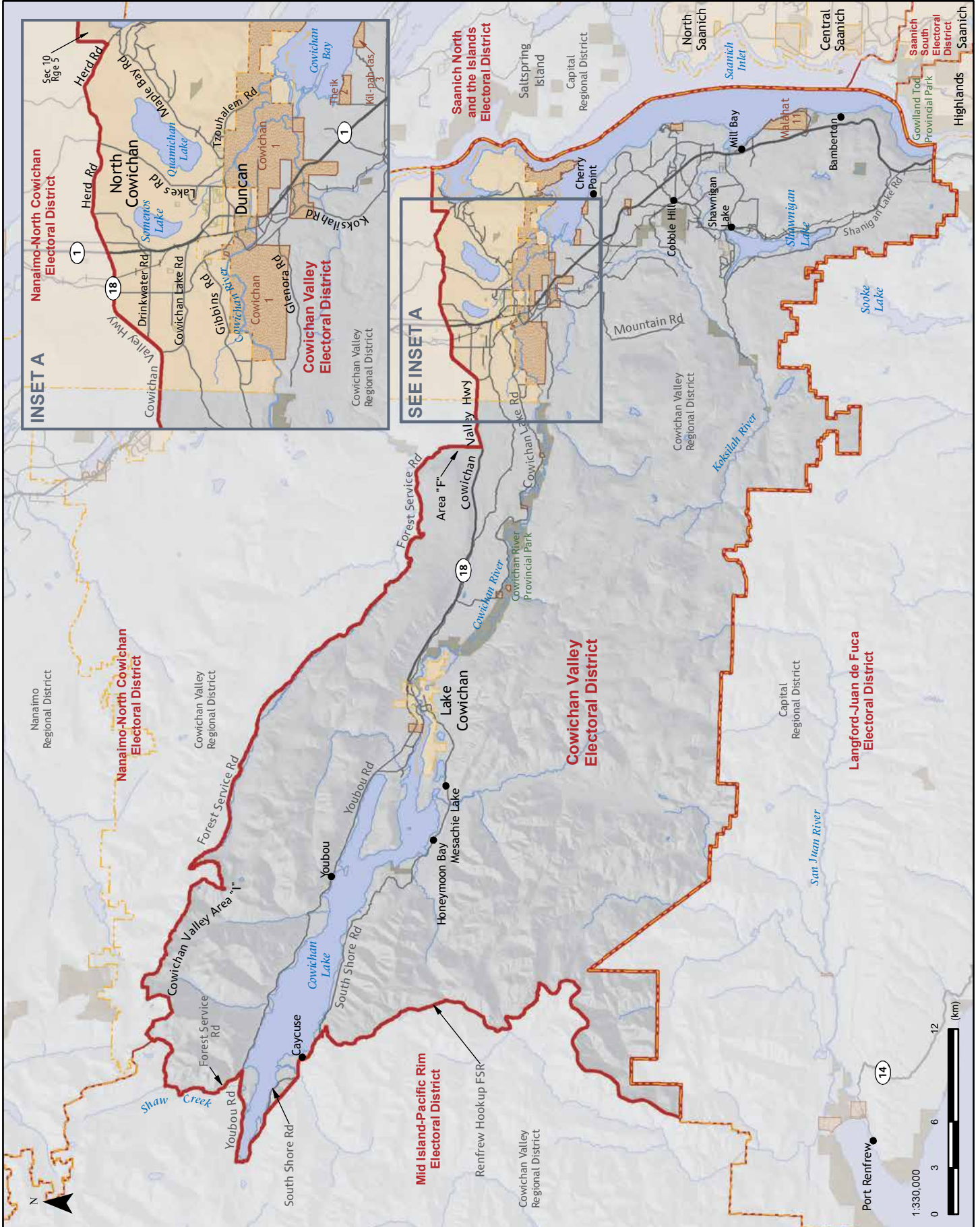




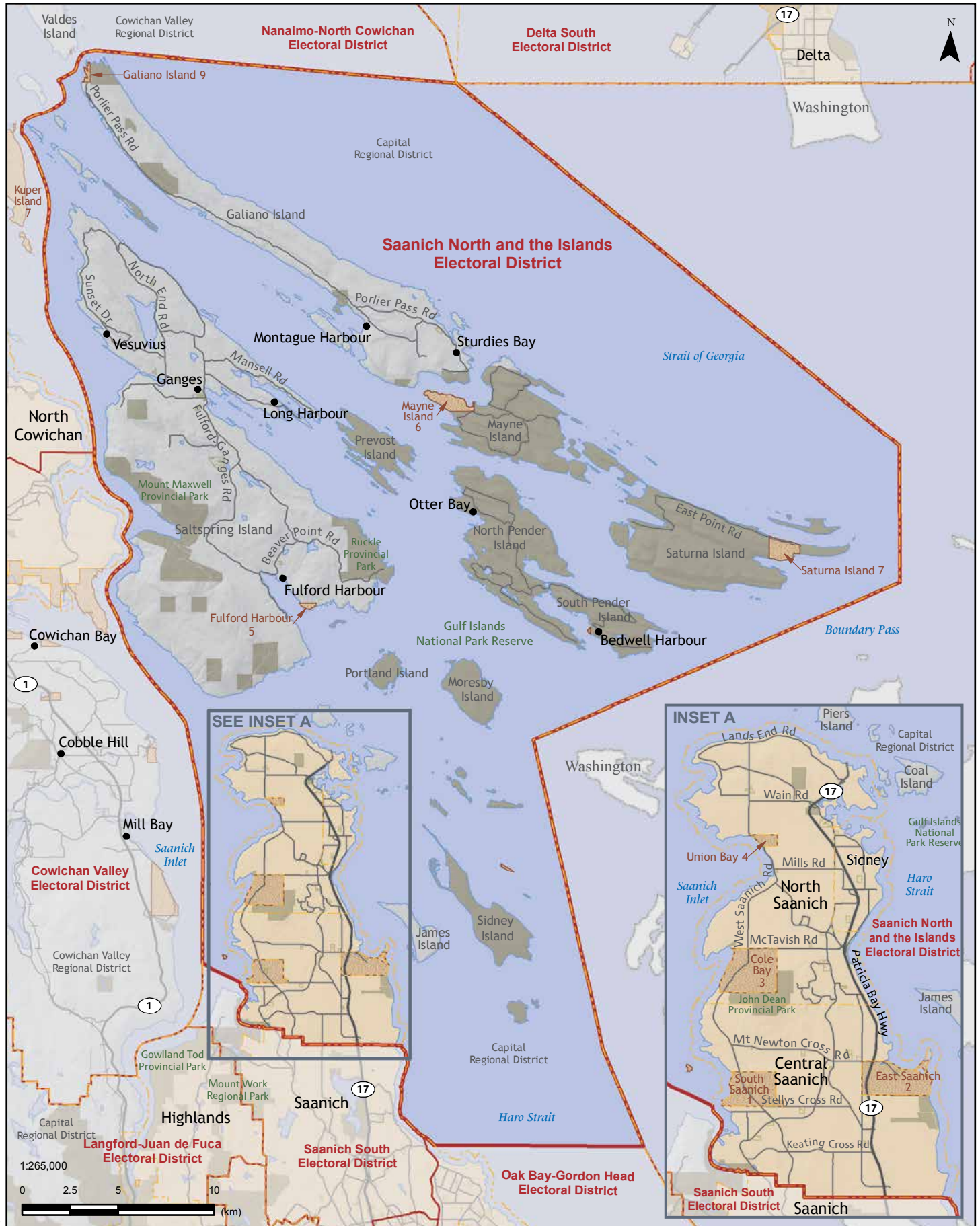
Nanaimo-North Cowichan



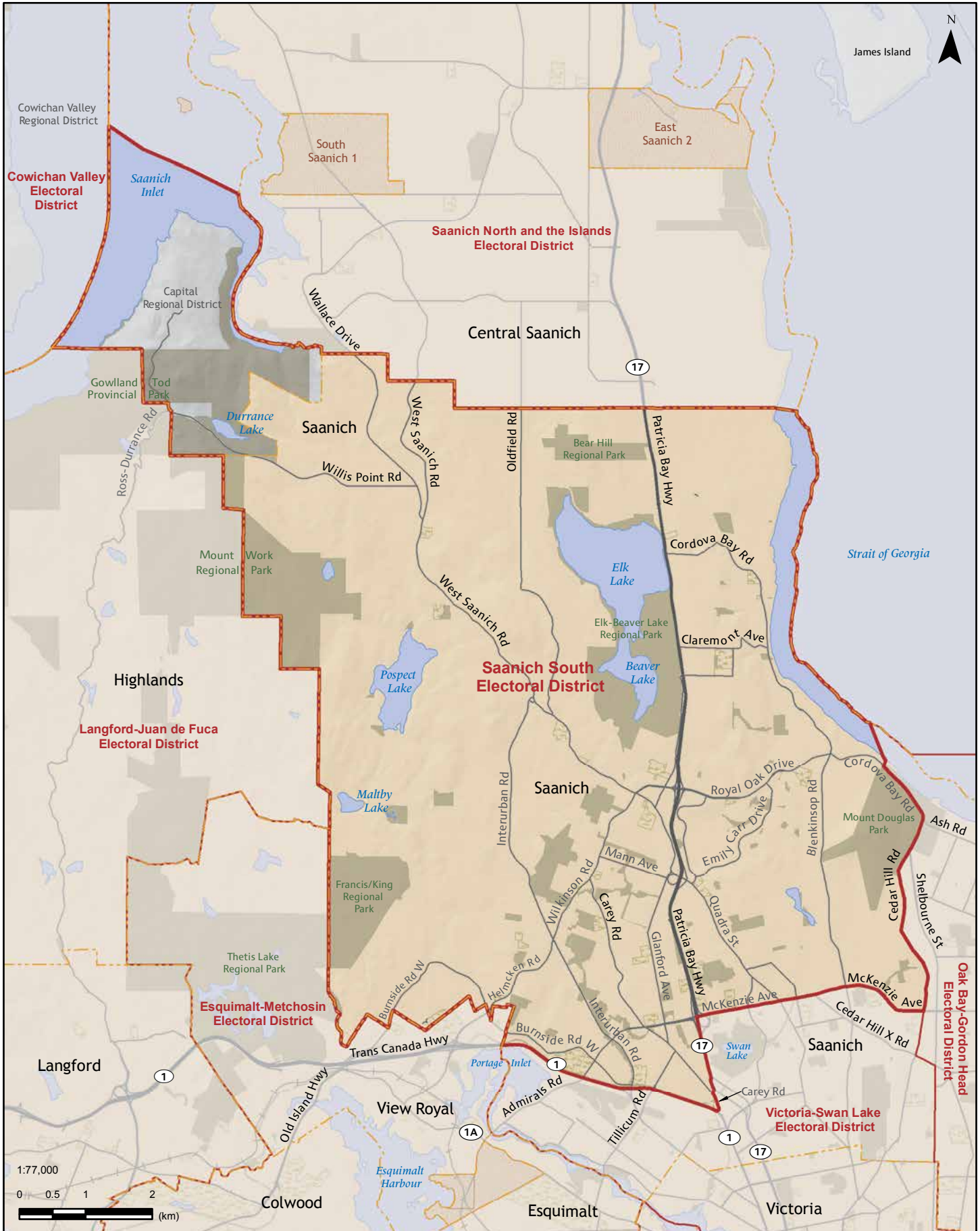
Cowichan Valley



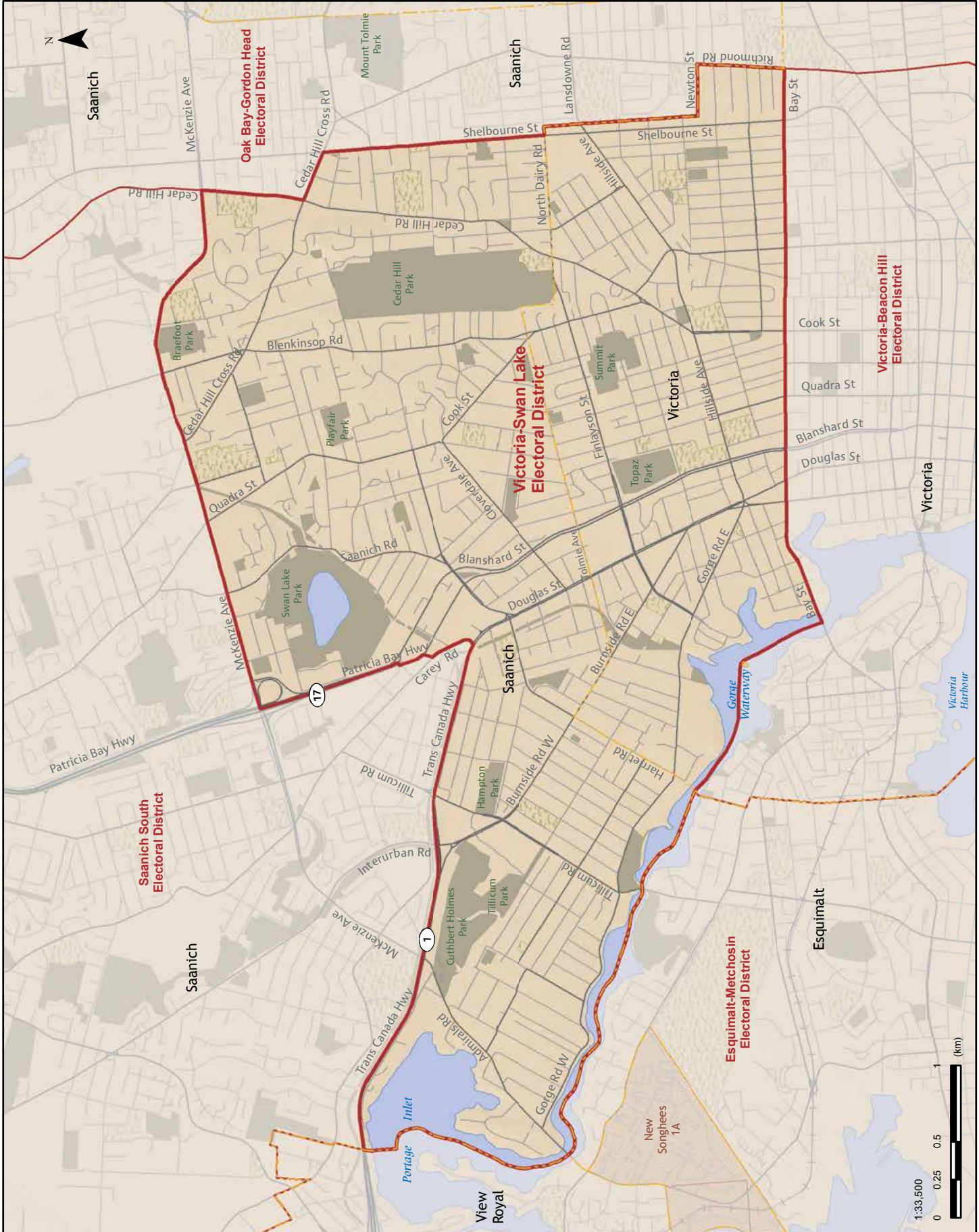
Saanich North and the Islands



Proposals – Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast



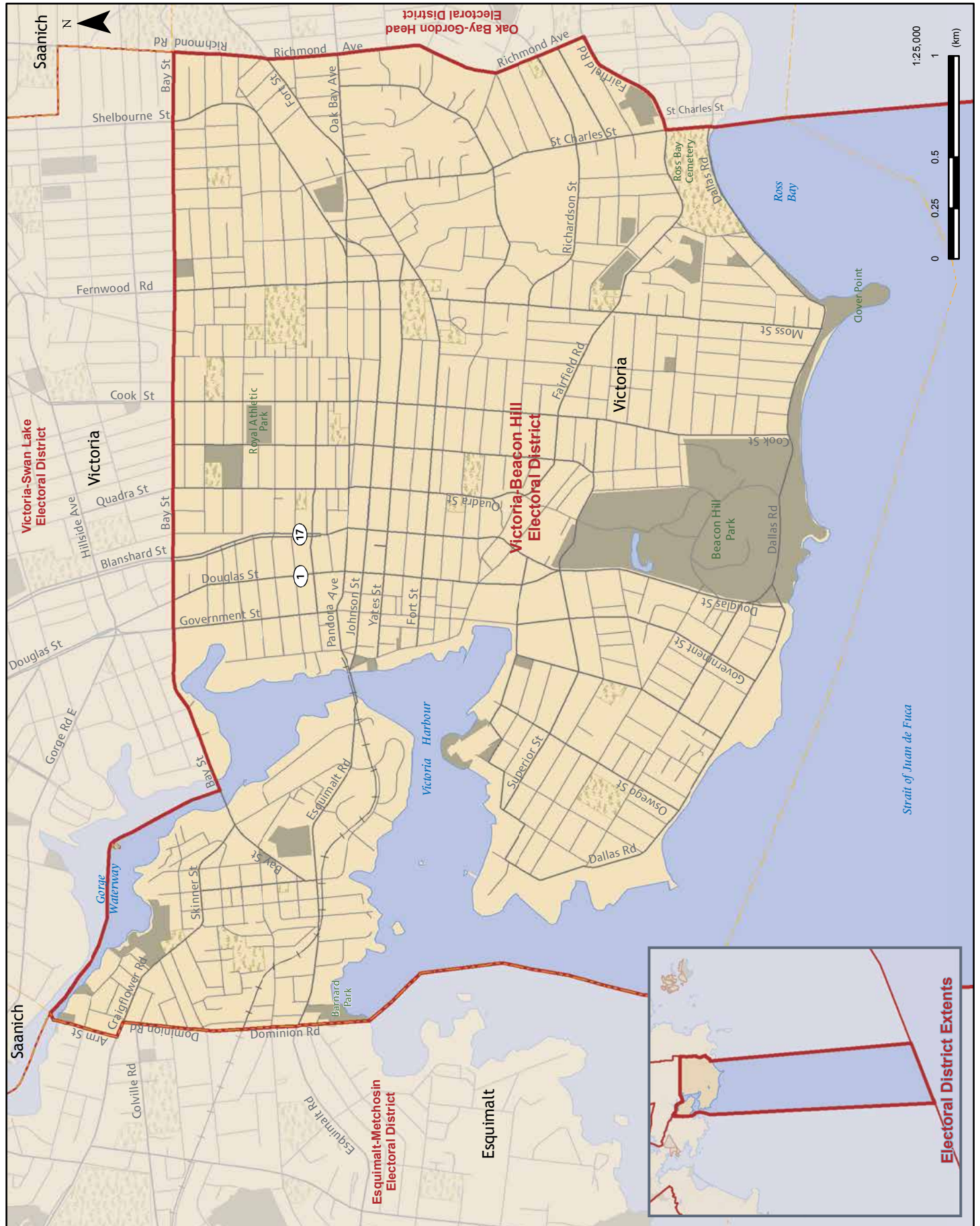
Victoria-Swan Lake



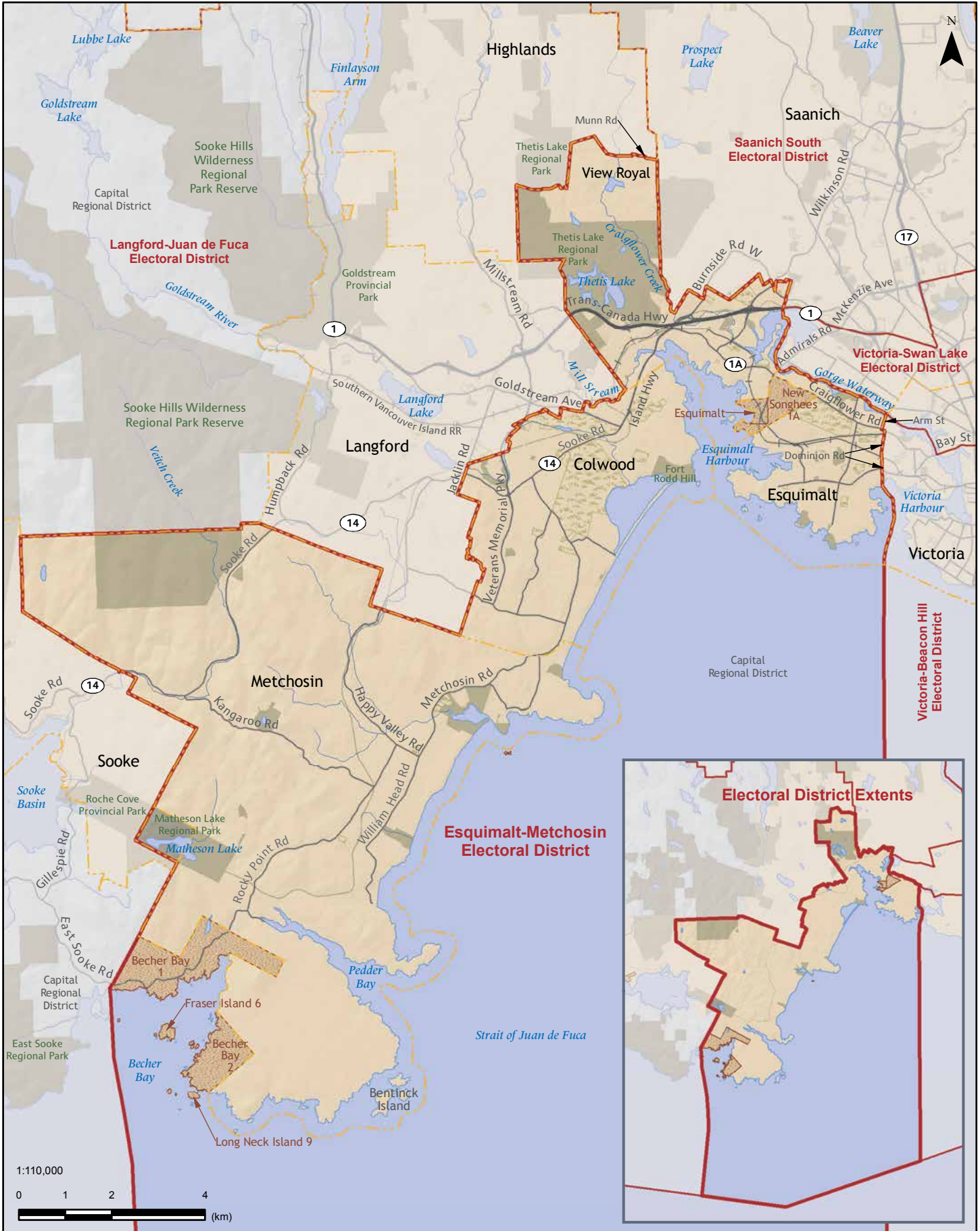
Oak Bay-Gordon Head



Victoria-Beacon Hill

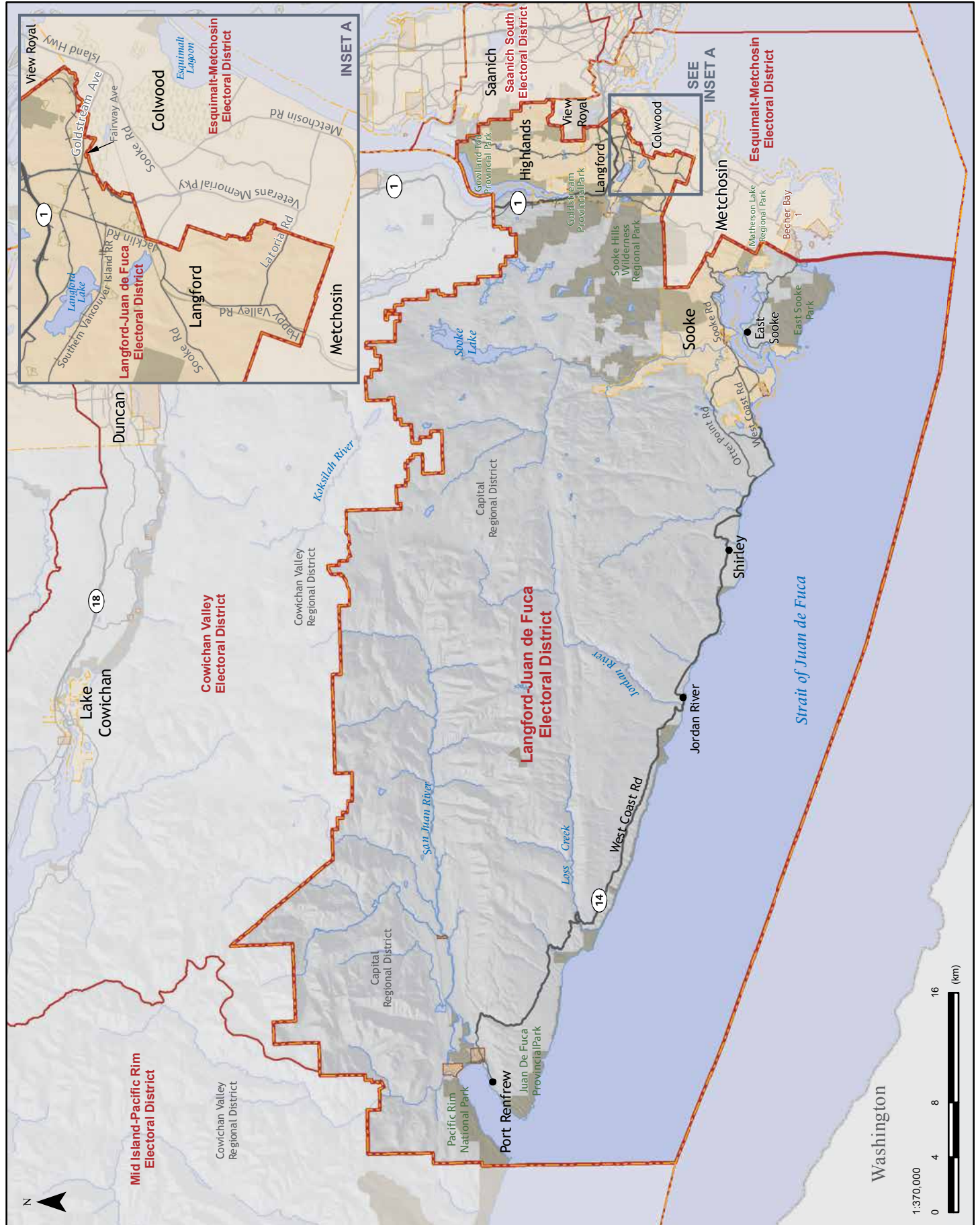


Esquimalt-Metchosin



Proposals – Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast

Langford-Juan de Fuca



Next steps

Next steps

