



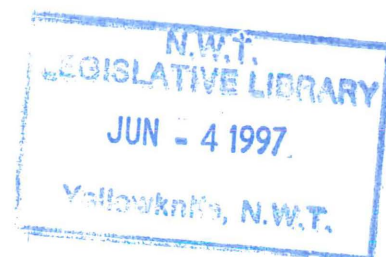
May 28, 1997

**HON. TED RICHARD  
CHAIR  
NUNAVUT ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES COMMISSION**

I am pleased to provide a submission for the consideration of the Nunavut Boundaries Commission. In preparing my submission, I looked at the principles used and accepted across the country. I also considered the unique circumstances of the Nunavut ridings, including transportation challenges.

If you have any questions about my submission, please feel free to contact me.

Ed Picco  
MLA, Iqaluit



Submission to  
the Nunavut Electoral  
Boundaries Commission

Ed Picco,  
MLA for Iqaluit

May 28, 1997

## Submission to the Nunavut Boundaries Commission

I submit that there should be 20 representatives in the new Nunavut Legislative Assembly. There are a number of factors which I believe should be considered in setting the boundaries for these new ridings.

### 1. Voter Parity

In various court cases, it has been determined that Section 3 of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms does not demand strict voter equality. Instead, voter parity is used as the guidelines. In both British Columbia and Saskatchewan, the same principle has been used and tested in the courts. They try to ensure that voter populations fall within 25% of the average voter population per constituency in urban and rural riding. In Saskatchewan, there is also a provision that northern ridings should be within 50% of the average where there are pressing and substantial concerns. With a 20 seat legislature, it should be possible to adhere closely to these principles.

### 2. Limiting the distances included in a single riding

It is difficult for MLAs to travel long distances between communities in their ridings. Therefore, the ridings should recognize the need to keep travel down to a minimum.

### 3. Anticipating future growth

Although voter parity is based on the actual number of voters, it is also useful to look at total population statistics to determine whether there will be a dramatic shift in a riding in the foreseeable future. *For example, I would also consider the 1996 population census.*

Based on these considerations, I would propose that the Nunavut Boundaries Commission consider the ridings as I have outlined them in the attached table. Seventeen of the twenty ridings would fall with the 25% variation from average voters. All of the ridings fall within a 50% variation.

<b>PROPOSED RIDING</b>	<b>VOTERS (BASED ON 1995 VOTERS LIST)</b>	<b>POPULATION (1996 CENSUS)</b>
Riding 1 Iqaluit	458	1406
Riding 2 Iqaluit	458	1406
Riding 3 Iqaluit	458	1407
Riding 4 Rankin Inlet	568	1029
Riding 5 Rankin Inlet	568	1029
Riding 6 Pond Inlet	541	1154
Riding 7 Igloolik Hall Beach	859	1717
Riding 8 Pangnirtung	692	1243
Riding 9 Cape Dorset Lake Harbour	680	1515
Riding 10 Cambridge Bay Bathurst/Bay Chimo	671	1420
Riding 11 Kugluktuk	629	1201
Riding 12 Arviat	725	1559
Riding 13 Baker Lake	865	1722
Riding 14 Repulse Bay Coral Harbour	528	1228
Riding 15 Clyde River Broughton Island	593	1196
Riding 16 Gjoa Haven	437	879

<b>PROPOSED RIDING</b>	<b>VOTERS (BASED ON 1995 VOTERS LIST)</b>	<b>POPULATION (1996 CENSUS)</b>
Riding 17 Pelly Bay Taloyoak	556	1144
Riding 18 Nanisivik Arctic Bay Resolute Grise Fiord Little Cornwallis Island	612	1272
Riding 19 Sanikiluaq	299	631
Riding 20 Chesterfield Inlet Whale Cove	317	638