

Final Report

April 3, 2023



April 3, 2023

Honourable Raj Chouhan
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
Province of British Columbia
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, British Columbia
V8V 1X4

Dear Mr. Speaker:

We are pleased to submit our final report in accordance with section 12(1) of the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*.

Yours sincerely,



The Honourable Justice
Nitya Iyer
Commission Chair



Linda Tynan
Commissioner



Anton Boegman
Commissioner
Chief Electoral Officer of British Columbia

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02

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Executive Summary

THE BC ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES COMMISSION IS APPOINTED TO REVIEW PROVINCIAL ELECTORAL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES.

British Columbia is a representative democracy. The province is divided into 87 electoral districts, or ridings. The people living in each riding vote for the person they want to represent their interests in the legislature.

This system of “representation by population” is based on the idea that one person’s vote should carry the same weight as another person’s vote, regardless of where they live in the province. In order for that to happen, the population of each riding must be roughly the same.

The principle of representation by population in British Columbia is intertwined with the equally important principle of “effective representation.” Effective representation recognizes that elected representatives not only sit in the legislature and vote, they also play a vital role in helping their constituents deal with government bodies. The courts have called this the ombudsperson role. Effective representation is based on the idea that everyone should have equivalent access to their elected representative, especially in the ombudsperson role, regardless of their riding’s geographic size, population density or infrastructure.

Since the population of British Columbia is not static, it is necessary to periodically review the number and boundaries of B.C.’s electoral districts to continue to ensure that B.C. residents have effective representation by population. The *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act* (the Act) requires that



an electoral boundaries commission be appointed after every second provincial general election to propose changes to the area, boundaries and names of electoral districts in the province.

Our Commission was appointed on October 21, 2021. We are:

Justice Nitya Iyer, Justice of the Supreme Court of British Columbia (Chair)

Linda Tynan, Local Government Advisor

Anton Boegman, Chief Electoral Officer of British Columbia

You can read more about our backgrounds and the history of electoral boundaries commissions in B.C. in Chapter 3 of this report.

The Act expressly references the principles of representation by population and effective representation. It gives meaning to them by setting out the process our Commission must follow and the factors it must consider.

We must make proposals for changes to electoral boundaries, and we may propose up to six new electoral districts, potentially increasing the size of the Legislative Assembly from 87 to 93 Members. We may hold initial public meetings, or hearings,

IMAGE 1: PUBLIC MEETING IN NANAIMO, B.C. CREDIT: BC ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES COMMISSION. MARCH 22, 2022.

and we must table our preliminary report of proposed changes in the legislature within one year of our appointment. After that, we must hold public hearings to receive public input on our proposals. Having considered that input, we must give current Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) an opportunity to make submissions to us. Our final report, containing any amendments we propose in light of the input we receive, must be tabled within six months of the date of our first report. It is up to the legislature to decide whether to accept all, some or none of our recommendations.

Section 9 of the Act sets out the principles that we must apply. We must determine the average number of people in each electoral district, called the “electoral quotient,” by dividing the population of the province by the number of electoral districts we propose. The Act requires us to propose electoral district boundaries based on geographic considerations (including accessibility, size and physical configuration of parts of British Columbia), demographic considerations (including communities of interest, sparsity, density and rate of population growth), and means of communication and transportation. The Act says that we should propose electoral districts that have populations within +/- 25% of the electoral quotient. We call this the “usual deviation range.”

However, the Act also recognizes that it may not always be possible to propose ridings within this usual deviation range that ensure effective representation for their residents. It permits us to make proposals for electoral districts whose populations fall outside of the usual deviation range if that is “necessary to provide for effective representation.” In

making that determination, we must look for special geographic considerations, including a manageable geographic size, or special demographic considerations, including communities of interest.

After we were appointed, we decided that we wanted to hear from the public before forming any opinions of our own about what our proposals should be. We wanted to be as accessible as possible by travelling in person to communities, holding virtual meetings and inviting submissions through our website, email and mail. During our initial consultation process, we held 50 public meetings in 43 communities and received over 1,000 individual submissions.

We issued our preliminary report, tabling it in the Legislative Assembly on October 3, 2022. From then until November 22, 2022, we asked British Columbians to comment on our preliminary recommendations. We conducted 13 public hearings, where we heard from 76 presenters. We received more than 800 submissions. On November 23, 2022, we held hearings for MLAs, where we heard 35 presentations.

We also gathered information about population, population growth, geography, transportation routes and internet connectivity from a number of sources. We educated ourselves about the history of electoral boundary-drawing in B.C. and Canada, reading articles and court cases on the constitutional right to vote, and speaking with academic experts and members of prior electoral boundaries commissions.

We have drawn on all of these sources to develop principles to guide our deliberations. You can read more about the meaning of the terms used in the Act, our

guiding principles, and the process leading up to our proposals in Chapter 4 of this report.

Chapter 5 contains our proposals and our reasons for them, as well as maps of the boundaries of each proposed electoral district and area maps showing the relationships between neighbouring electoral districts. For convenience, we have divided the province into 11 geographic areas: Vancouver Island, the North, Prince George and the Cariboo, the Kootenays, the Interior, Fraser Valley-Langley-Maple Ridge, Burnaby-New Westminster-Tri-Cities, Surrey, Richmond-Delta, Vancouver and North Shore-Sea to Sky-Sunshine Coast. They are listed in the order we followed for our deliberations.

We recommend the creation of six new electoral districts. Four should be situated in the Lower Mainland where the populations of many electoral districts are currently more than 25% over the electoral quotient and are projected to continue to grow faster than the populations of ridings in the rest of the province. We propose to locate these new electoral districts in Burnaby, Langley, Surrey and Vancouver. On Vancouver Island, we propose creating an additional riding in the Langford area to ensure that the electoral districts in this fast-growing area remain within the usual deviation range. We propose a new electoral district for the Interior area to better balance populations in the fast-growing communities of West Kelowna, Kelowna, Lake Country and Vernon.

As we propose six new electoral districts and are using 2021 Census population statistics, the electoral quotient is 53,773 and the usual deviation range is between 40,330 and 67,216 people per riding.

We are proposing no changes to the names or boundaries of 15 existing electoral districts.¹ That leaves 72 existing ridings whose boundaries we propose to adjust. Many of these changes are attributable to the six new electoral districts. This is because creating a new district necessarily requires boundary adjustments to other ridings in the area.

Other proposed changes also reflect our efforts to bring the population of as many electoral districts as possible within the usual deviation range of +/- 25% of the electoral quotient. For example, in the Kootenays, two of the four current electoral districts, Columbia River-Revelstoke and Nelson-Creston, fall below the usual deviation range. Our proposed electoral boundary adjustments would bring the population of both districts within the usual deviation range.

At present, 17 electoral districts fall outside the usual deviation range: six are higher than the maximum and 11 are below the minimum. Our proposed changes bring all except five ridings within the range.

The five ridings whose populations remain below the minimum usual deviation range are all located in the North area of the province. They are North Coast, Skeena, Stikine, Nechako Lakes and Peace River South. The population of the sixth northern riding, Peace River North, is just within the usual deviation range. Although we carefully examined options for consolidating the current six ridings into five, we are convinced that any such changes would deprive residents of these districts of effective representation. The very large geographic size of many of these ridings, their challenging terrain and weather, along with limited transportation

options and very poor internet connectivity, persuades us that it is truly necessary that they retain their current boundaries in order to receive effective representation.

With our proposals, the weight of a vote in the province's least populated riding will no longer be four times more than the weight of a vote in the province's most densely populated riding. The difference will be about three to one. In our view, this is the necessary consequence of balancing the principles of representation by population with effective representation over a maximum of 93 ridings, as the Act requires.

Many of our proposed boundary changes for electoral districts whose populations fall within the usual deviation range arise from input we received during our consultation process. Consistent with our principles, our recommendations modify existing boundaries so as to align more closely with borders recognized in the community, such as arterial roads, geographic features, and municipal or administrative boundaries. In this way, we try to respect resident's perceptions of their common interests in effective and fair provincial representation.

We also propose boundary adjustments to reduce population disparities between neighbouring ridings, creating room for the population growth that is anticipated before the next electoral boundaries commission review. Our data allows us to predict the speed of projected growth in particular areas. However, we cannot say

with confidence whether growth will occur in one riding or its neighbours. By creating as much room for growth in as many ridings as possible, our proposals reduce the likelihood that riding populations will grow or shrink outside the usual deviation range in the next eight years.

We propose changes to the names of 41 electoral districts (including the six proposed new ridings) to ensure that they accurately reflect the district and are different from the names of federal ridings.

In addition to the details of our proposals that are set out in Chapter 5, you can find an interactive map with current and proposed electoral districts on our website at bcebc.ca.

With the publication and tabling of this, our final report, on April 3, 2023, our work as a Commission is complete. We wish to thank wholeheartedly the many British Columbians who took the time to share their views with us. Your input was invaluable in shaping our understanding of our complex and diverse province.

Notes

1. WE CONSIDER AN ELECTORAL DISTRICT "UNCHANGED" IF A BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT HAS NO IMPACT ON POPULATION.

03



Background

THE CURRENT BC ELECTORAL
BOUNDARIES COMMISSION WAS
APPOINTED ON OCTOBER 21, 2021.

The Commission and the History of B.C.'s Electoral Boundaries

In this chapter we provide brief summaries of the three Commissioners' backgrounds and introduce our hardworking staff. We also review the history and geography of electoral boundaries in our province.

Over the years, different legislatures have provided electoral boundaries commissions with different mandates. We keep that history in mind when interpreting our mandate, which is discussed in Chapter 4.

The Commission

Justice Nitya Iyer

COMMISSION
CHAIR & JUSTICE
OF THE SUPREME
COURT OF BRITISH
COLUMBIA



Justice Nitya Iyer was appointed to the Supreme Court of British Columbia in June 2017. She started her legal career as a professor at the University of British Columbia's Faculty of Law in 1990. In 1997, she was appointed to the British Columbia Human Rights Tribunal. After her term there, she went on to private practice.

Justice Iyer obtained bachelor of arts and law degrees from the University of Toronto. She has a master's degree in law from Harvard University. She was a member of the Ontario, British Columbia and Yukon Bars. She was awarded a Queen's Diamond Jubilee medal in recognition of her volunteer work and was named Queen's Counsel in 2016.

Linda Tynan

COMMISSIONER
& LOCAL
GOVERNMENT
ADVISOR



Linda Tynan has an extensive background in local government management. She served as chief administrative officer for the District of Summerland and the Village of Nakusp and was the chief financial officer for the City of Nelson. She also held a senior management role with the Regional District of Central Kootenay.

Tynan is a former president of the Government Finance Officers Association of BC and CivicInfo BC and is a member of the Local Government Management Association and the Canadian Association of Municipal Administrators. She holds a Bachelor of Business Administration from Simon Fraser University and is a Chartered Professional Accountant.

Anton Boegman

COMMISSIONER &
CHIEF ELECTORAL
OFFICER OF BRITISH
COLUMBIA



Anton Boegman was appointed as the chief electoral officer of British Columbia on June 1, 2018. A planning expert and acknowledged as innovative and passionate about elections, Boegman's focus has been improving accessibility to voting and enhancing electoral services. Anton played a senior leadership role in the past five provincial general elections, four referenda, and 13 provincial by-elections.

Prior to joining Elections BC, Boegman served seven years as an officer with the Royal Canadian Navy. He was also part of the initial startup administration at Royal Roads University and worked as a technology project manager and privately as a management consultant. He graduated from the Royal Military College of Canada in 1988 with a Bachelor of Arts and obtained a Master of Business Administration from Athabasca University in 2001. He is also a certified project management professional.

Commission Staff

The Commission was supported by a team of five staff, including:

- Chad Stewart, Executive Director, Commission Operations
- Kristopher Radford, Research and Policy Analyst
- Kevin Pangman, Geography Lead
- Emily Goodman, Geography Analyst
- Wesley MacInnis, Communications Advisor

We would like to thank Elections BC, which provided technical and administrative support to the Commission.

Evolution of B.C.'s Electoral Boundaries

A brief history of electoral districts and electoral boundaries commissions in British Columbia.

British Columbia is large, covering nearly one million square kilometres. However, its population is not evenly distributed; the majority lives in the southwestern corner of the province. Although the population has grown significantly since B.C. joined Canada in 1871, the uneven distribution of its population has persisted.

Over the years, different legislatures have taken different approaches to achieving fair and effective representation by population for both rural and urban British Columbians. There were only 12 electoral districts in the province's first general election. The smallest was about 12 sq. km, and the largest covered about a third of the province, from B.C.'s southern border up the coast to Alaska.

Since the number of electoral districts in B.C. has increased over time, electoral districts have, on average, become smaller. But some ridings have shrunk while others have expanded. That is primarily because of the increase in urban population density. Presently, 21 of the current 87 electoral districts are larger than 10,000 sq. km, including three that are larger than

100,000 sq. km. Five are smaller than 10 sq. km. Forty-five ridings have more than 60,000 residents, and 10 have fewer than 40,000.

Including our Commission, there have been 10 electoral boundaries commissions in the history of British Columbia since the first was appointed in 1965. Each commission is required to follow the mandate or instructions contained in its governing law. All of these laws have required that commissions be impartial and independent.

Historically, most electoral boundaries laws have given commissions a lot of discretion in proposing revised electoral boundaries. Usually, they set the maximum number of new ridings that the commission may recommend, but the commission can also choose not to recommend new ridings and simply propose revisions to existing boundaries.

Since 1987, commissions have been required to determine the "electoral quotient." This number represents the average population of an electoral district.

It is obtained by dividing the population of the province by the number of electoral districts. Commissions since then have been required to ensure that the population of each riding does not exceed the usual deviation range of between 25% more or less than the electoral quotient without very good reason.

Two laws, one enacted in 1984 and the other in 2014, differed from B.C.'s typical electoral boundaries laws. The 1984 statute divided the province's electoral districts into five different categories based on population density. Metropolitan districts (for example, Vancouver and Victoria) were allowed to have populations that were over 100% larger than the most sparsely populated ridings. The Supreme Court of British Columbia struck down the law, finding that it violated the right to vote in section 3 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* by making the value of one person's vote so different from another person's vote depending on where they lived.

In 2014, the legislature amended the law to establish a minimum number of seats for three designated regions of the province, regardless of the populations of the ridings within them. The designated regions were the North, Cariboo-Thompson and Columbia-Kootenay, which together comprised 17 electoral districts. This statute governed the proposals made by the 2015 Electoral Boundaries Commission (the 2015 Commission). In 2021, the law was amended again to remove this restriction.

We discuss the law governing our Commission in the next chapter.

04

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Context

THE COMMISSION CONSIDERS
KEY TERMS AND CORE CONCEPTS
FROM THE *ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES
COMMISSION ACT*.

Key Terms, Guiding Principles and Our Process to Date

This chapter explains the principles that guide our work and proposals for change. The first section discusses key terms used in the *Electoral Boundaries Commission Act*.

The second section explains the more specific guiding principles that we developed based on our understanding of the Act and the input we received during our public consultations.

The third section explains our process.

Key Terms

The Act

Sections 3 and 9 of the Act set out the Commission's mandate and the principles it must apply in making proposals for electoral districts:

Function of Commission

3(1) The function of the commission is to make proposals to the Legislative Assembly as to the area, boundaries and names of the electoral districts of British Columbia.

(2) If, in carrying out its functions under subsection (1), the commission considers that the number of electoral districts in British Columbia should be increased, the commission may make proposals to the Legislative Assembly to increase the number of electoral districts up to a maximum of 93.

Governing Principles for Electoral District Proposals

9(1) In this section, "electoral quotient" means the number obtained by dividing the population of British Columbia by the number of electoral districts in British Columbia proposed by the commission.

(2) For the purposes of section 3, in making proposals as to the area included in and the boundaries of electoral districts, or proposals to increase the number of electoral districts, the commission must be governed by the following principles:

(a) that the principle of representation by population be achieved, taking into account:

(i) geographic considerations, including the accessibility, size or physical configuration of any part of British Columbia,

(ii) demographic considerations, including communities of interest and the sparsity, density or rate of growth of the population of any part of British Columbia, and

(iii) the availability and means of communication and transportation between various parts of British Columbia;

(b) that to achieve the principle of representation by population the commission may deviate from the electoral quotient by no more than 25%, plus or minus;



(c) that the commission may exceed the 25% deviation principle if it considers it necessary to provide for effective representation.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (2)(c), in considering whether it is necessary to exceed the 25% deviation principle to provide for effective representation, the commission may take into account one or both of the following:

(a) any special geographic considerations, including a manageable geographic size for electoral districts;

(b) any special demographic considerations, including communities of interest.

Core Principles

Section 9 of the Act establishes “representation by population” and “effective representation” as our fundamental guiding principles when making proposals for electoral districts. The Supreme Court of Canada has interpreted these principles in light of the right to vote in section 3 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

IMAGE 4: COMMISSIONER DELIBERATIONS, VICTORIA, B.C. CREDIT: BC ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES COMMISSION. DATE: JUNE 24, 2022.

Both principles have everything to do with the right to vote and nothing to do with the results of a vote. Our recommendations for electoral boundaries must be based on the considerations set out in the Act. We must not consider the impact of our proposals on particular parties or representatives.

Representation by Population

Section 9 requires that “the principle of representation by population be achieved.” Representation by population, or representative democracy, refers to the type of democracy where the people elect representatives who make the laws and policies that govern everyone. There are many types of representative democracies.

In British Columbia, as in all other Canadian jurisdictions, the electorate is divided into subsets called electoral districts, or ridings. The people living in each riding vote for the person they want to represent them. In order to be democratic, the number of people in each electoral district must be roughly the same. Representation by population in our democracy is therefore the right to a relatively equal voice in electing the representatives who govern us. Where a person lives, what they do for a living, or how much they contribute to the economic well-being of the community does not make a difference to the weight of their vote. The principle of representation by population must be balanced with the equally important principle of effective representation.

Effective Representation

The principle of “effective representation,” which is also found in section 9 of the

Act, complements representation by population by recognizing that differences between groups of people in different parts of the province may affect their ability to communicate with and seek assistance from their elected representatives.

In Canada, elected representatives have two equally important roles. In their “legislative” role, they decide who forms government (usually the party with the most representatives) and what laws get passed. In their “ombudsperson” role, they and their staff assist constituents in dealing with government bodies.

In 1991, the Supreme Court of Canada found that the purpose of the right to vote in section 3 of the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms* is not to guarantee absolute equality of voting power. That would require each riding to have the same number of people. Instead, the constitutional right to vote guarantees the right to effective representation by population. The Court explained that this right includes consideration of factors such as geography, and community interests. It ensures that constituents in different electoral districts have relatively equal access to their representatives both as legislators and as ombudspersons.²

In particular, the Supreme Court recognized that the transportation and communications challenges in rural ridings may justify somewhat lower populations than in urban ridings.³

Factors in the Act

Section 9 of the Act specifies three broad and overlapping considerations that we must apply when proposing new electoral boundaries. They are:

- Geographic considerations, which include the accessibility, size or physical configuration of any part of British Columbia;
- Demographic considerations, which include communities of interest and the sparsity, density or rate of growth of the population of any part of British Columbia; and
- The availability and means of communication and transportation between various parts of British Columbia.

Our understanding of these terms stems from their relationship to representation by population and effective representation, how these factors affect electoral boundaries in B.C. historically and presently, and the ways people spoke about these factors during our consultations.

Geographic Considerations

“Accessibility” refers to how easy or hard it is for constituents to access their MLA and staff, particularly when seeking help with a particular problem. It includes access by internet, by phone and in person. It is important for MLAs to be present in communities throughout their electoral district. We know that some concerns are better addressed in face-to-face meetings. We also appreciate that, although internet and wireless communications are improving, there are significant parts of the province where these services are not reliable.

“Size” refers to the physical area covered by an electoral district. The large geographic size of some electoral districts, together with communication and transportation barriers, affects accessibility.

“Physical configuration” refers to the unique geographic characteristics of an electoral district. It includes waterways, mountain ranges and other geographic features that affect accessibility.

Demographic Considerations

“Communities of interest” can have a wide range of meanings. In the context of electoral boundaries, it is about groups whose similar interests—whether cultural, social, economic or regional—relate to electoral representation. Ensuring that such groups are not divided by electoral boundaries can enhance effective representation. We heard a great deal about the different interests of urban and rural constituents, and about the shared interests of residents within a municipality. We also heard about the shared interests of smaller communities connected by a transportation corridor, and about unique neighbourhoods within urban settings.

“Sparsity and density” refer to the concentration of population within an electoral district or across several ridings. Both present challenges for drawing electoral boundaries. Population sparsity is a challenge in the northern part of the province because it leads to geographically large electoral districts and problems with accessibility. Population density is a problem in the Lower Mainland because it leads to electoral districts with more constituents and problems of voter inequality compared to more sparsely populated ridings. Larger populations in a district can also impede effective access to a person’s MLA.

“Rate of growth” refers to how quickly the population of an area is expected to grow or shrink over time. It is an important

consideration because the Act says that electoral boundaries accepted by the government will be used over the next two general elections, or about eight years. Many people we heard from referred to anticipated population growth as a reason for changing existing electoral boundaries or adding a new electoral district.

Communication and Transportation Considerations

In this context, “communication” generally refers to internet and cellular coverage. This is a real problem in many parts of the province, especially in mountainous areas and in more northern communities. Many urban residents are not aware of how fragile or non-existent these connections are, despite the efforts made during the pandemic to improve connectivity.

“Transportation” refers to all ways of getting from one place to another. By far, the most common way of moving within electoral districts is driving. However, ferries and other forms of water transport, public transit, and even air travel are vital for people living in some areas of B.C. The availability and cost of transportation, as well as the time it takes, are important when considering the need for constituents and their MLA to have in-person meetings. Weather, environmental crises (such as floods and fires) and inadequate infrastructure are significant barriers to transportation in some parts of the province.

New Electoral Districts

Section 3(2) of the Act permits us to propose up to six new electoral districts, increasing the number of MLAs from 87 to 93. As section 3 does not state any different factors to guide proposals for the creation of new electoral districts, we use the principles in section 9 as a guide together with the more specific principles set out below.

Notes

2. REFERENCE RE PROV. ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES (SASK), [1991] 2 SCR 158 AT PARAS 49-55.
3. REFERENCE RE PROV. ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES (SASK), [1991] 2 SCR 158. AT PARA 78.

IMAGE 5: PUBLIC MEETING IN VICTORIA, B.C. CREDIT: BC ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES COMMISSION. MARCH 21, 2022.

The Commission heard more than 250 presentations at its public meetings across the province.



Our Guiding Principles

How the core concepts and key terms from the Act shape our process for redistricting.

Interpreting the Act

Section 9 of the Act requires us to achieve representation by population that provides effective representation for British Columbians. It says we must determine the “electoral quotient,” which is the average number of British Columbians per electoral district. It tells us that we may propose electoral boundaries for ridings whose population falls within the usual deviation range of up to 25% more or less than the electoral quotient. The Act says that our proposals for revised electoral boundaries within the usual deviation range must be based on geographic factors, demographic factors and means of communication and transportation.

The Act also permits us to propose boundaries for electoral districts with populations outside of the usual deviation range where that is “necessary to provide for effective representation.” We understand that this is a stringent test.

The Act is different from its predecessor. The previous law mandated a minimum

number of seats for three specific regions of the province: the North, Cariboo-Thompson and Columbia-Kootenay, which together comprised 17 electoral districts. Ten of these ridings had populations that were lower than 25% below the electoral quotient. No ridings outside these regions had populations as low. The 2015 Commission did not have the power to reduce the number of ridings in these regions, regardless of their population. In 2021, the legislature repealed these provisions.

We heard from many residents, particularly from these three regions, that they wanted us to take the same approach and preserve these 17 electoral districts as the previous law had required. We cannot do that because we must comply with the Act as it exists now.

Our Act requires us to look at the boundaries of every electoral district in the province. For those ridings whose population falls outside the usual deviation range, we must consider whether it is possible, in light of the statutory factors, to adjust

the riding's electoral boundaries to bring it within the usual deviation range. If it is not possible, we must decide whether special geographic or demographic considerations make the unusual deviation truly necessary.

Specific Principles

Based on our understanding of the Act, we developed additional specific principles to guide our deliberations. We did not prioritize them but used them as touchstones in our discussions. They are:

- **Only make changes where they are needed.** We consider continuity important. While it is possible to approach electoral boundaries with a blank slate, this would cause a lot of disruption and would not respect the historical traditions of communities within the same electoral district.
- **Allow for future population growth.** The Act is forward looking and the recommendations we make, if accepted, will apply for the next two general elections.
- **Balance populations in the same area.** The Act does not divide British Columbia into formal regions. However, British Columbians commonly identify themselves as living in particular areas, such as the North, or the Interior. We recognize this reality by trying to reduce population disparities within each area.
- **Use existing boundaries.** There are an astonishing number of boundaries in the province quite apart from federal and provincial electoral districts. They include municipalities, First Nations territories, regional districts and school districts. We used existing boundaries as much as possible to reduce confusion.
- **Use geographic boundaries.** Existing boundaries are often drawn along natural boundaries, such as waterways, mountains and major highways. People tend to think of them as natural dividers, and we wanted to reflect that in our boundary drawing.
- **Avoid splitting Indigenous communities.** Although the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) are directed at governments, not independent commissions such as ours, we adopt this principle because it is consistent with the objectives of our Act.
- **Consider the ombudsperson role of an MLA.** This principle reminds us that an MLA's ombudsperson role is as important as their legislative role. We recognize that being an effective ombudsperson may be harder in more sparsely populated ridings with fewer services.
- **Reduce the number of electoral districts falling outside the 25% deviation range.** We believe this principle follows from the core concept of representation by population and the Act's definition of the usual deviation range. By increasing the number of ridings within that range, we reduce the need for exceptions.

- **Change names of ridings only where necessary and prefer inclusive names.** Traditionally, names of provincial ridings have referred to larger communities or distinct geographic areas. We wanted to continue that approach with names that reflect the breadth of the riding. We also wanted to keep names relatively short and to try to ensure that, in alphabetic lists of ridings, those in the same geographic area would be listed together.

IMAGE 6: PUBLIC MEETING IN REVELSTOKE, B.C. CREDIT: BC ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES COMMISSION. APRIL 7, 2022.

The Commission travelled more than 10,000 km by car, ferry and plane in its public consultation phase—a lesson in B.C.'s vast geographic area.



Our Process

We were appointed as Commissioners on October 21, 2021. Our first virtual meeting was a week later, on October 28, and our first in-person meeting was on November 4. None of us knew each other previously.

At the outset, we agreed that we wanted to operate by consensus. We would talk through any issues until we all felt comfortable with how to proceed.

We agreed that our first steps should be to better understand the importance of electoral boundaries and redrawing them. We invited experts to talk with us about electoral boundary law, the experience of prior electoral boundary commissions, demographics, population statistics and mapping. We also determined what staff we needed to hire. Our staff joined us between December 2021 and February 2022.

In our initial meetings, we decided that we wanted to be as accessible and transparent as possible. We wanted to visit as many communities in all areas of the province as we could, especially areas outside the Lower Mainland and Victoria. Recognizing the limitations posed by travel times and distances, as well as by the COVID-19 pandemic, we decided to hold virtual meetings in addition to in-person meetings.

Our website went live on February 22, 2022. As part of our efforts to increase awareness, we began a media campaign asking for feedback on the area, boundaries and names of current provincial electoral districts. We directly contacted First Nations organizations, local governments, MLAs and others that we thought might be interested in our work. We advertised in newspapers, on radio and television, as well as online.

Recognizing the challenge in asking the public to comment on a topic as abstract as provincial electoral boundaries, we described our Commission and our mandate in our outreach materials and at public meetings. We chatted with people informally and answered questions after our in-person and virtual public meetings. Our website included a survey tool that prompted people with questions about their electoral district in relation to the factors in the Act. In addition to public meetings and our website, we accepted submissions by email or post, and over the phone.

The initial public consultation phase ended on May 31, 2022. We heard from people at 50 public meetings in 43 communities, and we received over 1,000 submissions.

We learned a great deal from this consultation, both about British Columbians' views on electoral boundaries in general and in their particular districts, and about the process of public outreach campaigns. What we heard about electoral boundaries has significantly influenced our recommendations.

We spent two weeks deliberating in June 2022, and the months of June, July and August writing our preliminary report.

On October 3, 2022, we submitted the preliminary report with our initial proposals to the Legislative Assembly. From then until November 22, we asked British Columbians to share their views on our recommendations. We heard from 76 presenters at 13 public hearings and received more than 700 written submissions.

On November 23, we held hearings in Victoria for Members of the Legislative Assembly, where we received input from 35 MLAs. During this time, we also continued to conduct research and to identify other issues to address in our final report.

We considered everything we learned throughout our process to create the final proposals contained in this report.

05

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Recommendations

Introduction

This chapter contains our recommendations for electoral boundary adjustments. For ease of reading, we have divided the province into 11 geographic areas, organized in the order that we discussed them during our deliberations. Each contains an overview of the area as a whole and provides the reasons for our recommendations. We list each electoral district in the area, describing its proposed boundaries in text and in map form.

We propose two changes with province-wide effects. First, we recommend increasing the number of electoral districts in the province from 87 to 93. Second, we propose technical mapping changes to improve electoral riding maps.

In our view, six additional ridings are a necessary response to the province's significant population growth since the 2015 Commission, and the projected population growth in densely populated urban areas. We propose to locate these new electoral districts in Langford, Kelowna, Langley, Burnaby, Surrey and Vancouver.

With 93 electoral districts, the electoral quotient is 53,773 people (that is, the average number of people per district), and the usual deviation range is between 40,330 and 67,216 people in each electoral district.

Many people told us that they believe new electoral districts are needed in areas where the population of existing ridings is significantly more than 25% over the electoral quotient.

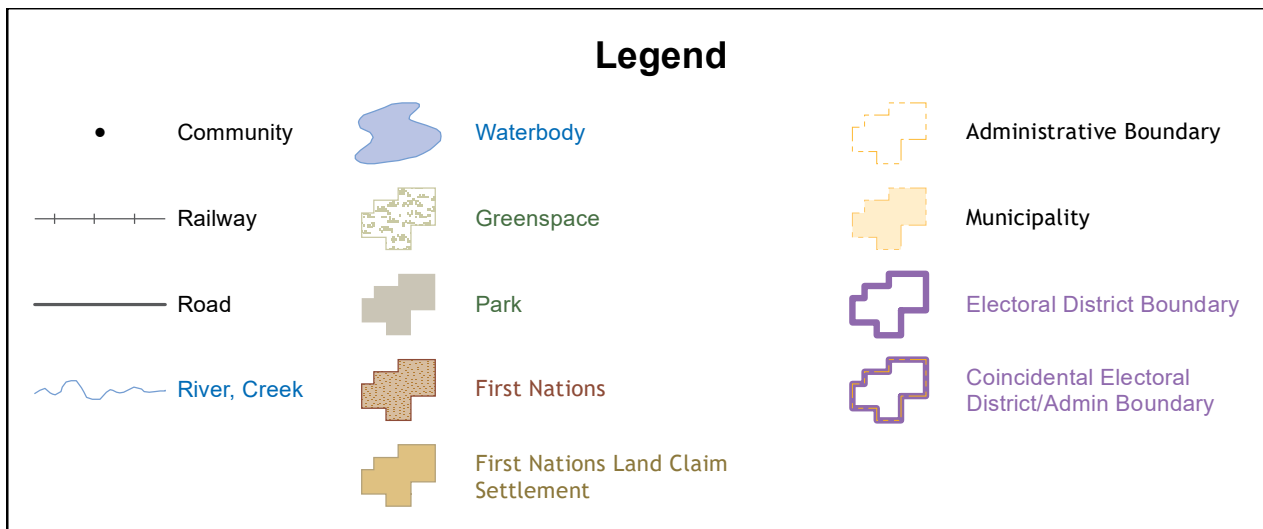
Some said that it is unfair that a vote in the densest urban ridings is currently worth one-fourth of a vote in the province's least populous ridings. We received several detailed proposals about where new districts should be situated. Some residents of more sparsely populated ridings said that creating new districts in densely populated communities helps to reduce the population disparity between urban and rural areas, and therefore differences in the weight of votes, without reducing the number of rural ridings.

Reviewing the populations of existing electoral districts also points to the need for new ridings. Using 2021 Census population figures and the 87 existing electoral districts, six electoral districts are over the maximum of 25% more than the electoral quotient. Four of them are 30% over the electoral quotient and one is more than 40% over. Many of these ridings are next to one another and the problem is compounded by the fact that these areas are projected to continue to grow faster than the provincial average.