We submit this report containing our preliminary proposals to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly on March 26, 2015. We encourage British Columbians to review these proposals and to advise the commission about how these proposed electoral districts enable, or do not enable, effective representation within the province. There are four ways for you to provide this feedback.

Beginning in April we will hold public hearings to facilitate presentations by any person respecting our proposals. If you or your organization would like to make a presentation, you can register on a first-come, first-served basis at the hearings. Check our website (www.bc-ebc.ca) for the latest public hearings schedule and location details.

You may also express your views on our preliminary proposals in writing:

- through our website: www.bc-ebc.ca
- by email: info@bc-ebc.ca
- by mail
PO Box 9275
Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9J6

Your input must be received by 11:59 p.m. on Wednesday, May 26, 2015 to be considered.

Following the public hearings and the close of the public input period, the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* requires us to give MLAs an opportunity to make submissions to us. This will take place on May 27 immediately after the close of the public input period. The public is welcome to attend to observe this hearing.

We will then consider all of the input received and produce a report of our final proposals. Our final report must be submitted to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly within six months of the release of this report – by September 25, 2015.

The proposals contained in our final report are only recommendations. The final decision regarding adoption of our proposals lies with the Members of the Legislative Assembly. Once electoral boundaries are officially adopted by the Legislative Assembly they will come into force at the time of the next general election and will apply to the anticipated 2017 and 2021 provincial general elections.

