

Part 11 – Looking Ahead





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A. Delivery of this Preliminary Report

The legislation that governs us requires that we submit this report to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly by August 15, 2007. The Speaker must promptly cause the report to be made public.

This report is also available in electronic format (DVD) from the commission office (see back page for address), and on our commission website (www.bc-ebc.ca).

B. Public Hearings

After this report has been made public, section 11 of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* requires that the commission “hold hearings at the places and times it considers appropriate to enable representations to be made by any person as to the area and boundaries of any proposed electoral

district.” This includes our proposed SMP and BC-STV electoral districts. We must give reasonable public notice of the time and place of our public hearings.

C. Dates and Locations of our Public Hearings

Set out below is our proposed hearing schedule (see Table 51). Please note that this schedule is subject to change. Check our commission website (www.bc-ebc.ca) for the latest hearing schedule and location details.

TABLE 51: PROPOSED PUBLIC HEARINGS SCHEDULE

Location	Day	Date	Time(s)
1 Prince George	Wednesday	Sept 5	6:30 – 9:30 pm
2 Burns Lake	Thursday	Sept 6	6:30 – 9:30 pm
3 Vancouver 1	Saturday	Sept 8	1:30 – 4:30 pm
4 North Vancouver	Monday	Sept 10	6:30 – 9:30 pm
5 Abbotsford	Tuesday	Sept 11	6:30 – 9:30 pm
6 Vancouver 2	Thursday	Sept 20	6:30 – 9:30 pm
7 Fort St. John	Monday	Oct 1	6:30 – 9:30 pm
8 Burnaby	Tuesday	Oct 2	6:30 – 9:30 pm
9 Port Coquitlam	Wednesday	Oct 3	6:30 – 9:30 pm
10 Terrace	Thursday	Oct 4	6:30 – 9:30 pm
11 Surrey 1	Saturday	Oct 13	1:30 – 4:30 pm
12 Kimberley	Monday	Oct 15	6:30 – 9:30 pm
13 Castlegar	Tuesday	Oct 16	6:30 – 9:30 pm
14 Surrey 2	Thursday	Oct 18	6:30 – 9:30 pm
15 Political Parties (Vancouver)	Friday	Oct 19	1:30 – 4:30 pm
16 Williams Lake	Monday	Oct 22	6:30 – 9:30 pm
17 Kamloops	Tuesday	Oct 23	6:30 – 9:30 pm
18 Merritt	Wednesday	Oct 24	6:30 – 9:30 pm
19 Vernon	Monday	Oct 29	6:30 – 9:30 pm
20 Osoyoos	Tuesday	Oct 30	6:30 – 9:30 pm
21 Richmond	Thursday	Nov 1	6:30 – 9:30 pm
22 Powell River	Saturday	Nov 3	1:00 – 4:00 pm
23 Campbell River	Monday	Nov 5	6:30 – 9:30 pm
24 Nanaimo	Tuesday	Nov 6	6:30 – 9:30 pm
25 Victoria	Wednesday	Nov 7	6:30 – 9:30 pm
26 MLAs (Vancouver)	Tuesday	Nov 13	10 am – Noon 2:00 – 4:00 pm
27 MLAs (Victoria)	Wednesday	Nov 14	10 am – Noon 2:00 – 4:00 pm

*Dates and locations subject to change.

D. Registration for Presenters

Our hearings are open to the public. However, if you or your organization would like to make an oral presentation at one of our public hearings, you are invited to register in advance, either online (www.bc-ebc.ca) or by telephone (1-877-660-1203). After being registered, it would be helpful if presenters would provide a copy of their presentation, to assist the commissioners in their preparation for the hearings.

Presenters will be contacted prior to the hearing, to re-confirm their attendance and the approximate time for their presentation. Additional presenters will be registered at each hearing, on a first-come, first-served basis.

E. Written Submissions

You may also express your views on our *Preliminary Report* in writing:

- through our website: www.bc-ebc.ca
- by email: info@bc-ebc.ca
- by fax: 604-660-1207, or toll-free: 1-877-660-1207
- by mail:
British Columbia Electoral Boundaries Commission
PO Box 10073
Suite 601 – 700 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, BC V7Y 1B6

F. The Commission's Final Report

Following our public hearings, we will make any amendments we consider advisable and incorporate them in a final report, which must be submitted by February 15, 2008 to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly or, if the Legislative Assembly is not then in session, to the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, who must promptly cause our final report to be made public.

Section 13(1) of the legislation provides that our final report must:

- (a) if the Legislative Assembly is in session when the report is submitted, be promptly laid before the Assembly, or
- (b) if the Legislative Assembly is not then in session, be laid before the Assembly within seven days after the commencement of the next ensuing session.⁷⁰

G. The role of the Legislative Assembly

Our commission's proposed electoral boundaries are only proposals. The final decision respecting adoption of our proposals rests with the Legislative Assembly. Section 14 of the legislation states:

If the Legislative Assembly, by resolution, approves or approves with alterations the proposals of the commission, the government must, at the same session, introduce a bill to establish new electoral districts in accordance with the resolution.

⁷⁰The legislation refers to “the report” and “any amendments to the report.” In this report we have used the term *Preliminary Report* to refer to “the report,” and we will include “any amendments to the report” in our final report. Our final report will include everything that is contained in this *Preliminary Report*, plus any additional material that the commissioners consider necessary arising out of our formal public hearings in the fall of 2007. By incorporating everything from our *Preliminary Report* into our final report, readers of the latter will not have to refer back to the former for a full understanding of our commission's work. Similarly, it will only be necessary for our final report to be laid before the Legislative Assembly.