



Suggestion 1

Martin Gordon

3 pages

[REDACTED]

Redistribution Committee for the Australian Capital Territory

The Committee,

I wish to make a submission for the redistribution of the Australian Capital Territory into 3 Divisions.

I propose that the new Division be called Griffin in honour of the designers of Canberra, Walter and Marion Griffin. I propose that it be co-named in their honour and as such would mean that at least one of the ACT's Divisions would honour a woman. The Griffins were world renowned and Canberra represents some of their finest work. I don't propose to resurrect the name Namadgi as if it is restored and subsequently disestablished the abolition of a Division having an aboriginal name for a second time would be unfortunate.

I discuss the details of the redistribution immediately below. I have adhered to the criteria for the redistribution in the order of precedence set out in the criteria.

At the time of making this submission I was regrettably out of the country and unable to more accurately calculate elector numbers, hence my redistribution is more narrative in approach.

Naming and Description

There has been some discussion in the media that the new Division should be located in the south of the ACT. I argue that it should be located in the centre of the ACT and Canberra as this would give

prominence to those who the new Division is named in honour of and that is the design duo of Walter and Marion Griffin. The design of Canberra makes it conspicuous as the nations capital, and their design is most evident in the centre of the capital. The name of the central lake is also named in their honour and so the coincidence of the lake and Divisional name is more impactful. As well this would mean that a majority of existing electors in both the existing Canberra and Fenner would remain in their existing Divisions and appropriately retain their existing Divisional names.

The division of the ACT into three Divisions will involve the splitting of some of Canberra's towns. I propose that Gungahlin, Tuggeranong, the Inner North and Inner South be undivided in a Division. Only Belconnen, Woden and Weston Creek are divided and there is no way this can be avoided unless, unless a more extreme Division is imposed on Woden, with a rather less clear boundary.

Canberra

I propose that the existing name Canberra be retained for the southern Division. Essentially the Division of Canberra would continue to occupy the bulk of the territory. I propose that it Essentially that it contain the southern and western portions of the ACT that are road linked and be confined otherwise south of Hindmarsh Drive, except for Phillip (which spans Hindmarsh and is a major source of growth for Canberra) which brings Canberra close to quota now and in 3.5 years time.

There may be some controversy that this splits both Woden and Weston Creek. But most other configurations for instance including all of Weston Creek , would necessitate the splitting off of some suburbs of Woden anyway. The use of Hindmarsh Drive is a clear boundary, or if followed using the boundary of the Symonston District is a very clear man-made boundary, that extends all the way to ACT/NSW border and Queanbeyan.

Fenner

I propose that the existing name Fenner be retained for the most northerly Division. Essentially the Division of Fenner would include all of Gungahlin including Mitchell, and the northern and north western portion of Belconnen.

The Division of Belconnen is driven by numerical considerations, proximity and the use of major road boundaries. Currently the Territory Legislative Assembly boundaries rely on Ginninderra Drive as a major delineation between Yerrabi and Ginninderra. Using this logic for Fenner I rely on The use of Federal Highway, Gungahlin boundary with the Inner north and then Ginninderra Drive, south along Coulter Drive, then west along Belconnen Way, then south along Kingsford Smith Drive till it intersects the Molonglo Valley district boundary.

Within Belconnen there is considerable urban growth in Lawson, and the newer suburbs of Dunlop have more in common with Gungahlin than the inner city in the inner north. In time I expect that barring the loss of a federal Division in the ACT, that Fenner would contract as suburbs in Gungahlin

grow and the new suburbs develop in the belt of 700 hectares of CSIRO land south of the Barton Highway, in the near future.

Griffin

Griffin is the residual area of the ACT, incorporating the entire inner north and inner south, the land area east of both, and north generally of Hindmarsh Drive (except for Phillip). This will include the entire Molonglo Valley.

Conclusion

I wish the commissioners well in their deliberations.

Martin Gordon