Adding these new electoral districts not only alleviates the problem of over-populated ridings, it is also an effective way to address ridings whose populations are more than 25% below the electoral quotient. Adding six new ridings lowers the bottom of the usual deviation range from the current minimum of 43,111 people in a riding to 40,330. That means fewer boundary adjustments are needed to bring more sparsely populated ridings within the usual deviation range.

As a result, the weight of a vote in the province's least populated riding will no longer be four times more than the weight of a vote in the province's most densely populated riding. The difference will be closer to three to one. We believe our proposal strongly supports the twin principles of representation by population and effective representation for all British Columbians, as the Act requires.

The three technical mapping changes we propose affect how electoral maps are drawn. First, we adjust riding boundaries



on the Pacific coast to coincide with existing regional district boundaries, which follow the coastline at a five-kilometre distance out to sea. Currently, coastal boundaries are drawn at a much greater distance, unnecessarily incorporating more unpopulated ocean area into these ridings. Second, we adjust existing electoral district boundaries to coincide with nearby or updated administrative boundaries. Third, we orient electoral district boundaries that continue into inland waterways to angles of zero, 90, 180 or 270 degrees. The electoral district maps in this chapter incorporate these changes.

We propose changes to the names of electoral districts where necessary to ensure that they accurately reflect the riding and are different from the names of federal ridings.

Vancouver Island

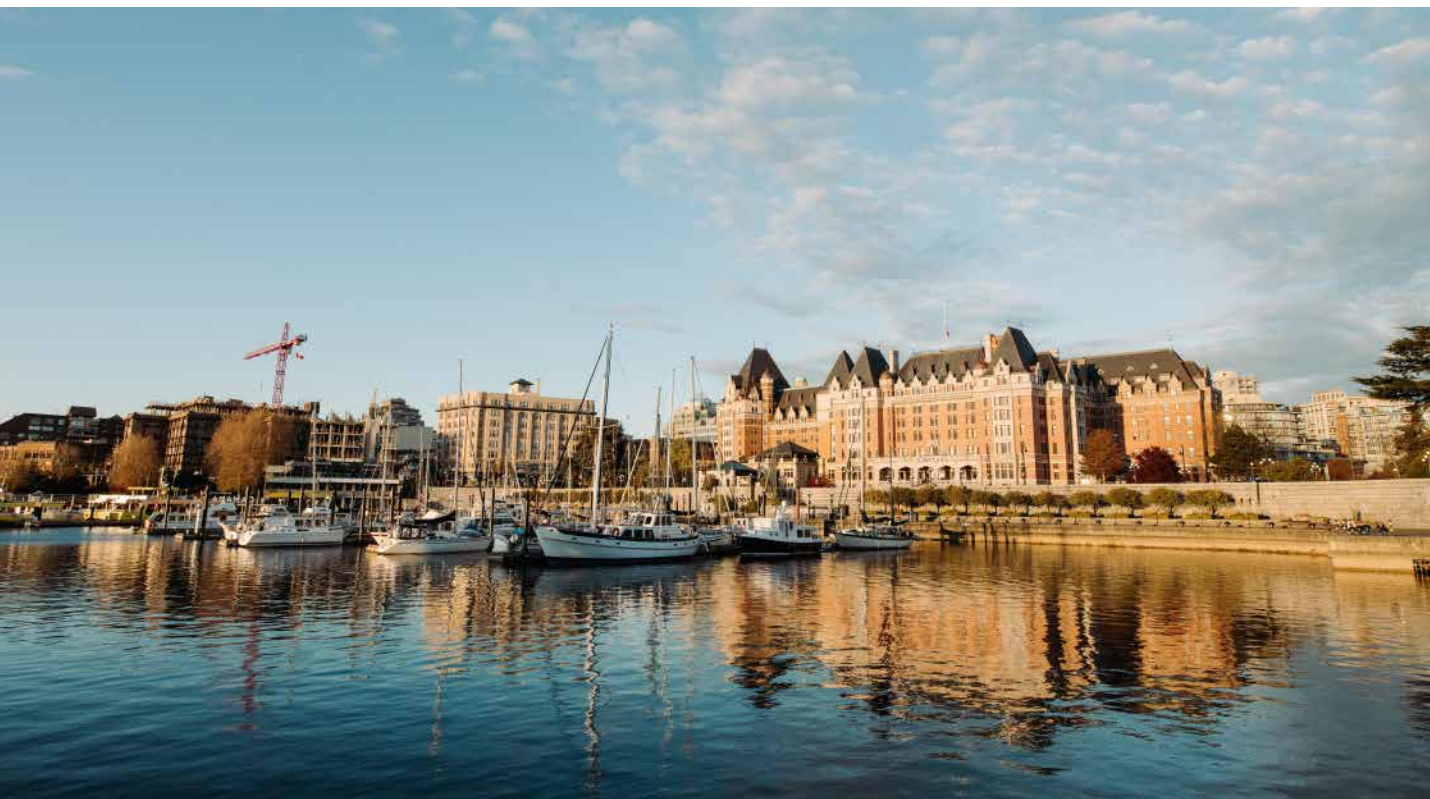
Current Electoral Districts (14)

Courtenay-Comox
 Cowichan Valley
 Esquimalt-Metchosin
 Langford-Juan de Fuca
 Mid Island-Pacific Rim
 Nanaimo
 Nanaimo-North Cowichan
 North Island
 Oak Bay-Gordon Head
 Parksville-Qualicum
 Saanich North and the Islands
 Saanich South
 Victoria-Beacon Hill
 Victoria-Swan Lake

Proposed Electoral Districts (15)

Courtenay-Comox
 Cowichan Valley
 Esquimalt-Colwood
 Juan de Fuca-Malahat
 Ladysmith-Oceanside
 Langford-Highlands
 Mid Island-Pacific Rim
 Nanaimo-Gabriola Island
 Nanaimo-Lantzville
 North Island
 Oak Bay-Gordon Head
 Saanich North and the Islands
 Saanich South
 Victoria-Beacon Hill
 Victoria-Swan Lake

TABLE 1: VANCOUVER ISLAND ELECTORAL DISTRICTS
 NOTE: THIS CHAPTER USES PROPOSED ELECTORAL DISTRICT NAMES



The Vancouver Island area includes all of Vancouver Island, adjacent islands and the area defined by the Regional District of Mount Waddington, which crosses over to the mainland at the northern end of the Island. This area includes Greater Victoria, as well as the sizable municipalities of Nanaimo, Courtenay, Duncan, Campbell River, Parksville, Port Alberni and Ladysmith. It has good transportation and communications networks, although internet connectivity is poor in rural areas north of Campbell River. Most of the Island's population lives in the south and along the east coast.

The Vancouver Island area presently has 14 electoral districts. While the population is growing overall, growth is far more rapid in some areas than others. In particular, the areas of Nanaimo (including Parksville),

Greater Victoria (mostly Langford), and Courtenay, are experiencing greater levels of growth. The current electoral district of Langford-Juan de Fuca is approaching the upper limit of the usual deviation range and is projected to exceed it within the next eight years. Some adjacent ridings have significantly different populations. For example, Saanich North and the Islands is currently 8.8% above the electoral quotient while the neighbouring Saanich South is 6.0% below the electoral quotient. Similarly, the population of Victoria-

IMAGE 7: VICTORIA CAUSEWAY MARINA, VICTORIA, B.C. CREDIT: ARMON ARANI. MAY 11, 2020

TABLE 2: VANCOUVER ISLAND POPULATION, DEVIATION AND AREA
SOURCE: 2021 STATISTICS CANADA CENSUS COUNT

Electoral District	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Courtenay-Comox	60,354	12.2	1,587
Cowichan Valley	55,158	2.6	2,320
Esquimalt-Colwood	58,356	8.5	53
Juan de Fuca-Malahat	44,980	-16.4	3,116
Ladysmith-Oceanside	56,308	4.7	2,127
Langford-Highlands	49,110	-8.7	86
Mid Island-Pacific Rim	58,783	9.3	11,846
Nanaimo-Gabriola Island	59,172	10.0	504
Nanaimo-Lantzville	56,881	5.8	411
North Island	58,940	9.6	39,933
Oak Bay-Gordon Head	56,466	5.0	302
Saanich North and the Islands	57,901	7.7	1,506
Saanich South	58,671	9.1	105
Victoria-Beacon Hill	54,375	1.1	83
Victoria-Swan Lake	54,780	1.9	18
Total/Average	840,235	4.2	63,996

Beacon Hill is +9.2% while Victoria-Swan Lake is at -4.7%. Following our principle of balancing populations in the same area, we propose boundary changes to address these differences.

During our public consultations, we heard that some Vancouver Island residents felt the current boundaries are effective and did not see the need for change. Others said that a new electoral district is needed in the south of the Island in light of the current growth. We also heard about the ties and shared interests between specific

communities throughout the Island, including those between specific Gulf Islands and adjacent communities on the east coast of Vancouver Island.

We recommend the following new or revised riding names to reflect the communities they represent: Esquimalt-Colwood, Juan de Fuca-Malahat, Ladysmith-Oceanside, Langford-Highlands, Nanaimo-Gabriola and Nanaimo-Lantzville.



Greater Victoria

Greater Victoria is situated on southern Vancouver Island. It extends to Port Renfrew on the west coast and includes the Southern Gulf Islands to the north and east. It includes 13 municipalities and several unincorporated areas. We propose adding a new electoral district in the fast-growing Langford area, creating room for anticipated growth, with consequent adjustments to the boundaries of adjacent ridings. These include combining similar, smaller communities along the Strait of Juan de Fuca (Metchosin, Sooke, and Port Renfrew) with those north of the Malahat (Shawnigan Lake, Cobble Hill and Mill Bay) into a single electoral district called Juan de Fuca-Malahat. We consider that this change provides more effective representation for these communities.

We also recommend changes in Victoria and Saanich that reflect what we heard about communities of interest. We heard that the neighbourhood of Victoria West is more closely connected with neighbourhoods west of the Gorge Waterway than downtown Victoria. Their shared interests include transit corridors like the E&N trail. Our proposal moves Victoria West from Victoria-Beacon Hill into the Esquimalt-Colwood electoral district. This also better balances the populations between the neighbouring

IMAGE 8: FORBIDDEN PLATEAU,
STRATHCONA PROVINCIAL PARK,
B.C. CREDIT: LESLY DERKSEN
MAY 5, 2019

ridings of Victoria-Beacon Hill and Victoria-Swan Lake. To better balance the populations of the two Saanich ridings, we initially considered moving Brentwood Bay from Saanich North and the Islands to Saanich South. However, the population of this community was too large to move all of it into Saanich South. To avoid dividing Brentwood Bay, we propose moving the Keating neighbourhood from Saanich North and the Islands into Saanich South. We do not recommend any changes to the boundaries of Victoria-Swan Lake or Oak Bay-Gordon Head.

Greater Nanaimo

Greater Nanaimo includes the area from Ladysmith through Nanaimo and Parksville north to Qualicum Beach. This area is growing; however, some people told us that the City of Nanaimo should have one electoral district rather than three. Currently, Nanaimo residents live in three ridings: Nanaimo, Nanaimo-North Cowichan and Parksville-Qualicum. We also heard about the historic ties and transportation links between downtown Nanaimo and Gabriola Island.

Nanaimo is too large for a single electoral district and it is projected to grow more in the near future. Instead, we propose dividing the city between two ridings. Nanaimo-Gabriola includes the downtown core north to Departure Bay as well as Gabriola Island, while Nanaimo-Lantzville includes the growing northern half of the city as well as the closely linked community of Lantzville. We unite Oceanside, Ladysmith and Saltair in one electoral district, called Ladysmith-Oceanside. While we considered moving Coombs and Errington from Mid Island-Pacific Rim into Ladysmith-Oceanside because of

their economic and community ties with Parksville and Qualicum, this would have created too great a population difference between these ridings.

Other Vancouver Island Areas

We propose adjustments to the boundaries of the Cowichan Valley riding to better balance its population with that of its neighbours by adding Chemainus and Cherry Creek to this electoral district. We also propose including Thetis, Penelakut and Valdez Islands in this electoral district because of their transportation links with Chemainus.

We heard about the strong ties between Cumberland, Courtenay and Comox as well as Denman and Hornby Islands. However, placing these communities in a single riding would have increased the population of Courtenay-Comox above the usual deviation range and resulted in a significant population difference between it and Mid Island-Pacific Rim. We therefore propose no changes to the Courtenay-Comox and North Island electoral districts, and very minor changes to Mid Island-Pacific Rim.

Electoral District Descriptions

Courtenay-Comox

This electoral district includes Courtenay, Comox, Little River, Merville and Black Creek. The riding's boundaries follow Comox Valley Regional District Electoral Area C, and the northern municipal boundary of the Village of Cumberland, which is in the Mid-Island Pacific Rim riding.

Cowichan Valley

This riding includes Duncan, Lake Cowichan and North Cowichan, as well as Thetis, Penelakut and Valdez Islands. The riding's northern boundary follows Cowichan Valley Regional District Electoral Area G, and its southern boundary follows Electoral Areas D, E and F. Its eastern boundary extends to the Strait of Georgia, and its western boundary follows Gordon River and forest service roads around Lake Cowichan.

Esquimalt-Colwood

Esquimalt-Colwood includes the municipalities of Colwood, View Royal and Esquimalt, and the neighbourhood of Victoria West. Its boundaries follow these municipal borders, as well as the Gorge Waterway and Victoria Harbour.

Juan de Fuca-Malahat

This riding includes communities along the Strait of Juan de Fuca and north of the Malahat Pass: Metchosin, Sooke, Port Renfrew, Shawnigan Lake, Mill Bay and Cobble Hill. Its district boundaries run along the Strait of Juan de Fuca in the south and follow the municipal borders of Colwood, Langford, and Highlands in the east. In the north, they follow the boundaries of Cowichan Valley Regional District Electoral Area B.

Ladysmith-Oceanside

Ladysmith-Oceanside includes Saltair, Ladysmith, Cassidy, Nanoose Bay, Parksville, Qualicum Beach and Lasqueti Island. Its northern boundaries follow the Island Highway and the Regional District of Nanaimo Electoral Area G. The riding

extends south along the borders of Ladysmith and Cowichan Valley Regional District Electoral Area H.

Langford-Highlands

This electoral district consists of the City of Langford and the District of Highlands, as well as Goldstream and Gowlland Tod Provincial Parks. Its boundaries follow the municipal borders of Langford and Highlands.

Mid Island-Pacific Rim

Mid Island-Pacific Rim runs between both coasts of the mid-Island area. It includes Tofino, Ucluelet, Bamfield, Port Alberni, Bowser and Cumberland, as well as Denman and Hornby Islands. The riding's northern boundary follows the borders of the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District and the Village of Cumberland. In the south, its boundaries follow the Gordon River and the borders of the Cowichan Valley Regional District.

Nanaimo-Gabriola

This riding includes Nanaimo's downtown core, Cedar, the Snuneymuxw First Nation and Gabriola Island. The riding's northern boundary follows Meredith Road and Northfield Road through Nanaimo proper to Biggs Road. To the west, the riding includes the East Wellington neighbourhood and follows the municipal limits of Nanaimo. To the south, its boundaries follow the border of Regional District of Nanaimo Electoral Area A and the Nanaimo River.

Nanaimo-Lantzville

This electoral district includes the Nanaimo neighbourhoods of Departure Bay and Wellington, and the District of Lantzville. Its southern border follows Highway 19A from Meredith Road to Strathmore Street. In the west, its boundaries follow the administrative borders of the District of Lantzville. To the north and east, the riding is bounded by the Strait of Georgia.

North Island

North Island includes Campbell River, Sayward, Port McNeill, Port Hardy and Alert Bay. It encompasses all of the northern part of Vancouver Island, surrounding islands and the Mount Waddington Regional District on the mainland. The southern boundary follows the border of the Strathcona Regional District.

Oak Bay-Gordon Head

This riding consists of the Municipality of Oak Bay, the Saanich neighbourhoods of Gordon Head and Cadboro Bay and the Victoria neighbourhood of Gonzales. It is bordered by the Strait of Juan de Fuca and Haro Strait to the north, south, and east. In the west, its border follows Richmond Avenue, Shelbourne Street and Cedar Hill Road.

Saanich North and the Islands

This electoral district includes North Saanich, Brentwood Bay, Sidney and the Southern Gulf Islands of Salt Spring, East and West Pender, Galiano, Saturna and Mayne. The riding's southern boundary extends from Saanich Inlet in the west to Haro Strait in the east by following the municipal limits of Central Saanich

to Oldfield Road, and then north to the boundary with the Tsawout First Nation reserve (East Saanich 2).

Saanich South

Saanich South includes the neighbourhoods of Royal Oak, Cordova Bay and Prospect Lake. It follows the municipal boundaries of the District of Saanich in the south, east and west. It extends north to the boundary the Tsawout First Nation reserve (East Saanich 2) and includes the Keating neighbourhood of the District of Central Saanich east of Oldfield Road.

Victoria-Beacon Hill

Victoria-Beacon Hill includes the urban centre of Victoria and the neighbourhoods of James Bay, Fairfield, Rockland, North Park and Fernwood. Its borders are defined by the City of Victoria's municipal boundary in the east, Bay Street in the north, the Gorge Waterway and Victoria Harbour in the west, and the Strait of Juan de Fuca in the south.

Victoria-Swan Lake

Victoria-Swan Lake includes the neighbourhoods of Swan Lake, Tillicum, Burnside and Oaklands. Its borders are defined by Bay Street to the south, and Richmond Avenue, Shelbourne Street and Cedar Hill Road to the east. Its western boundary follows the Gorge Waterway, and its northern border is McKenzie Avenue.



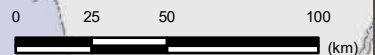
Electoral Districts

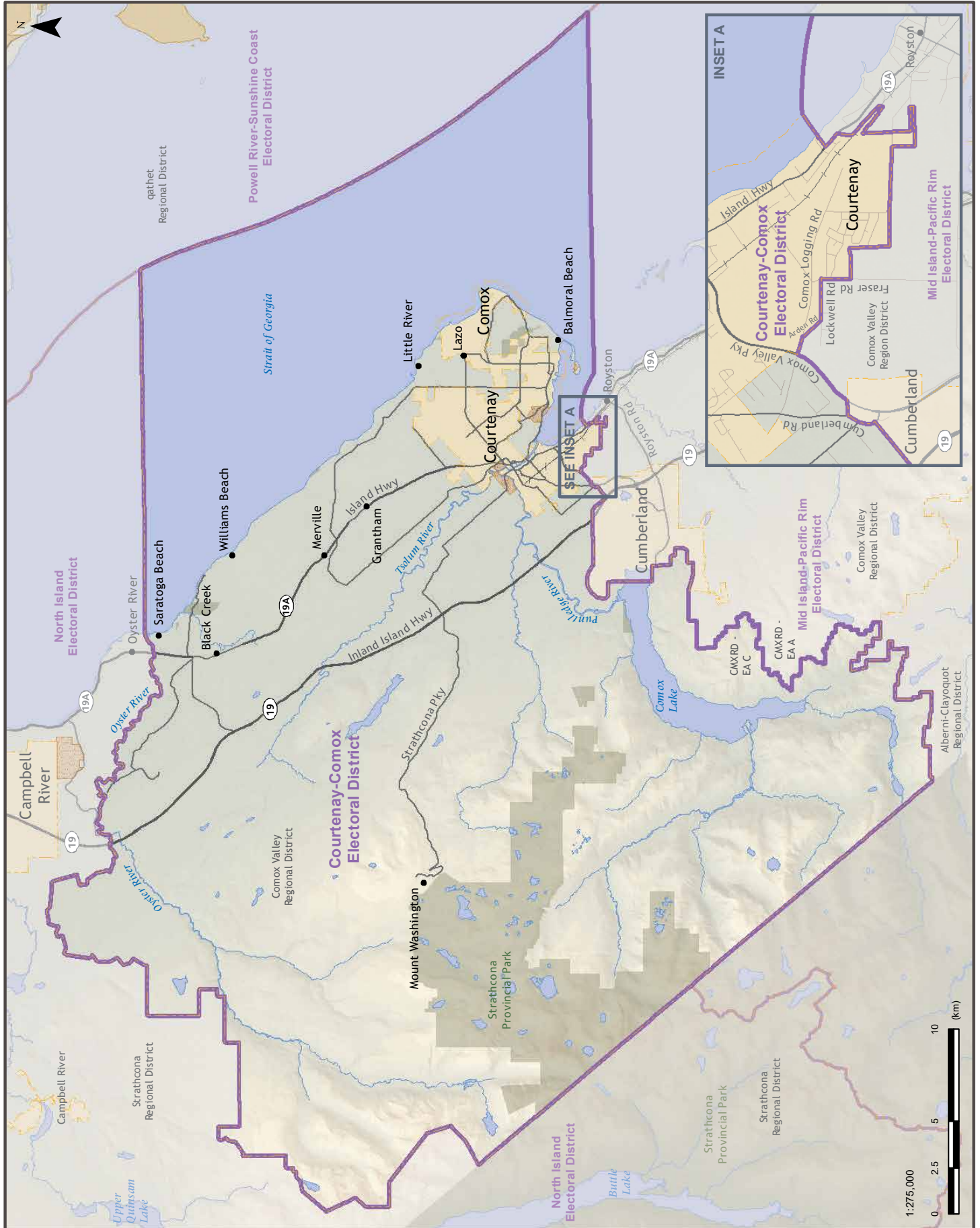
- 1. Courtenay-Comox
- 2. Cowichan Valley
- 3. Esquimalt-Colwood
- 4. Juan de Fuca-Malahat
- 5. Ladysmith-Oceanside
- 6. Langford-Highlands
- 7. Mid Island-Pacific Rim
- 8. Nanaimo-Gabriola Island
- 9. Nanaimo-Lantzville
- 10. North Island
- 11. Oak Bay-Gordon Head
- 12. Saanich North and the Islands
- 13. Saanich South
- 14. Victoria-Beacon Hill
- 15. Victoria-Swan Lake

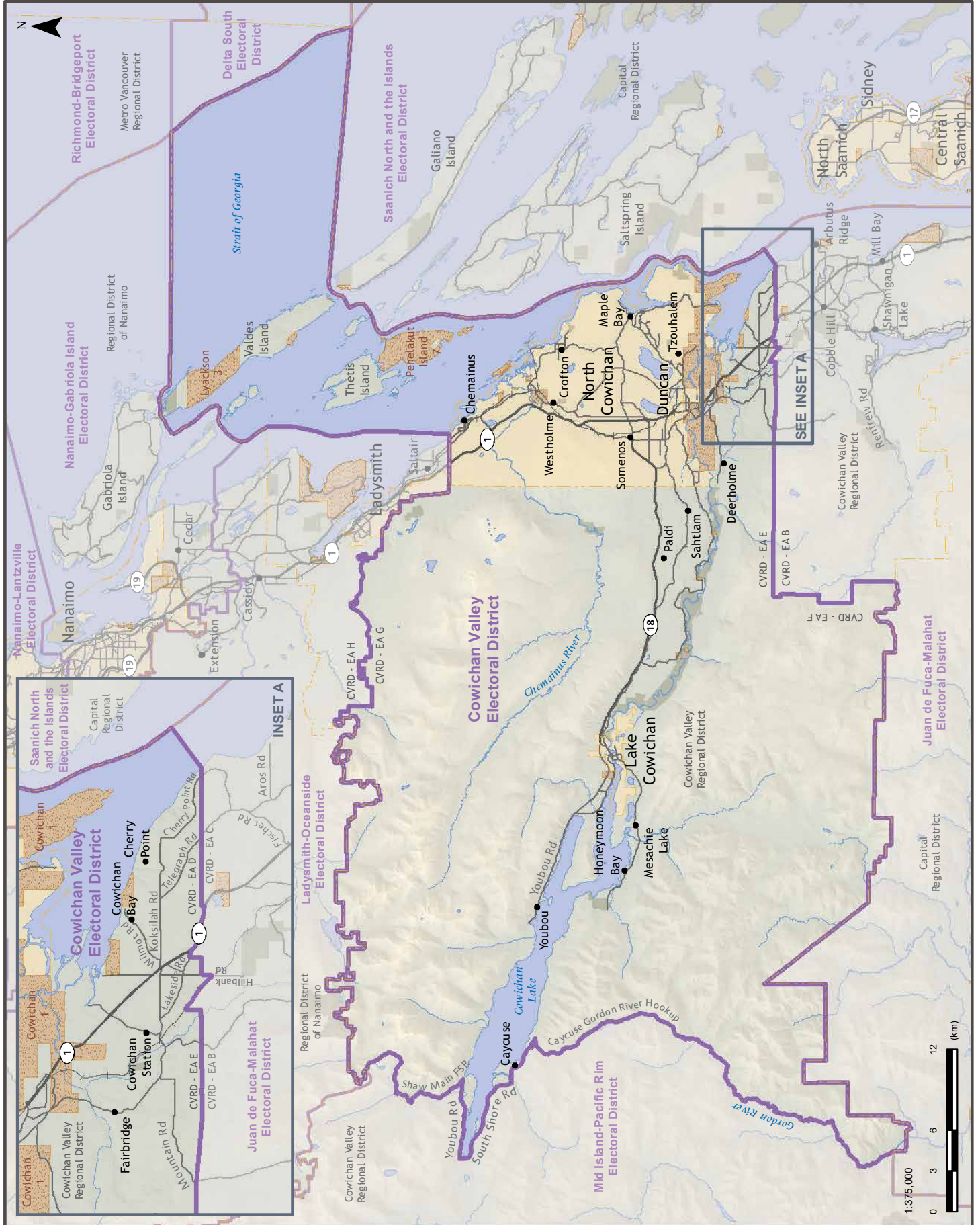
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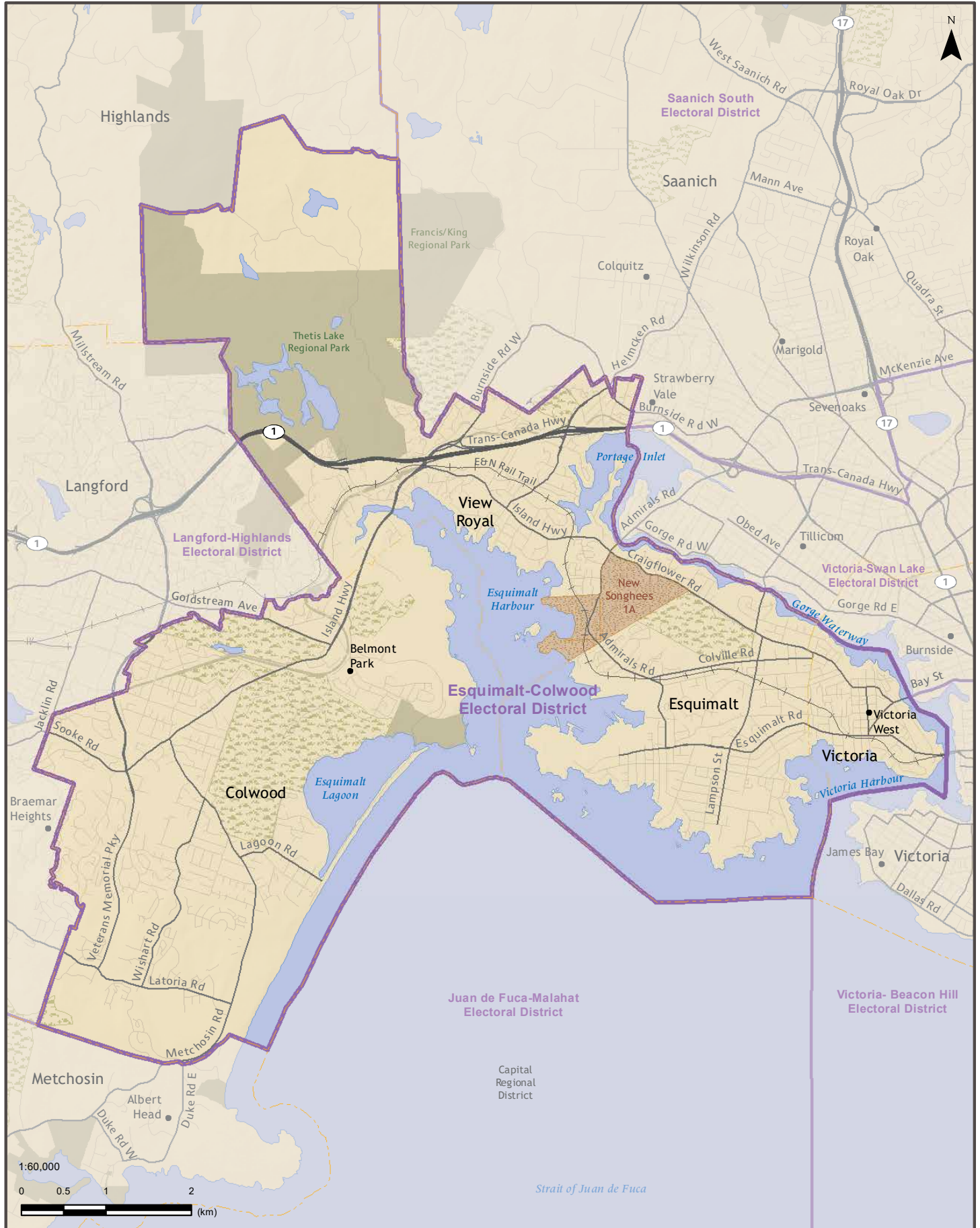
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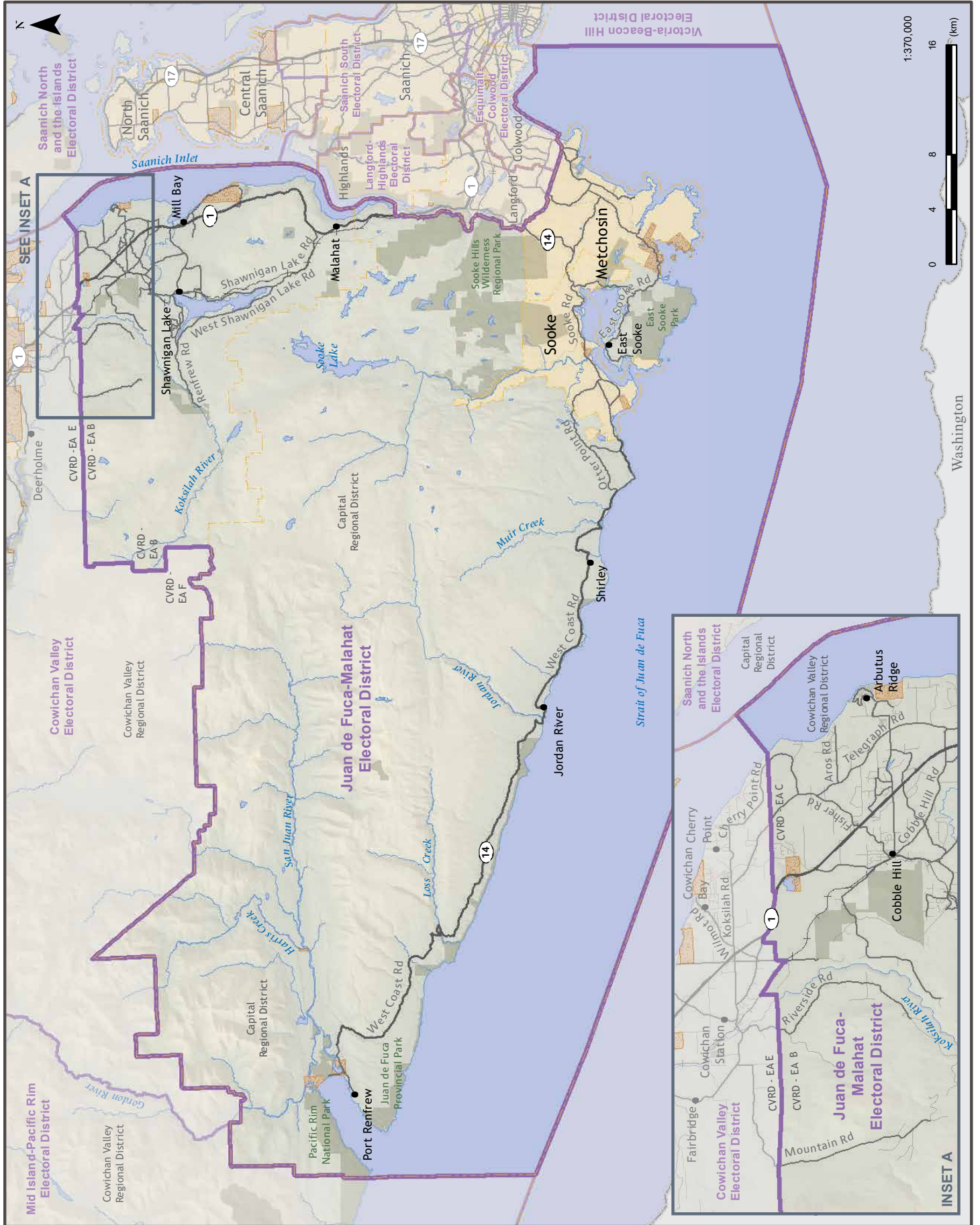
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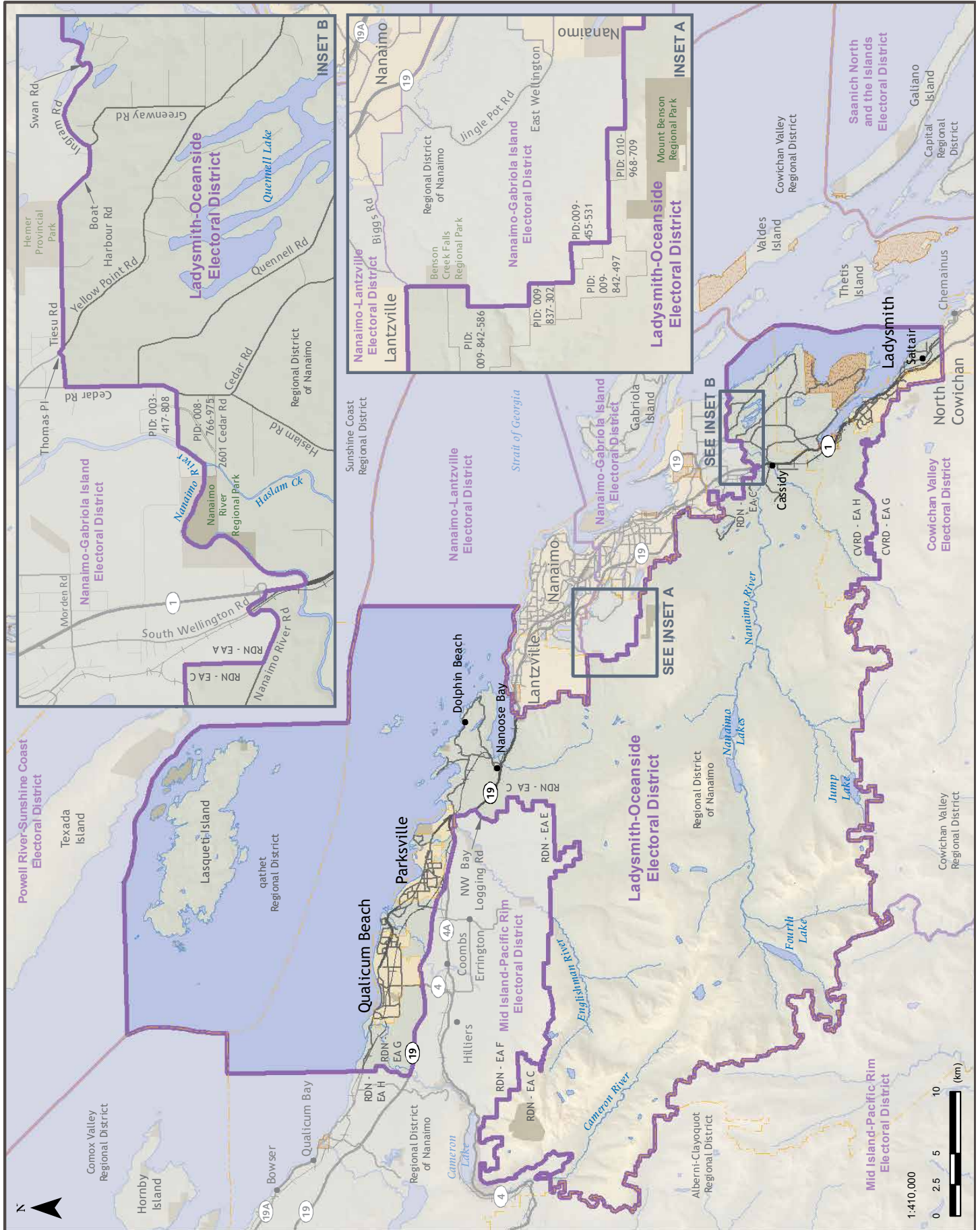


