

Part 4 – Proposed BC-STV
Electoral System Boundaries

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A. A description of the proposed BC-STV electoral system

Under BC-STV, there would be fewer electoral districts in BC. Each electoral district would elect between two and seven MLAs and the number of MLAs would vary among districts. We have discretion as to how many BC-STV electoral districts to propose, but the number of MLAs must be the same as with the SMP electoral system.

In the May 2009 provincial general election, British Columbians will vote in a second referendum to decide whether the BC-STV electoral system should take effect for the 2013 general election.

For a more complete description of the BC-STV electoral system, please refer to pages 320–325 and Appendix D of our *Preliminary Report*.

B. Combining SMP electoral districts to create BC-STV electoral districts

In our *Preliminary Report*, we indicated that we had to choose between two approaches to develop BC-STV electoral districts. We could develop proposals for single member plurality (SMP) electoral districts first and then group them into workable BC-STV electoral districts or we could treat our SMP and BC-STV boundary setting tasks as completely separate exercises.

We decided to combine our proposed SMP electoral districts into workable BC-STV electoral districts and, in Part 10 of our *Preliminary Report*, we presented our proposals for 20 BC-STV electoral districts.

C. Reasons for our proposed district magnitudes

District magnitude refers to the number of MLAs to be elected in, or representing, a BC-STV electoral district. As discussed in our *Preliminary Report* (pages 324–325),

proportionality improves as the district magnitude increases. For that reason we have done our best to propose that most of our BC-STV electoral districts have four or more MLAs wherever possible (except in sparsely populated areas), subject of course to overriding geographical and demographic considerations and community interest concerns reflected in existing administrative units such as regional districts and municipalities.

Several oral presentations and written submissions urged us to enhance proportionality by increasing the district magnitudes of our proposed BC-STV electoral districts to the maximum of seven wherever possible. We gave serious consideration to these suggestions, but ultimately decided against doing so in most instances, both for the reasons set out in our *Preliminary Report* and because in many cases it would have required crossing our regional boundaries.

D. Our proposals for BC-STV electoral boundaries

We propose 20 BC-STV electoral districts, as follows.

E. The North

In this report, we propose seven SMP electoral districts in the North. We continue to propose they be grouped into three BC-STV electoral districts (Maps 96–98 and Tables 13–15), for the reasons set out on page 326 of our *Preliminary Report*.

TABLE 13: PROPOSED NORTHEAST BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP Districts	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation
Peace River South	30,340	25,926	-47.7%
Peace River North	175,808	38,485	-24.4%
District magnitude: 2	206,148	64,411	-35.1%

TABLE 14: PROPOSED NORTHWEST BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP Districts	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation
North Coast	143,922	23,135	-53.3%
Skeena-Stikine	223,607	38,826	-21.7%
District magnitude: 2	367,529	61,951	-37.5%

TABLE 15: PROPOSED NORTH CENTRAL BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP Districts	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation
Bulkley-Nechako	78,224	38,243	-22.8%
Prince George–Mackenzie	20,361	45,379	-8.4%
Prince George–Valemount	31,539	46,885	-5.4%
District magnitude: 3	130,125	130,507	-12.2%

F. The Cariboo-Thompson

In this report, we propose four SMP electoral districts in the Cariboo-Thompson. We continue to hold the view that they

should be grouped into one four-member BC-STV electoral district (see Map 99 and Table 16), for the reasons set out on page 327 of our *Preliminary Report*.

TABLE 16: PROPOSED CARIBOO-THOMPSON BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP Districts	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation
Cariboo-Chilcotin	75,061	45,104	-9.0%
Cariboo-Fraser	35,571	42,433	-14.4%
Kamloops–North Thompson	3,852	51,812	+4.5%
Kamloops–South Thompson	21,627	49,779	+0.4%
District magnitude: 4	136,111	189,128	-4.6%

G. The Okanagan

In this report, we propose seven SMP electoral districts in the Okanagan. We continue to hold the view that they should be grouped into one four-member BC-STV electoral district called Okanagan-Shuswap (see Map 100 and Table 17) and one three-member BC-STV electoral district called Okanagan-Boundary (see Map 101 and Table 18), for the reasons set out on pages 327 and 328 of our *Preliminary Report*.

TABLE 17: PROPOSED OKANAGAN-SHUSWAP BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP Districts	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation
Shuswap	8,607	53,658	+8.3%
Vernon-Monashee	5,038	58,538	+18.1%
Kelowna–Lake Country	1,166	51,950	+4.8%
Kelowna-Mission	540	53,231	+7.4%
District magnitude: 4	15,351	217,377	+9.7%

TABLE 18: PROPOSED OKANAGAN-BOUNDARY BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP Districts	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation
Westside-Kelowna	1,140	51,958	+4.8%
Penticton	1,904	53,687	+8.3%
Boundary-Similkameen	15,986	43,052	-13.1%
District magnitude: 3	19,030	148,697	0.0%

H. The Columbia-Kootenay

In this report, we propose four SMP electoral districts in the Columbia-Kootenay. In our view, they should be grouped into one four-member BC-STV electoral district (see Map 102 and Table 19), for the reasons set out on page 328 of our *Preliminary Report*.

TABLE 19: PROPOSED COLUMBIA-KOOTENAY BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP Districts	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation
Columbia River–Revelstoke	39,714	32,513	-34.4%
Kootenay East	11,172	37,718	-23.9%
Nelson-Creston	13,220	34,883	-29.6%
Kootenay West	12,016	39,713	-19.9%
District magnitude: 4	76,122	144,827	-27.0%

I. The Fraser Valley

In this report, we propose nine SMP electoral districts in the Fraser Valley. We continue to hold the view that they should be grouped into two BC-STV electoral districts. However, because we reconfigured the SMP electoral districts in

Langley and Abbotsford, we now propose one five-member BC-STV electoral district called Fraser Valley East (see Map 103 and Table 20) and one four-member BC-STV electoral district called Fraser Valley West (see Map 104 and Table 21).

With respect to our proposed Fraser Valley West BC-STV electoral district, we recognize that at present there is no bridge connection between the two SMP electoral districts north of the river and the two SMP electoral districts south of the river. However, our proposed BC-STV electoral districts would not take effect until 2013 at the earliest. By then, the Golden Ears Bridge joining Maple Ridge and Langley will have been in operation for several years, strengthening the ties between these four electoral districts.

TABLE 20: PROPOSED FRASER VALLEY EAST BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP Districts	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation
Chilliwack-Hope	10,833	43,980	-11.3%
Chilliwack	146	49,338	-0.4%
Abbotsford-Mission	663	49,731	+0.3%
Abbotsford South	211	49,590	+0.1%
Abbotsford West	105	48,541	-2.1%
District magnitude: 5	11,958	241,180	-2.7%

TABLE 21: PROPOSED FRASER VALLEY WEST BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP Districts	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation
Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows	1,945	50,474	+1.8%
Maple Ridge–Mission	390	50,195	+1.3%
Langley	95	58,808	+18.7%
Fort Langley–Aldergrove	234	59,050	+19.1%
District magnitude: 4	2,664	218,527	+10.2%

J. Tri-Cities

In this report, we propose four SMP electoral districts in the Tri-Cities. We continue to hold the view that they should be grouped into one BC-STV electoral district (see Map 105 and Table 22), for the reasons set out on page 329 of our *Preliminary Report*.

TABLE 22: PROPOSED TRI-CITIES BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP Districts	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation
Port Moody–Coquitlam	81	46,148	-6.9%
Coquitlam–Maillardville	32	51,706	+4.3%
Coquitlam–Burke Mountain	619	46,732	-5.7%
Port Coquitlam	35	52,692	+6.3%
District magnitude: 4	767	197,278	-0.5%

K. Surrey

In this report, we propose eight SMP electoral districts in Surrey. We continue to hold the view that they should be grouped into two four-member BC-STV electoral districts called Surrey North (see Map 106 and Table 23) and Surrey South (see Map 107 and Table 24), for the reasons set out on page 329 of our *Preliminary Report*.