Appendices

Appendices

Appendix A: Population estimates, current 85 electoral districts (2008 Commission)

Electoral district	2014 Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Abbotsford-Mission	55,003	1.2	666
Abbotsford South	55,730	2.5	211
Abbotsford West	52,940	-2.6	105
Alberni-Pacific Rim	43,560	-19.9	13,172
Boundary-Similkameen	37,840	-30.4	11,174
Burnaby-Deer Lake	58,193	7.0	14
Burnaby-Edmonds	60,439	11.2	22
Burnaby-Lougheed	56,599	4.1	36
Burnaby North	61,272	12.7	24
Cariboo-Chilcotin	29,767	-45.3	43,321
Cariboo North	33,295	-38.8	39,770
Chilliwack	55,002	1.2	146
Chilliwack-Hope	53,122	-2.3	10,813
Columbia River-Revelstoke	32,521	-40.2	39,732
Comox Valley	64,900	19.4	2,526
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain	59,029	8.6	620
Coquitlam-Maillardville	60,393	11.1	32
Cowichan Valley	59,232	8.9	1,685
Delta North	55,011	1.2	32
Delta South	47,577	-12.5	464
Esquimalt-Royal Roads	52,815	-2.9	69
Fort Langley-Aldergrove	71,470	31.5	233
Fraser-Nicola	31,182	-42.6	33,784
Juan de Fuca	57,426	5.6	2,759
Kamloops-North Thompson	54,014	-0.7	21,641
Kamloops-South Thompson	55,983	3.0	2,377
Kelowna-Lake Country	61,113	12.4	1,165
Kelowna-Mission	60,403	11.1	528
Kootenay East	39,852	-26.7	11,182
Kootenay West	41,302	-24.0	12,009
Langley	69,543	27.9	95
Maple Ridge-Mission	58,697	8.0	392

