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Electoral Boundaries Commission  
100 -11510 Kingsway Ave.  
Edmonton, AB.  
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Dear Members,

How is the number of electoral divisions for the Province of Alberta determined? How is the number of 87 for the new districts arrived at? Is this a number just picked out of the air? This distribution provides for a representative for approximately 37820 people on average. It would appear the restrictions on division sizing are appropriate if applied in the apparent intent of the legislation.

A review of the Provinces of Ontario and west indicates representation for as few as 16,900 residents in Saskatchewan to 112,150 residents in Ontario. I suggest that increasing the number of MLAs in the province will not improve the government of the Province, only allow a greater expenditure of already lean finances of the government.

The Federal representation appears to be an MP for approximately 109,500 people, with numerous limitations on constituency size as to population and area. The Federal distribution is encumbered by various "side" agreements involving equality with Senators, minimums for Quebec, etc.

The more MLAs that are in the Legislature, the greater number of jobs are generated to provide them with positions. This increases the expenditures for the legislature, and leads to additional requests for funding of often unnecessary "pet" projects.

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I would suggest the Alberta legislature be designed to provide representation for an average of at least 50,000 people by each MLA., and the electoral divisions allocated accordingly. City constituencies could probably be 130 to 150% of rural constituencies in population.

N. J. Thurber  
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