TABLE 23: PROPOSED SURREY NORTH BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP Districts	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation
Surrey–Whalley	29	52,004	+4.9%
Surrey–Tynehead	60	50,989	+2.9%
Surrey–Green Timbers	19	52,934	+6.8%
Surrey–Fleetwood	20	50,284	+1.5%
District magnitude: 4	129	206,211	+4.0%

TABLE 24: PROPOSED SURREY SOUTH BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP Districts	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation
Surrey–Newton	14	53,711	+8.4%
Surrey–Panorama	62	52,060	+5.0%
Surrey–Cloverdale	121	50,875	+2.7%
Surrey–White Rock	62	51,128	+3.2%
District magnitude: 4	259	207,774	+4.8%

L. Richmond and Delta

In this report, we propose five SMP electoral districts for Richmond and Delta. We continue to hold the view that they should be grouped into one BC-STV electoral district (see Map 108 and Table 25), for the reasons set out on page 330 of our *Preliminary Report*.

TABLE 25: PROPOSED RICHMOND-DELTA BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP Districts	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation
Richmond Centre	374	59,166	+19.4%
Richmond-Steveston	31	57,497	+16.0%
Richmond East	92	57,798	+16.6%
Delta South	463	45,774	-7.6%
Delta North	32	51,628	+4.2%
District magnitude: 5	992	271,863	+9.7%

M. Burnaby and New Westminster

In this report, we propose five SMP electoral districts for Burnaby and New Westminster. We continue to hold the view that they should be grouped into one BC-STV electoral district (see Map 109 and Table 26), for the reasons set out on page 330 of our *Preliminary Report*.

TABLE 26: PROPOSED BURNABY-NEW WESTMINSTER BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP Districts	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation
Burnaby North	24	51,274	+3.5%
Burnaby-Lougheed	37	48,884	-1.4%
Burnaby-Deer Lake	14	52,730	+6.4%
Burnaby-Edmonds	22	49,911	+0.7%
New Westminster	18	58,549	+18.1%
District magnitude: 5	116*	261,348	+5.5%

* difference due to rounding

N. Vancouver

In this report, we propose 11 SMP electoral districts in Vancouver. We continue to hold the view that they should be grouped into one five-member BC-STV electoral district called Vancouver East (see Map 110 and Table 27) and one six-member BC-STV electoral district called Vancouver West (see Map 111 and Table 28), for the reasons set out on pages 330 and 331 of our *Preliminary Report*.

TABLE 27: PROPOSED VANCOUVER EAST BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP Districts	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation
Vancouver-Hastings	14	55,595	+12.2%
Vancouver-Kingsway	9	57,185	+15.4%
Vancouver-Fraserview	13	57,276	+15.6%
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant	13	52,628	+6.2%
Vancouver-Kensington	9	54,967	+10.9%
District magnitude: 5	57*	277,651	+12.1%

* difference due to rounding

TABLE 28: PROPOSED VANCOUVER WEST BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP Districts	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation
Vancouver–West End	11	48,350	-2.4%
Vancouver–False Creek	7	43,943	-11.3%
Vancouver–Fairview	9	52,020	+5.0%
Vancouver–Langara	15	57,047	+15.1%
Vancouver–Point Grey	44	54,823	+10.6%
Vancouver–Quilchena	22	56,409	+13.8%
District magnitude: 6	109*	312,592	+5.1%

* difference due to rounding

O. The North Shore

In this report, we propose four SMP electoral districts for the North Shore. We continue to hold the view that they should be grouped into one BC-STV electoral district (see Map 112 and Table 29), for the reasons set out on page 331 of our *Preliminary Report*.

TABLE 29: PROPOSED NORTH SHORE – SEA TO SKY ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP Districts	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation
North Vancouver–Seymour	396	52,203	+5.3%
North Vancouver–Lonsdale	27	53,642	+8.2%
West Vancouver–Capilano	80	55,157	+11.3%
West Vancouver–Sea to Sky	9,642	49,161	-0.8%
District magnitude: 4	10,145	210,163	+6.0%

P. Vancouver Island and South Coast

In this report, we propose 15 SMP electoral districts for Vancouver Island and South Coast. We continue to hold the view that they should be grouped into three BC-STV electoral districts (see Maps 113–115 and Tables 30–32), for the reasons set out on pages 331 and 332 of our *Preliminary Report*.

Given the relative compactness of the Capital Region, we are satisfied that it should constitute one seven-member BC-STV electoral district.

TABLE 30: PROPOSED NORTH ISLAND – SOUTH COAST ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP Districts	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation
North Island	45,074	53,662	+8.3%
Comox Valley	2,493	59,482	+20.0%
Alberni–Pacific Rim	13,141	42,275	-14.7%
Powell River–Sunshine Coast	20,979	47,101	-5.0%
District magnitude: 4	81,687	202,520	+2.2%

TABLE 31: PROPOSED MID-ISLAND BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

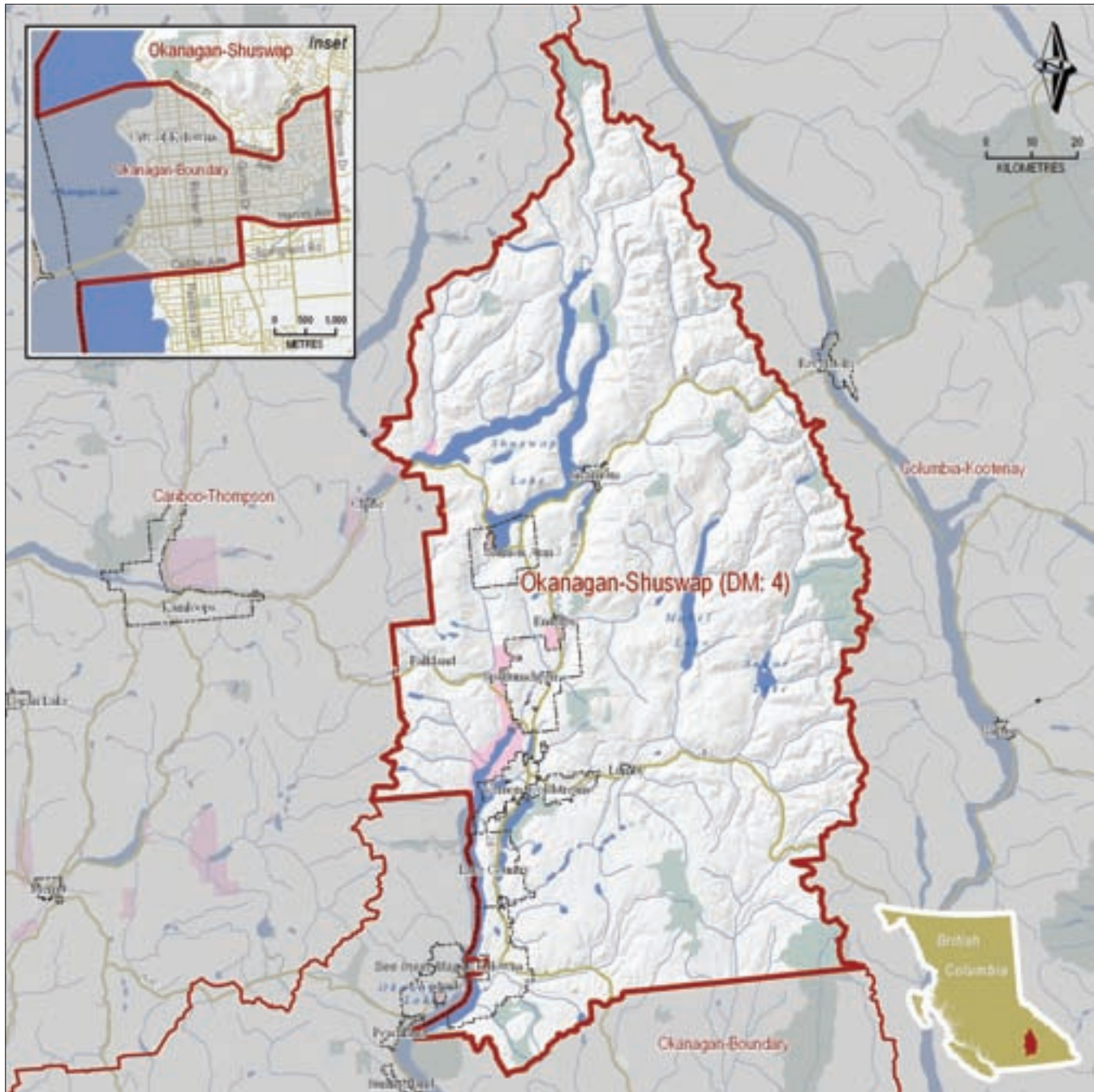
Proposed SMP Districts	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation
Parksville–Qualicum	959	49,012	-1.1%
Nanaimo	462	50,854	+2.6%
Nanaimo–North Cowichan	2,720	49,402	-0.3%
Cowichan Valley	1,682	55,040	+11.1%
District magnitude: 4	5,824	204,308	+3.1%