Appendix A: Population estimates, current 85 electoral districts (2008 Commission) continued

Electoral district	2014 Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows	58,287	7.2	1,980
Nanaimo	54,852	0.9	449
Nanaimo-North Cowichan	54,560	0.4	2,709
Nechako Lakes	27,692	-49.1	73,795
Nelson-Creston	36,907	-32.1	13,212
New Westminster	68,956	26.8	18
North Coast	22,382	-58.8	143,856
North Island	55,633	2.3	45,034
North Vancouver-Lonsdale	59,657	9.7	26
North Vancouver-Seymour	55,894	2.8	387
Oak Bay-Gordon Head	50,310	-7.5	315
Parksville-Qualicum	53,288	-2.0	962
Peace River North	43,263	-20.4	175,813
Peace River South	28,104	-48.3	30,364
Penticton	56,722	4.3	1,910
Port Coquitlam	60,813	11.9	35
Port Moody-Coquitlam	57,313	5.4	83
Powell River-Sunshine Coast	50,039	-8.0	21,007
Prince George-Mackenzie	46,562	-14.4	20,440
Prince George-Valemount	48,599	-10.6	31,538
Richmond Centre	70,374	29.4	440
Richmond East	69,599	28.0	92
Richmond-Steveston	63,004	15.9	32
Saanich North and the Islands	56,492	3.9	1,519
Saanich South	51,661	-5.0	91
Shuswap	56,356	3.7	8,637
Skeena	30,240	-44.4	31,649
Stikine	20,616	-62.1	196,446
Surrey-Cloverdale	79,362	46.0	121
Surrey-Fleetwood	61,775	13.6	21
Surrey-Green Timbers	62,973	15.8	19
Surrey-Newton	65,511	20.5	14
Surrey-Panorama	75,462	38.8	62
Surrey-Tynehead	63,969	17.7	60
Surrey-Whalley	65,812	21.0	30

Appendix A: Population estimates, current 85 electoral districts (2008 Commission) continued

Electoral district	2014 Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Surrey-White Rock	55,585	2.2	61
Vancouver-Fairview	59,701	9.8	9
Vancouver-False Creek	61,251	12.7	7
Vancouver-Fraserview	62,885	15.7	13
Vancouver-Hastings	59,491	9.4	14
Vancouver-Kensington	61,250	12.7	9
Vancouver-Kingsway	62,459	14.9	9
Vancouver-Langara	60,041	10.4	15
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant	58,041	6.8	13
Vancouver-Point Grey	60,611	11.5	42
Vancouver-Quilchena	59,953	10.3	23
Vancouver-West End	53,297	-2.0	13
Vernon-Monashee	62,102	14.2	5,034
Victoria-Beacon Hill	53,077	-2.4	102
Victoria-Swan Lake	51,569	-5.2	18
West Vancouver-Capilano	57,173	5.2	80
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky	54,894	1.0	9,598
Westside-Kelowna	59,750	9.9	1,140
TOTAL	4,621,394		



Appendix B: Population estimates, proposed 87 electoral districts (2015 Commission)

Electoral district	2014 Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Abbotsford Centre	59,330	11.7	40
Abbotsford-Mission	60,962	14.8	660
Aldergrove-Abbotsford	59,203	11.5	272
Boundary-Similkameen	42,340	-20.3	15,614
Burnaby-Deer Lake	58,195	9.6	14
Burnaby-Edmonds	60,439	13.8	22
Burnaby-Lougheed	59,797	12.6	37
Burnaby North	58,159	9.5	23
Cariboo-Chilcotin	33,520	-36.9	44,512
Cariboo North	29,542	-44.4	38,579
Chilliwack-Kent	51,310	-3.4	5,279
Chilliwack-Sumas	52,632	-0.9	224
Columbia River-Revelstoke	31,907	-39.9	37,704
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain	59,029	11.1	620
Coquitlam-Maillardville	58,351	9.8	30
Courtenay-Comox	54,816	3.2	1,584
Cowichan Valley	59,232	11.5	1,685
Delta North	55,011	3.6	32
Delta South	47,577	-10.4	464
Esquimalt-Metchosin	51,450	-3.1	378
Fort Langley-Abbotsford	61,113	15.0	182
Fraser-Nicola	33,980	-36.0	34,829
Kamloops-North Thompson	54,014	1.7	21,641
Kamloops-South Thompson	56,410	6.2	2,437
Kelowna-Lake Country	61,113	15.0	1,165
Kelowna-Mission	60,403	13.7	528
Kelowna West	59,750	12.5	1,140
Kootenay East	40,466	-23.8	13,210
Kootenay West	41,302	-22.2	12,009
Langford-Juan de Fuca	51,782	-2.5	2,447
Langley	60,535	14.0	38
Maple Ridge-Mission	58,697	10.5	392
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows	58,287	9.7	1,980
Mid Island-Pacific Rim	52,833	-0.5	14,098
Nanaimo	55,998	5.4	455