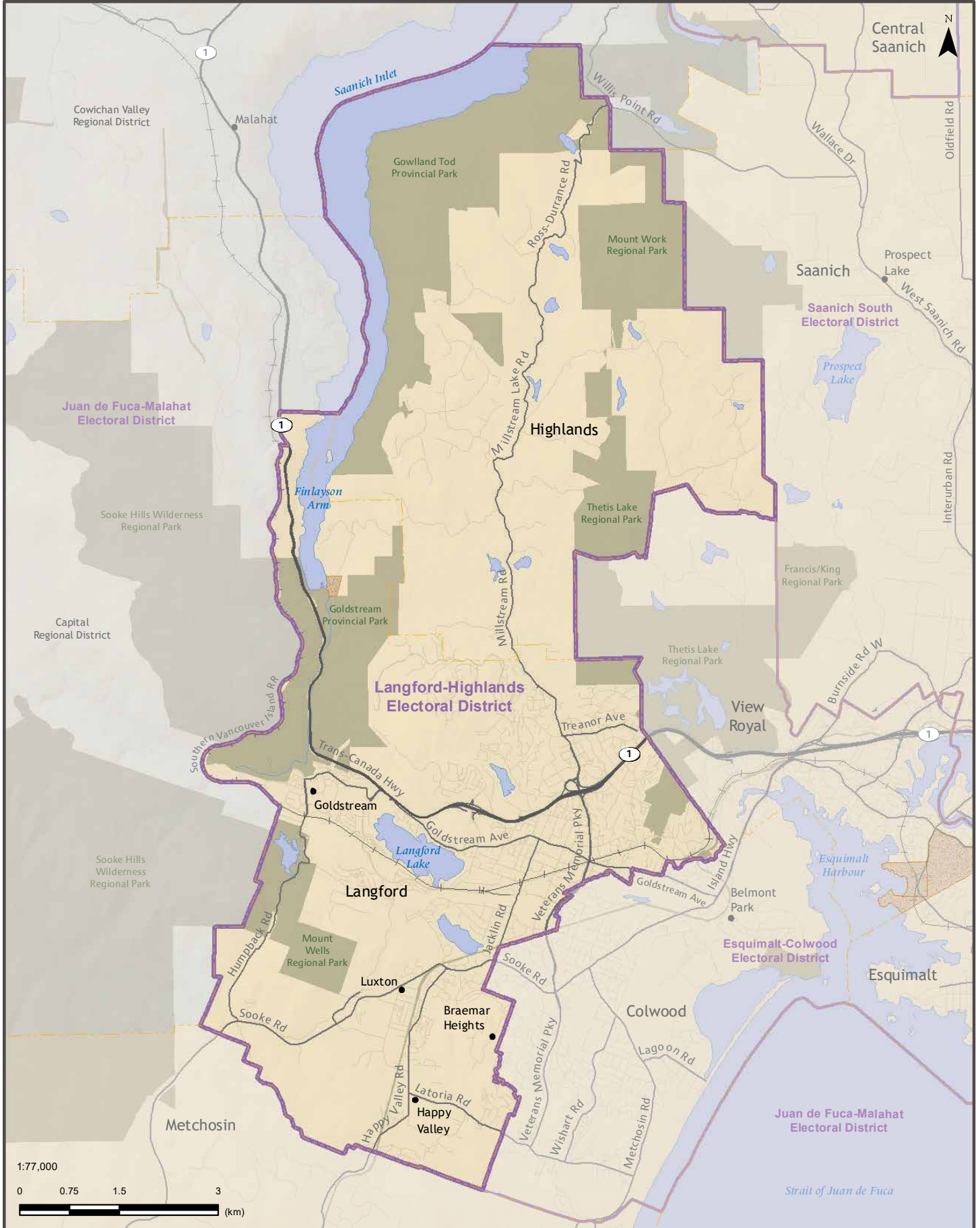


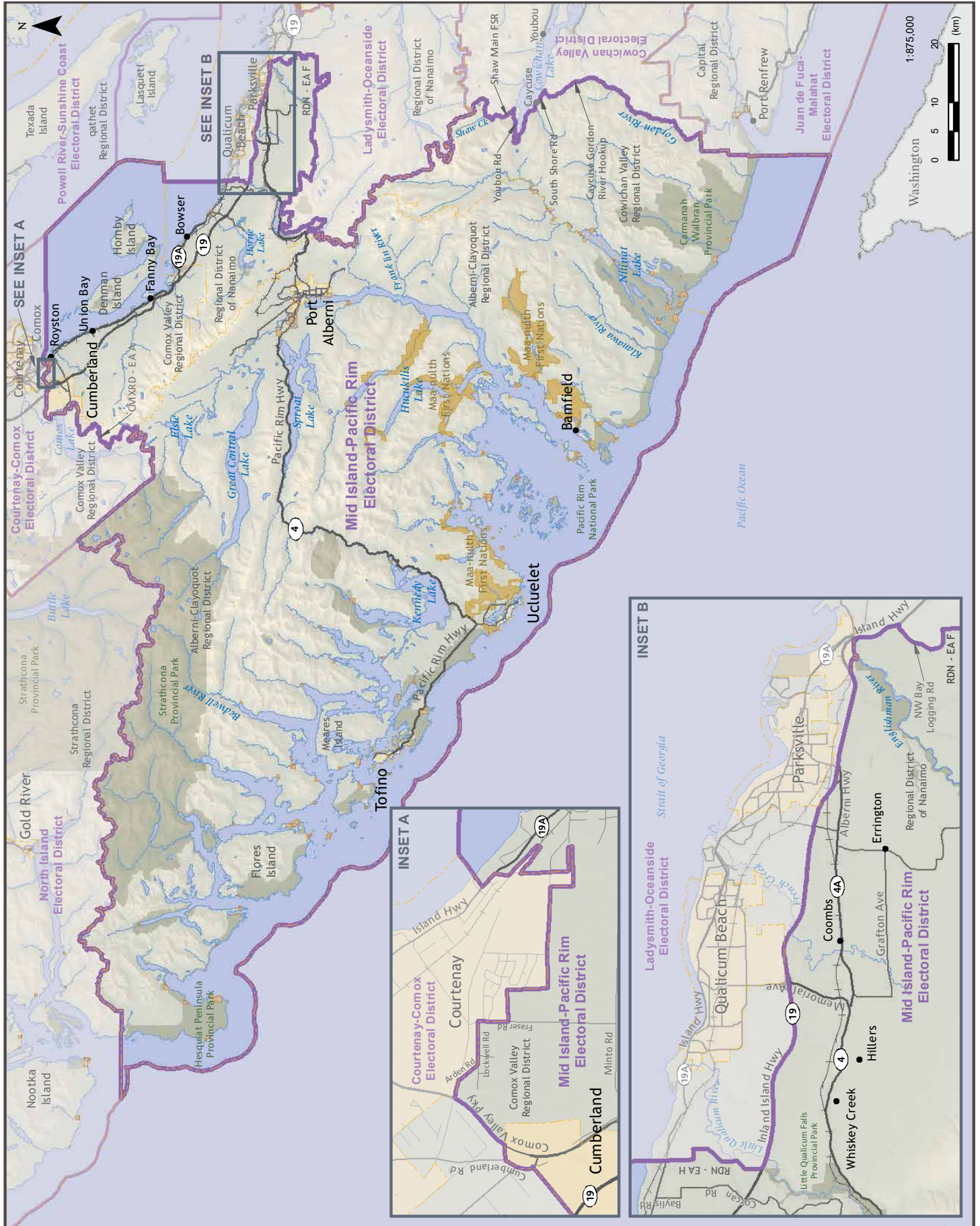


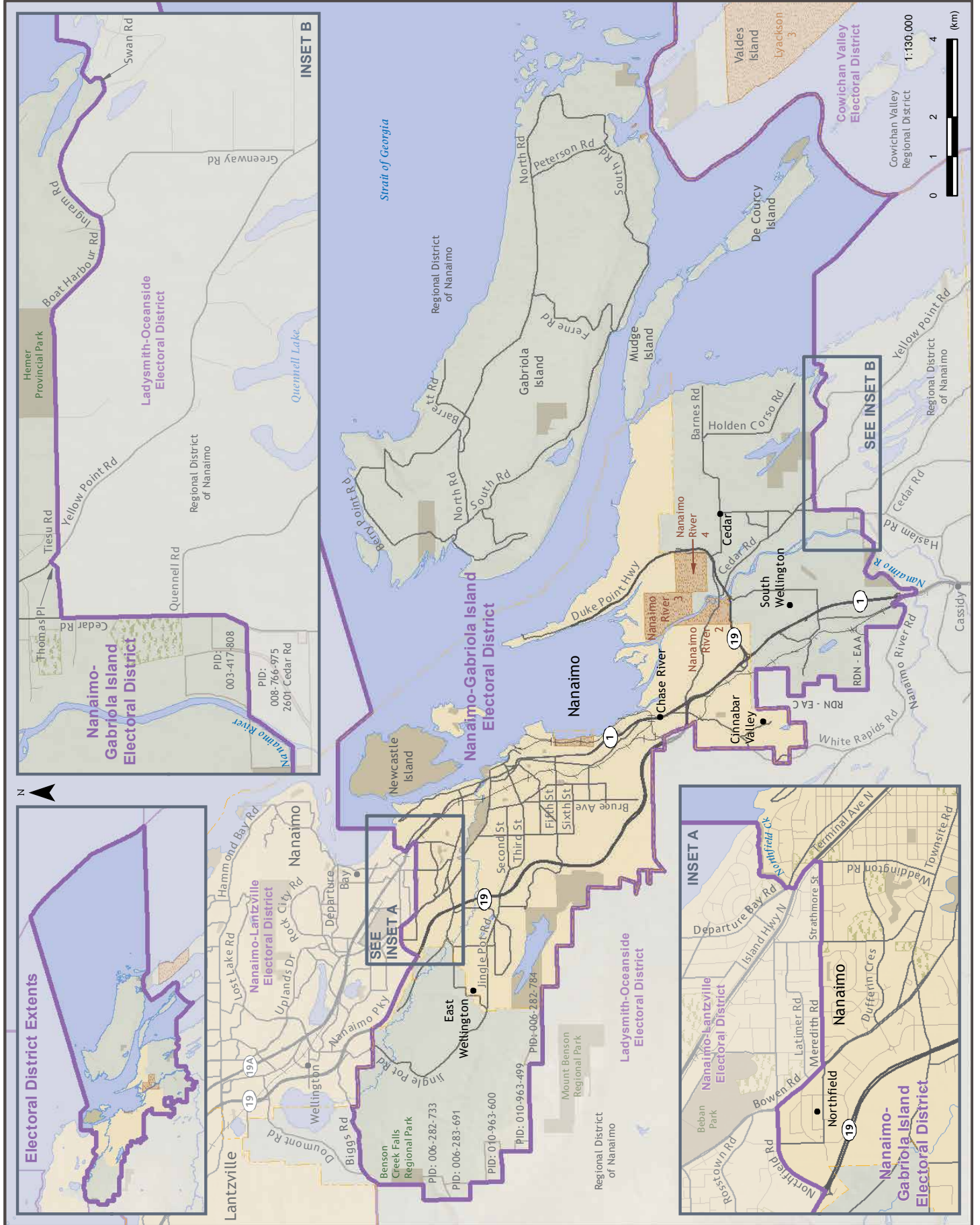


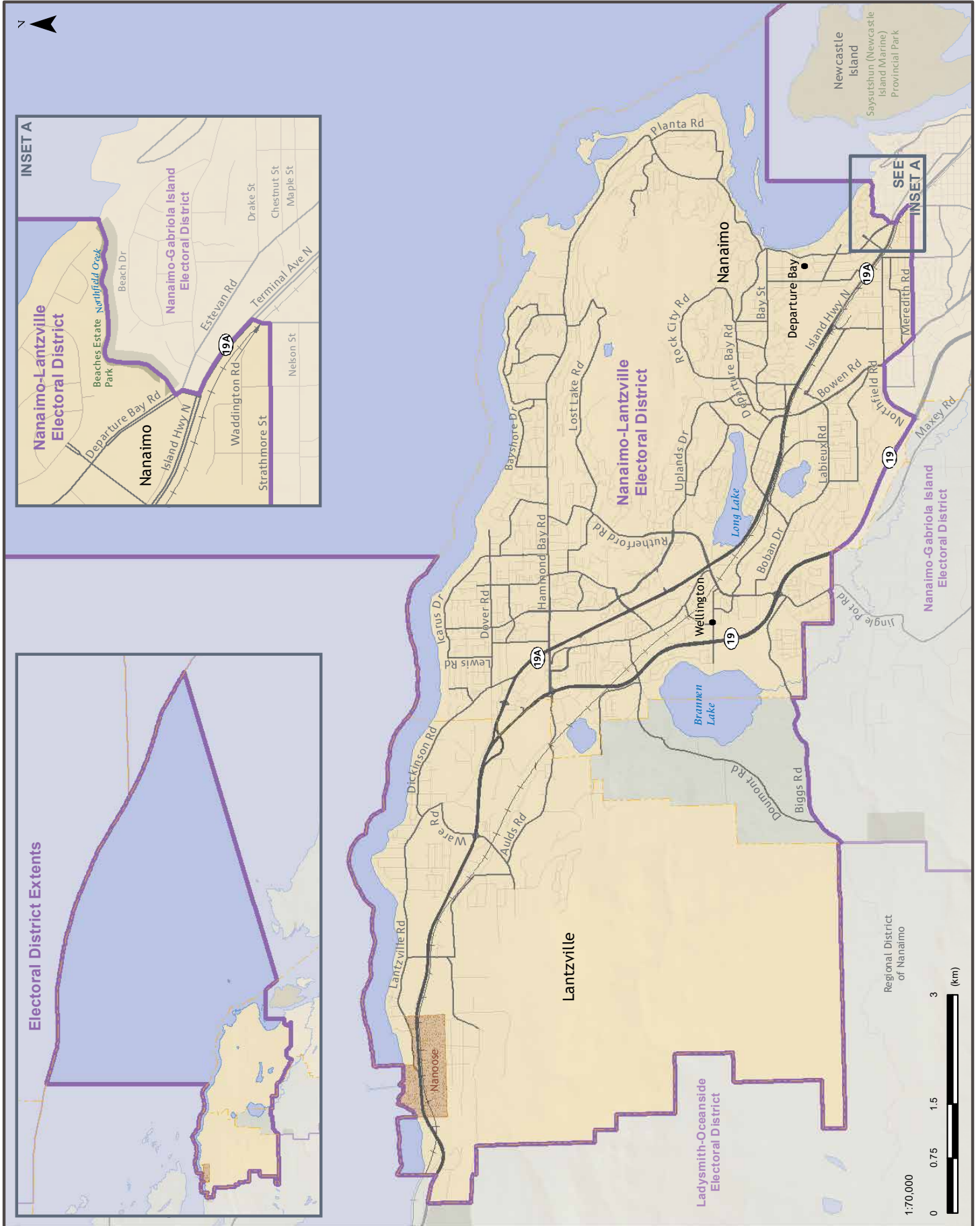


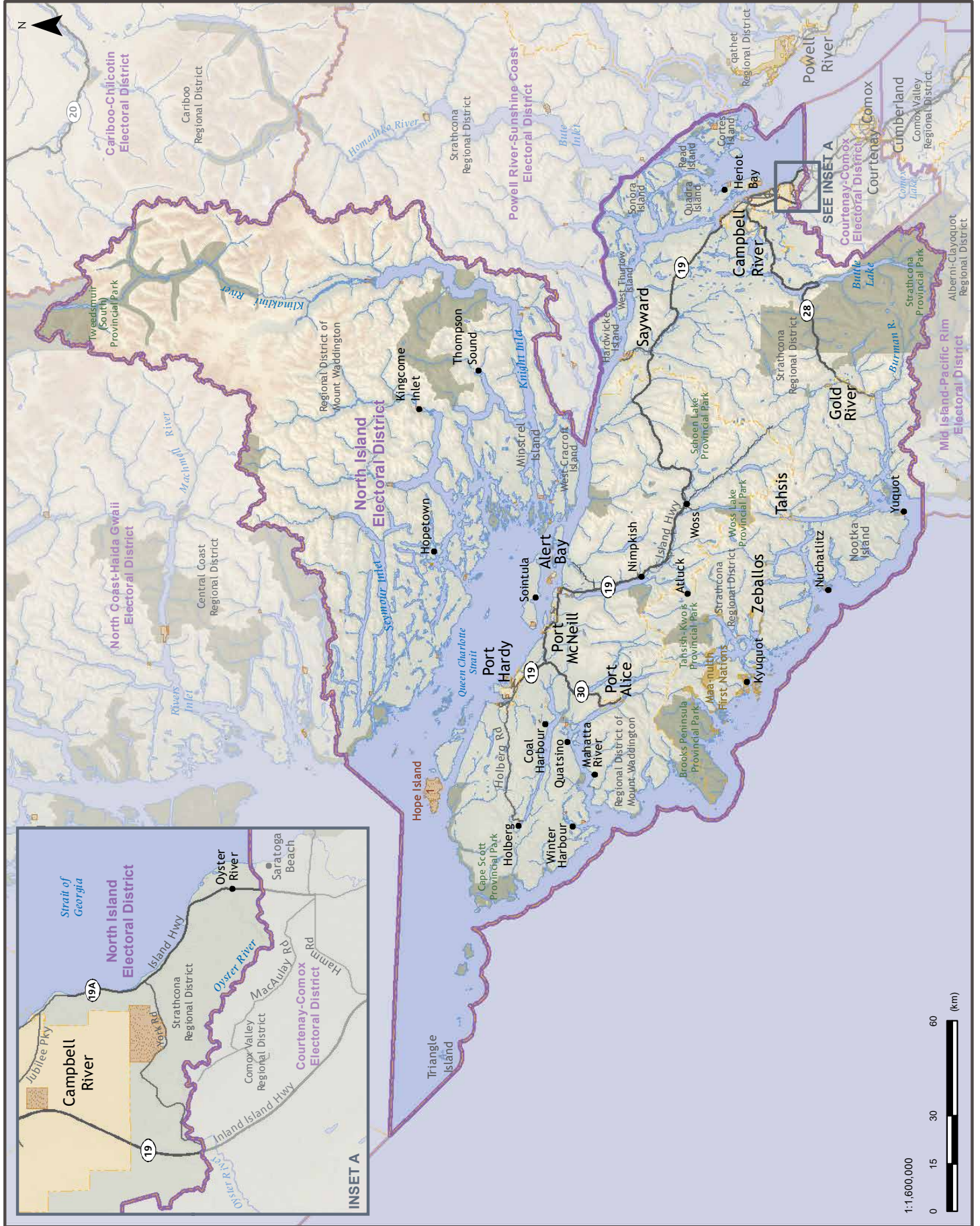


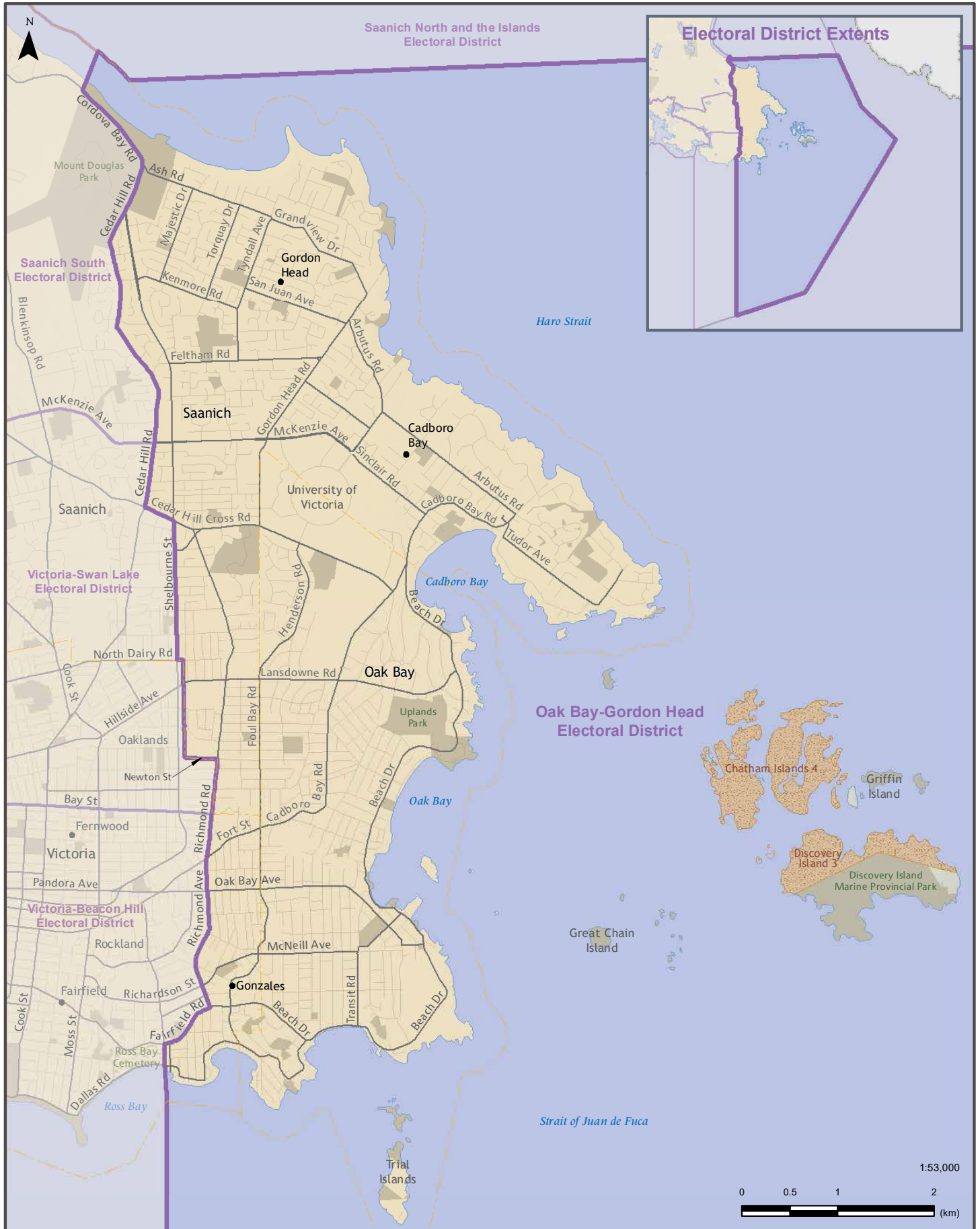


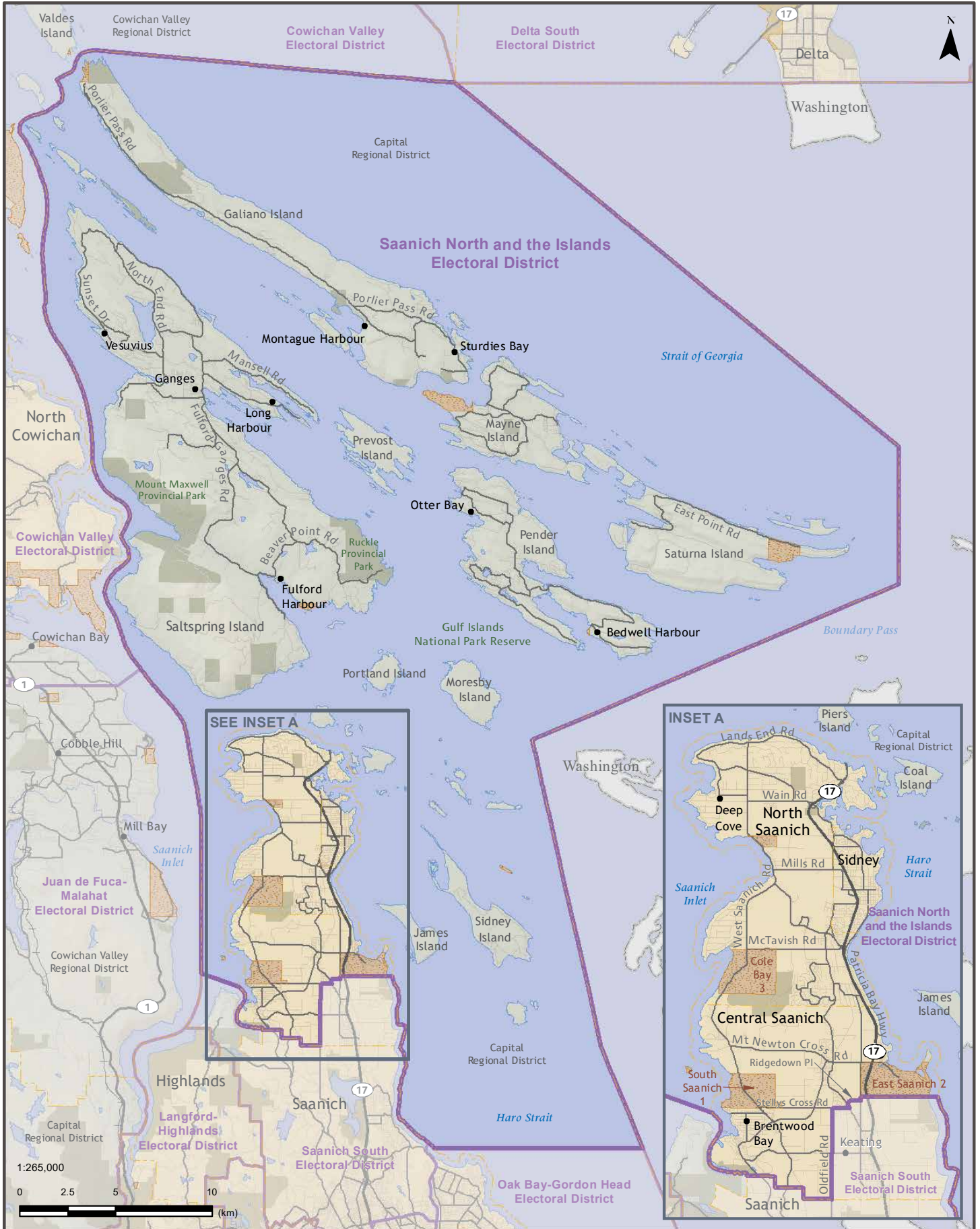


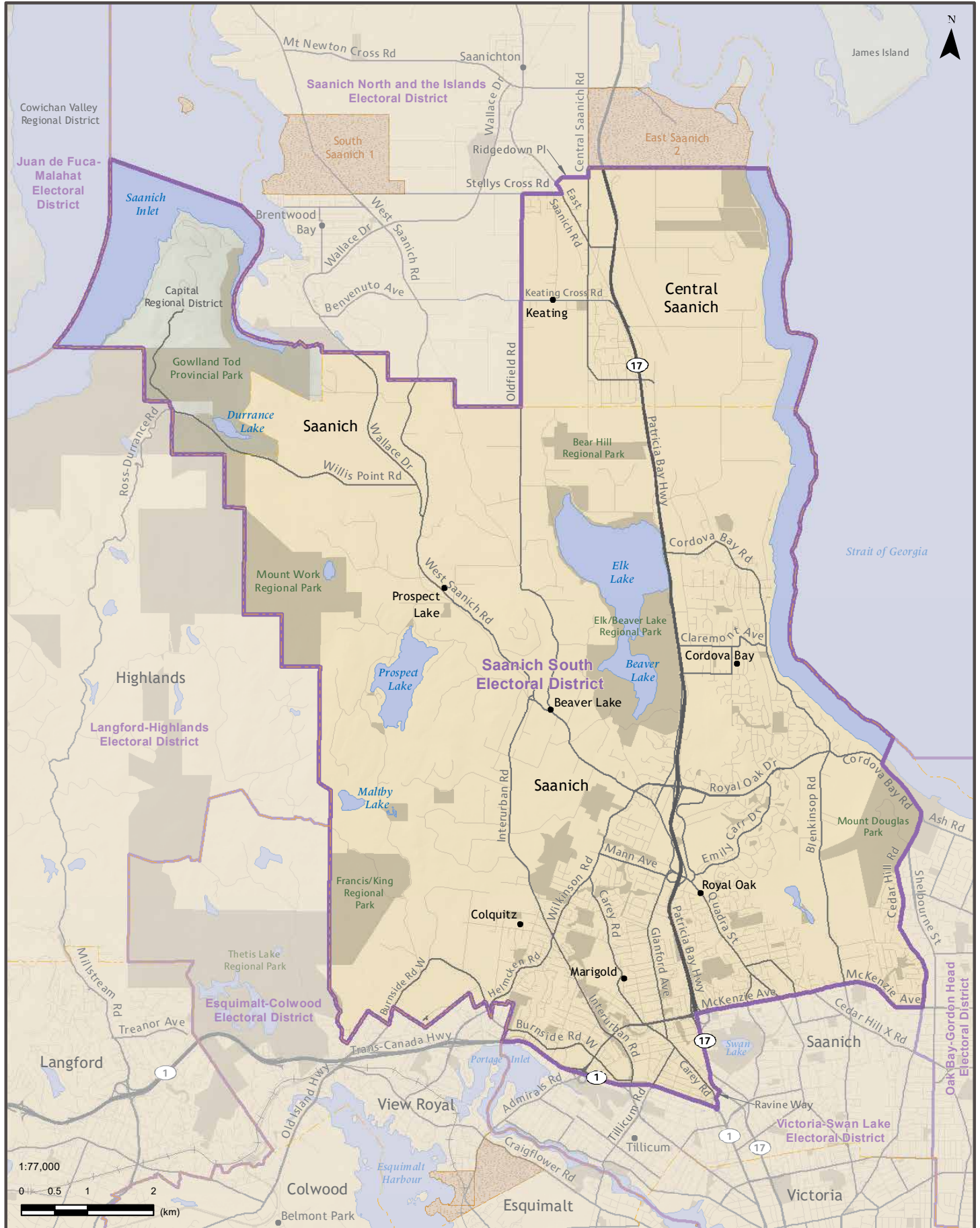




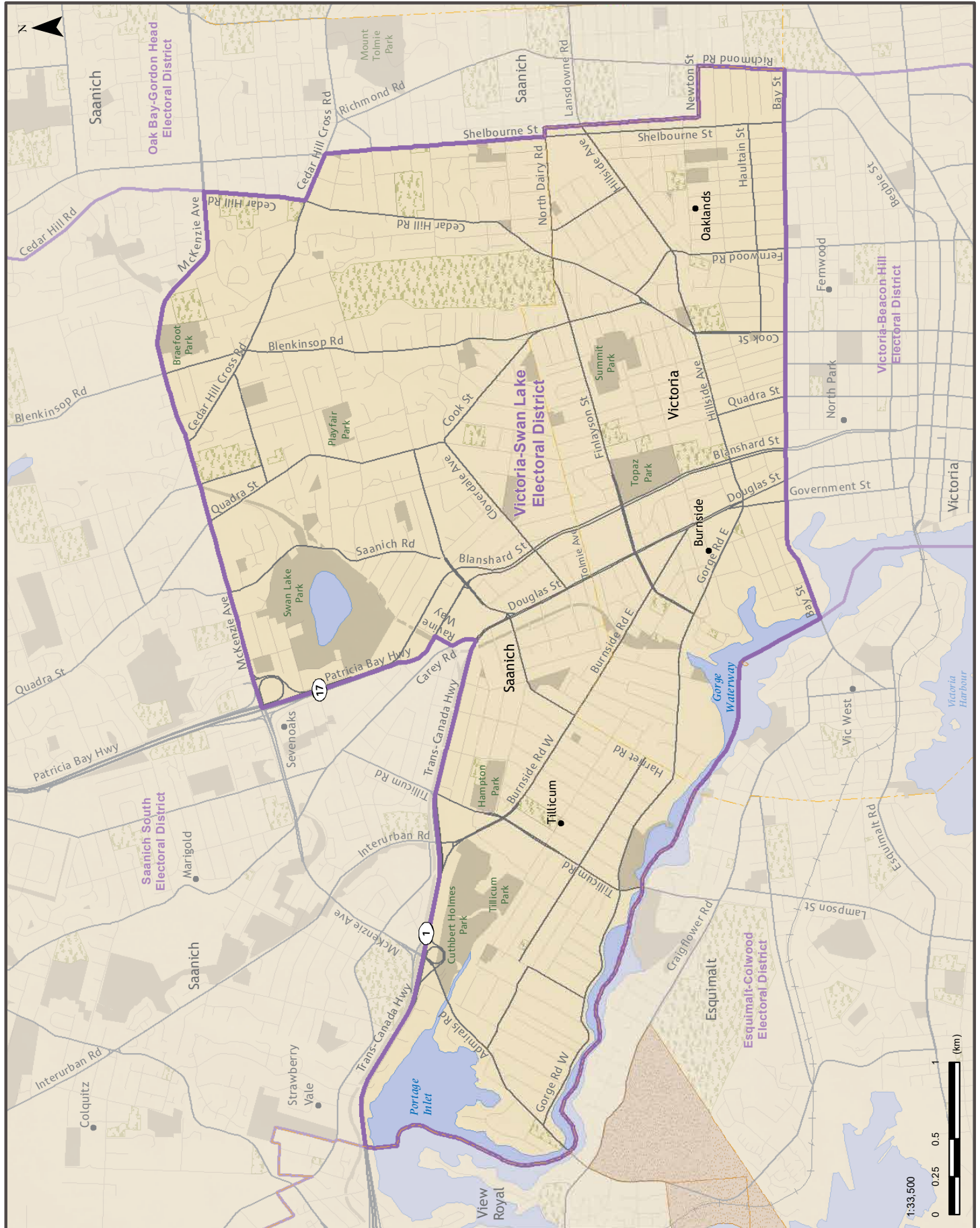












The North

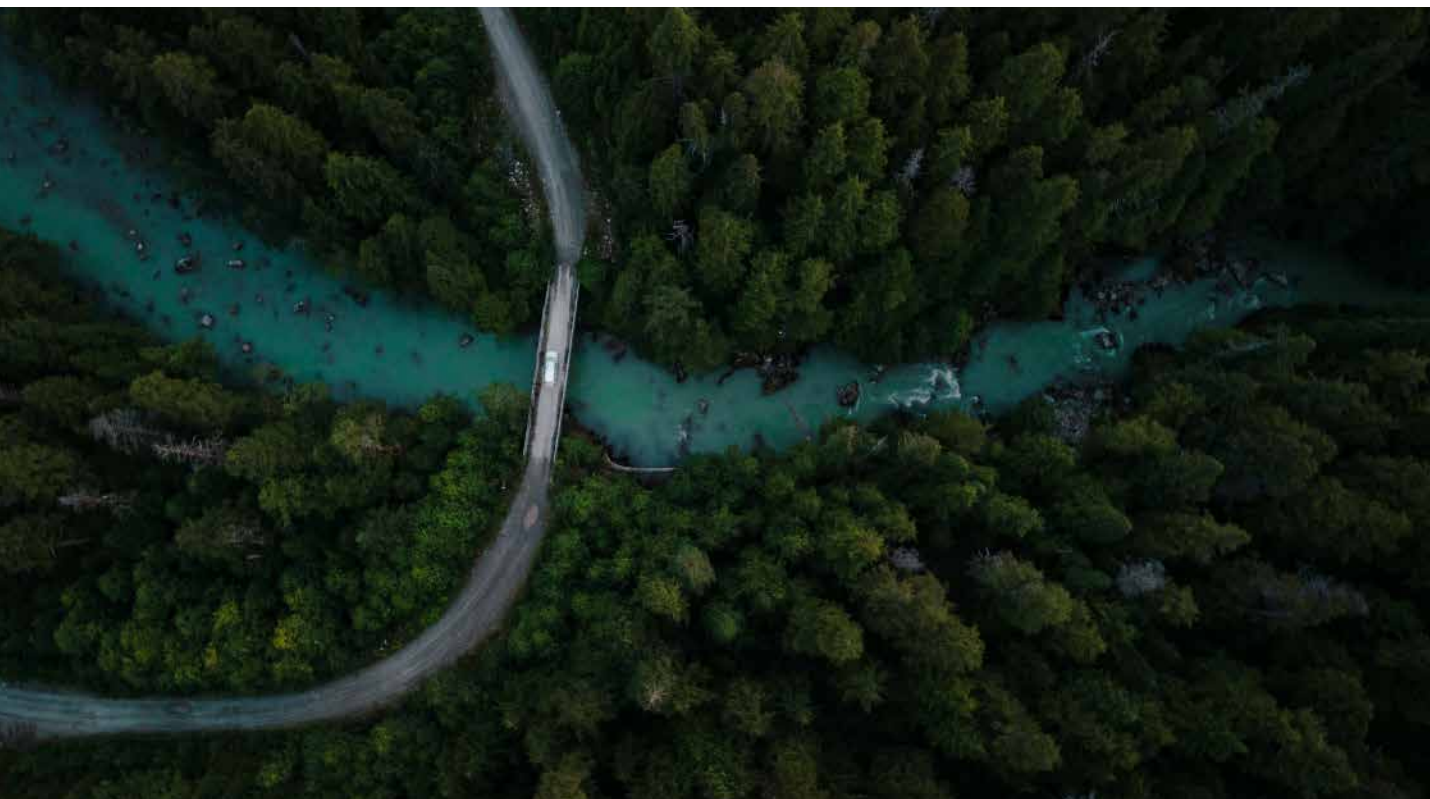
Current Electoral Districts (6)

Nechako Lakes
 North Coast
 Peace River North
 Peace River South
 Skeena
 Stikine

Proposed Electoral Districts (6)

Bulkley Valley-Stikine
 Nechako Lakes
 North Coast-Haida Gwaii
 Peace River North
 Peace River South
 Skeena

TABLE 3: THE NORTH ELECTORAL DISTRICTS
 NOTE: THIS CHAPTER USES PROPOSED ELECTORAL DISTRICT NAMES



This area of the province is divided into six electoral districts. They include the largest geographic ridings in the province. Their terrain is challenging, with complex coastal waterways, river systems and mountains. Along with severe weather, inadequate communications and transportation infrastructure combine to make it difficult for constituents and their elected representatives to interact. The populations of five of these six ridings (all except Peace River North) fall below the lower limit of the usual deviation range.

The former legislation prohibited the 2015 Commission from reducing the number of ridings in this area. The current Act repealed this restriction. We are now required to consider this area in accordance with the principles in the Act, which permits us to create electoral districts with populations less than 25% of the electoral quotient

where that is necessary to provide for effective representation.

We heard from many residents about the tremendous obstacles constituents and MLAs face in trying to access each other effectively. They expressed great concern that reducing the number of electoral districts in the North would undermine effective representation. Some advocated for increasing the number of ridings in this area because they feel that they need a greater voice in the legislature. They told

IMAGE 9: BRIDGE NEAR KITIMAT, B.C. CREDIT: BEN DE ENGELSEN. AUGUST 6, 2020

TABLE 4: THE NORTH POPULATION, DEVIATION AND AREA
SOURCE: 2021 STATISTICS CANADA CENSUS COUNT

Electoral District	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Bulkley Valley-Stikine	20,552	-61.8	196,484
Nechako Lakes	25,293	-53.0	73,815
North Coast-Haida Gwaii	21,980	-59.1	120,665
Peace River North	40,375	-24.9	175,795
Peace River South	25,635	-52.3	30,362
Skeena	30,148	-43.9	31,610
Total/Average	163,983	-49.2	628,731

us that rural ridings do not have a sufficient say in government.

The Act's principles of representation by population and effective representation do not permit us to increase population disparities by adding more ridings below the usual deviation range. We must apply the legislative factors and justify as truly necessary the boundaries of any riding whose population falls outside the usual deviation range.

In light of that, we first asked ourselves whether it was possible to reduce the number of electoral districts in this area to bring each district's population within the usual deviation range without compromising effective representation. We considered the location of communities, geographic features, transportation corridors and communications in each of the existing electoral districts and the consequences of altering their boundaries to reduce the number of ridings. We concluded that any changes to the existing

boundaries of these six electoral districts would deprive affected residents of effective representation.

We propose two name changes to the existing electoral districts. We recommend changing Stikine to Bulkley Valley-Stikine in recognition of the population distribution in this riding. We recommend changing North Coast to North Coast-Haida Gwaii to better reflect the geographic area this riding represents.

Bulkley Valley-Stikine is the largest electoral district in British Columbia and it is the most sparsely populated at 61.8% below the electoral quotient. The remote communities in the north of this riding are separated by very long stretches of road that are subject to harsh weather conditions much of the year. Alternative transportation, such as air travel, is limited and expensive. Internet and cellular connectivity are poor. We considered moving other communities along Highway 16, such as Houston, into this riding.

However, that would have reduced the population of the Nechako Lakes riding without meaningfully increasing the population of Bulkley Valley-Stikine. We also explored combining Bulkley Valley-Stikine with Skeena. This would have further concentrated the population in the south, making it less practically feasible for the remainder of the population and their MLA to interact.

The population of the Nechako Lakes electoral district is 53% below the electoral quotient but, as we experienced first-hand during our travels, much of this riding lacks reliable cellular and internet connections. Increasing its geographic size to include more people would exacerbate these problems. The North Coast-Haida Gwaii electoral district is also very large at 120,665 sq. km. We considered combining North Coast-Haida Gwaii with Skeena but that would have compounded the accessibility challenges caused by the vast geography of a combined riding.