TABLE 32: PROPOSED CAPITAL REGION BC-STV ELECTORAL DISTRICT

Proposed SMP Districts	Sq. Km.	Population	Deviation
Saanich North and the Islands	1,543	55,201	+11.4%
Saanich South	92	49,430	-0.3%
Oak Bay–Gordon Head	322	48,953	-1.2%
Victoria–Beacon Hill	98	50,939	+2.8%
Victoria–Swan Lake	18	49,304	-0.5%
Esquimalt–Royal Roads	68	47,961	-3.2%
Juan de Fuca	2,736	43,376	-12.5%
District magnitude: 7	4,878*	345,164	-0.5%

* difference due to rounding

Map 100: Region: Okanagan – Proposed Okanagan-Shuswap BC-STV Electoral District



Map 101: Region: Okanagan – Proposed Okanagan-Boundary BC-STV Electoral District



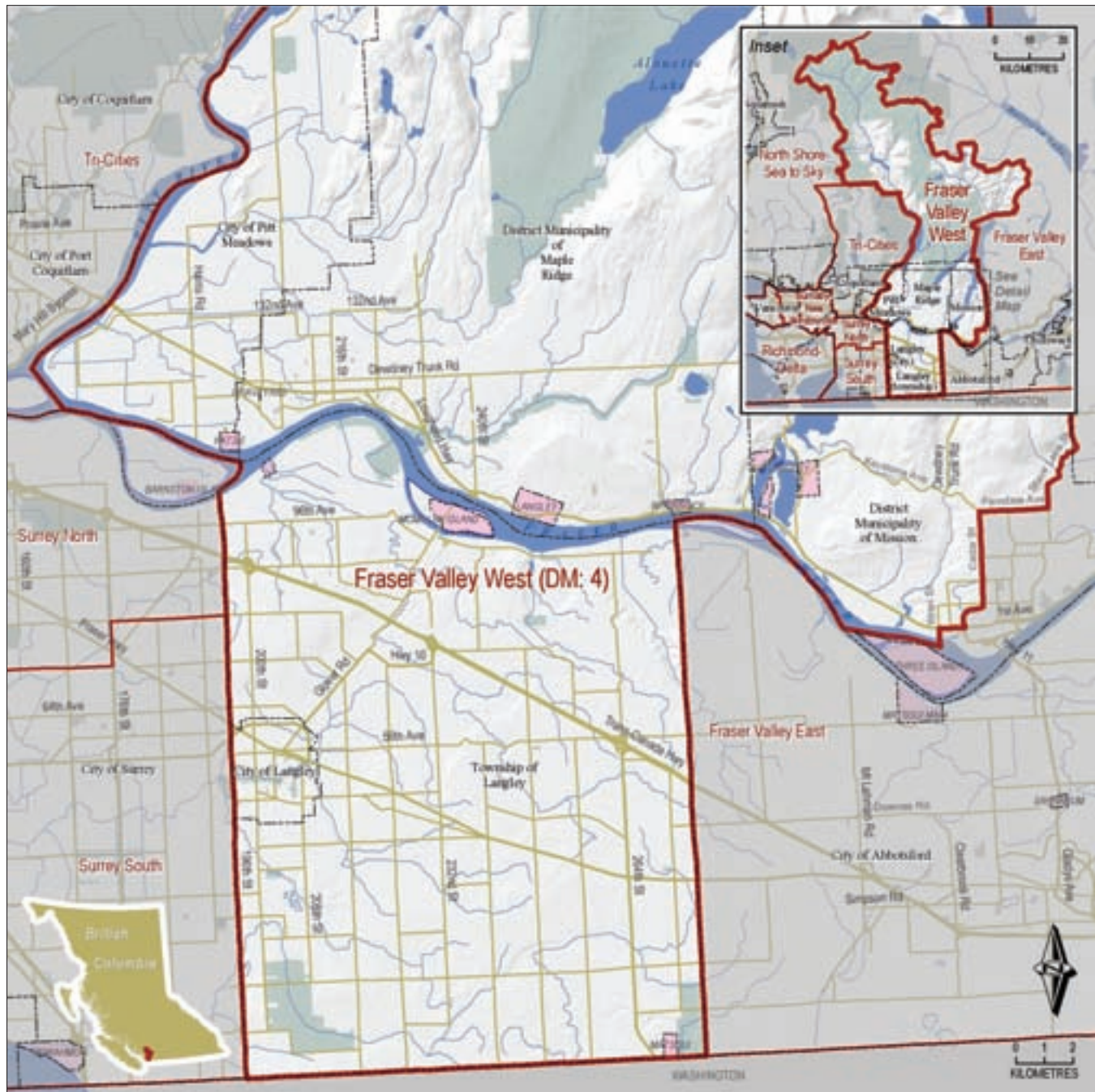
Map 102: *Region: Columbia-Kootenay* – Proposed Columbia-Kootenay BC-STV Electoral District



