

1983 BILL 81

First Session, 20th Legislature, 32 Elizabeth II

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF ALBERTA

BILL 81

**ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES COMMISSION
AMENDMENT ACT, 1983**

HON. MR. PAYNE

First Reading
Second Reading
Committee of the Whole
Third Reading
Royal Assent

Bill 81

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ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES COMMISSION AMENDMENT ACT, 1983

(Assented to _____, 1983)

HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, enacts as follows:

1 The Electoral Boundaries Commission Act is amended by this Act.

2 Section 1(a) is amended by striking out "Boundary" and substituting "Boundaries".

3 Section 2 is amended

(a) by striking out "Boundary" and substituting "Boundaries";

(b) by repealing clause (c) and substituting the following:

(c) 1 member of the Legislative Assembly nominated by the Leader of Her Majesty's loyal opposition,

(c) in clause (d) by striking out "2" and substituting "3".

Explanatory Notes

1 This Bill will amend chapter E-4 of the Revised Statutes of Alberta 1980.

2 Section 1(a) presently reads:

1 In this Act,

(a) "Commission" means an Electoral Boundary Commission appointed pursuant to section 2;

3 Section 2 presently reads:

2 The Lieutenant Governor in Council shall, from time to time as required by this Act, appoint an Electoral Boundary Commission consisting of

(a) a person approved by the Lieutenant Governor in Council who is

*(i) a judge of the Court of Queen's Bench or the Court of Appeal,
or*

*(ii) a retired judge of a district court, the Supreme Court of Alberta,
the Court of Queen's Bench or the Court of Appeal,*

(b) one person (not a member of the Legislative Assembly or an employee of the Government) nominated by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly after consultation with the President of the Executive Council and the Leader of Her Majesty's loyal opposition,

(c) 2 members of the Legislative Assembly nominated by the Leader of Her Majesty's loyal opposition, to be chosen one from the Leader of the opposition's party and, where possible, one from the next largest opposition party in the Legislative Assembly,

(d) 2 members of the Legislative Assembly chosen from the Government party by the Lieutenant Governor in Council, and

(e) the Chief Electoral Officer,

one of whom shall be appointed chairman.

4 *Section 11 is repealed and the following is substituted:*

11 The Commission shall divide Alberta into 83 proposed electoral divisions consisting of

- (a) 42 proposed urban electoral divisions, and
- (b) 41 proposed rural electoral divisions.

5 *Section 12(1) is repealed and the following is substituted:*

12(1) The Commission shall establish

- (a) the city of Medicine Hat as 1 proposed urban electoral division,
- (b) the city of St. Albert as 1 proposed urban electoral division,
- (c) the hamlet of Sherwood Park as 1 proposed urban electoral division,
- (d) the city of Lethbridge as 2 proposed urban electoral divisions,
- (e) the city of Red Deer as 2 proposed urban electoral divisions,
- (f) the City of Edmonton as 17 proposed urban electoral divisions, and
- (g) the City of Calgary as 18 proposed urban electoral divisions.

6 *Section 16(2) is repealed and the following is substituted:*

(2) Subsection (1)(b) does not apply to the cities of Calgary and Edmonton.

4 Section 11 presently reads:

11 The Commission shall divide Alberta into 79 proposed electoral divisions consisting of

- (a) 43 proposed urban electoral divisions, and*
- (b) 36 proposed rural electoral divisions.*

5 Section 12 presently reads:

12(1) The Commission shall establish

- (a) the cities of Camrose, Drumheller, Grande Prairie, Medicine Hat, Red Deer and Wetaskiwin and the town of St. Albert, each as a proposed urban electoral division;*
 - (b) 16 proposed urban electoral divisions in the City of Calgary;*
 - (c) 18 proposed urban electoral divisions in the City of Edmonton;*
 - (d) 2 proposed urban electoral divisions in the City of Lethbridge.*
- (2) The areas of Alberta that are not included in proposed urban electoral divisions shall be included in proposed rural electoral divisions.*

6 Section 16 presently reads:

16(1) When the voter population of an urban municipality is more than 25% above the average voter population of the existing urban electoral divisions, the Commission

- (a) shall divide the area of the urban municipality into 2 or more proposed urban electoral divisions each having a voter population approximately equal and not more than 25% above the average voter population of the existing urban electoral divisions, and*
- (b) may extend the boundaries of any such proposed urban electoral division beyond the boundaries of the urban municipality in order to bring the voter population of the proposed urban electoral division up to a figure no greater than the average voter population of the existing urban electoral divisions.*

(2) Subsection (1)(b) does not apply to the cities of Calgary and Edmonton, except that the community of Sherwood Park and any necessary intervening land shall be included in a proposed urban electoral division in the City of Edmonton.

7 *Section 18(2) is repealed and the following is substituted:*

(2) Except for the cities of Calgary and Edmonton, part of an urban municipality may be included in a proposed rural electoral division.

*In accordance with section 4(1) of the Interpretation Act,
this Bill comes into force on the date it receives Royal
Assent.*

7 Section 18 presently reads:

18(1) As far as is practicable, the Commission shall establish the boundaries of the proposed rural electoral divisions so that all proposed rural electoral divisions are as nearly as possible equal in voter population, but in dealing with the more sparsely populated areas of Alberta the Commission shall endeavour to avoid establishing proposed rural electoral divisions that are larger than the existing electoral divisions in those areas.

(2) No part of an urban municipality shall be included within the boundaries of a proposed rural electoral division.