Skeena's population is 43.9% below the electoral quotient. It is smaller than neighbouring electoral districts, but it is a mountainous riding with climate challenges that make communication and transportation difficult. Its communities are connected by Highways 16, 37 and 113, all of which are subject to adverse conditions for much of the year. As noted, we considered combining this riding with one or more of its neighbours but their very large geographic sizes would significantly compound existing obstacles to effective representation.

Lastly, we considered combining the two Peace River ridings, but that would have exacerbated already significant transpor-

tation and connectivity problems. We also looked at moving some of the communities just west of the Rocky Mountains into Peace River South. However, an electoral district that spans the Rocky Mountains makes little sense in the face of the lack of reliable transportation routes. Importantly, South Peace communities have different interests than those of communities west of the Rockies.

In our view, the large geographic size of almost all of these ridings, adverse weather conditions, lack of reliable transportation and poor internet connectivity mean that any reduction in the number of ridings would deprive affected residents of effective representation. We therefore propose no changes to the boundaries of the electoral districts in the North area.

Bulkley Valley-Stikine

This riding is situated in the northwest corner of the province. It extends to the Canada-U.S. border with Alaska in the west and to the Yukon border in the north. It includes the communities of Smithers, Telkwa and the Hazelton along Highway 16, and the communities of the Tahltan Nation, Stewart, Dease Lake, Telegraph Creek and Atlin. The riding's eastern boundary follows the border of the Stikine Region, and in the south the riding extends to include Bulkley-Nechako Regional District Electoral Area A.

Nechako Lakes

The Nechako Lakes electoral district is located over the geographic centre of British Columbia. Most of its population resides along the Highway 16 corridor in the communities of Houston, Granisle,

Burns Lake, Fraser Lake, the Saik'uz First Nation and Vanderhoof. The riding also includes Wit'at (Fort Babine), Fort St. James and the Nak'azdli First Nation to the north, as well as Tweedsmuir Provincial Park to the south. Its boundaries follow the borders of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako but it excludes Electoral Area A.

North Coast-Haida Gwaii

This riding encompasses the Central Coast and North Coast Regional Districts, including Haida Gwaii. Other than the urban centre of Prince Rupert, its sparse population is spread across numerous towns, villages and islands, many of which are only accessible by water or air travel. These include Bella Coola, Bella Bella, Masset, Port Edward, Port Clements and Daajing Giids.

Peace River North

Peace River North extends to the borders of the Yukon and Northwest Territories in the north and to the Alberta border in the east. It consists of communities north of the Peace River, including Hudson's Hope, Fort St. John, Taylor and Fort Nelson. Its western boundary follows the borders of the Northern Rockies Regional Municipality and the Peace River Regional District. Its southern boundary follows the Peace River.

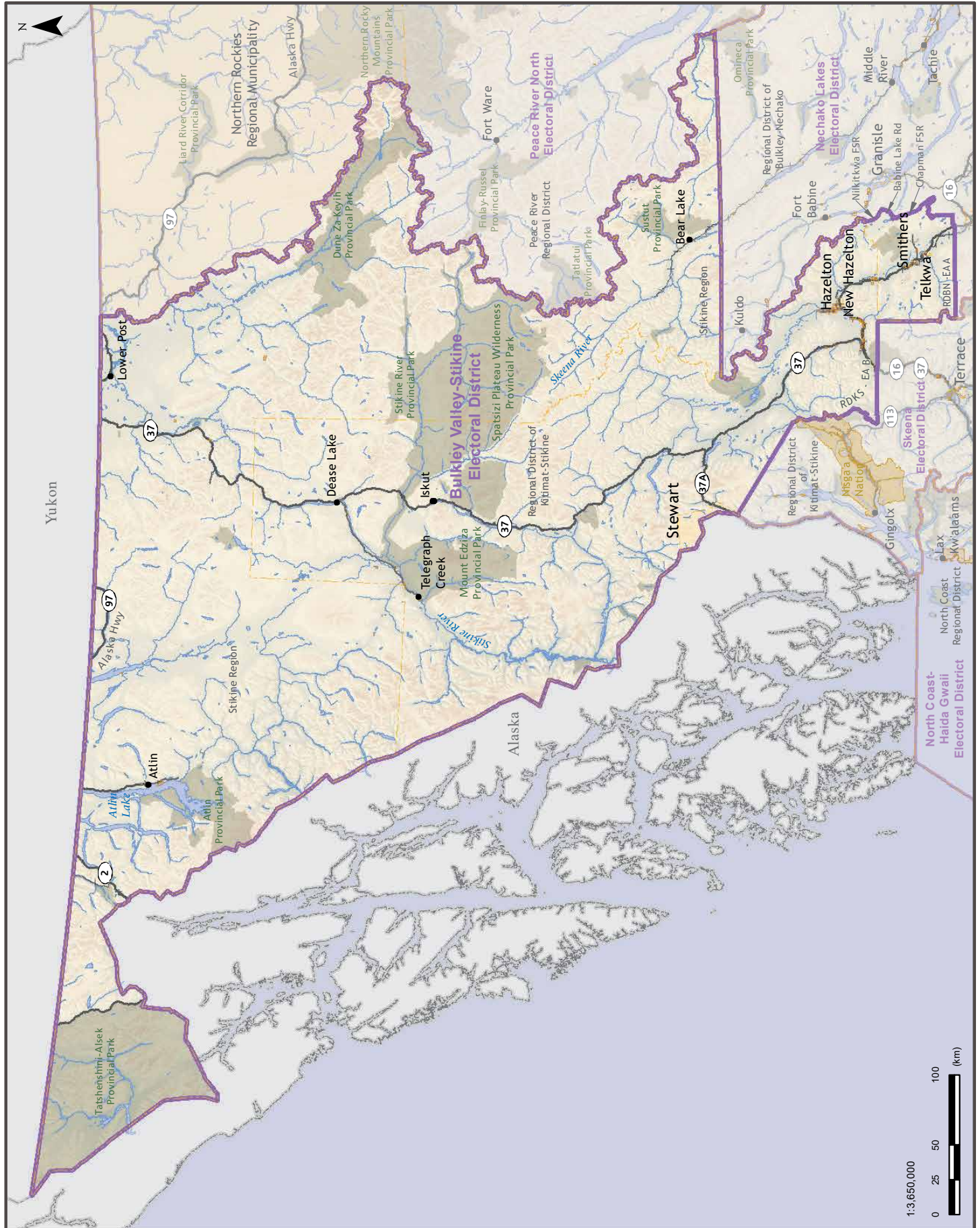
Peace River South

This electoral district, located south of the Peace River, stretches from the Rocky Mountains in the west to the Alberta border in the east. The riding extends as far south as Kakwa Provincial Park. It includes the communities of Dawson Creek, Chetwynd, Tumbler Ridge and Pouce Coupe.

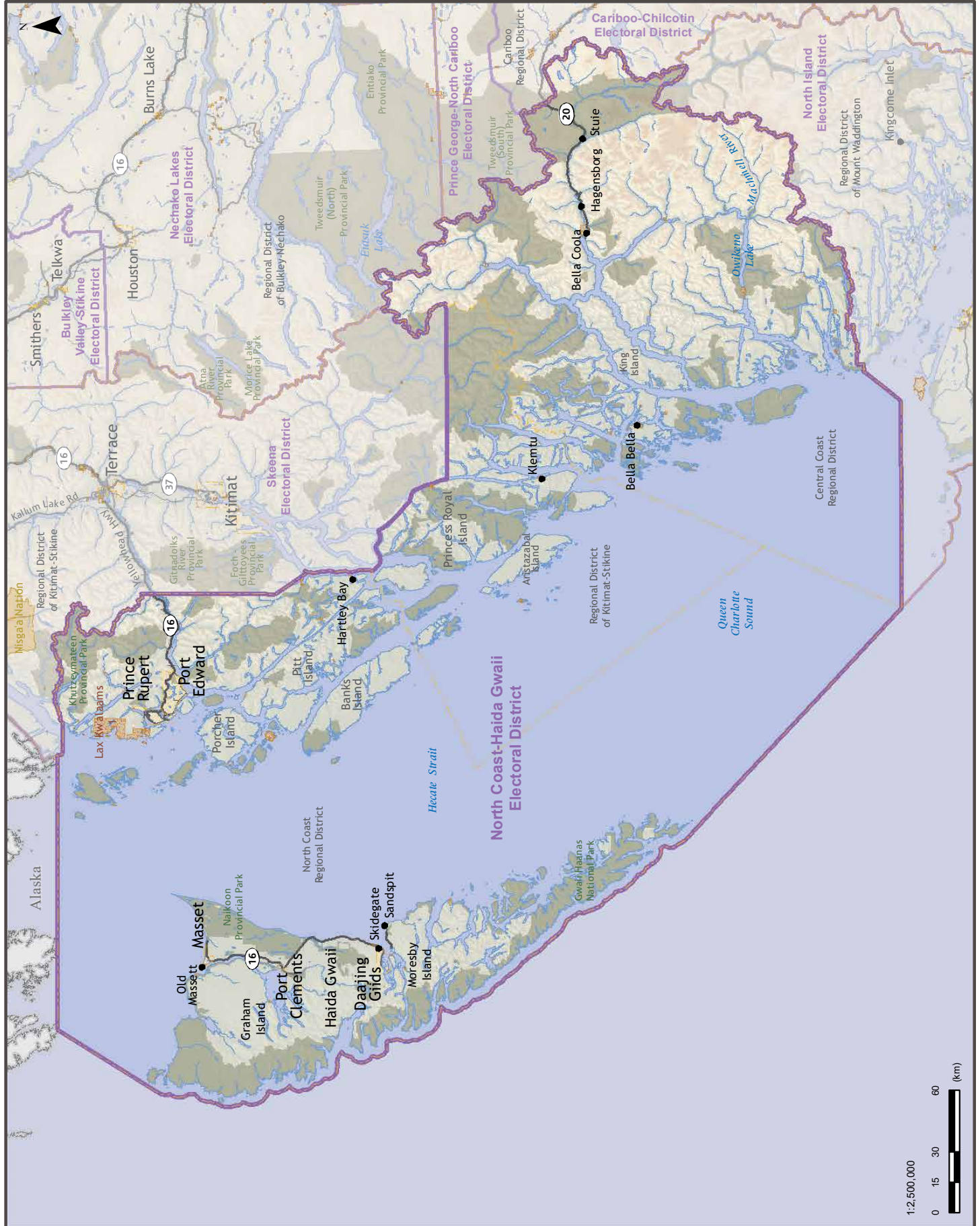
Skeena

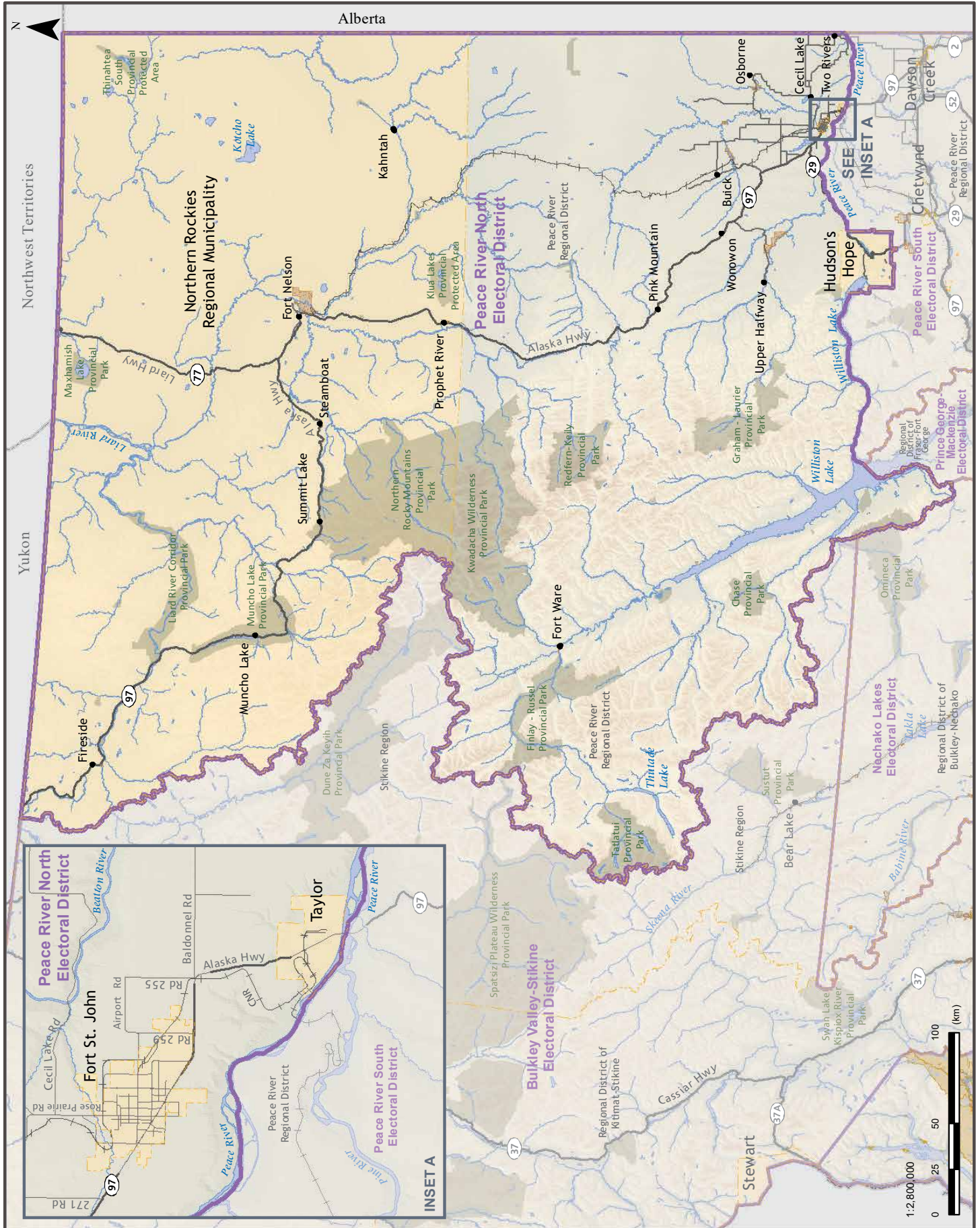
The electoral district of Skeena includes Terrace, Kitimat and the Nisga'a Territories, as well as Gitwinksihlkw, Kitselas and Usk. It extends northwest to include Portland Inlet and the Nisga'a Treaty Lands. The riding's eastern and western boundaries are defined by the borders of the Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine. Its southern boundary extends to the 53rd N parallel.

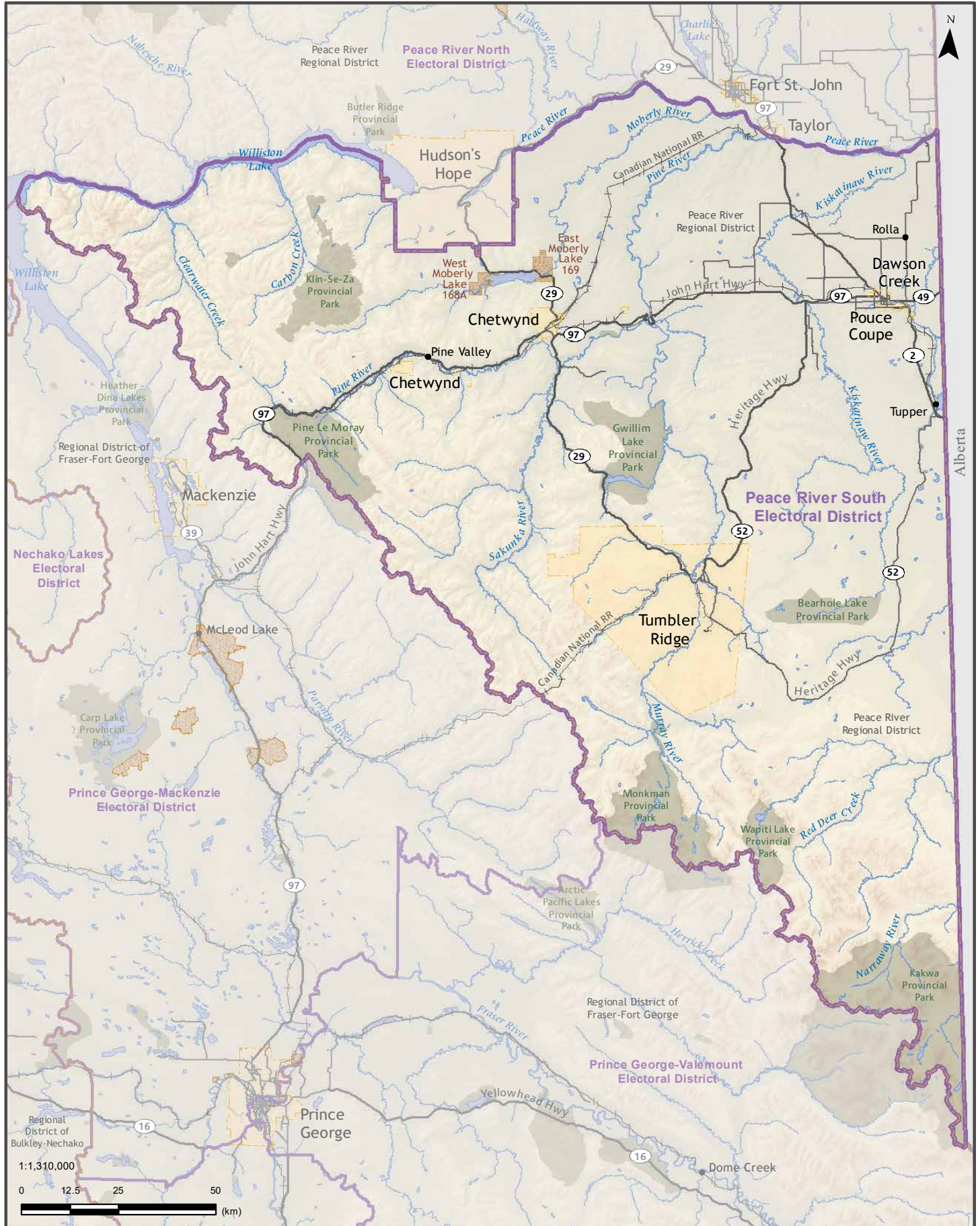














Prince George and the Cariboo

Current Electoral Districts (4)

- Cariboo-Chilcotin
- Cariboo North
- Prince George-Mackenzie
- Prince George-Valemount

Proposed Electoral Districts (4)

- Cariboo-Chilcotin
- Prince George-Mackenzie
- Prince George-North Cariboo
- Prince George-Valemount

TABLE 5: PRINCE GEORGE AND THE CARIBOO ELECTORAL DISTRICTS
NOTE: THIS CHAPTER USES PROPOSED ELECTORAL DISTRICT NAMES



The Prince George and the Cariboo area is made up of four electoral districts situated in the centre of the province. Prince George is by far the largest community in the area. Other communities include Quesnel, Williams Lake and 100 Mile House. Outside of these centres, the population is relatively sparse. The population is growing more slowly here than the provincial average. Presently, the two Cariboo ridings fall significantly below the usual deviation range. The population of the two existing Prince George ridings are within the usual deviation range.

Residents of this area consistently emphasized the challenge of ensuring effective representation for people living in rural and remote locations. They highlighted the inadequacy of existing transportation and communications infrastructure. Many told us that we should

maintain the existing electoral district boundaries. Some told us that ensuring adequate representation in growing urban areas should not come at the expense of the residents of this area.