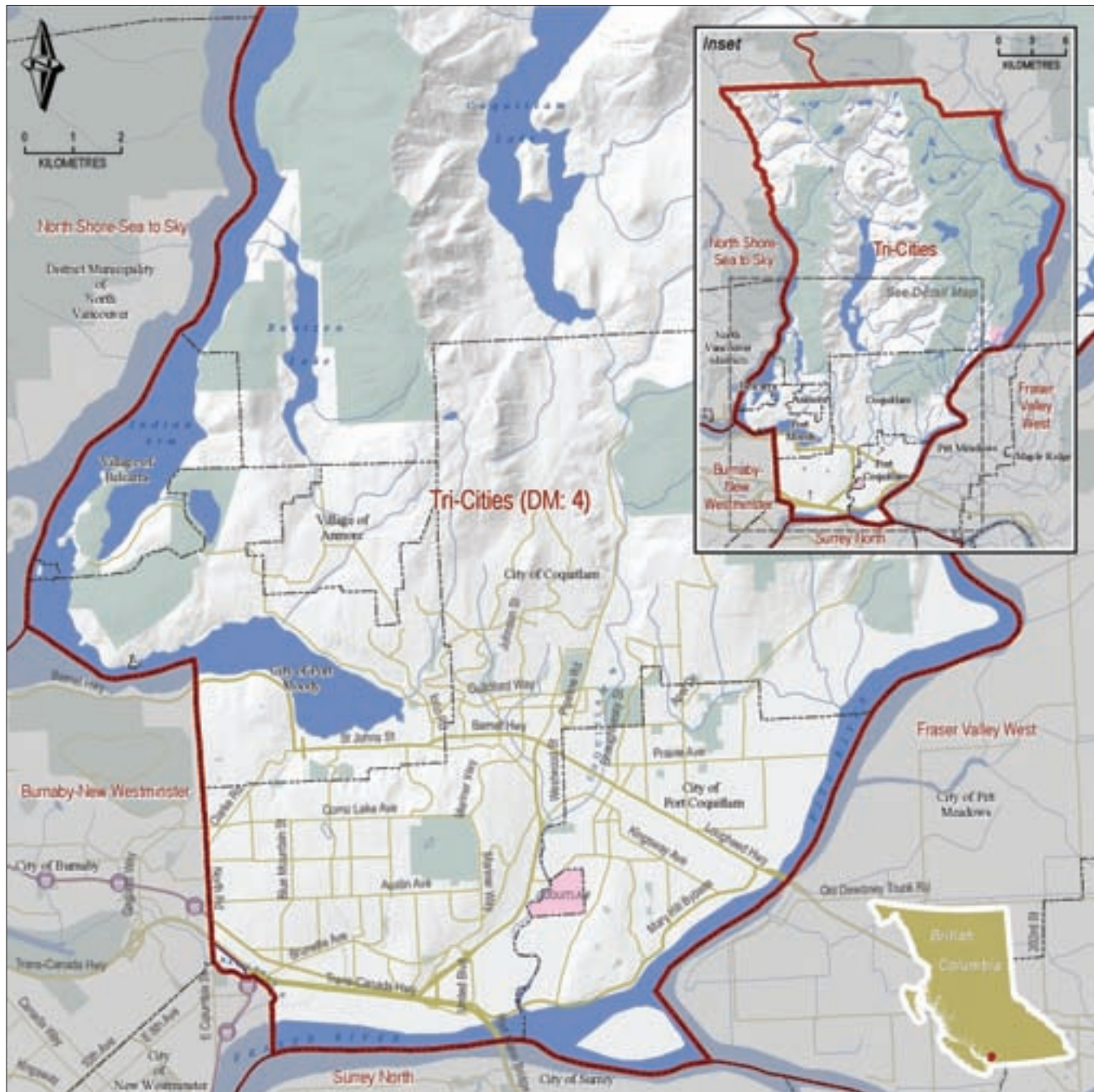
Map 103: Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Fraser Valley East BC-STV Electoral District



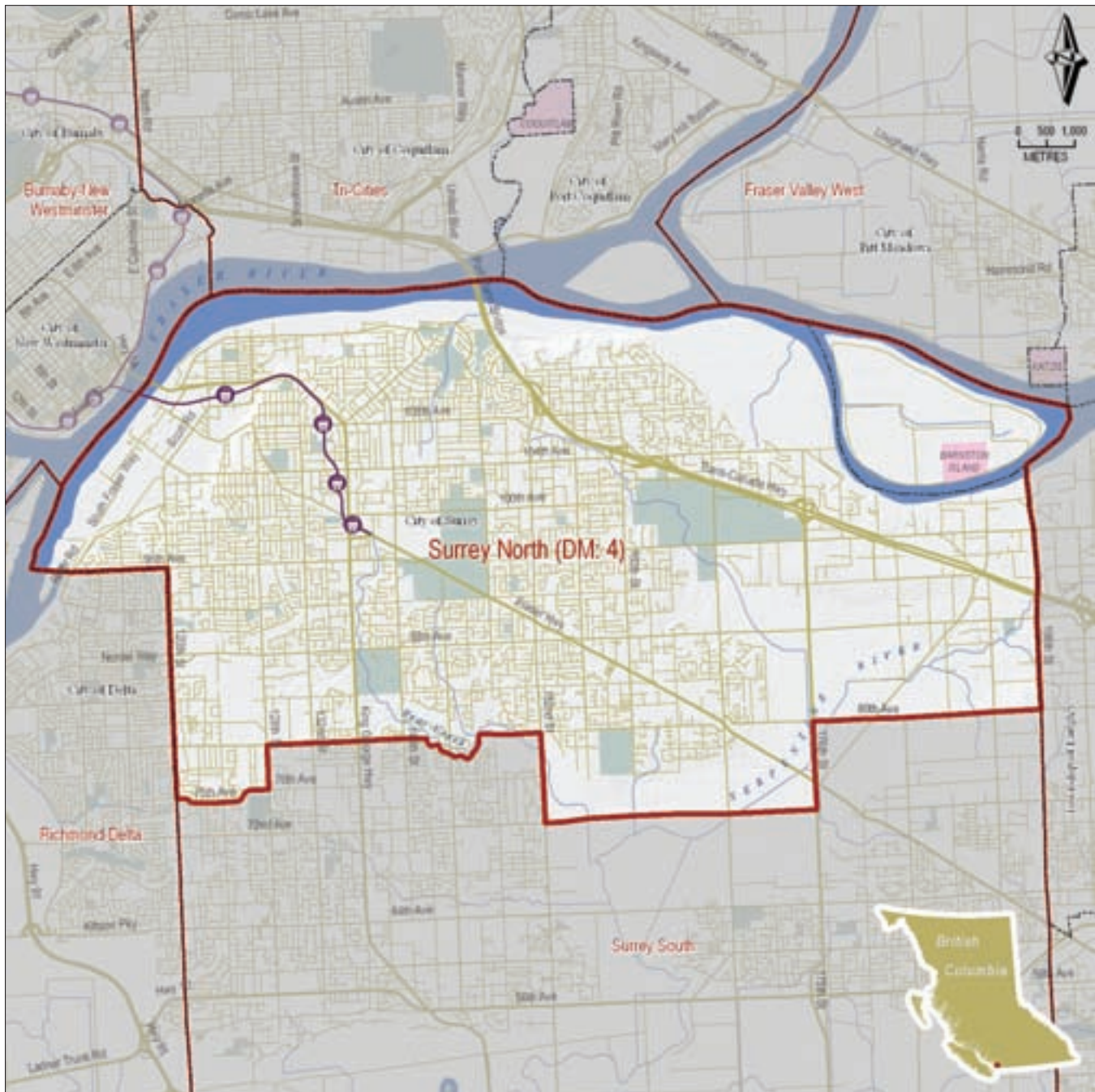
Map 104: Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Fraser Valley West BC-STV Electoral District



