

# REPRESENTATION

## To Alberta Electoral Boundaries Revision Committee

22-23 September 2009 at Chateau Nova, Edmonton

by Edmonton-Goldbar Alberta Party constituency association

This Representation makes the following points:

1 **Alberta and Albertans are over-governed.** For example, our sister province of Ontario has the same number of ridings provincially as federally. By that standard Alberta should have 28 (soon some more) provincial ridings. This Representation proposes and believes that Albertans are certainly not stupid, so don't need governance by three times more MLAs per capita than people of Ontario. (This representation is not proposing to reduce Alberta MLAs to 28, as will be seen in a subsequent point).

2 For fairness and equity to all Albertans in representation, the ridings need be much **more equal in population**. The 4 legislative exceptions need to be eliminated. Alberta is no longer in the horse and buggy age, but a modern age of internet email, fax, cell and telephone for almost instantaneous communication from almost anywhere in Alberta. There is no justification for blatant inequality where it takes 3 Calgary-Northwest voters to equal about 1 Dunvegan voter for election of an MLA.

3 For fairness and equity, gerrymandering needs be eliminated. A most blatant example of this is Edmonton-Goldbar where 80% is south of the river but an illogical 20% is in a narrow finger northward of the river in an area unrelated to the 80%. Many or most people in that finger may never even have been to the 80% south of the river because those areas have almost nothing in common.

4 This Representation proposes Mixed Member Proportional Representation ("MMPR") by proposing that (in addition to the election of one MLA from each Alberta provincial riding to tend to each riding's interests,) there also be elected an equal number of "at large" MLAs by MMPR. Each Alberta political party running in an election and receiving a minimum of 1/2 of 1% of the total provincial vote (as in our sister province Quebec) would be accorded 1 "at-large" MLA, and the remaining MMPR would be accorded based upon each such Party's pro rata share of that election's vote. The rationale behind this is that there are a multitude of complaints that a lot of votes are "wasted" in exclusively first-past-the-post elections, however this proposal will mean that no vote need be wasted since even if a vote may be for an unsuccessful riding candidate, nevertheless such vote could still count toward the election of a MMPR MLA.

Respectfully submitted,

Edmonton-Goldbar Alberta Party constituency association

Per B. Kirkpatrick  
{ "Dr. B. Kirkpatrick", president }