Transportation is a particular challenge here. The arterial Highways 16, 97 and 20 connect communities throughout the Cariboo and Chilcotin. They run over a high plateau that is subject to harsh weather conditions. Many remote communities depend on these roads and have no alternative routes. People living

IMAGE 10: NECHAKO RIVER, PRINCE GEORGE, B.C. CREDIT: HARSH SINGH. NOVEMBER 13, 2021

TABLE 6: PRINCE GEORGE AND THE CARIBOO POPULATION, DEVIATION AND AREA
SOURCE: 2021 STATISTICS CANADA CENSUS COUNT

Electoral District	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Cariboo-Chilcotin	41,302	-23.2	55,800
Prince George-Mackenzie	41,487	-22.9	20,500
Prince George-North Cariboo	43,265	-19.5	41,740
Prince George-Valemount	41,370	-23.1	33,427
Total/Average	167,424	-22.2	151,467

outside the area's main centres have very poor cellular and internet connectivity.

We considered combining the two Cariboo electoral districts into one riding; however, we found it was not possible to do so in a way that ensures effective representation. We also considered adding the Bella Coola Valley to a Cariboo riding but decided against that because it would have further reduced the already small population of the North Coast electoral district.

In light of these challenges, we propose distributing the high concentration of population in Prince George among three ridings. This brings all four of the area's ridings within the usual deviation range. We keep downtown Prince George in one riding and do not disrupt existing connections between communities in the Robson Valley, Chilcotin Plateau and South Cariboo.

We recommend that the name of Cariboo North be changed to Prince George-North Cariboo to better distinguish it from the Cariboo-Chilcotin electoral district.

We considered moving communities in the North Thompson (including Barriere, Clearwater and Wells Grey Provincial Park) into the Cariboo-Chilcotin riding to better balance populations in the area. However, we recognized that access to larger centres in Cariboo-Chilcotin requires travel over a mountain pass on secondary highways, and that these communities rely on Kamloops as their service centre. Instead, we propose expanding this riding south to include Cache Creek and Ashcroft, which are now located in the Fraser-Nicola electoral district. These communities share the Highway 97 transportation corridor with communities in Cariboo-Chilcotin like 100 Mile House and Williams Lake. This proposal also reduces the large geographic size of Fraser-Nicola. We believe that these boundary adjustments better reflect our guiding principles.

Cariboo-Chilcotin

This electoral district spans a large part of the southern Cariboo area and the Chilcotin Plateau. It includes communities along Highway 97 such as Williams Lake, Clinton, 100 Mile House, Cache Creek and

Ashcroft, as well as communities along Highway 20 such as Anahim Lake. The riding is bounded to the north by Cariboo Regional District Electoral Area K, to the west by the Cariboo Regional District, and to the south and east by the borders of Ashcroft and Thompson-Nicola Regional District Electoral Area J.

Prince George-Mackenzie

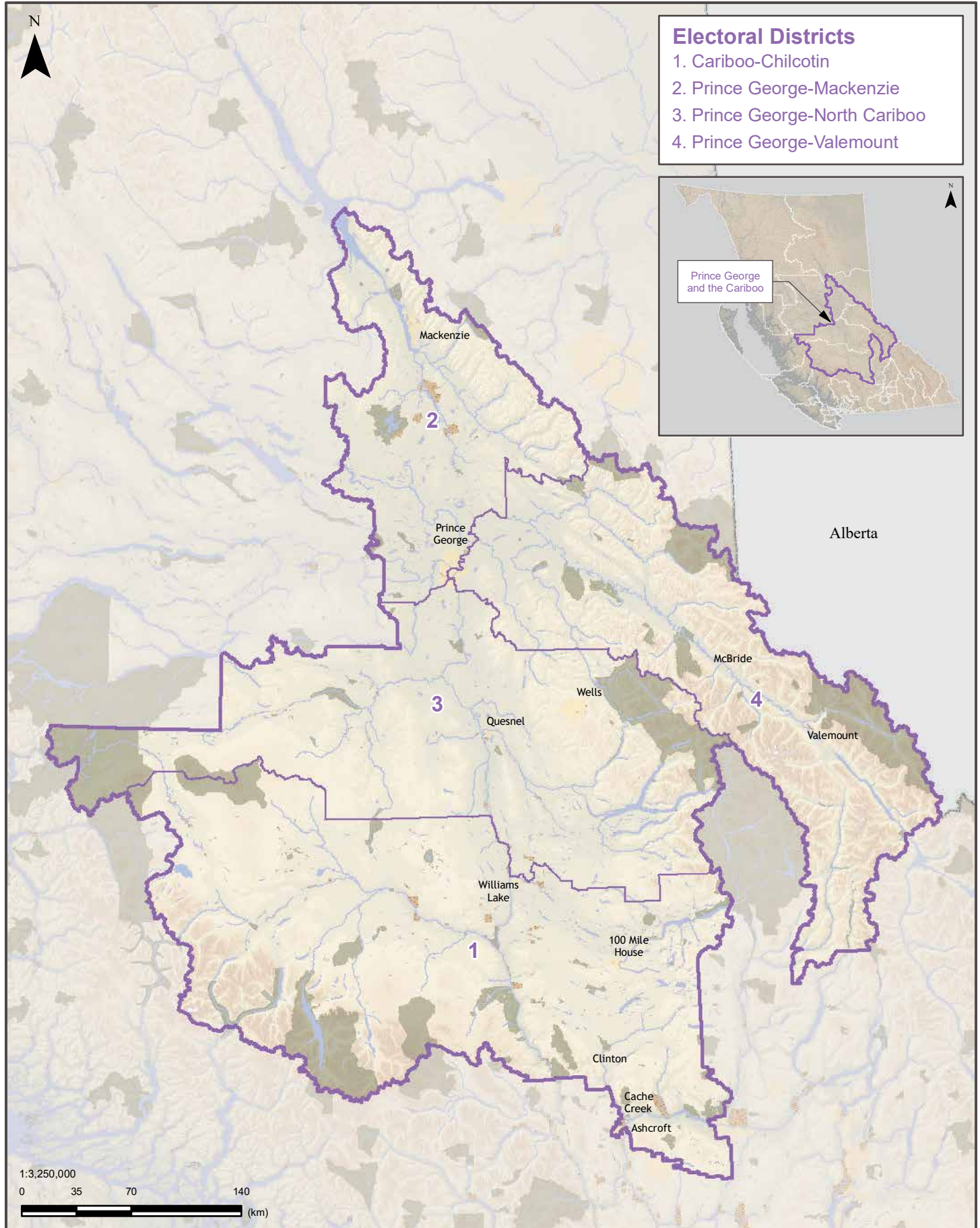
This riding includes the northwestern neighbourhoods of Prince George, such as Shady Valley, Cranbrook Hill and Heritage. It extends north of the city to encompass the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation, the District of Mackenzie and the communities around Summit, Bear and MacLeod Lakes. The riding's east, west, and northern boundaries follow the borders of the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George. In the south, the electoral district boundary is Upper Mud River Road.

Prince George-North Cariboo

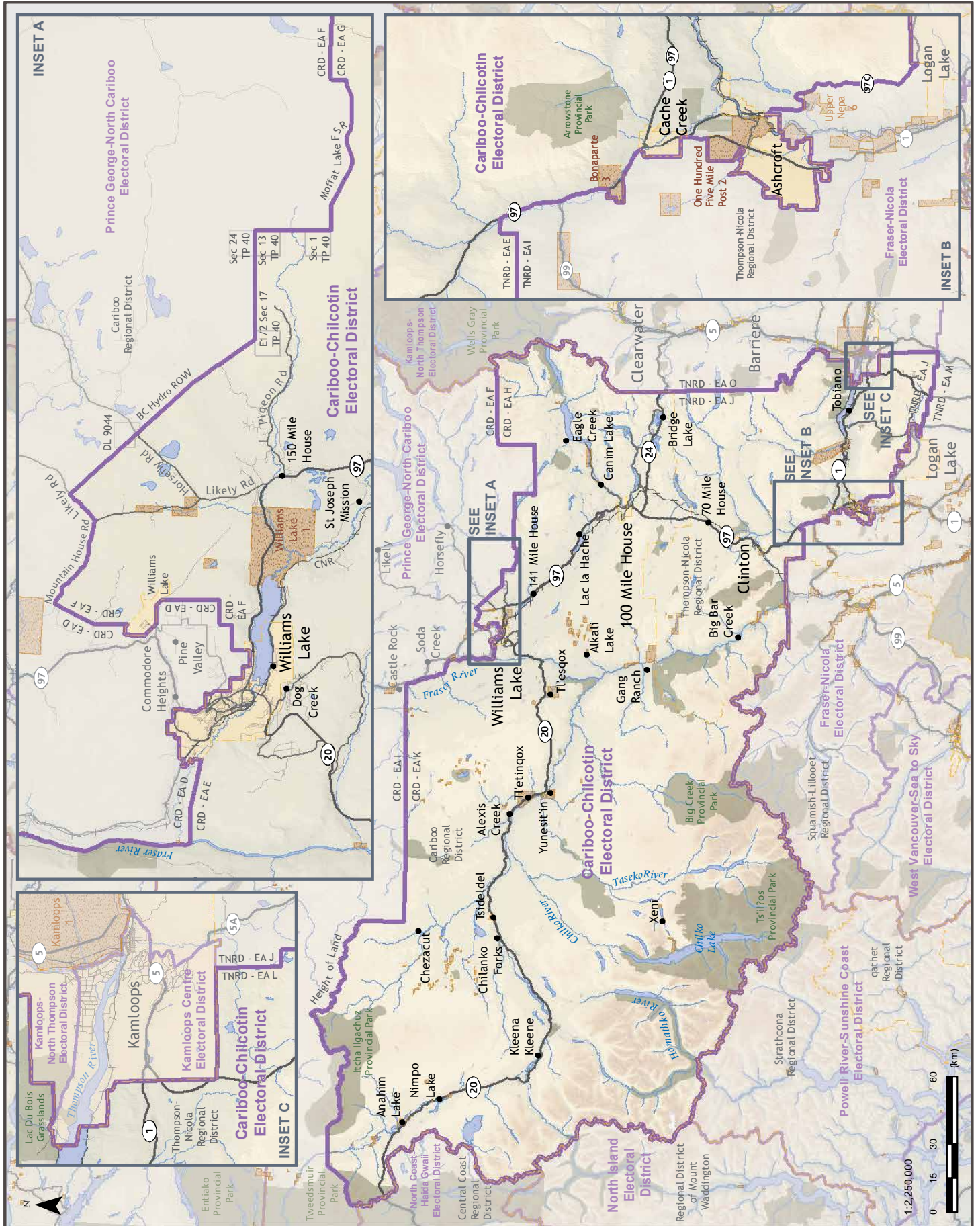
Prince George-North Cariboo consists of the southern portion of Prince George, including most of the College Heights neighbourhood, and communities along Highway 97 such as Quesnel, Stoner, Hixon and Marguerite. It is bordered by the Cariboo Regional District in the west. It includes the communities of Wells, Likely and Horsefly in the east. Its northern boundary follows the Yellowhead Highway (Highway 16) and the Fraser River. The southern boundary extends to the municipal boundary of the City of Williams Lake and the boundary of Cariboo Regional District Electoral Area F.

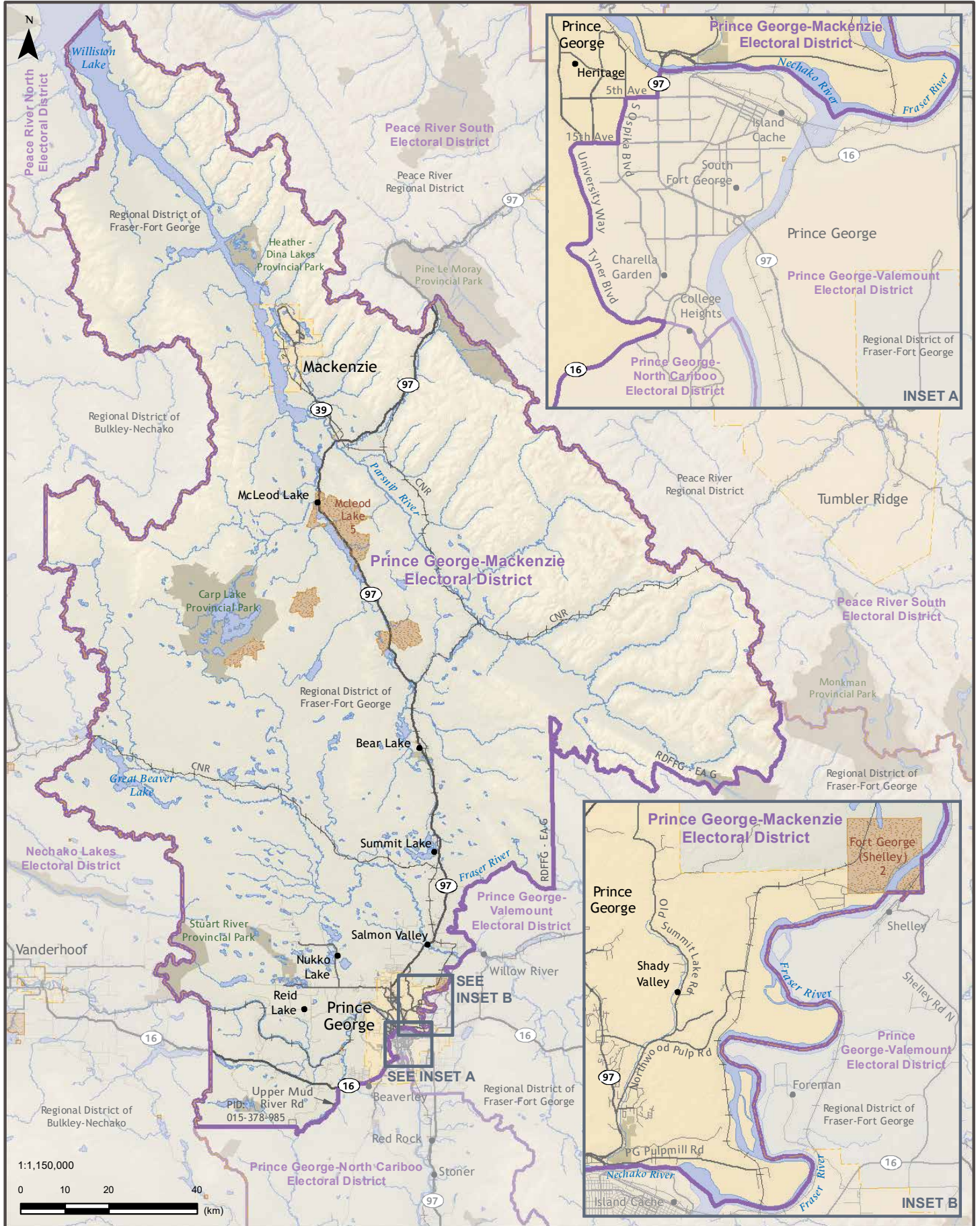
Prince George-Valemount

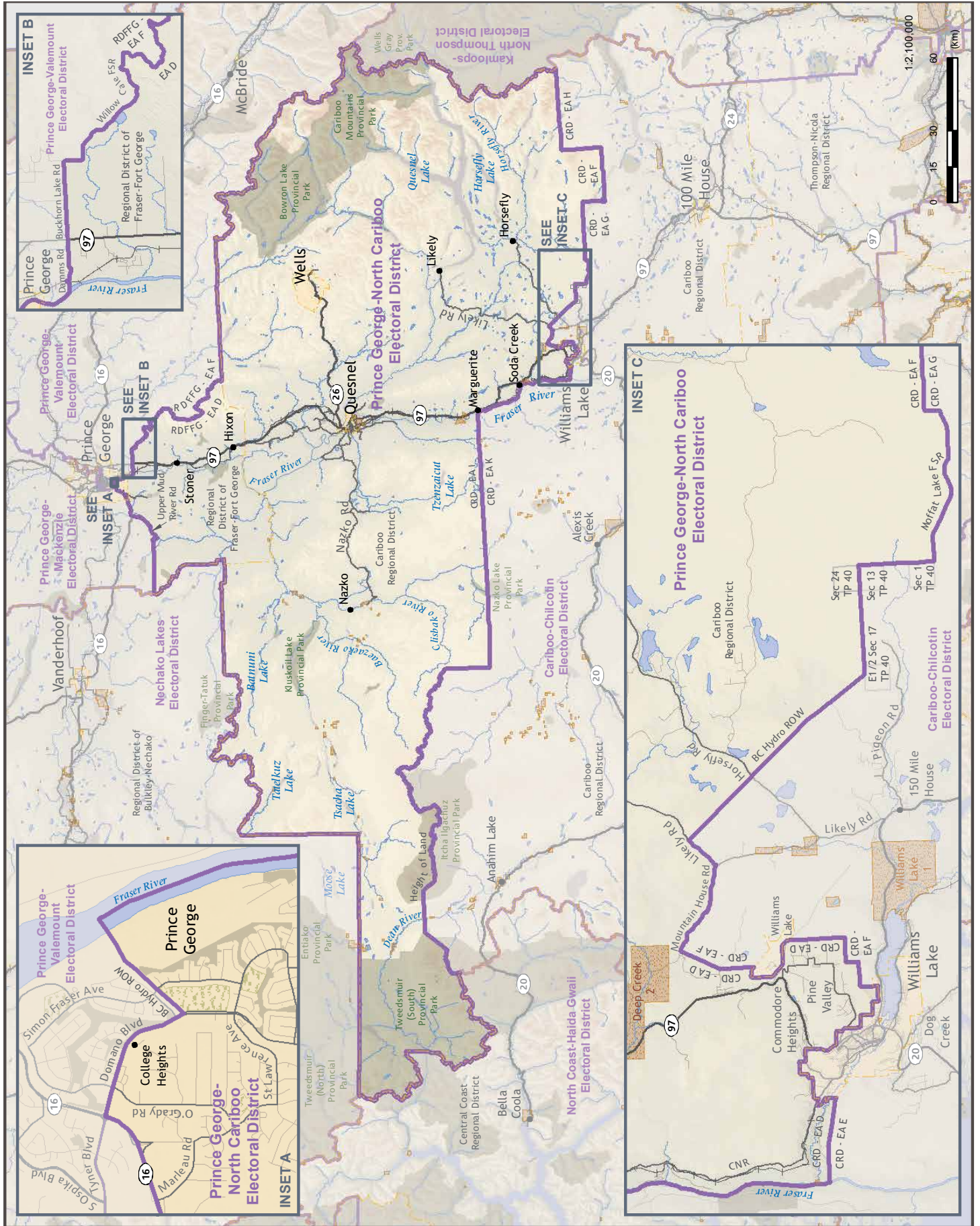
This electoral district extends from the urban centre of Prince George to the Alberta border in the east. It includes downtown Prince George and the neighbourhoods of Charella Garden, South Fort George, as well as the northern part of College Heights. It also includes communities in the Robson Valley and the uppermost part of the North Thompson River Valley such as Valemount, McBride, Tête Jaune Cache and Blue River. The riding's western boundary follows Wells Grey Provincial Park and the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George Electoral Area A. To the north, it is bounded by the Peace River Regional District.

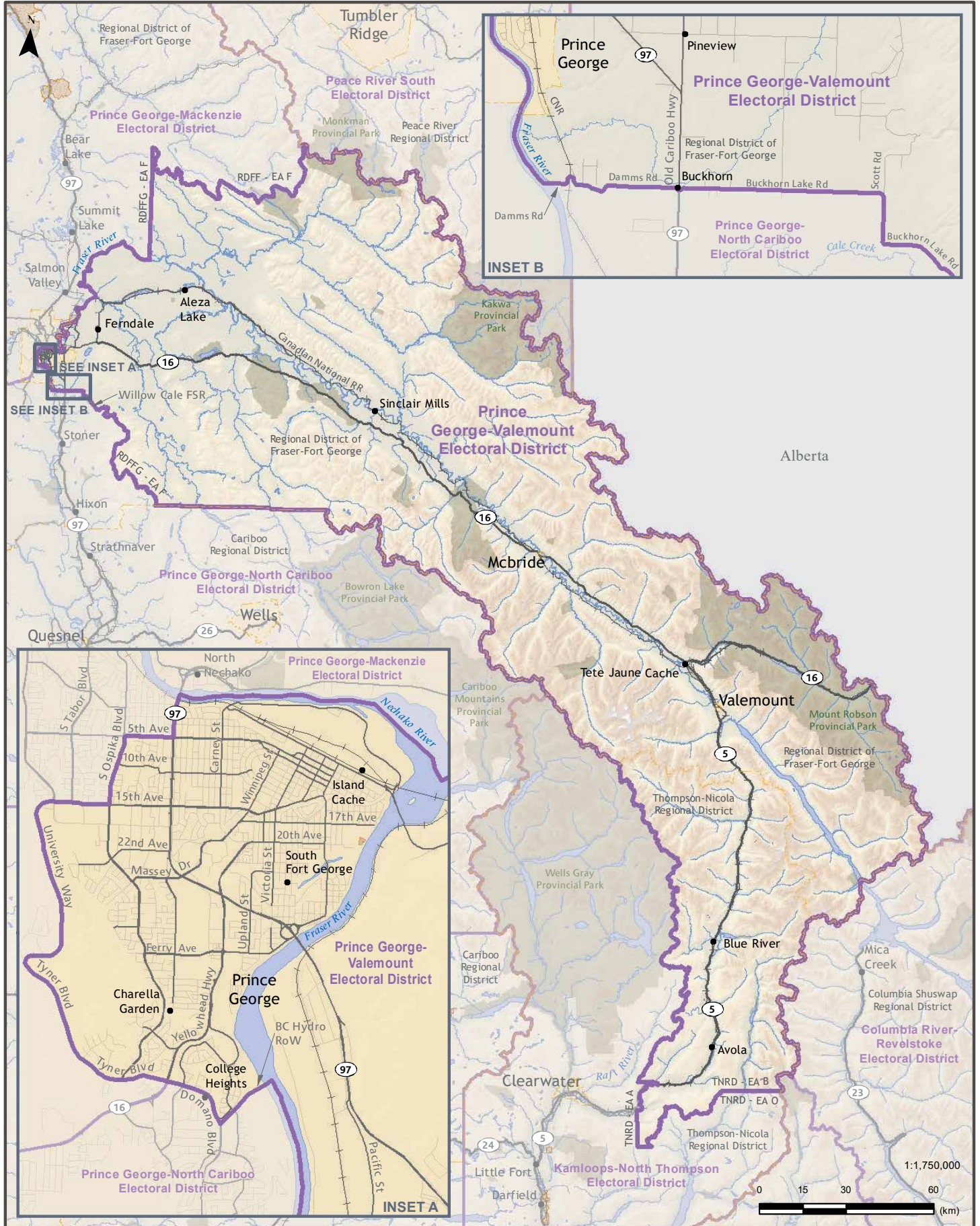


Proposals | Prince George and the Cariboo









The Kootenays

Current Electoral Districts (4)

- Columbia River-Revelstoke
- Kootenay East
- Kootenay West
- Nelson-Creston

Proposed Electoral Districts (4)

- Columbia River-Revelstoke
- Kootenay Central
- Kootenay-Monashee
- Kootenay-Rockies

TABLE 7: THE KOOTENAYS ELECTORAL DISTRICTS
NOTE: THIS CHAPTER USES PROPOSED ELECTORAL DISTRICT NAMES



The Kootenays' four electoral districts lie in the southeast corner of the province. This area is dominated by mountain ranges and large bodies of water creating challenges for transportation. The population of the Kootenays is growing more slowly than the provincial average, and the populations of the current ridings of Columbia River-Revelstoke and Nelson-Creston fall more than 25% below the electoral quotient.

Many people expressed concern that we might propose reducing the number of electoral districts in this area. Residents pointed to travel and communication barriers that currently impede effective representation. Some stressed the different identities of the East and West Kootenays, and others suggested changes to recognize links between specific communities.

Following our mandate, we first considered whether it made sense to propose reducing the number of ridings. It quickly became clear that fewer ridings would create even greater barriers to effective representation. In addition to the challenging transportation routes, some of which require ferry travel, the area faces severe seasonal weather. Internet and cellular connectivity are limited outside of the larger centres, and we heard that these networks often do not extend to

IMAGE 11: DOWNTOWN NELSON, B.C. CREDIT: PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA. APRIL 29, 2007

TABLE 8: THE KOOTENAYS POPULATION, DEVIATION AND AREA
SOURCE: 2021 STATISTICS CANADA CENSUS COUNT

Electoral District	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Columbia River-Revelstoke	40,904	-23.9	39,719
Kootenay Central	41,985	-21.9	15,382
Kootenay-Monashee	41,446	-22.9	11,551
Kootenay-Rockies	41,241	-23.3	12,127
Total/Average	165,576	-23.0	78,779

rural homes. We conclude that effective representation for this area of the province requires four electoral districts. Our proposals adjust the boundaries of each of the area's ridings, reducing the population differences and bringing the population of each within the usual deviation range. We recommend renaming Kootenay West as Kootenay-Monashee, Nelson-Creston as Kootenay Central, and Kootenay East as Kootenay-Rockies.

We propose moving the communities of Nakusp, New Denver and Silverton from Kootenay-Monashee to Kootenay Central. This brings the population of Kootenay Central within the usual deviation range and keeps the communities in the northern part of the Slocan Valley together.

The consequence of moving these communities into Kootenay Central is that the population of Kootenay-Monashee falls below the usual deviation range. To address this, we considered moving Christina Lake into Kootenay-Monashee. However, the strong connections between Christina Lake and other Boundary region communities and the transportation

challenges for Christina Lake residents attempting to access their Kootenay-Monashee MLA persuaded us that this was not a good solution. Instead, we propose moving the Monashee area, including Cherryville, into the Kootenay-Monashee riding. Cherryville shares a transportation corridor with Upper Arrow Lakes communities. This boundary adjustment also better balances the population of Kootenay-Monashee with the adjacent riding centred on Vernon.

While we explored moving Revelstoke and Golden from Columbia River-Revelstoke into the electoral district of Salmon Arm-Shuswap, we do not propose this change because of the challenge posed by the limited transportation options and the mountain pass between these communities. Instead, we adjust the boundary between Kootenay-Rockies and Columbia River-Revelstoke ridings by moving the western outskirts of Cranbrook into Columbia River-Revelstoke. This balances the populations between these neighbouring electoral districts, and the boundary follows municipal borders.

Columbia River-Revelstoke

This electoral district stretches along the Columbia Valley. It includes Kimberley, Invermere, Canal Flats, Radium Hot Springs and Golden. To the west it includes the communities of Revelstoke, Trout Lake and Galena Bay and to the east it extends along Highway 1 to Field. Its boundaries are defined by the Alberta border in the east, and the Columbia Shuswap Regional District in the north and west. The riding's southern boundary extends to the western outskirts of Cranbrook along Hidden Valley Road.

Kootenay Central

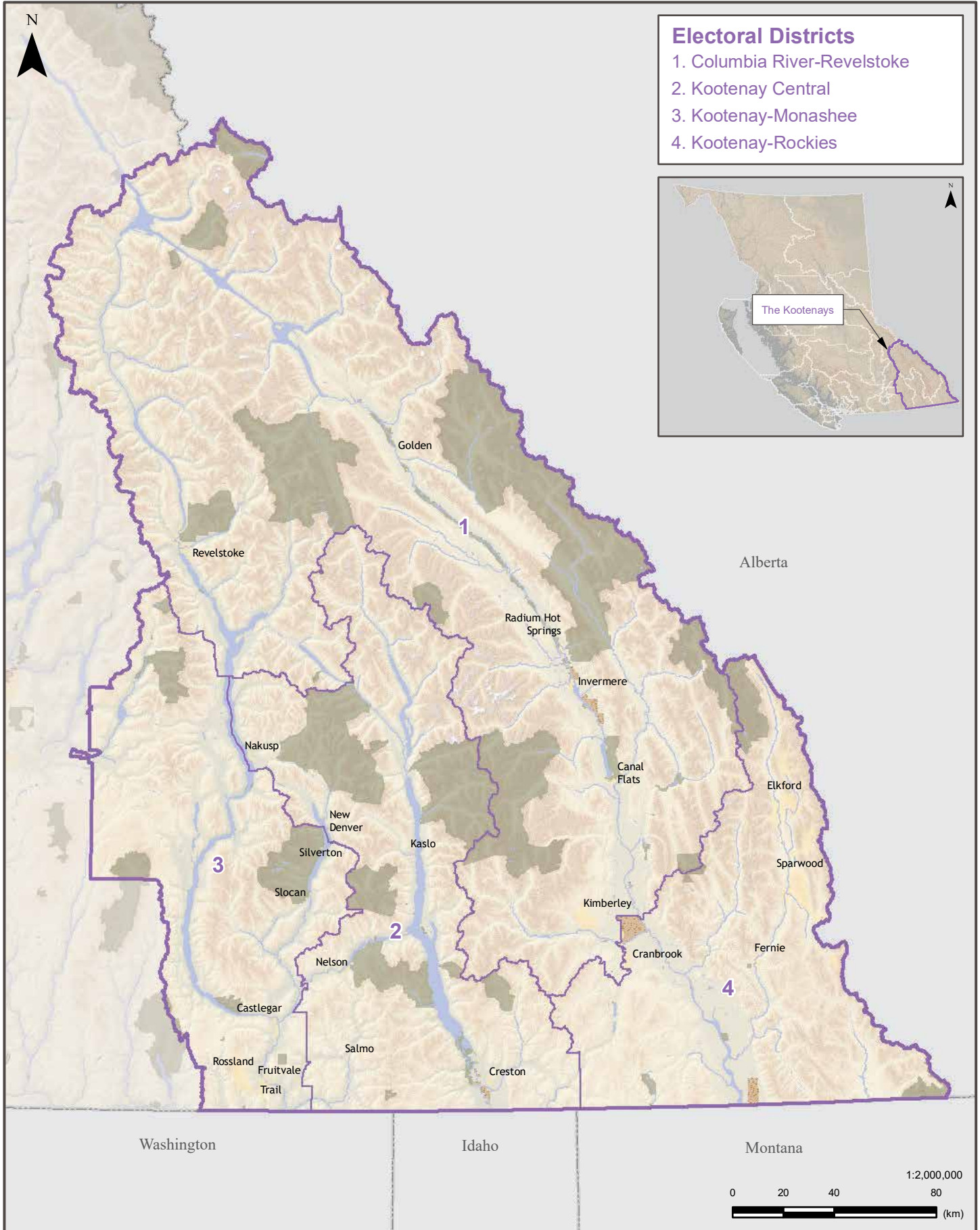
Kootenay Central consists of communities around Kootenay and Slocan Lakes, including Nelson, Kaslo, Creston, Nakusp, Brouse, New Denver, Silverton and Salmo. The riding's boundaries follow the Regional District of Central Kootenay Electoral Areas E, F, G and H to the east, and the boundary of the Regional District of Central Kootenay to the north and west. Its southern boundary is the Canada-U.S. border.