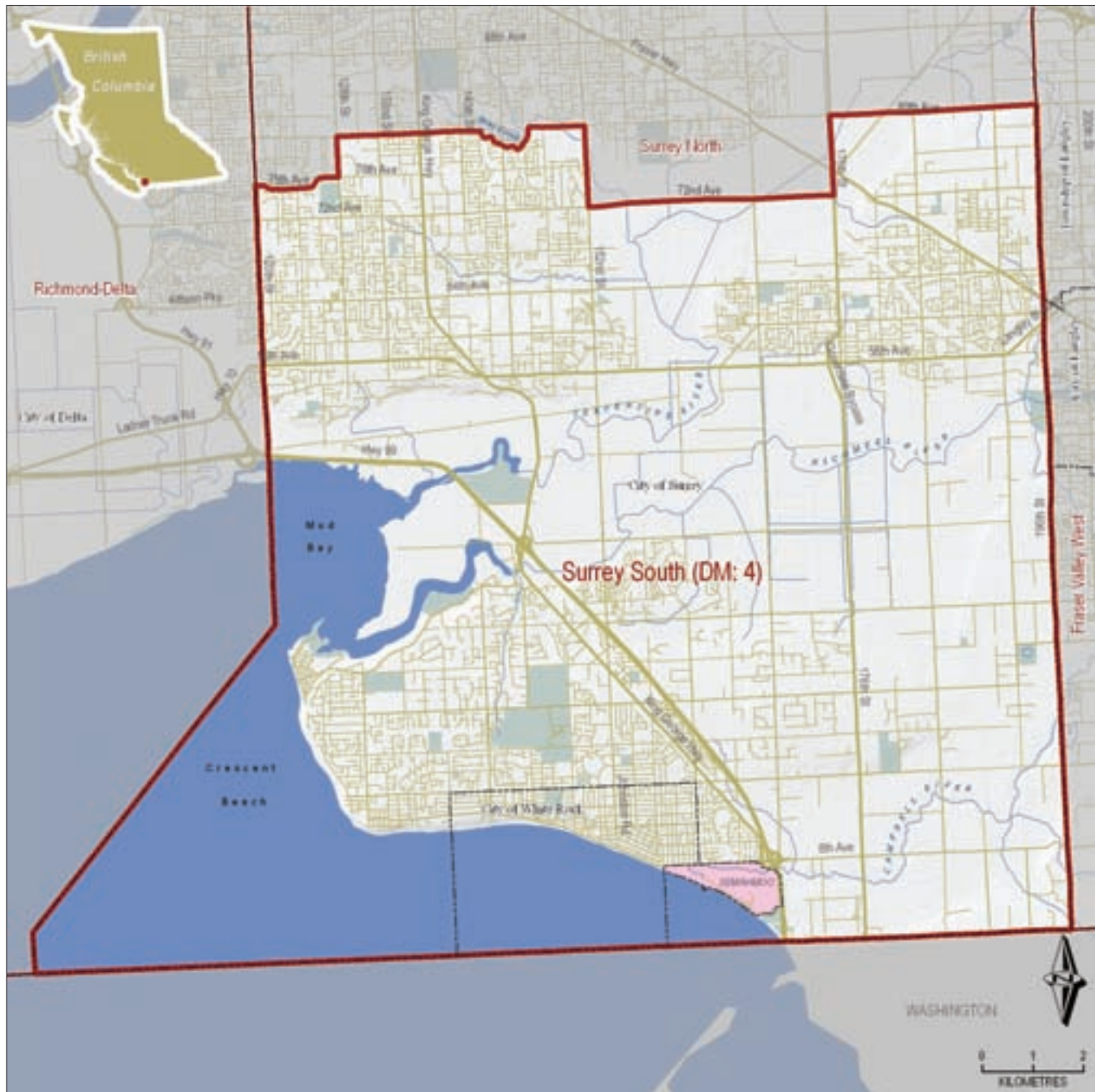
Map 105: Region: Tri-Cities – Proposed Tri-Cities BC-STV Electoral District



Map 106: Region: Surrey – Proposed Surrey North BC-STV Electoral District



Map 107: Region: Surrey – Proposed Surrey South BC-STV Electoral District



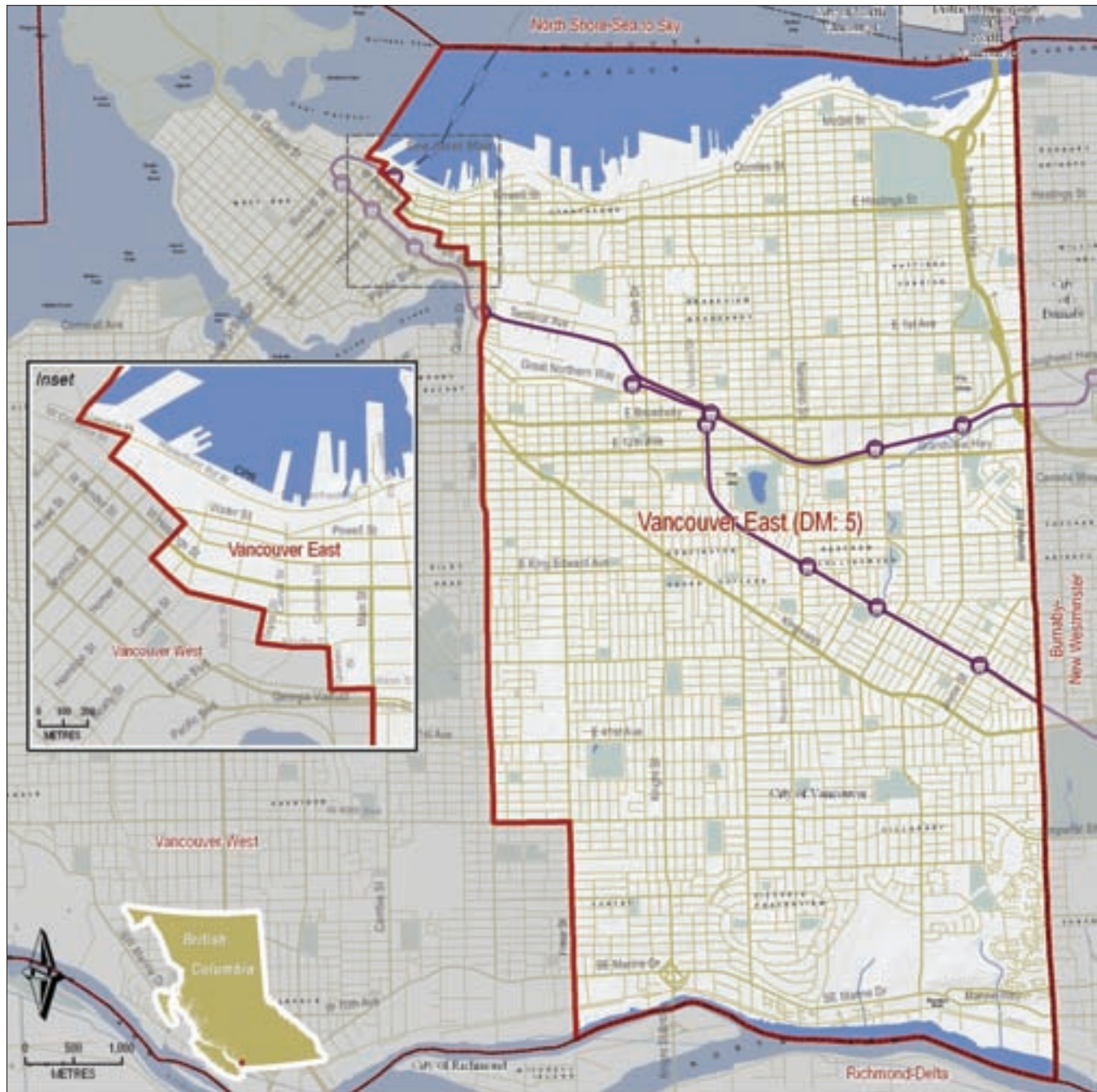
Map 108: Region: Richmond and Delta – Proposed Richmond-Delta BC-STV Electoral District