Appendix B: Population estimates, proposed 87 electoral districts (2015 Commission) continued

Electoral district	2014 Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Nanaimo-North Cowichan	53,424	0.6	2,703
Nechako Lakes	27,692	-47.9	73,795
Nelson-Creston	36,907	-30.5	13,212
New Westminster	61,422	15.6	14
North Coast	22,382	-57.9	143,856
North Island	55,633	4.7	45,034
North Vancouver-Lonsdale	57,431	8.1	25
North Vancouver-Seymour	58,120	9.4	388
Oak Bay-Gordon Head	55,689	4.8	330
Parksville-Qualicum	54,089	1.8	978
Peace River North	43,263	-18.6	175,813
Peace River South	28,104	-47.1	30,364
Penticton	56,722	6.8	1,910
Port Coquitlam	60,813	14.5	35
Port Moody-Coquitlam	59,355	11.7	85
Powell River-Sunshine Coast	50,039	-5.8	21,007
Prince George-Mackenzie	46,894	-11.7	20,511
Prince George-Valemount	48,267	-9.1	31,467
Richmond North Centre	49,157	-7.5	440
Richmond-Queensborough	55,627	4.7	92
Richmond South Centre	50,101	-5.7	7
Richmond-Steveston	55,539	4.6	30
Saanich North and the Islands	56,492	6.3	1,519
Saanich South	51,661	-2.7	91
Shuswap	59,572	12.1	8,637
Skeena	30,240	-43.1	31,649
Stikine	20,616	-61.2	196,446
Surrey-Cloverdale	61,060	14.9	57
Surrey-Fleetwood	59,066	11.2	14
Surrey-Green Timbers	58,816	10.7	18
Surrey-Guildford	58,037	9.3	42
Surrey-Newton	58,340	9.8	12
Surrey-Panorama	60,128	13.2	24
Surrey South	57,807	8.8	125
Surrey-Whalley	58,668	10.4	27
Surrey-White Rock	58,527	10.2	68

Appendix B: Population estimates, proposed 87 electoral districts (2015 Commission) continued

Electoral district	2014 Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Vancouver-Fairview	59,701	12.4	9
Vancouver-False Creek	57,261	7.8	6
Vancouver-Fraserview	62,885	18.4	13
Vancouver-Hastings	59,491	12.0	14
Vancouver-Kensington	61,250	15.3	9
Vancouver-Kingsway	62,459	17.6	9
Vancouver-Langara	60,041	13.0	15
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant	58,041	9.3	13
Vancouver-Point Grey	60,611	14.1	42
Vancouver-Quilchena	59,953	12.9	23
Vancouver-West End	57,287	7.8	14
Vernon-Monashee	58,886	10.9	5,009
Victoria-Beacon Hill	54,707	3.0	90
Victoria-Swan Lake	51,569	-2.9	18
West Vancouver-Capilano	57,173	7.6	80
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky	54,894	3.3	9,598
TOTAL	4,621,394		

Appendix C: First round public hearings schedule – Fall 2014

Date	City/Town
North	
Monday, Sept. 22	Prince Rupert
Tuesday, Sept. 23	Terrace
Tuesday, Sept. 23	Smithers
Wednesday, Sept. 24	Fort Nelson
Wednesday, Sept. 24	Dawson Creek
Thursday, Sept. 25	Prince George
Friday, Sept. 26	Quesnel
Friday, Sept. 26	Williams Lake
Central and Interior	
Monday, Oct. 6	Kamloops
Monday, Oct. 6	Salmon Arm
Tuesday, Oct. 7	Revelstoke
Tuesday, Oct. 7	Cranbrook
Wednesday, Oct. 8	Trail
Wednesday, Oct. 8	Penticton
Thursday, Oct. 9	Kelowna
Lower Mainland	
Monday, Oct. 20	Squamish
Tuesday, Oct. 21	Vancouver
Wednesday, Oct. 22	Burnaby
Wednesday, Oct. 22	Port Coquitlam
Thursday, Oct. 23	Surrey
Friday, Oct. 24	Langley
Friday, Oct. 24	Abbotsford
Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast	
Monday, Nov. 3	Sechelt
Tuesday, Nov. 4	Powell River
Tuesday, Nov. 4	Courtenay
Wednesday, Nov. 5	Campbell River
Wednesday, Nov. 5	Port Alberni
Thursday, Nov. 6	Nanaimo
Thursday, Nov. 6	Victoria
Friday, Nov. 7	Victoria



PO Box 9275 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, B.C. V8W 9J6
www.bc-ebc.ca

BRITISH COLUMBIA
ELECTORAL
BOUNDARIES
COMMISSION