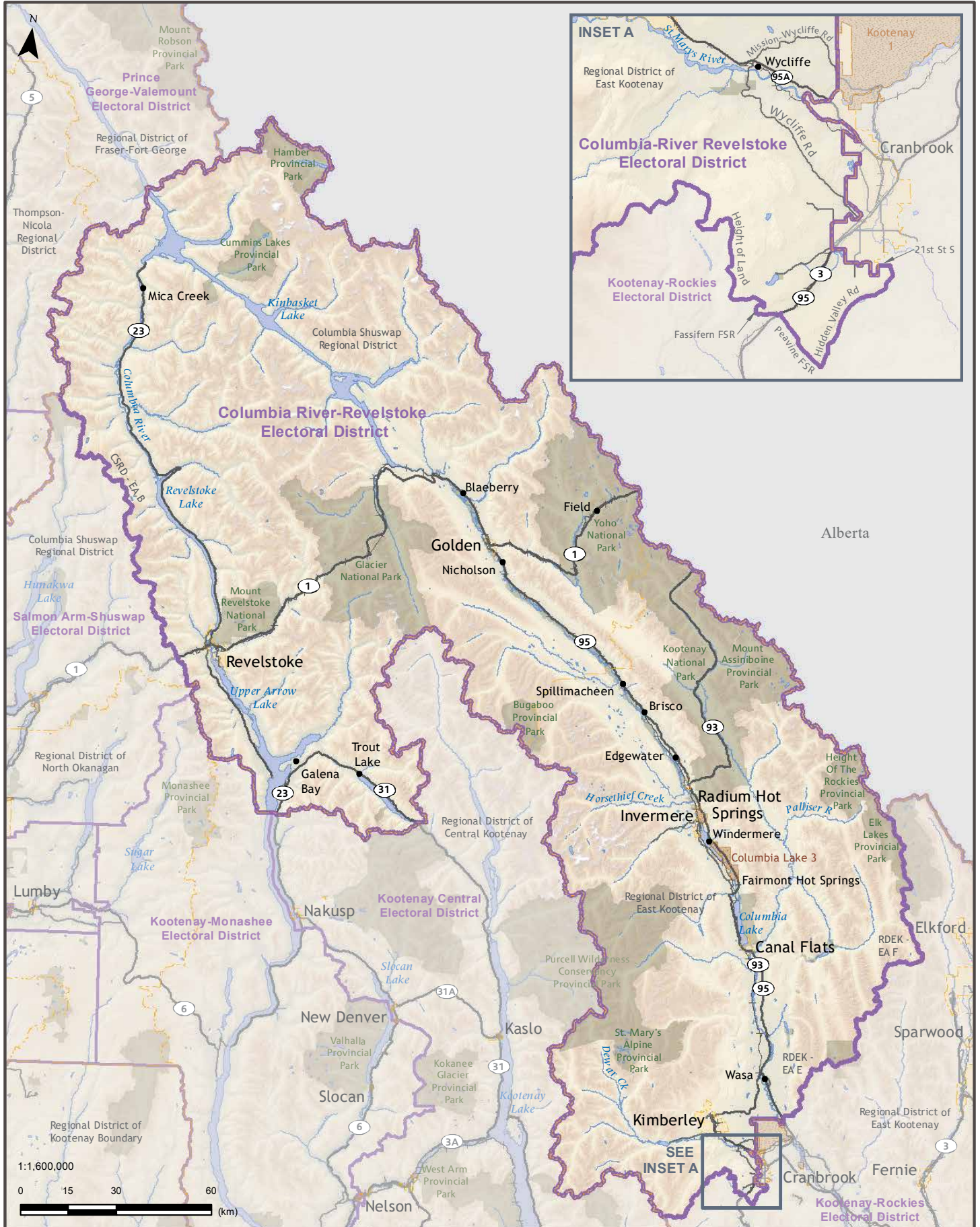
Kootenay-Monashee

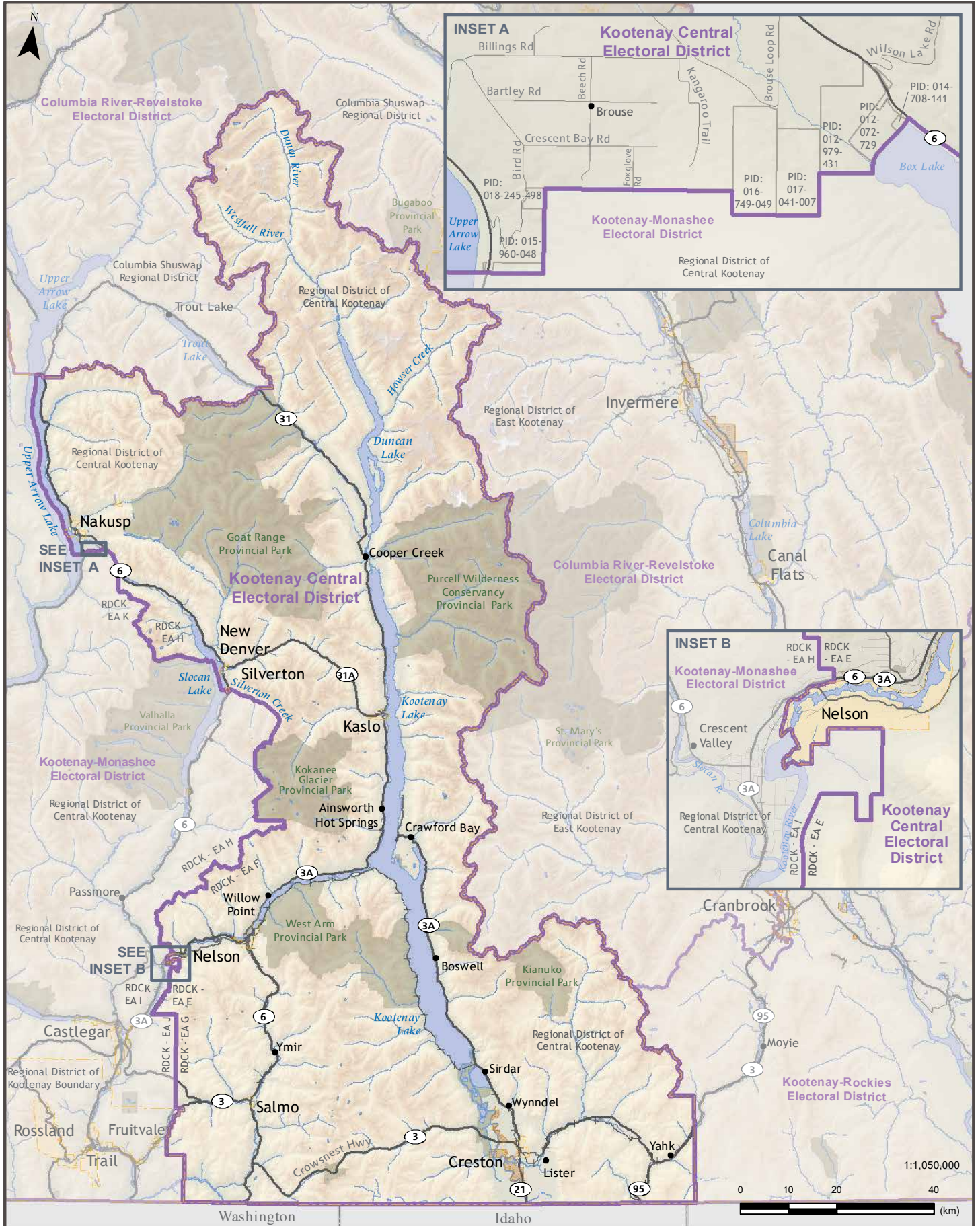
This electoral district includes Montose, Fruitvale, Castlegar, Rossland, Trail and communities along the Slocan River delta. It also includes the Monashee Mountains and Cherryville. Its western boundary follows Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Electoral Area B and Regional District of North Okanagan Electoral Area E. Elsewhere, its boundaries follow the borders of Regional District of Central Kootenay Electoral Areas J, H and K, Kokanee Glacier Provincial Park, Silverton and Upper Arrow Lake.

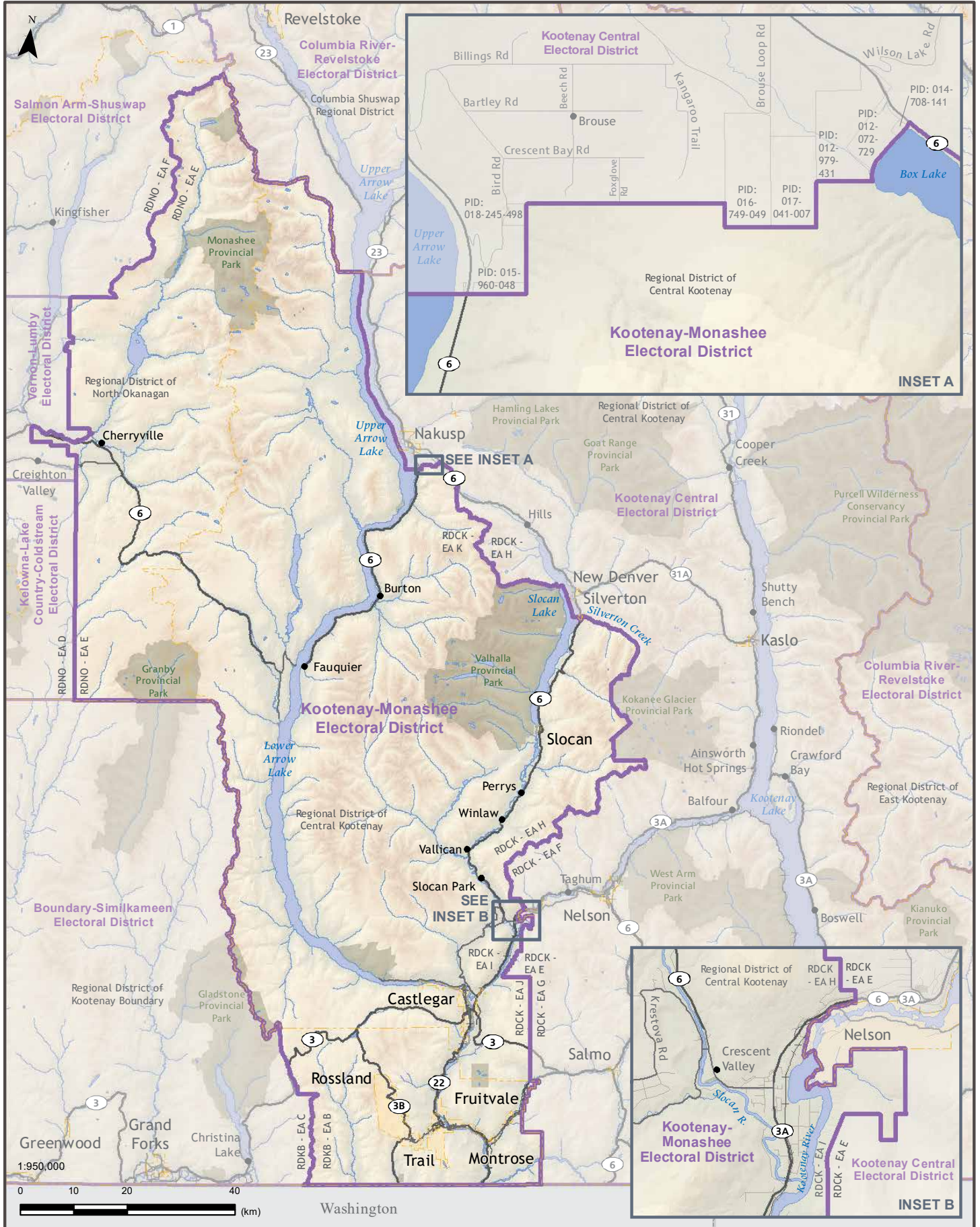
Kootenay-Rockies

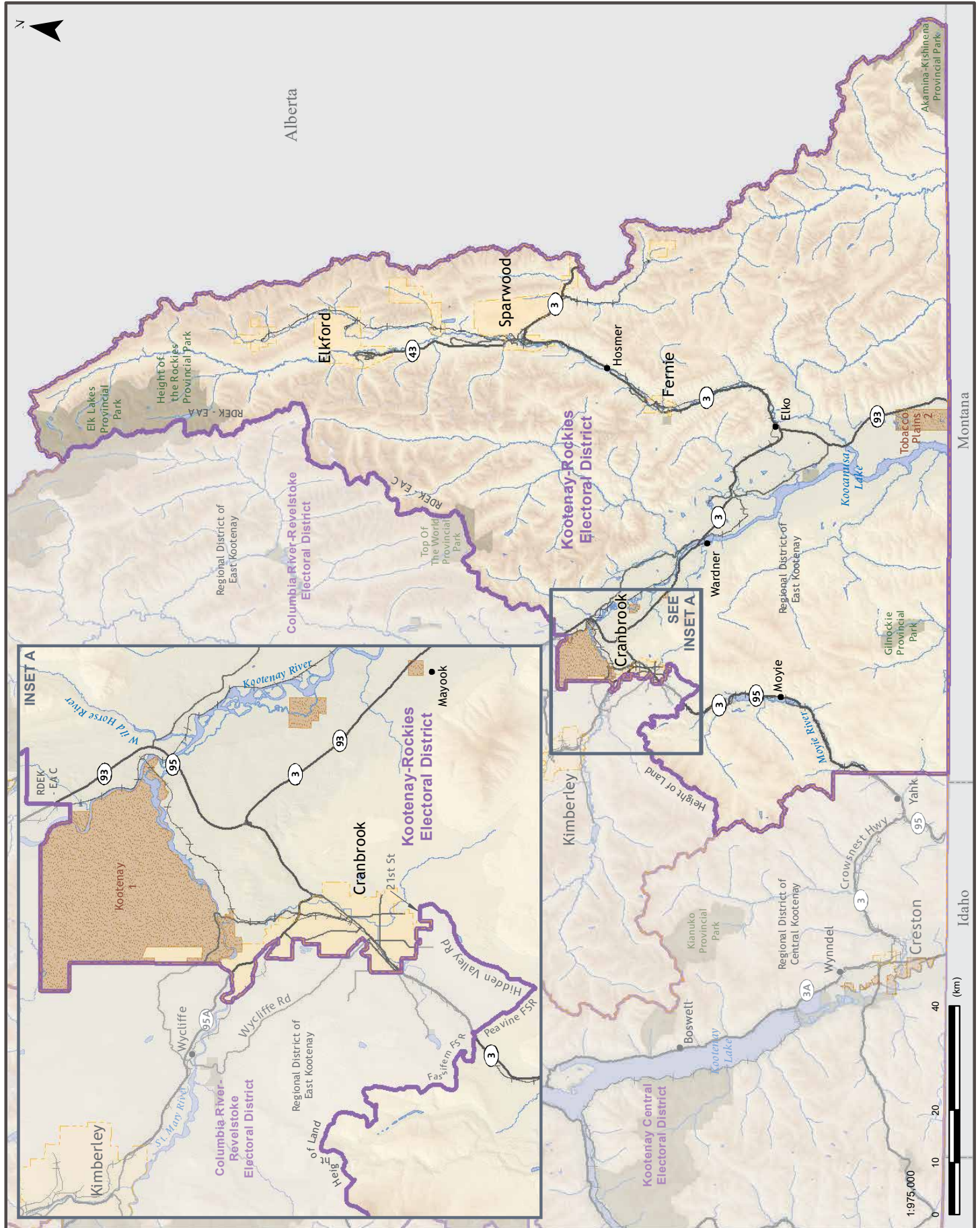
This riding includes communities along Highways 3 and 43 such as Cranbrook, Sparwood, Fernie, Hosmer, Elko, and Elkford. It extends west to the height of land of the Moyie Mountain Range and north along the boundaries of the Regional District of East Kootenay Electoral Areas A and C. Its eastern boundary is the Alberta border and its southern boundary is the Canada-U.S. border.











The Interior

Current Electoral Districts (10)

Boundary-Similkameen
 Fraser-Nicola
 Kamloops-North Thompson
 Kamloops-South Thompson
 Kelowna-Lake Country
 Kelowna-Mission
 Kelowna West
 Penticton
 Shuswap
 Vernon-Monashee

Proposed Electoral Districts (11)

Boundary-Similkameen
 Fraser-Nicola
 Kamloops Centre
 Kamloops-North Thompson
 Kelowna Centre
 Kelowna-Lake Country-Coldstream
 Kelowna-Mission
 Penticton-Summerland
 Salmon Arm-Shuswap
 Vernon-Lumby
 West Kelowna-Peachland

TABLE 9: THE INTERIOR ELECTORAL DISTRICTS

NOTE: THIS CHAPTER USES PROPOSED ELECTORAL DISTRICT NAMES



The Interior area presently consists of 10 electoral districts in south-central B.C., including the Okanagan, Nicola, Shuswap, Thompson and Boundary regions. The population of this area is unevenly distributed. It includes the growing urban centres of Kelowna, Kamloops, Vernon and Penticton, but also contains sparsely populated areas with little projected growth, particularly in the Boundary-Similkameen and Fraser-Nicola ridings.

Greater Kelowna

The three current Kelowna ridings are growing at nearly twice the provincial average. In addition, the populations of Kelowna West and Kelowna-Lake County are above the usual deviation range. We address this by proposing a new electoral district for the area.

The current electoral district of Kelowna West includes part of downtown Kelowna as well as the City of West Kelowna. Residents of downtown Kelowna told us they found it confusing and inappropriate for them to vote in Kelowna West. We also heard that Peachland has strong ties with West Kelowna. The two communities are connected by Highway 97.

We propose removing downtown Kelowna from Kelowna West and extending the riding's boundaries to include the com-

IMAGE 12: OKANAGAN LAKE, KELOWNA, B.C. CREDIT: KOLBY MILTON. JANUARY 23, 2021

TABLE 10: THE INTERIOR POPULATION, DEVIATION AND AREA
SOURCE: 2021 STATISTICS CANADA CENSUS COUNT

Electoral District	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Boundary-Similkameen	48,109	-10.5	15,619
Fraser-Nicola	42,562	-20.9	27,818
Kamloops Centre	60,681	12.9	114
Kamloops-North Thompson	60,586	12.7	17,024
Kelowna Centre	59,446	10.6	72
Kelowna-Lake Country-Coldstream	58,671	9.1	2,227
Kelowna-Mission	59,723	11.1	523
Penticton-Summerland	55,391	3.0	1,596
Salmon Arm-Shuswap	62,420	16.1	8,689
Vernon-Lumby	57,423	6.8	1,265
West Kelowna-Peachland	55,664	3.5	1,438
Total/Average	620,676	4.9	76,385

munities on the west side of Okanagan Lake south to the District of Peachland. This puts Kelowna West within the usual deviation range with room for growth. The proposed name for this electoral district is West Kelowna-Peachland.

We also recommend adding an electoral district centred on downtown Kelowna. The rapidly increasing population in this area supports a new riding. Doing so means that we can alter the boundaries of neighbouring ridings to achieve better balanced populations and room for growth. We call the new riding Kelowna Centre.

We make other boundary adjustments in the greater Kelowna area to better balance

the populations of neighbouring electoral districts.

Some people told us that Big White should become part of a Kelowna riding because of its proximity to the City of Kelowna and shared economic interests. We acknowledge these connections but are not proposing this change. As part of the Kootenay Boundary Regional District, Big White has administrative ties to its current electoral district. We did not hear that Big White is experiencing barriers to effective representation, and we note that access to its MLA is facilitated by the relatively low population of Boundary-Similkameen. We also heard requests that Rutland, which is currently divided by the electoral bound-

ary that runs along Highway 33, be united in a single riding. Rutland's population is too large to include in one riding without making disruptive changes to surrounding electoral districts. We are therefore not recommending that change.

Greater Vernon

The rapidly growing City of Vernon is made up of a mixture of urban, suburban and rural neighbourhoods. We propose adjusting existing boundaries to keep the City of Vernon in one electoral district. However, the combined populations of Coldstream and Greater Vernon are now too large for a single riding. We address that by moving the District of Coldstream into the Kelowna-Lake Country electoral district. This avoids dividing Coldstream between two ridings. In consequence, we propose changing the name of this riding from Kelowna-Lake Country to Kelowna-Lake Country-Coldstream.

As discussed in the Kootenay area overview, to reduce population disparities between neighbouring ridings, we propose adjusting the eastern boundary of Vernon-Monashee by removing the Monashee area including Cherryville from it and renaming the riding Vernon-Lumby to reflect the geographic area it will represent. We heard that residents of the Okanagan Indian Band reserve (Okanagan 1) would prefer to be in a Vernon riding rather than in Salmon Arm-Shuswap. We do not propose this change because it would create a population imbalance between adjacent ridings.

Other Interior Areas

Kamloops is one of the fastest growing centres in the Interior. We reflect its

urbanization by adjusting existing riding boundaries to separate the city centre and adjacent neighbourhoods from more sparsely populated neighbourhoods and rural areas.

We propose naming the two Kamloops ridings Kamloops Centre and Kamloops-North Thompson. While we initially considered moving Barriere, Clearwater and Wells Gray Provincial Park into a Cariboo riding, we do not do so because we learned that they access provincial services through a transportation corridor with Kamloops. For these residents to get to an MLA in a Cariboo riding, they would have to travel over a mountain pass on a secondary highway. Instead, we propose moving the rural areas to the west of Kamloops into the Cariboo-Chilcotin riding to balance their populations and accommodate projected population growth in Kamloops.

Boundary-Similkameen is a rural riding with no major urban centre. Its population is 16.3% below the provincial average. We considered whether there was a way to increase its population without significantly adding to its already large geographic size. However, the terrain to the north, east and west made it impractical to adjust its boundaries with adjacent ridings.

The population of the electoral district of Fraser-Nicola is currently 41% below the electoral quotient, and it is not projected to grow significantly over the next few years. To address this, we propose expanding its boundaries to include Durieu, Dewdney, Deroche, Lake Errock, Harrison Mills, Harrison Hot Springs and Kent. These neighbouring communities are located north of the Fraser River and are connected to the rest of Fraser-Nicola

by Highway 7. This change increases the riding's population without significantly expanding its geographic area and keeps related communities together.

Electoral District Descriptions

Boundary-Similkameen

This electoral district includes communities principally along Highways 3 such as Princeton, Keremeos, Oliver, Midway, Osoyoos, Greenwood, Grand Forks, Christina Lake, and Big White. Its boundaries follow the Canada-U.S. border in the south, and the Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen in the west. To the east, its boundary follows the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Electoral Area C. Its northern boundary largely follows the Regional Districts of Kootenay Boundary and Okanagan-Similkameen and the southern boundary of the City of Penticton.

Fraser-Nicola

Fraser-Nicola extends from E.C. Manning Provincial Park in the south to the Thompson and Nicola regions in the north. It includes Hope, Lytton, Merritt and Lillooet. It also includes communities on the north bank of the Fraser River, such as Durieu, Dewdney, Deroche, Lake Errock, Harrison Mills, Harrison Hot Springs and the District of Kent. The riding's southwest boundary follows the borders of Fraser Valley Regional District Electoral Areas A, B and C. Its northern boundary follows the municipal border of Ashcroft, Highway 97c (Highland Valley Road), Logan Lake and Thompson Nicola Regional District Electoral Areas M and I.

Kamloops Centre

This riding consists of Kamloops' urban core and the surrounding neighbourhoods of Aberdeen, Tranquille, Thompson Rivers University, North Kamloops and Brocklehurst. The riding's southern, eastern and western boundaries follow the municipal borders of the City of Kamloops; and its northern boundary follows the CN Railway.

Kamloops-North Thompson

This electoral district includes the suburban and rural areas around Kamloops, such as Bachelor Hills and Sahali. It also includes the North Thompson communities of Barriere, Clearwater, Prichard and Chase. The riding's southern and western boundaries follow Thompson Nicola Regional District Electoral Areas J and L. To the north, it is bounded by Wells Grey Provincial Park. Its eastern boundary follows the Thompson Nicola Regional District.

Kelowna Centre

Kelowna Centre consists of the urban core of Kelowna and the neighbourhoods of Benvoulin and Glenmore. It extends north to McKinley Landing and John Hindle Drive. Its southern border follows KLO Road and Mission Creek. Okanagan Lake forms its western boundary, and its eastern boundary is Highway 97.

Kelowna-Lake Country-Coldstream

This riding includes the Districts of Coldstream and Lake Country. It contains the area outside of downtown Kelowna to the north of Highway 33, including the neighbourhoods of Winfield and part of Rutland, as well as the Kelowna

International Airport. The riding's eastern boundary follows the border of Regional District of Central Okanagan Electoral Area D. To the north, it is bounded by the municipal limits of Coldstream.

Kelowna-Mission

Kelowna-Mission includes the communities of East Kelowna, Mission Creek and Okanagan Mission. It also contains Rutland south of Highway 33. The northern and eastern boundaries of this riding follow Springfield Road, KLO Road, Mission Creek and Highway 33. The southern boundary of this riding follows the Regional District of Central Okanagan and, in the west, it runs along Okanagan Lake.

Penticton-Summerland

This electoral district includes the communities of Naramata, Summerland, Penticton and the Penticton Indian Band. Its western boundary follows Okanagan-Similkameen Regional District Electoral Areas I and F and its eastern boundary runs along the Okanagan-Similkameen Regional District. To the south, its boundaries follow Apex Mountain Road, the Penticton 1 Reserve and the municipal border of the City of Penticton.

Salmon Arm-Shuswap

Salmon Arm-Shuswap includes communities in the Shuswap region along Highways 1 and 97 such as Salmon Arm, Sicamous, Enderby and Armstrong. It also includes communities on the north shore of Okanagan Lake, such as the Okanagan Indian Band reserve (Okanagan 1). The riding's southern boundary follows the borders of Regional District of North Okanagan Electoral Area

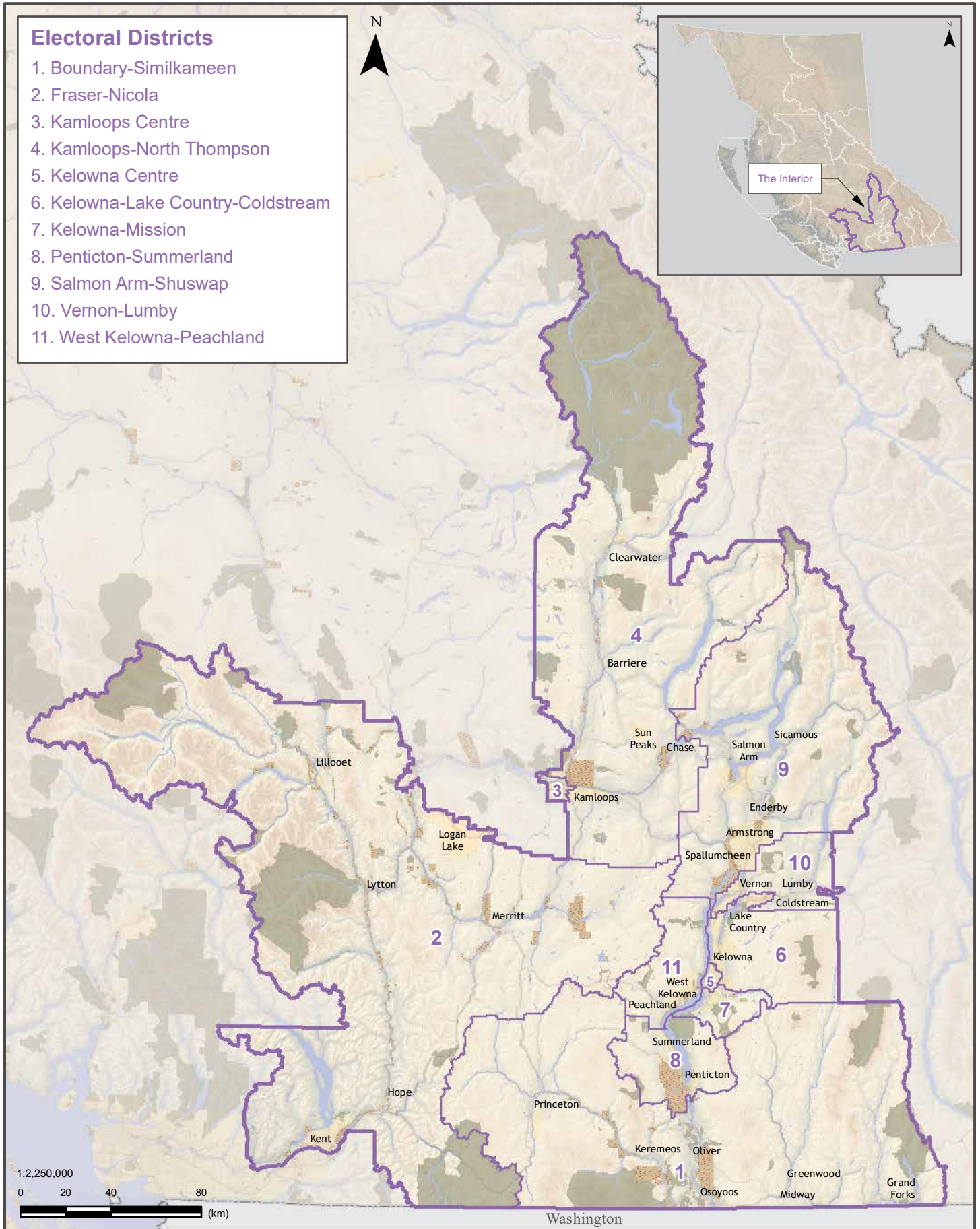
F and the Township of Spallumcheen. To the north, it is bounded by Columbia Shuswap Regional District Electoral Area F.

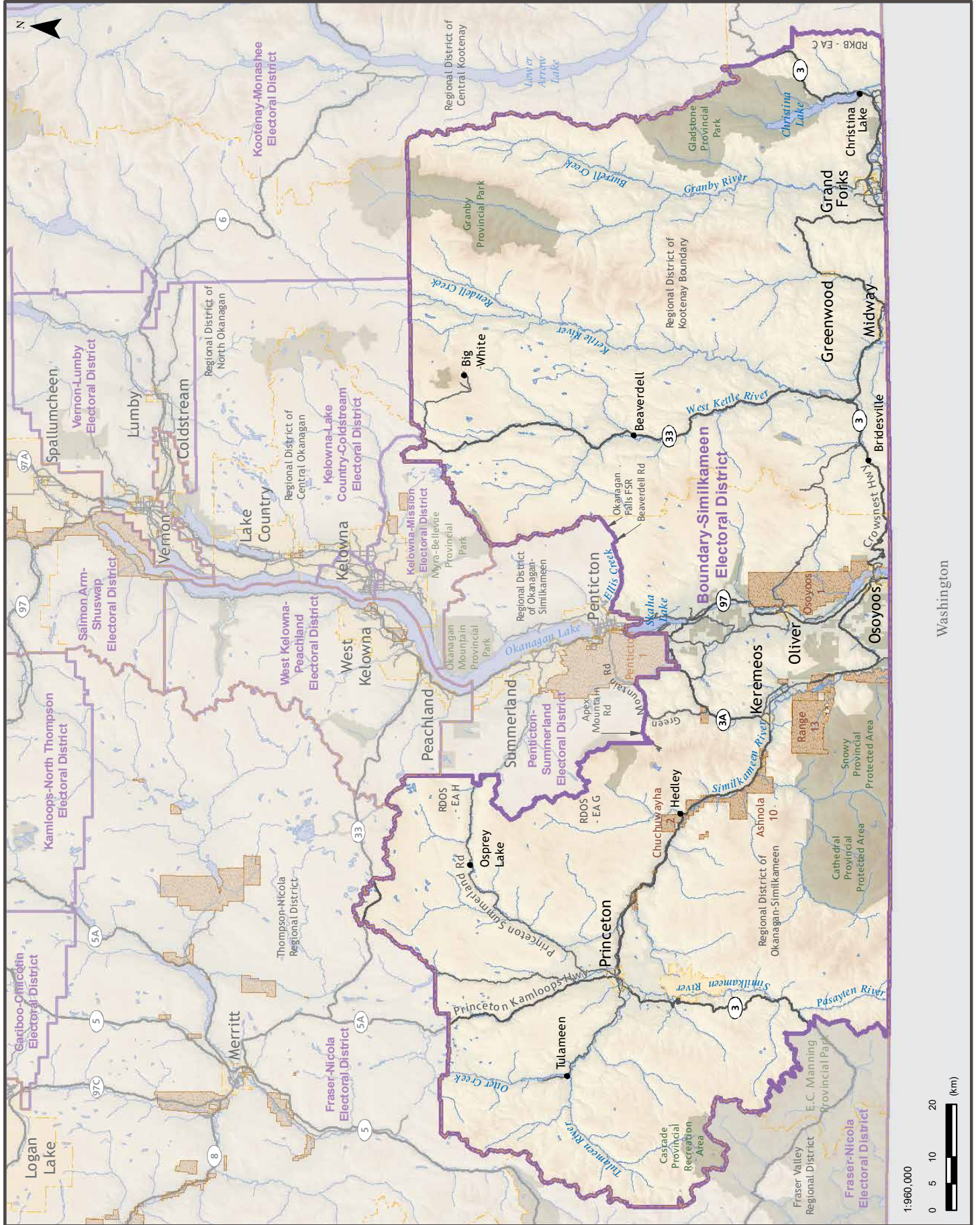
Vernon-Lumby

This riding includes the City of Vernon and Silver Star Provincial Park, as well as communities east of the city such as Lumby, Blue Springs, Trinity Valley and Mable Lake. The riding follows the municipal boundary of the City of Vernon to the west, and the Regional District of North Okanagan Electoral Area D to the north and east. The southern boundary follows a line running east from Regional District of North Okanagan Electoral Area B to the boundary of Electoral Area D.