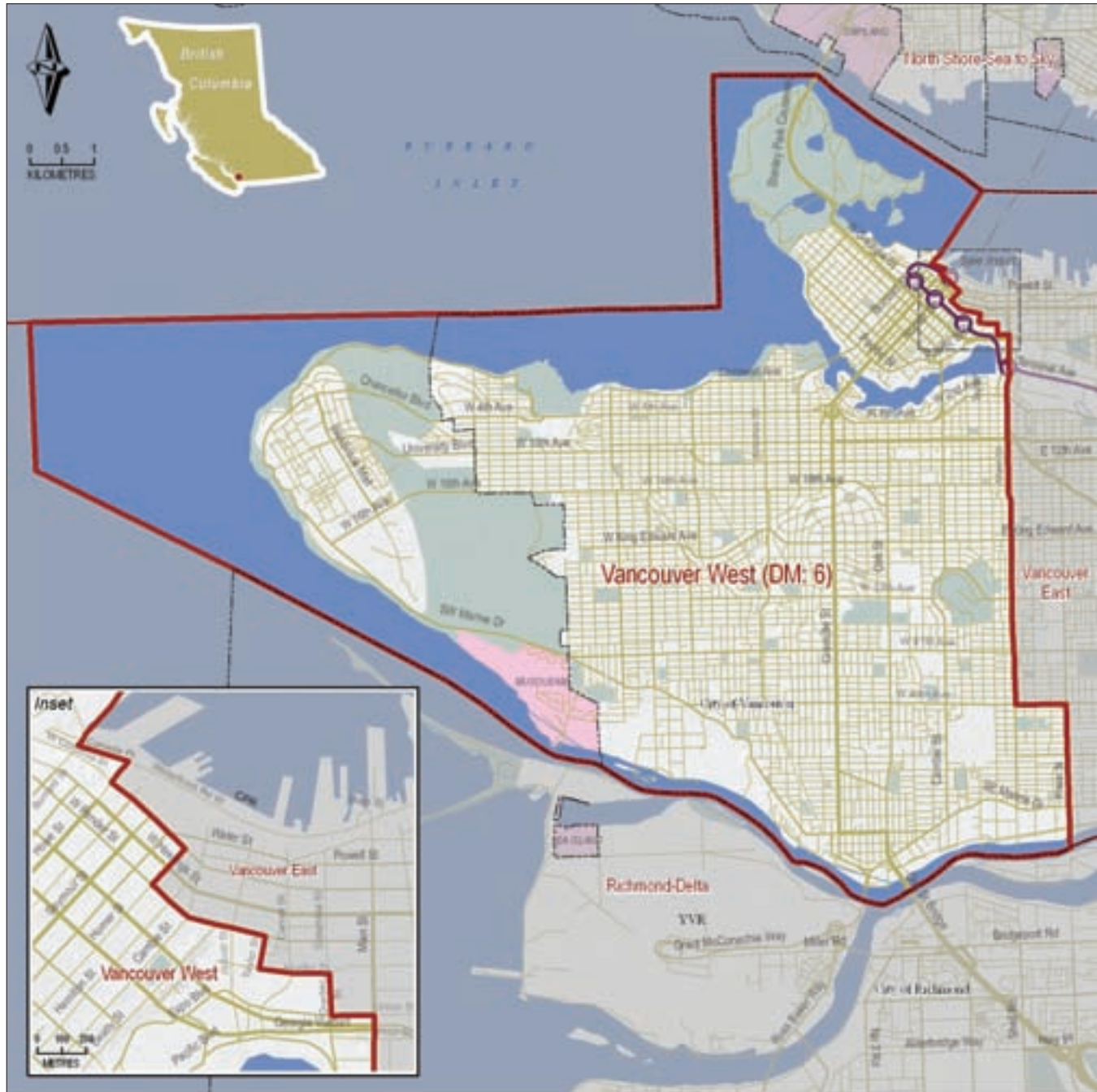
Map 109: Region: Burnaby and New Westminster – Proposed Burnaby–New Westminster BC-STV Electoral District



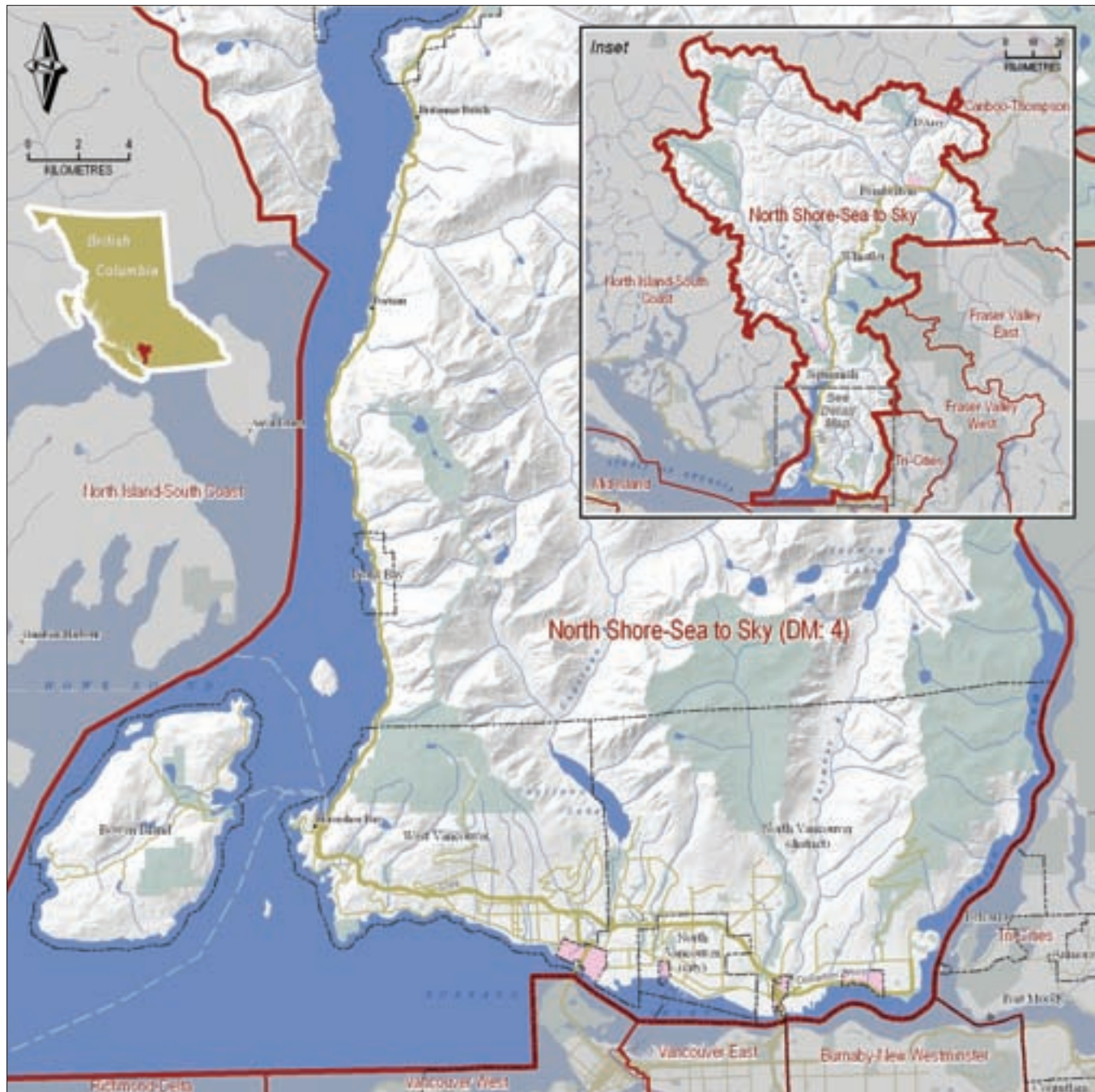
Map 110: Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver East BC-STV Electoral District



Map 111: Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver West BC-STV Electoral District



Map 112: Region: North Shore – Proposed North Shore–Sea to Sky BC-STV Electoral District



Map 113: Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed North Island–South Coast BC-STV Electoral District



Map 114: Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Mid-Island BC-STV Electoral District



Map 115: Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Capital Region BC-STV Electoral District



A winter landscape featuring a large, snow-capped mountain peak in the background. In the middle ground, there is a dense forest of evergreen trees. In the foreground, two log cabins are visible, one larger than the other, both with snow on their roofs. The ground is covered in a thick layer of snow, with some small evergreen trees and bushes in the immediate foreground. The sky is a clear, deep blue.

Part 5 – Delivery of this Report

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A. Submission to the Speaker

This report was required to be submitted to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly by February 15, 2008. The Speaker is responsible to promptly cause our final report to be made public.

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

- (a) if the Legislative Assembly is in session when the report is submitted, be promptly laid before the Assembly ...

B. 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.

C. Descriptions of proposed electoral boundaries

As discussed in Part 12 of our *Preliminary Report* (pages 358–360), we are satisfied that the combination of maps contained within the body of this report and the digital version of maps and their coordinates contained in the DVD entitled *Official Digital Version of Electoral Districts Maps prepared by the BC Electoral Boundaries Commission: 2008.02.14* provided to the Speaker make the traditional metes and bounds description of proposed electoral boundaries unnecessary.

An aerial photograph of a dense evergreen forest, showing a vast expanse of green trees from a high-angle perspective. The trees are packed closely together, creating a textured, green canopy. The lighting is even, highlighting the individual branches and needles of the trees.

Part 6 – Additional Information

Part 6 – Additional Information

Our Staff

The commissioners wish to express their profound appreciation to the members of the commission staff who so ably contributed to the work of the commission since its inception in late 2005.

The first person hired by the commission was Cathy Stooshnov, as our manager of finance and administration. Cathy quickly and competently arranged for office space in a central downtown Vancouver location and then undertook the many tasks of office management, including assisting in the hiring of support staff and management of financial records.

The second person hired was Leo Perra, as our executive director. Leo undertook a wide variety of duties, including the hiring of professional staff, organizing commission meetings and agendas, arranging for meetings with consultants, arranging for and facilitating the public consultation sessions and hearings and the full range of executive duties which he diligently and competently carried out during the entire process of producing the commission reports.

In addition, we were fortunate to have the assistance and guidance of Wendy Stewart as our communications manager. Wendy carefully advised the commission on matters of public and media communications and she was the key contact person for the commission until her departure in December 2007 to take up a new position in the communications field.

Also, we wish to acknowledge the important and critical contributions of our legal and research counsel, Brian Wallace, Q.C. and Keith Hamilton. The commissioners relied heavily on these two individuals for ongoing advice and guidance on all matters legal with respect to the application of the legislation and the decided case law governing our mandate.

The commission was also served by the contributions of a hard working and dedicated group of individuals, as follows:

Ben Bisset, Communications Research Officer
 Leslie Chesters, Receptionist/Office Assistant
 Christine Cheung, Administrative Assistant
 Carol Fleming, Database/Records Coordinator
 Daniel Hirner, GIS Production Manager
 Lalitha Jayaraman, GIS Technical Analyst
 Scott Kingdon, Web Master
 Rob Oostlander, GIS Technical Analyst
 Doug Roy, Communications Research Officer

We also relied upon and were most ably served by the following suppliers:

Advertising Design and Placement – *Redbird Communications*
 Communications – *The Pace Group*
 DVD Production – *Infinity Filmed Entertainment Group Ltd.*
 Population Data Analysis – *BC Stats*
 Report Design and Layout – *Ideastream Design Inc.*
 Report Proofreading – *Rhonda Ganz and Patricia Freeman*
 Website Development – *Agentic Communications*

In the case of each and every member of the commission staff, we were served with a sense of pride, dedication and professionalism to the many tasks at hand. Everyone involved in the preparation and production of our reports operated as a team and the commissioners wish to record their sincere gratitude for a job well done on behalf of the public of this province.

List of Maps

	<i>Page</i>
Map 1: Region: The North – Proposed Electoral Districts	16
Map 2: Region: The North – Proposed North Coast Electoral District	17
Map 3: Region: The North – Proposed Skeena-Stikine Electoral District	18
Map 4: Region: The North – Proposed Bulkley-Nechako Electoral District	19
Map 5: Region: The North – Proposed Prince George–Mackenzie Electoral District	20
Map 6: Region: The North – Proposed Prince George–Valemount Electoral District	21
Map 7: Region: The North – Proposed Peace River South Electoral District	22
Map 8: Region: The North – Proposed Peace River North Electoral District	23
Map 9: Region: Cariboo-Thompson – Proposed Electoral Districts	26
Map 10: Region: Cariboo-Thompson – Proposed Cariboo-Chilcotin Electoral District	27
Map 11: Region: Cariboo-Thompson – Proposed Cariboo-Fraser Electoral District	28
Map 12: Region: Cariboo-Thompson – Proposed Kamloops–South Thompson Electoral District	29
Map 13: Region: Cariboo-Thompson – Proposed Kamloops–North Thompson Electoral District	30
Map 14: Region: Okanagan – Proposed Electoral Districts	33
Map 15: Region: Okanagan – Proposed Shuswap Electoral District	34
Map 16: Region: Okanagan – Proposed Vernon-Monashee Electoral District	35
Map 17: Region: Okanagan – Proposed Kelowna–Lake Country Electoral District	36
Map 18: Region: Okanagan – Proposed Kelowna-Mission Electoral District	37
Map 19: Region: Okanagan – Proposed Westside-Kelowna Electoral District	38
Map 20: Region: Okanagan – Proposed Penticton Electoral District	39
Map 21: Region: Okanagan – Proposed Boundary-Similkameen Electoral District	40
Map 22: Region: Columbia-Kootenay – Proposed Electoral Districts	44
Map 23: Region: Columbia-Kootenay – Proposed Columbia River–Revelstoke Electoral District	45
Map 24: Region: Columbia-Kootenay – Proposed Kootenay East Electoral District	46
Map 25: Region: Columbia-Kootenay – Proposed Nelson-Creston Electoral District	47
Map 26: Region: Columbia-Kootenay – Proposed Kootenay West Electoral District	48
Map 27: Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Electoral Districts	51
Map 28: Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Maple Ridge–Pitt Meadows Electoral District	52
Map 29: Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Maple Ridge–Mission Electoral District	53
Map 30: Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Abbotsford-Mission Electoral District	54
Map 31: Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Langley Electoral District	55
Map 32: Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Fort Langley–Aldergrove Electoral District	56
Map 33: Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Abbotsford West Electoral District	57

	<i>Page</i>
Map 34: Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Abbotsford South Electoral District	58
Map 35: Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Chilliwack Electoral District	59
Map 36: Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Chilliwack-Hope Electoral District	60
Map 37: Region: Tri-Cities – Proposed Electoral Districts	62
Map 38: Region: Tri-Cities – Proposed Port Moody–Coquitlam Electoral District	63
Map 39: Region: Tri-Cities – Proposed Coquitlam-Maillardville Electoral District	64
Map 40: Region: Tri-Cities – Proposed Coquitlam–Burke Mountain Electoral District	65
Map 41: Region: Tri-Cities – Proposed Port Coquitlam Electoral District	66
Map 42: Region: Surrey – Proposed Electoral Districts	68
Map 43: Region: Surrey – Proposed Surrey-Whalley Electoral District	69
Map 44: Region: Surrey – Proposed Surrey-Tynehead Electoral District	70
Map 45: Region: Surrey – Proposed Surrey–Green Timbers Electoral District	71
Map 46: Region: Surrey – Proposed Surrey-Fleetwood Electoral District	72
Map 47: Region: Surrey – Proposed Surrey-Newton Electoral District	73
Map 48: Region: Surrey – Proposed Surrey-Panorama Electoral District	74
Map 49: Region: Surrey – Proposed Surrey-Cloverdale Electoral District	75
Map 50: Region: Surrey – Proposed Surrey–White Rock Electoral District	76
Map 51: Region: Richmond and Delta – Proposed Electoral Districts	78
Map 52: Region: Richmond and Delta – Proposed Richmond Centre Electoral District	79
Map 53: Region: Richmond and Delta – Proposed Richmond-Steveston Electoral District	80
Map 54: Region: Richmond and Delta – Proposed Richmond East Electoral District	81
Map 55: Region: Richmond and Delta – Proposed Delta South Electoral District	82
Map 56: Region: Richmond and Delta – Proposed Delta North Electoral District	83
Map 57: Region: Burnaby and New Westminster – Proposed Electoral Districts	85
Map 58: Region: Burnaby and New Westminster – Proposed Burnaby North Electoral District	86
Map 59: Region: Burnaby and New Westminster – Proposed Burnaby-Lougheed Electoral District	87
Map 60: Region: Burnaby and New Westminster – Proposed Burnaby–Deer Lake Electoral District	88
Map 61: Region: Burnaby and New Westminster – Proposed Burnaby-Edmonds Electoral District	89
Map 62: Region: Burnaby and New Westminster – Proposed New Westminster Electoral District	90
Map 63: Region: Vancouver – Proposed Electoral Districts	92
Map 64: Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver-Hastings Electoral District	93
Map 65: Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver-Kingsway Electoral District	94