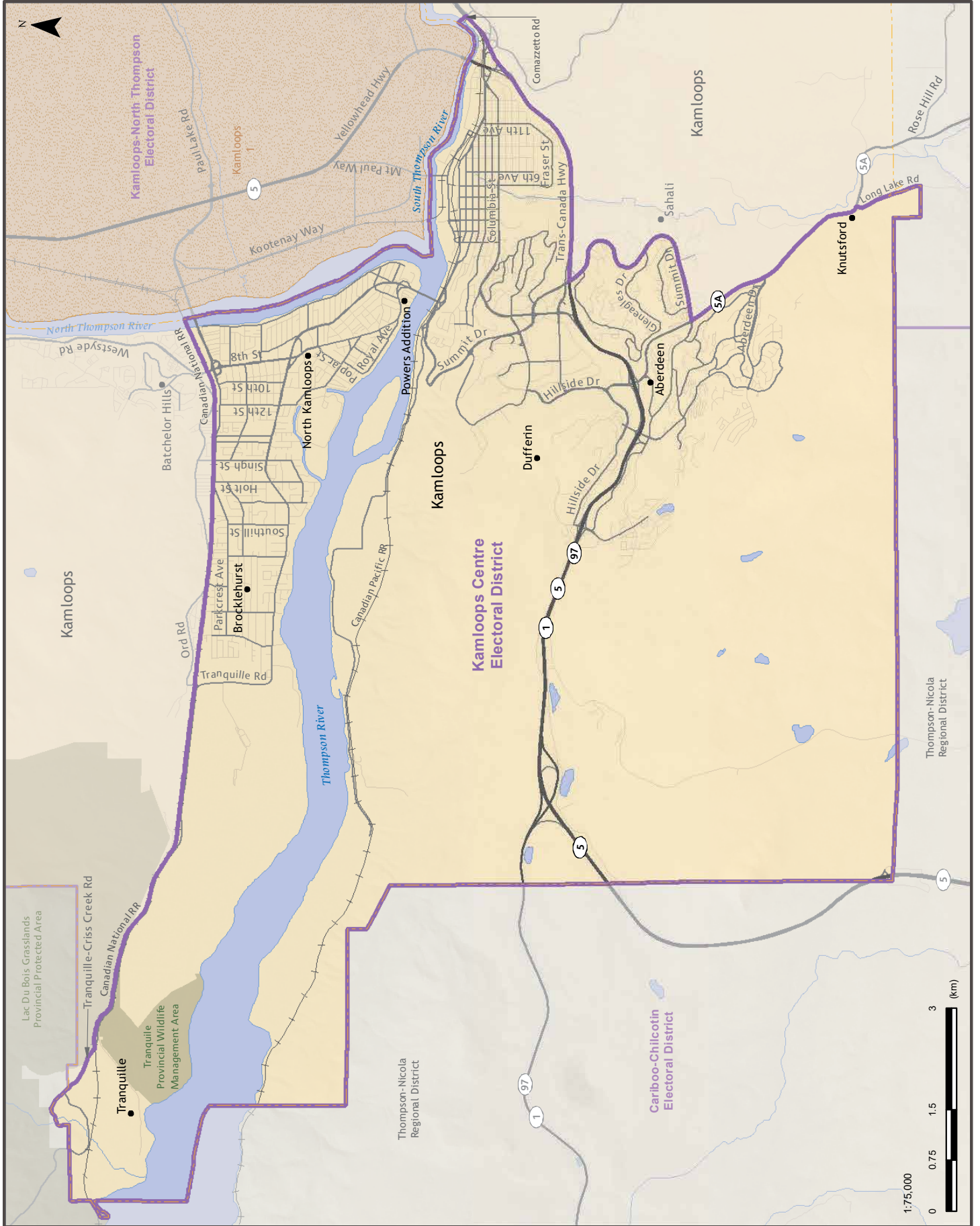
West Kelowna-Peachland

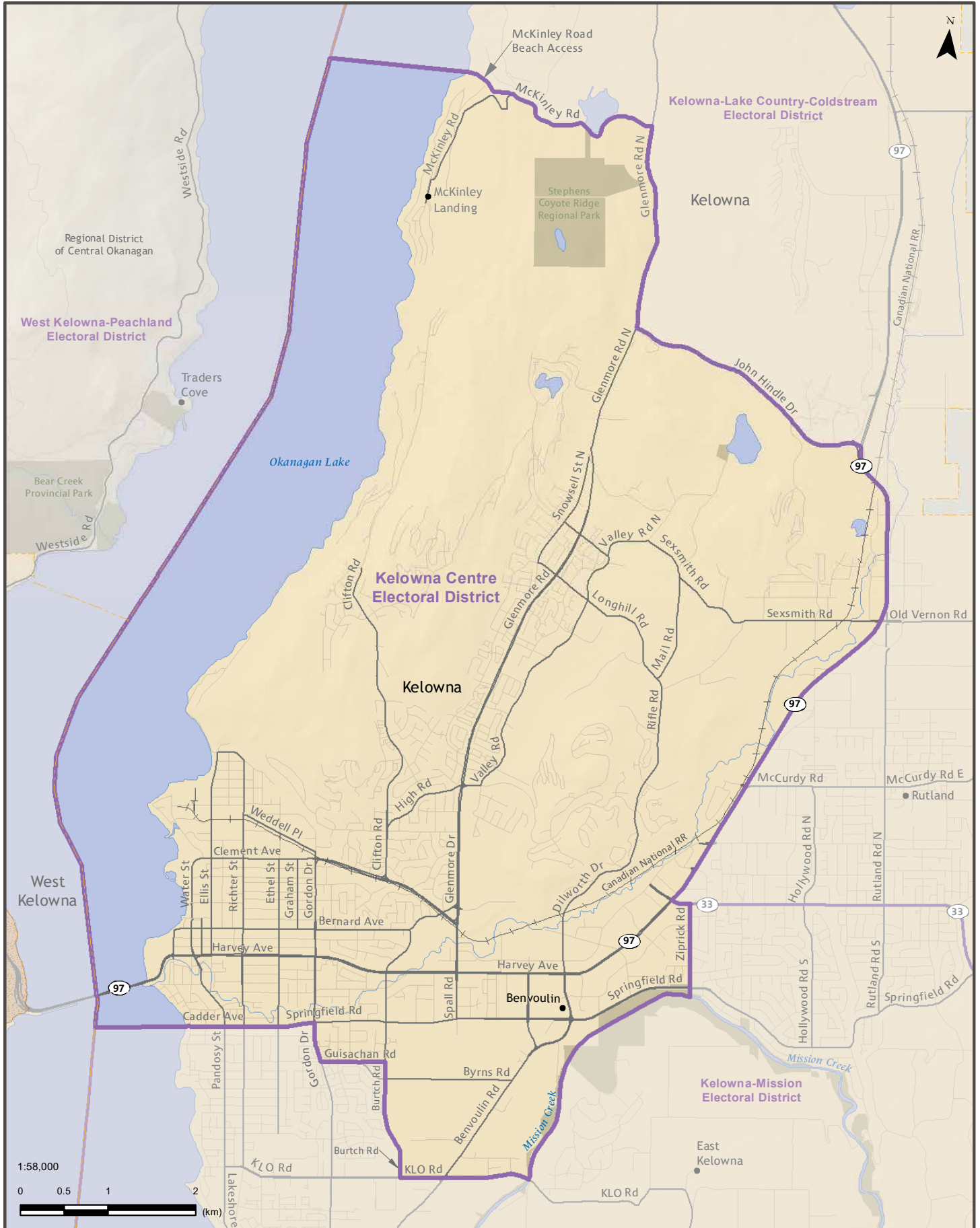
This electoral district consists of communities along Highway 97 on the west side of Okanagan Lake, including the City of West Kelowna and the District of Peachland. Its eastern boundary follows Okanagan Lake. Its north, west and southern boundaries follow the Regional District of Central Okanagan.

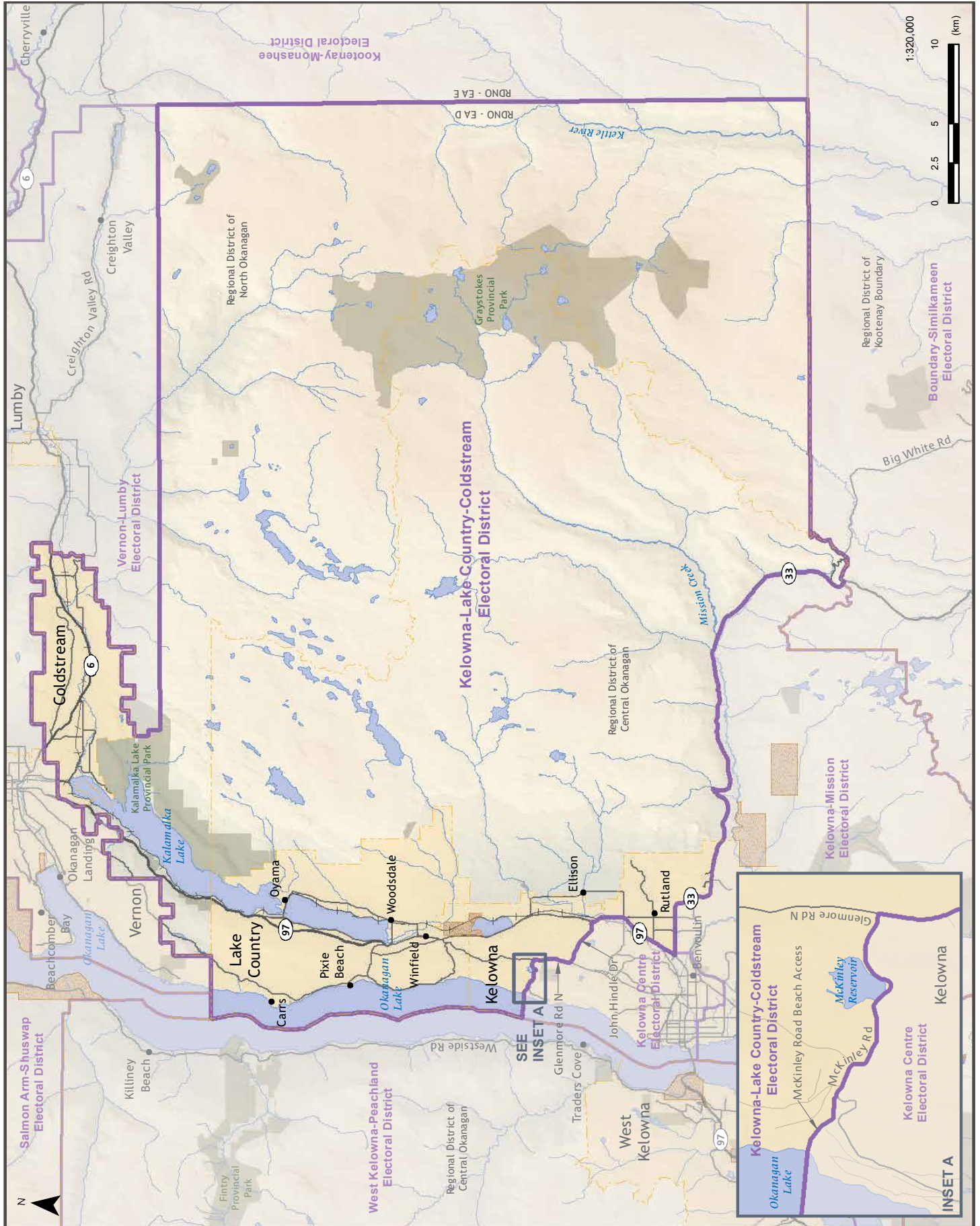


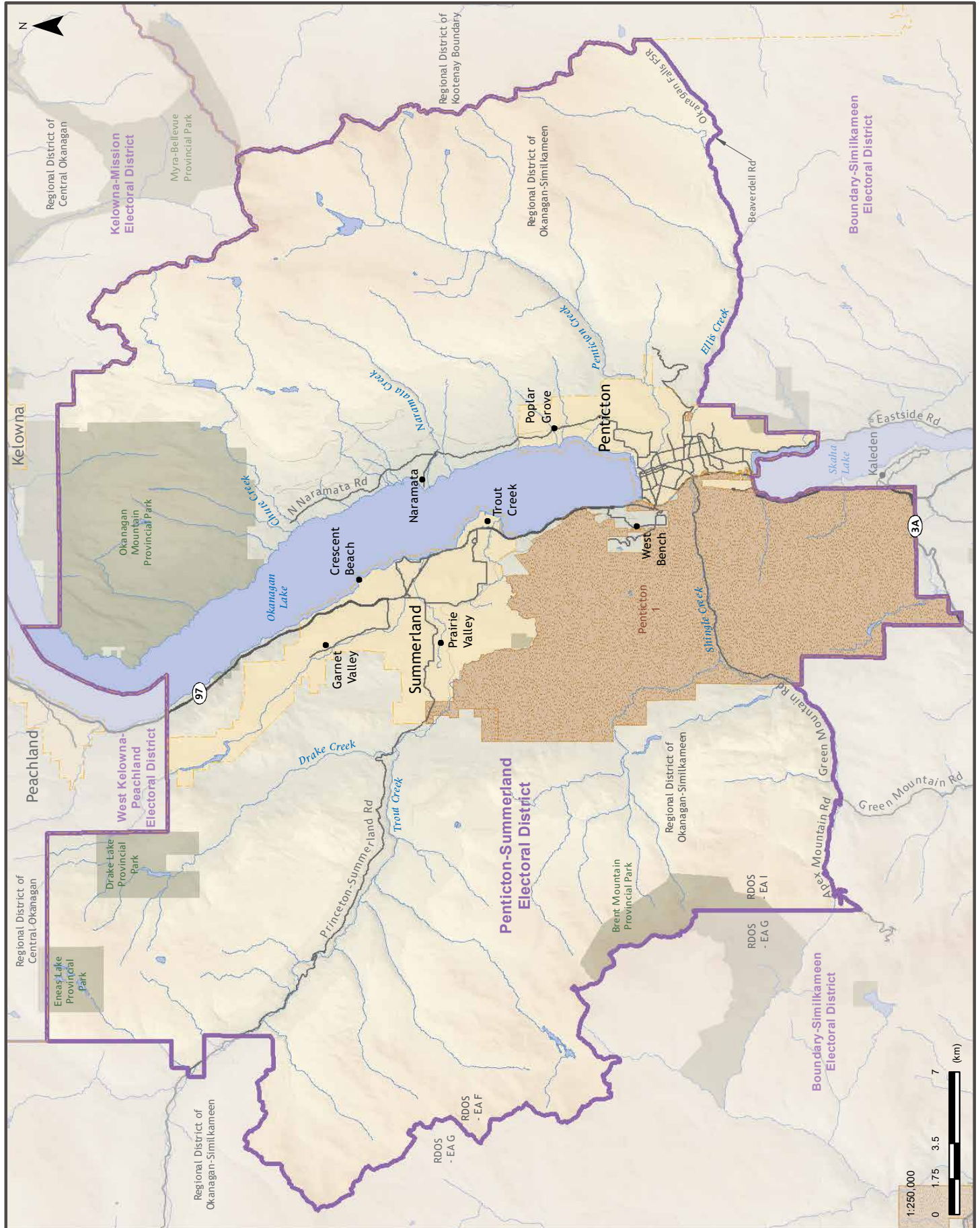


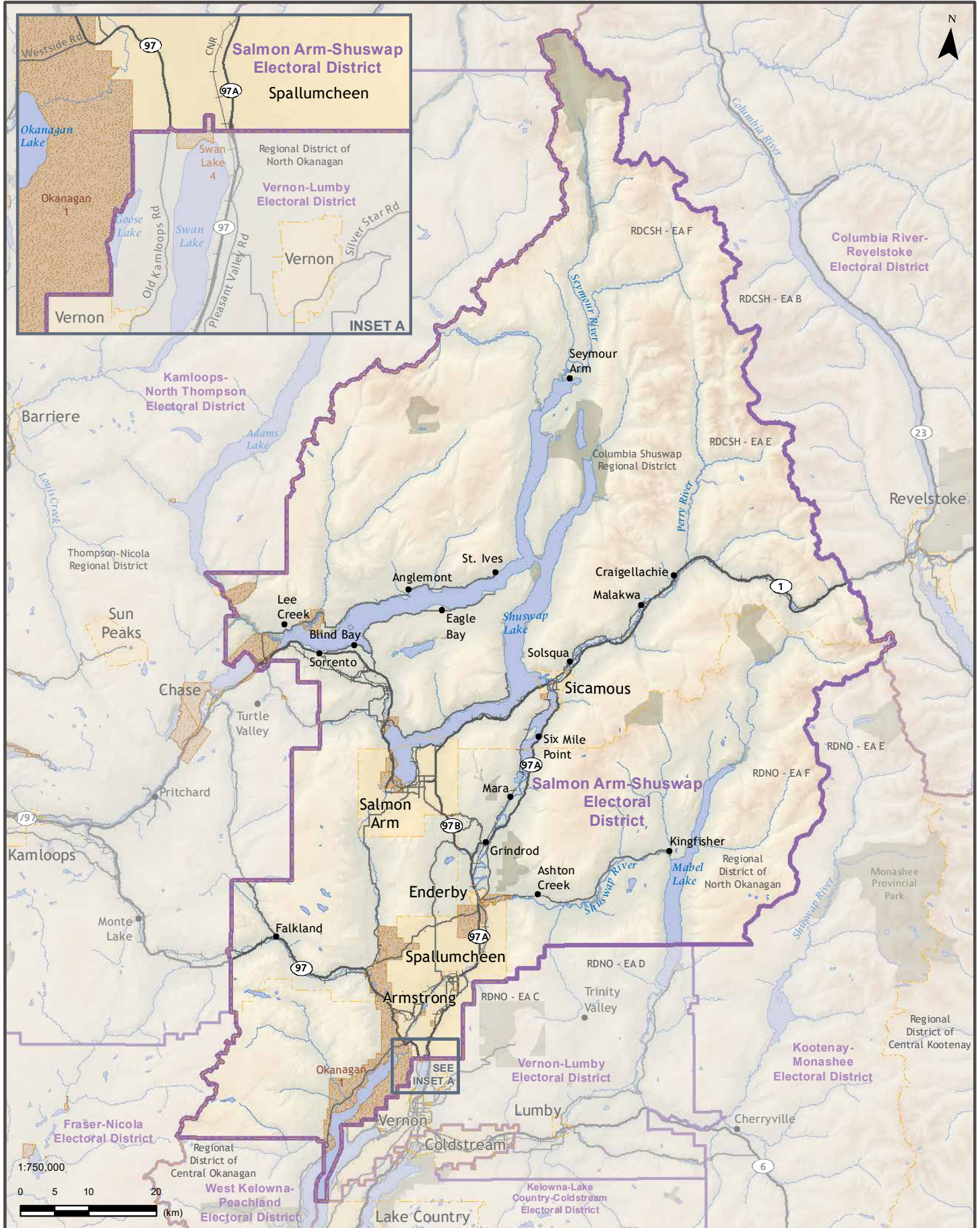


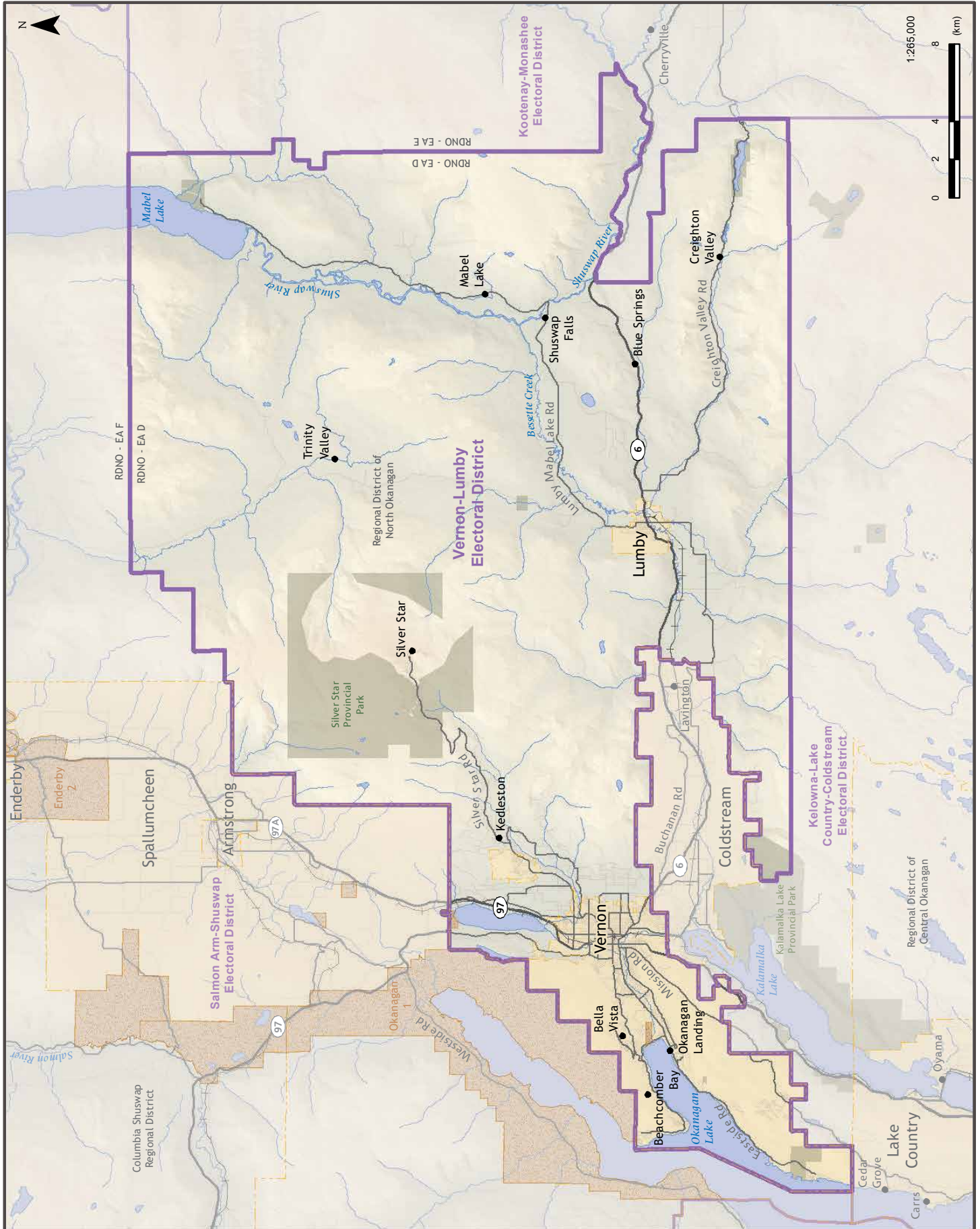


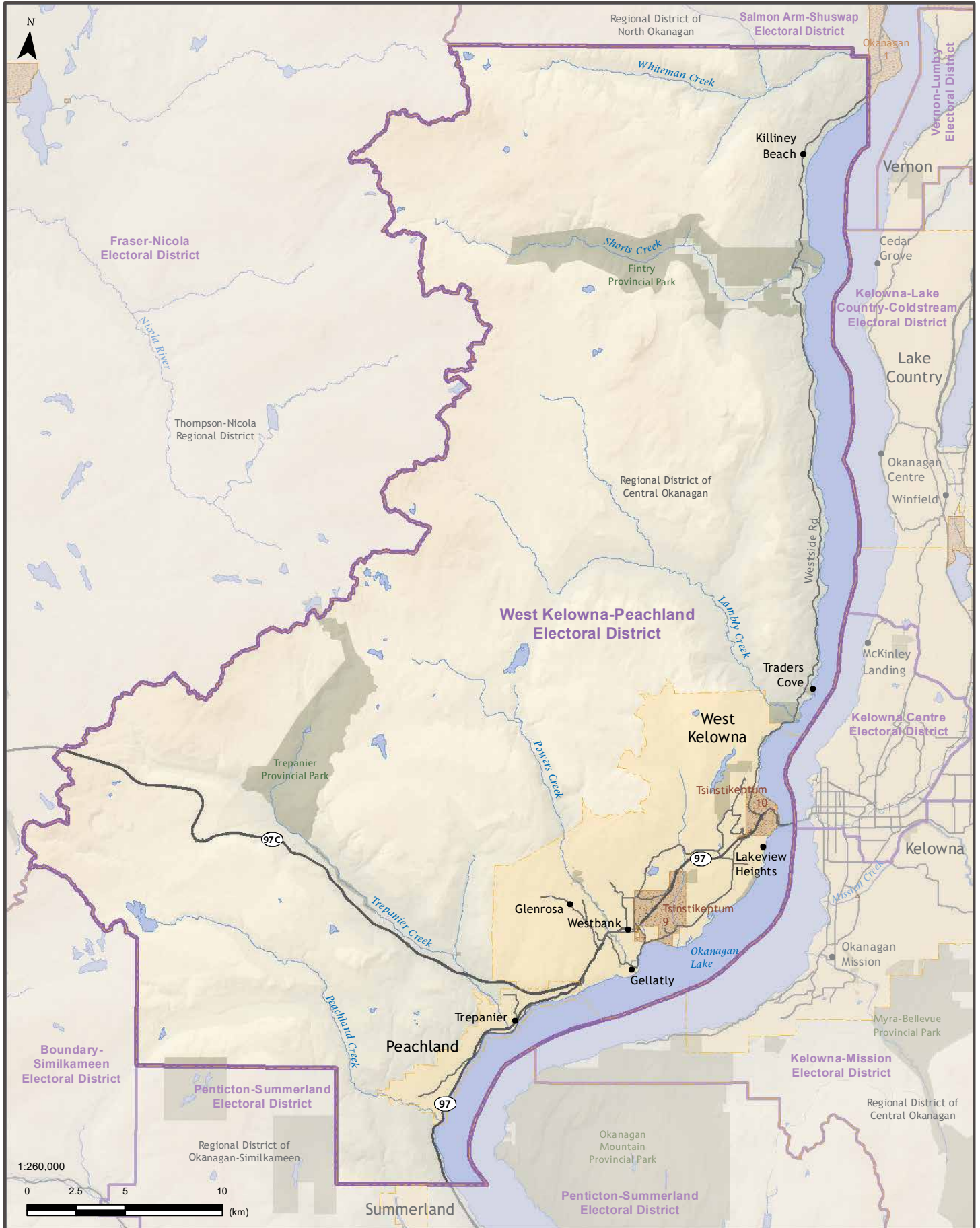












Fraser Valley-Langley-Maple Ridge

Current Electoral Districts (9)

Abbotsford-Mission
 Abbotsford South
 Abbotsford West
 Chilliwack
 Chilliwack-Kent
 Langley
 Langley East
 Maple Ridge-Mission
 Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows

Proposed Electoral Districts (10)

Abbotsford-Mission
 Abbotsford South
 Abbotsford West
 Chilliwack-Cultus Lake
 Chilliwack North
 Langley-Abbotsford
 Langley-Walnut Grove
 Langley-Willowbrook
 Maple Ridge East
 Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows

TABLE 11: FRASER VALLEY-LANGLEY-MAPLE RIDGE ELECTORAL DISTRICTS
 NOTE: THIS CHAPTER USES PROPOSED ELECTORAL DISTRICT NAMES



The Fraser Valley-Langley-Maple Ridge area is presently made up of nine electoral districts, and includes the municipalities of Chilliwack, Abbotsford, Mission, Aldergrove, Langley, Maple Ridge and Pitt Meadows. It is composed of fast-growing dense urban centres and suburbs, smaller rural communities, as well as large areas of agricultural land. The Fraser River is a natural boundary between communities on its north and south banks. New rapid transit routes connecting this area with other Lower Mainland municipalities are contributing to its increasing population. During our consultations, we consistently heard about population growth and the need for more representation, particularly for residents of Langley. People also raised specific concerns about communities divided between multiple ridings and made suggestions about which communities should be in the same riding.

Currently, six out of nine electoral districts in this area have populations exceeding the electoral quotient by more than 10%, and Langley East is at 34.9%. In light of this, we propose adding an electoral district to this area and adjusting boundaries to reduce population discrepancies between neighbouring ridings, allowing room for growth. As much as possible, our boundary adjustments keep communities intact and recognize distinctions between urban, suburban and rural areas. Our proposal adjusts all electoral district boundaries in the Fraser Valley-Langley-Maple Ridge area.

IMAGE 13: ABBOTSFORD, B.C.
CREDIT: PROVINCE OF BRITISH CO-
LUMBIA. AUGUST 8, 2008

TABLE 12: FRASER VALLEY-LANGLEY-MAPLE RIDGE POPULATION, DEVIATION AND AREA
SOURCE: 2021 STATISTICS CANADA CENSUS COUNT

Electoral District	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Abbotsford-Mission	59,296	10.3	88
Abbotsford South	60,624	12.7	174
Abbotsford West	61,904	15.1	91
Chilliwack-Cultus Lake	53,148	-1.2	1,113
Chilliwack North	52,440	-2.5	245
Langley-Abbotsford	56,458	5.0	283
Langley-Walnut Grove	54,818	1.9	67
Langley-Willowbrook	57,709	7.3	23
Maple Ridge East	57,888	7.7	369
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows	58,752	9.3	1,996
Total/Average	573,037	6.6	4,449

Langley

We propose adding a new electoral district centred on Langley to address the population growth in the area and adjust existing riding boundaries. We recommend new names for the three Langley ridings that more closely follow the boundaries of neighbourhoods defined in the Langley Official Community Plans. Langley-Willowbrook includes the City of Langley and the dense urban neighbourhoods to the north of the city. Langley-Walnut Grove contains the communities of Willoughby, Walnut Grove and Fort Langley. Langley-Abbotsford joins the more rural parts of Langley Township, including Murrayville and Aldergrove, with the westernmost part of Abbotsford. These changes better balance the populations of these three ridings, allowing room for future growth.

Abbotsford, Maple Ridge and Mission

The populations of Abbotsford, Maple Ridge and Mission are growing. We considered creating a separate riding for Mission; however, its current population of 41,519 is too low for a single riding. Rather, we propose adjusting the boundaries of the three Abbotsford ridings to reduce their population differences. We include more of the centre of Mission and less of Abbotsford in the Abbotsford-Mission riding, and move the Sumas Mountain neighbourhood into Abbotsford South. We adjust the southeastern boundary between Abbotsford-Mission and Abbotsford West and move the northwestern parts of Abbotsford South into Langley-Willowbrook and Abbotsford West. We recommend including Yennadon in Maple Ridge-Mission and renaming the riding Maple Ridge East.

This change will better balance the riding's population with the neighbouring riding of Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows.

Chilliwack

We propose significant changes to the Chilliwack area. The present riding of Chilliwack-Kent combines part of the City of Chilliwack with communities north of the Fraser River. Its population is 9.2% over the provincial average, while the neighbouring riding of Chilliwack is 9.1% below the provincial average. This population imbalance is compounded by the adjacent Interior riding of Fraser-Nicola, which, at -40.9%, is currently significantly below the usual deviation range.

Because of the relative lack of transportation links between communities on the north and south banks of the Fraser River, we propose including the north Fraser communities of Durieu, Dewdney, Deroche, Lake Errock, Harrison Mills, Harrison Hot Springs and the District of Kent in the Fraser-Nicola riding. This ensures that Fraser-Nicola remains within the usual deviation range and locates similar communities in the same riding. It also better balances the populations between the two Chilliwack ridings. We believe that this enhances effective representation in this area.

With these changes, we rename the two Chilliwack ridings and adjust their boundaries. Chilliwack North is centred on downtown Chilliwack and extends from Sumas Mountain Road in the west to Popkum in the east. Chilliwack-Cultus Lake is bounded in the north by the Trans-Canada Highway and includes the southern parts of Chilliwack as well as the

communities of Yarrow, Vedder Crossing, Sardis and Cultus Lake.

Electoral District Descriptions

Abbotsford-Mission

This riding straddles the Fraser River, combining the core of Mission and the community of Hatzic with the northeast part of Abbotsford (Ridgedale and Clayburn). On the north bank of the Fraser, this riding's boundaries follow Silverdale Creek, Dewdney Trunk Road, Kirkpatrick Avenue and Hatzic Lake. South of the Fraser, its boundaries follow Highway 11, as well as Old Clayburn, McMillan, Old Yale, Marshall, Whatcom, McKee and Upper Sumas Mountain Roads.

Abbotsford South

This electoral district includes Abbotsford's city centre and the neighbourhoods of Aberdeen, Poplar and Kilgard. Its boundaries follow the Canada-U.S. border in the south, the border of the City of Abbotsford in the east, and Bradner Road in the west. The northern boundary follows Highway 1 and South Fraser Way, as well as Old Yale, Marshall, Whatcom, McKee and Sumas Mountain Roads.

Abbotsford West

Abbotsford West includes the northwest part of Abbotsford and the communities of Matsqui, Riverside, Gifford and Mount Lehman. Its boundaries follow Bradner Road in the west and the Fraser River in the north. Its southern boundary follows Highway 1, South Fraser Way and Old Yale Road; and its eastern boundary follows McMillan Road and Highway 11, jogging east to include the Sahhacum 1 Reserve.