	<i>Page</i>
Map 66: Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver-Fraserview Electoral District	95
Map 67: Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver–Mount Pleasant Electoral District	96
Map 68: Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver-Kensington Electoral District	97
Map 69: Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver–West End Electoral District	98
Map 70: Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver–False Creek Electoral District	99
Map 71: Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver-Fairview Electoral District	100
Map 72: Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver-Langara Electoral District	101
Map 73: Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver–Point Grey Electoral District	102
Map 74: Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver-Quilchena Electoral District	103
Map 75: Region: North Shore – Proposed Electoral Districts	105
Map 76: Region: North Shore – Proposed North Vancouver–Seymour Electoral District	106
Map 77: Region: North Shore – Proposed North Vancouver–Lonsdale Electoral District	107
Map 78: Region: North Shore – Proposed West Vancouver–Capilano Electoral District	108
Map 79: Region: North Shore – Proposed West Vancouver–Sea to Sky Electoral District	109
Map 80: Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Electoral Districts	113
Map 81: Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed North Island Electoral District	114
Map 82: Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Comox Valley Electoral District	115
Map 83: Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Alberni–Pacific Rim Electoral District	116
Map 84: Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Powell River–Sunshine Coast Electoral District	117
Map 85: Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Parksville-Qualicum Electoral District	118
Map 86: Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Nanaimo Electoral District	119
Map 87: Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Nanaimo–North Cowichan Electoral District	120
Map 88: Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Cowichan Valley Electoral District	121
Map 89: Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Saanich North and the Islands Electoral District	122
Map 90: Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Saanich South Electoral District	123
Map 91: Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Oak Bay–Gordon Head Electoral District	124
Map 92: Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Victoria–Beacon Hill Electoral District	125
Map 93: Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Victoria–Swan Lake Electoral District	126
Map 94: Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Esquimalt–Royal Roads Electoral District	127
Map 95: Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Juan de Fuca Electoral District	128

	<i>Page</i>
Map 96: Region: The North – Proposed Northeast BC-STV Electoral District	137
Map 97: Region: The North – Proposed Northwest BC-STV Electoral District	138
Map 98: Region: The North – Proposed North Central BC-STV Electoral District	139
Map 99: Region: Cariboo-Thompson – Proposed Cariboo-Thompson BC-STV Electoral District	140
Map 100: Region: Okanagan – Proposed Okanagan-Shuswap BC-STV Electoral District	141
Map 101: Region: Okanagan – Proposed Okanagan-Boundary BC-STV Electoral District	142
Map 102: Region: Columbia-Kootenay – Proposed Columbia-Kootenay BC-STV Electoral District	143
Map 103: Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Fraser Valley East BC-STV Electoral District	144
Map 104: Region: Fraser Valley – Proposed Fraser Valley West BC-STV Electoral District	145
Map 105: Region: Tri-Cities – Proposed Tri-Cities BC-STV Electoral District	146
Map 106: Region: Surrey – Proposed Surrey North BC-STV Electoral District	147
Map 107: Region: Surrey – Proposed Surrey South BC-STV Electoral District	148
Map 108: Region: Richmond and Delta – Proposed Richmond-Delta BC-STV Electoral District	149
Map 109: Region: Burnaby and New Westminster – Proposed Burnaby-New Westminster BC-STV Electoral District	150
Map 110: Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver East BC-STV Electoral District	151
Map 111: Region: Vancouver – Proposed Vancouver West BC-STV Electoral District	152
Map 112: Region: North Shore – Proposed North Shore–Sea to Sky BC-STV Electoral District	153
Map 113: Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed North Island-South Coast BC-STV Electoral District	154
Map 114: Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Mid-Island BC-STV Electoral District	155
Map 115: Region: Vancouver Island and South Coast – Proposed Capital Region BC-STV Electoral District	156

List of Tables

	<i>Page</i>
Table 1: Proposed SMP Electoral Districts in the North	15
Table 2: Proposed SMP Electoral Districts in the Cariboo-Thompson	25
Table 3: Proposed SMP Electoral Districts in the Okanagan	32
Table 4: Proposed SMP Electoral Districts in the Columbia-Kootenay	43
Table 5: Proposed SMP Electoral Districts in the Fraser Valley	50
Table 6: Proposed SMP Electoral Districts in the Tri-Cities	61
Table 7: Proposed SMP Electoral Districts in Surrey	67
Table 8: Proposed SMP Electoral Districts in Richmond and Delta	77
Table 9: Proposed SMP Electoral Districts in Burnaby and New Westminster	84
Table 10: Proposed SMP Electoral Districts in Vancouver	91
Table 11: Proposed SMP Electoral Districts in the North Shore	104
Table 12: Proposed SMP Electoral Districts in Vancouver Island and South Coast	112
Table 13: Proposed Northeast BC-STV Electoral District	131
Table 14: Proposed Northwest BC-STV Electoral District	131
Table 15: Proposed North Central BC-STV Electoral District	131
Table 16: Proposed Cariboo-Thompson BC-STV Electoral District	131
Table 17: Proposed Okanagan-Shuswap BC-STV Electoral District	131
Table 18: Proposed Okanagan-Boundary BC-STV Electoral District	132

	<i>Page</i>
Table 19: Proposed Columbia-Kootenay BC-STV Electoral District	132
Table 20: Proposed Fraser Valley East BC-STV Electoral District	132
Table 21: Proposed Fraser Valley West BC-STV Electoral District	133
Table 22: Proposed Tri-Cities BC-STV Electoral District	133
Table 23: Proposed Surrey North BC-STV Electoral District	133
Table 24: Proposed Surrey South BC-STV Electoral District	133
Table 25: Proposed Richmond-Delta BC-STV Electoral District	134
Table 26: Proposed Burnaby–New Westminster BC-STV Electoral District	134
Table 27: Proposed Vancouver East BC-STV Electoral District	134
Table 28: Proposed Vancouver West BC-STV Electoral District	135
Table 29: Proposed North Shore–Sea to Sky BC-STV Electoral District	135
Table 30: Proposed North Island–South Coast BC-STV Electoral District	135
Table 31: Proposed Mid-Island BC-STV Electoral District	135
Table 32: Proposed Capital Region BC-STV Electoral District	136

List of Appendices

	<i>Page</i>
A. <i>Electoral Boundaries Commission Act</i>	168
B. <i>Electoral Boundaries Commission Amendment Act, 2005</i> , S.B.C. 2005, c. 30	173
C. Proposed SMP Electoral Districts – Sorted Regionally	174
D. Proposed SMP Electoral Districts – Sorted Alphabetically	176
E. Proposed SMP Electoral Districts – Sorted by Ascending 2006 Population	178
F. Proposed BC-STV Electoral Districts – Sorted Alphabetically	180
G. Proposed BC-STV Electoral Districts – Sorted by Ascending 2006 Population	181
H. 1991–2013 Census Counts and Projections – Proposed SMP Electoral Districts – Sorted Regionally	182
I. 1991–2013 Census Counts and Projections – Proposed SMP Electoral Districts – Sorted Alphabetically	186
J. 1991–2013 Census Counts and Projections – Proposed BC-STV Electoral Districts – Sorted by Ascending 2006 Population	189
K. 1991–2013 Census Counts and Projections – Proposed BC-STV Electoral Districts – Sorted Alphabetically	190
L. British Columbia Municipal Census Populations – 2006–1921 – Sorted Alphabetically	191
M. British Columbia Regional District and Community Statistics	197
N. Public Hearings – 2007–2008	206
O. Written Submissions as of January 24, 2008	208
P. The Number of Electoral Districts in Rural British Columbia	215
Q. The Way Forward	243