Chilliwack-Cultus Lake

This electoral district includes South Fraser communities outside of Chilliwack, such as Sardis, Bridal Falls, Yarrow and Cultus Lake. Its eastern boundary follows Fraser Valley Regional District Electoral Areas E and D. Its northern boundary follows Highway 1, Vedder Road, the Southern Railway, South Sumas Road and Lickman Road to the Vedder River. The riding extends west to the municipal border of the City of Abbotsford and south to the Canada-U.S. border.

Chilliwack North

Chilliwack North consists of downtown Chilliwack and the nearby communities of Greendale, Popkum and Rosedale. Its western boundary follows Sumas Mountain Road and the Vedder Canal. The northern boundary follows the Fraser River. To the south and east, its boundaries follow the Vedder River, the Southern Railway and Highway 1, as well as Lickman, South Sumas, Evans and Vedder Roads.

Langley-Abbotsford

This riding encompasses most of the Township of Langley, including Murrayville, Fern Ridge, Glen Valley and Aldergrove. Its boundaries follow the Canada-U.S. border in the south and the Fraser River in the north. It follows 196th Street in Langley Township in the west and Bradner Road in the City of Abbotsford in the east.

Langley-Walnut Grove

Langley-Walnut Grove includes Willoughby, Walnut Grove, Fort Langley and Forest Knolls. The riding is bordered by the municipal boundary with Surrey to the

west and the Fraser River to the north. Its southern boundary follows 72nd Avenue and Highway 10. To the east, its boundaries follow 252nd Street and 88th Avenue to the Fraser River.

Langley-Willowbrook

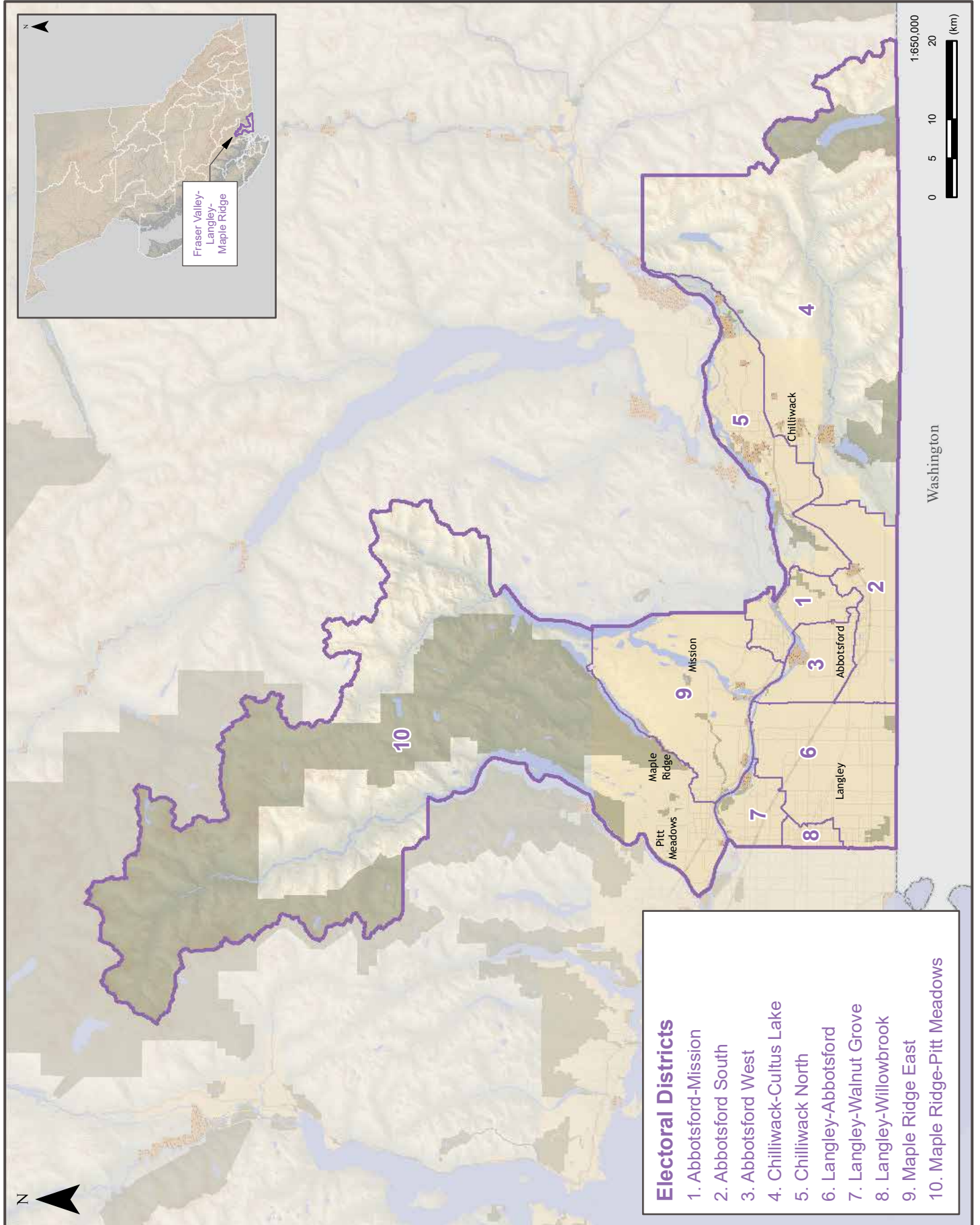
This riding contains the City of Langley and the adjacent community of Willowbrook. Its western boundary follows 196th Street, and its eastern boundary follows Murray Creek and Glover Road. To the south, it follows 33 A, 36th and 40th Avenues and, in the north, it runs along 72nd Avenue.

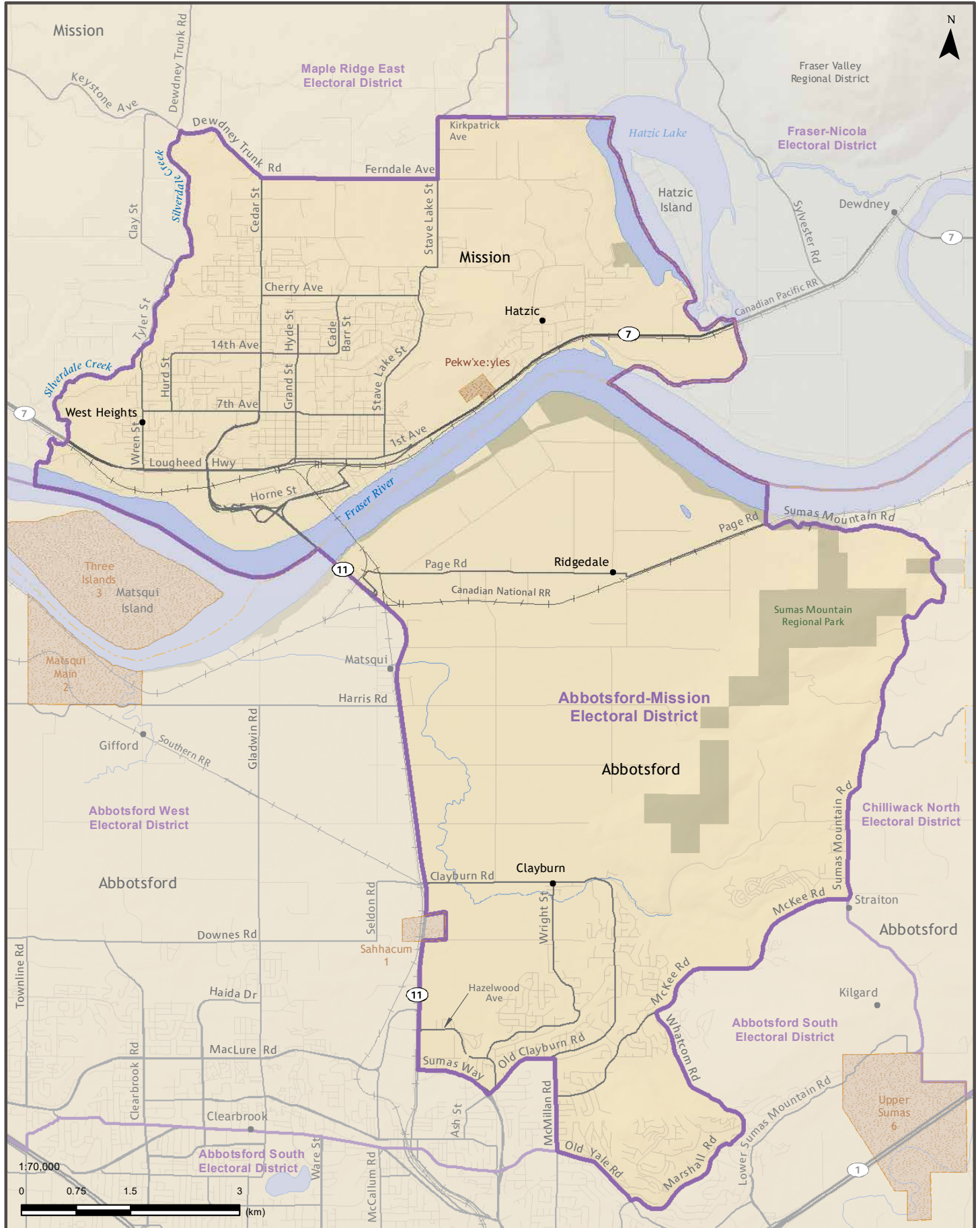
Maple Ridge East

Maple Ridge East includes the communities of Stave Falls, Silverhill, Ruskin, Whonnock, Websters Corners, Albion and Yennadon. The riding's boundaries follow the Fraser River in the south, 224th Street in Maple Ridge in the west, the Alouette River and Alouette Lake in the north, and Stave Lake and Silverdale Creek in the east.

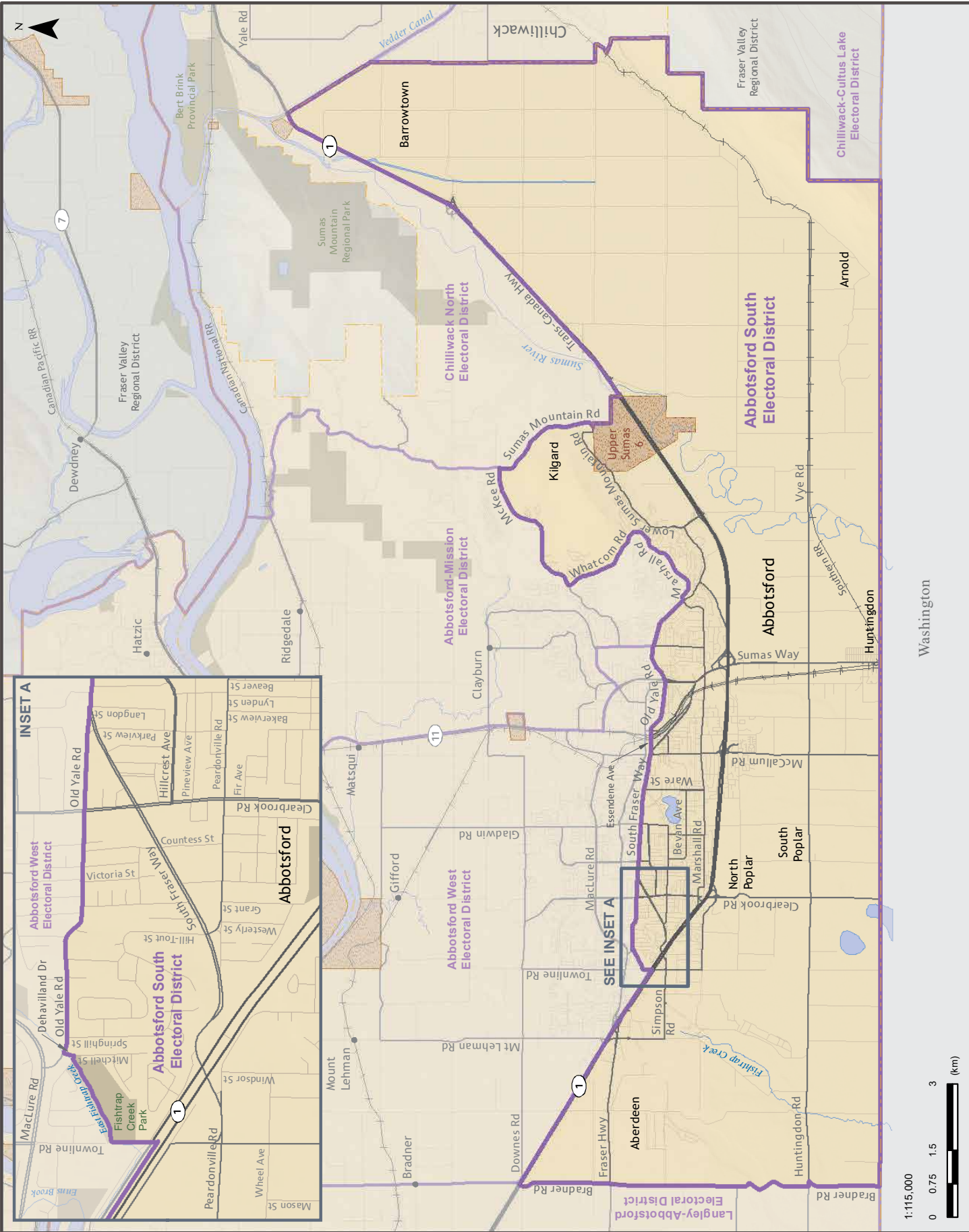
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows

This electoral district consists of the City of Pitt Meadows and the City of Maple Ridge west of 224th Street. It includes the northwest portion of the Fraser Valley Regional District and the communities of William's Landing and Alvin. The southern boundary follows the Fraser River. The eastern boundary follows Pitt River and the boundary of the Fraser Valley Regional District. To the north and west, its boundaries follow Fraser Valley Regional District Electoral Area F, crossing Stave Lake and Alouette Lake to the Alouette River, and 224th Street south to the Fraser River.



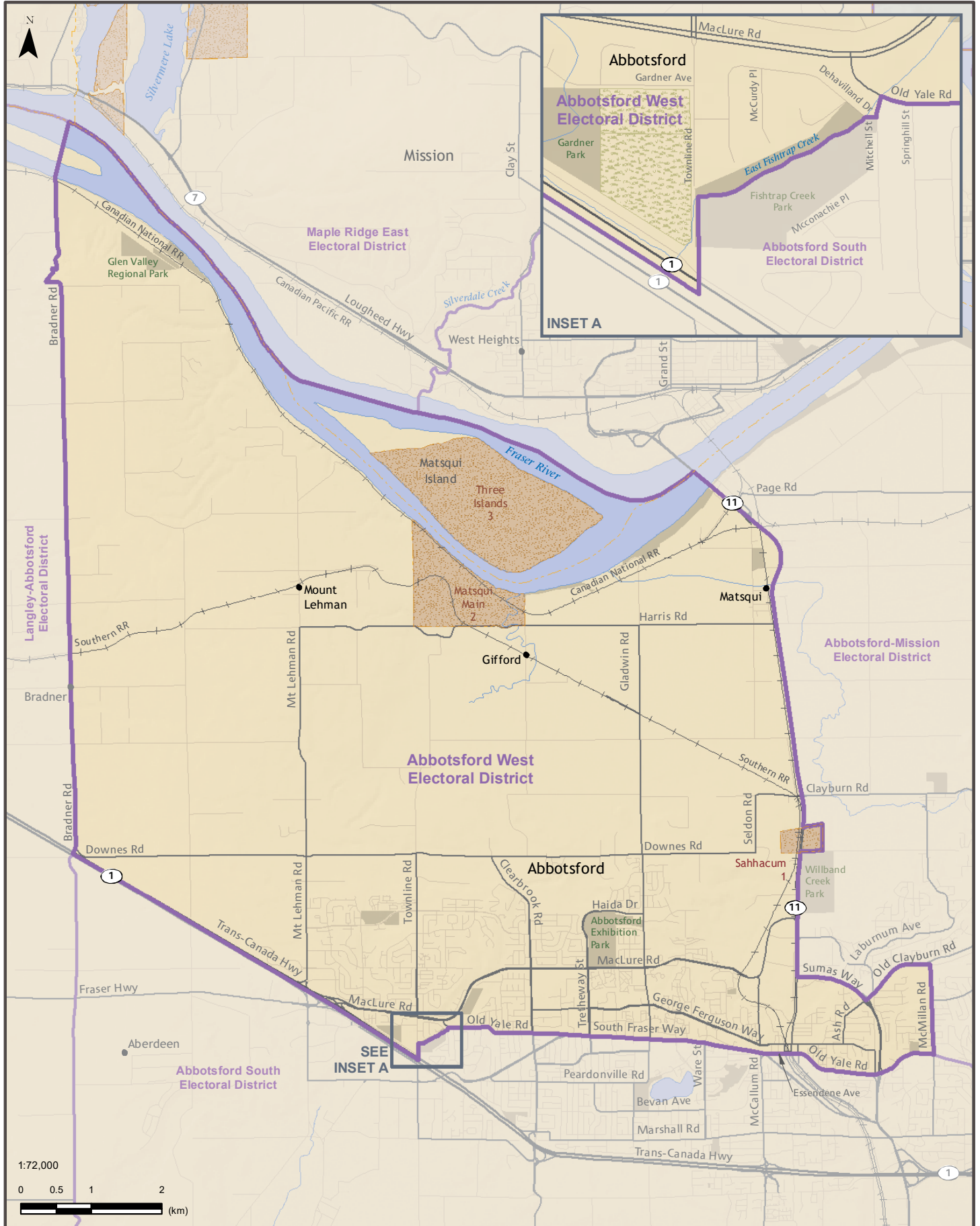


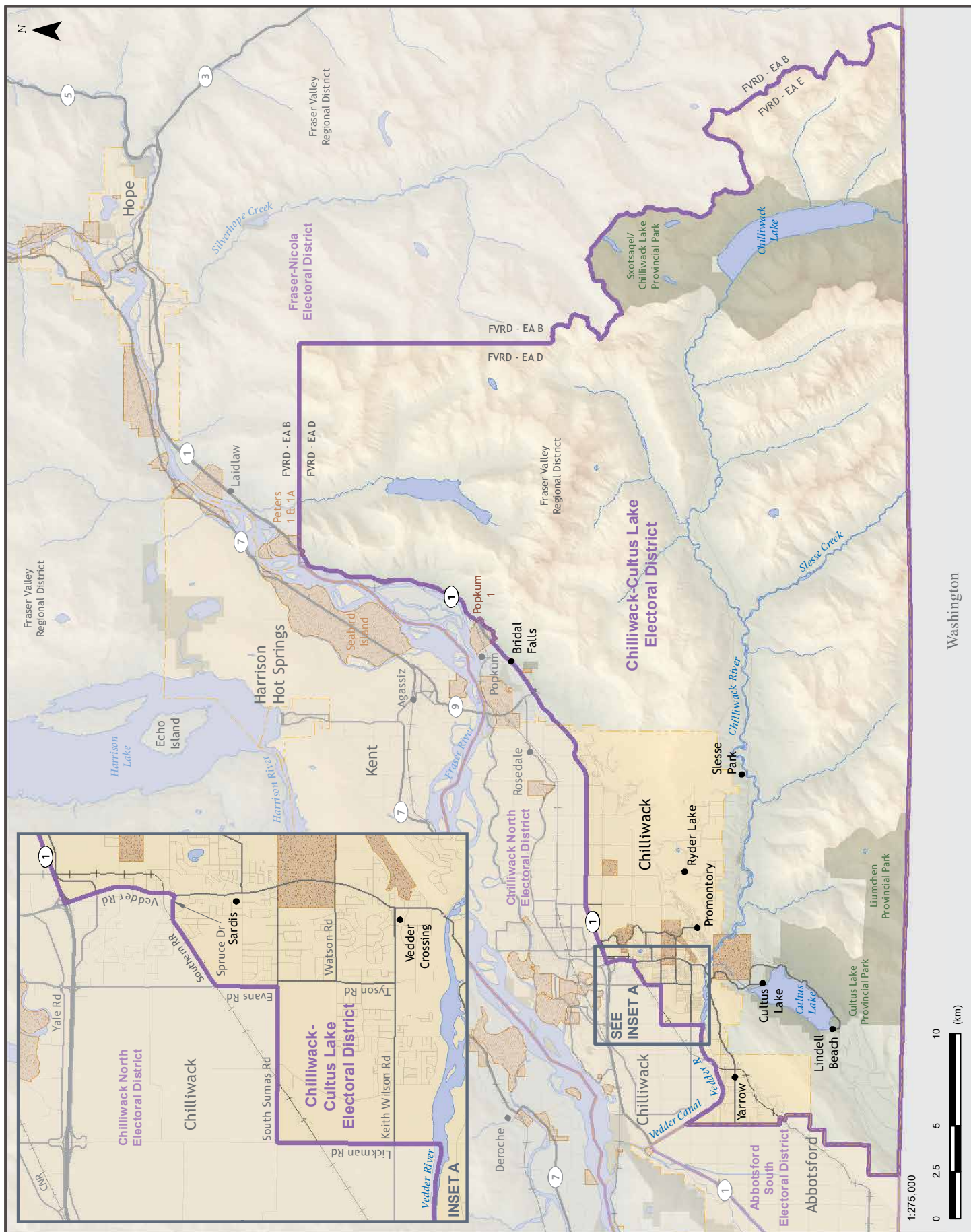
Proposals | Fraser Valley-Langley-Maple Ridge



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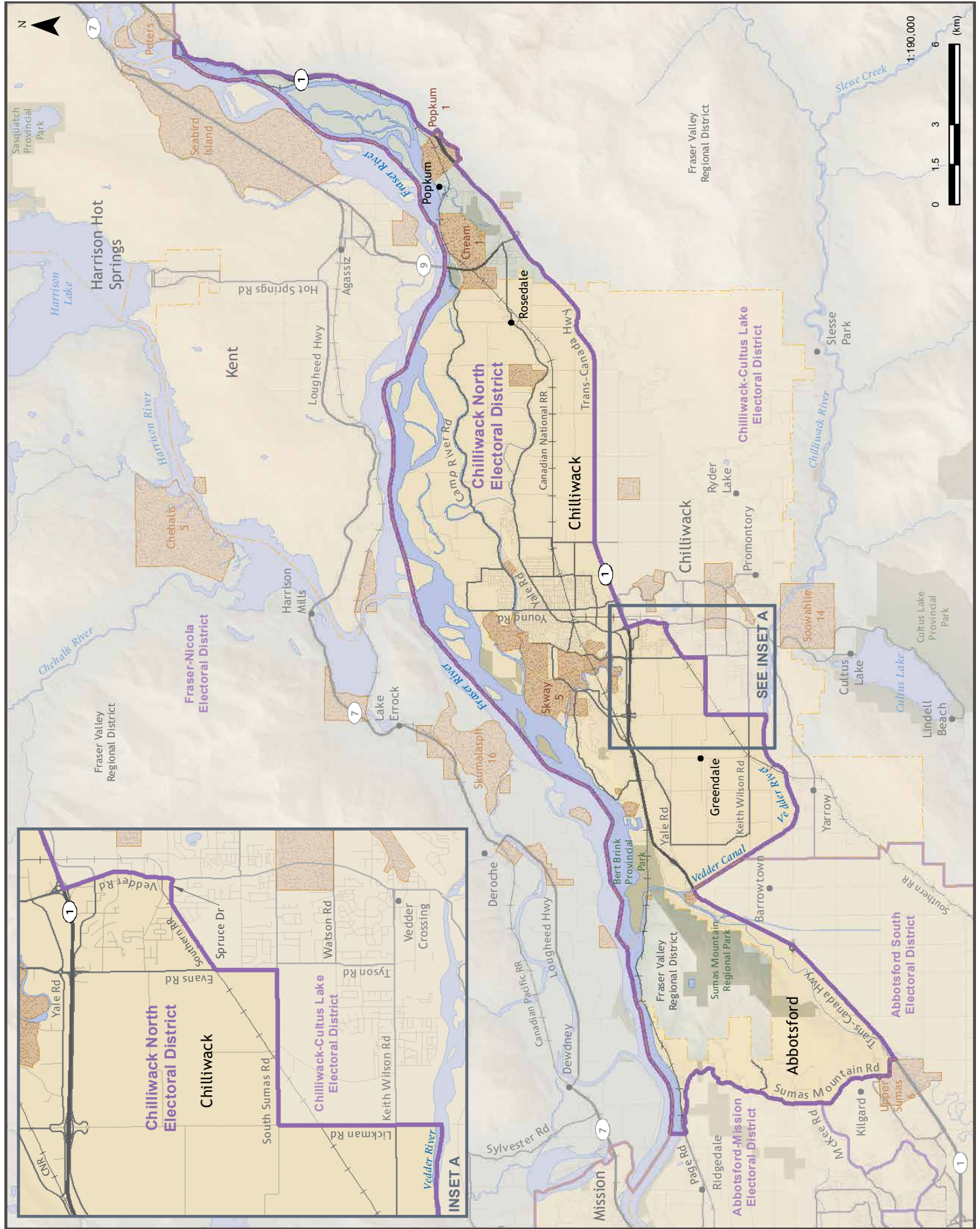




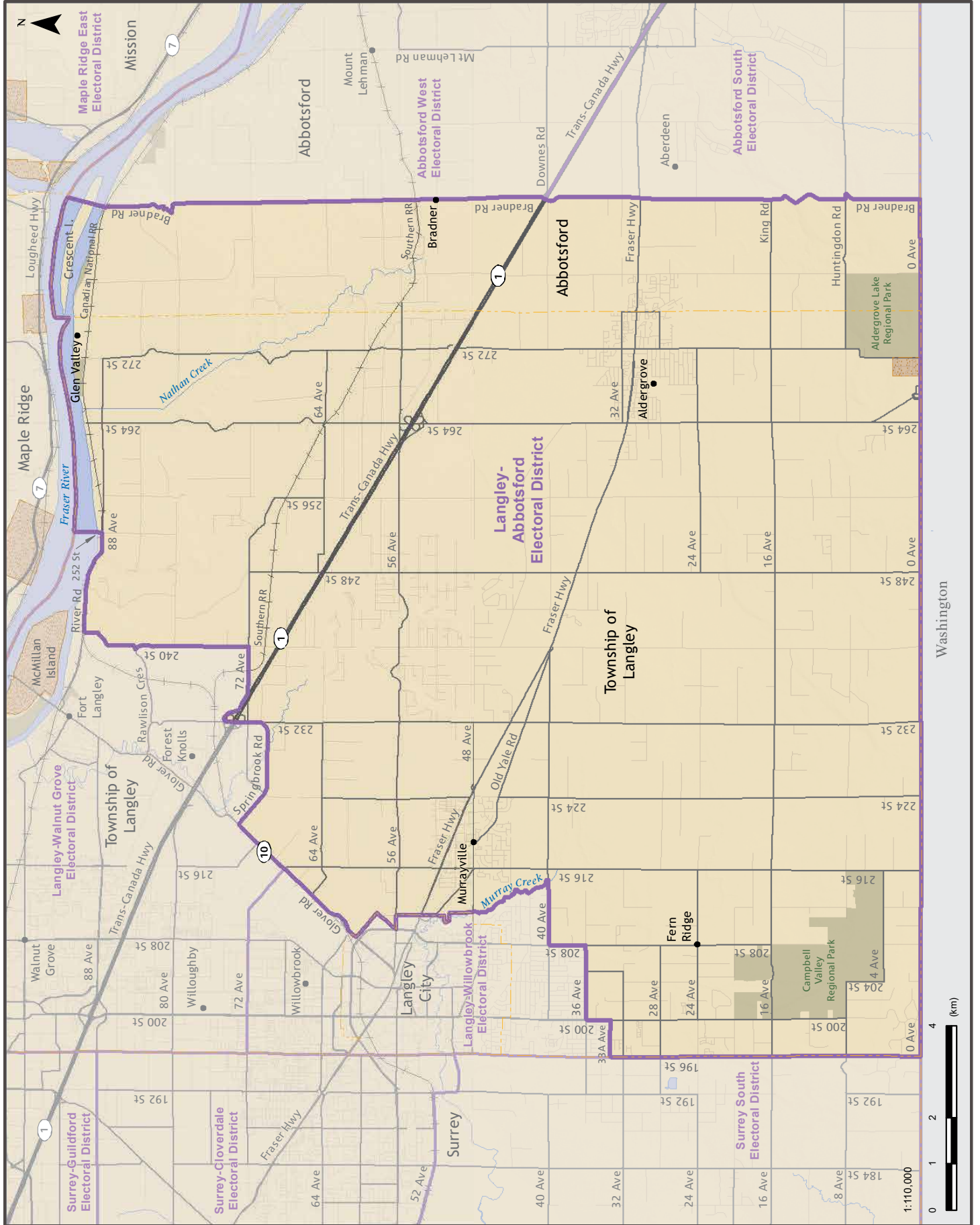
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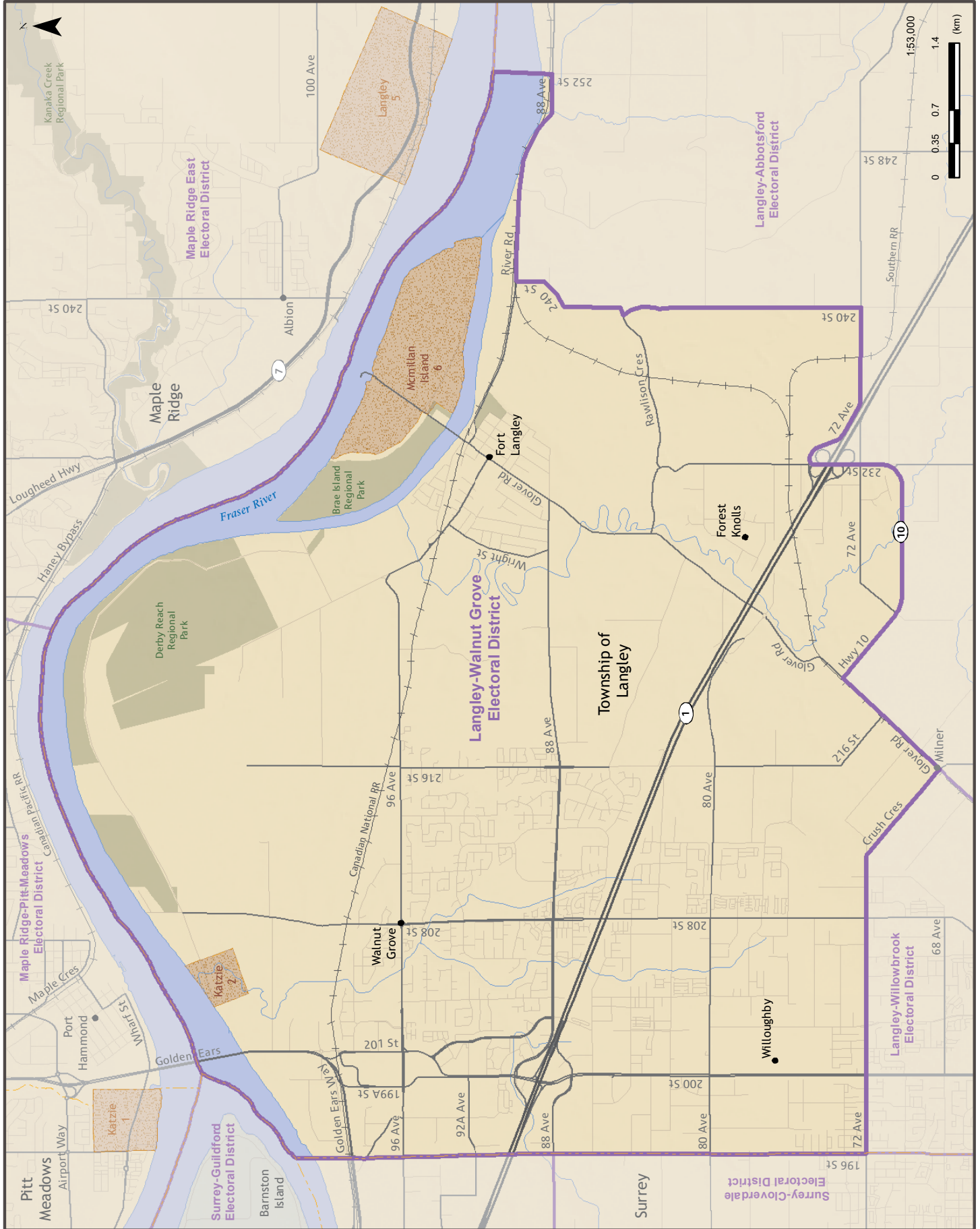
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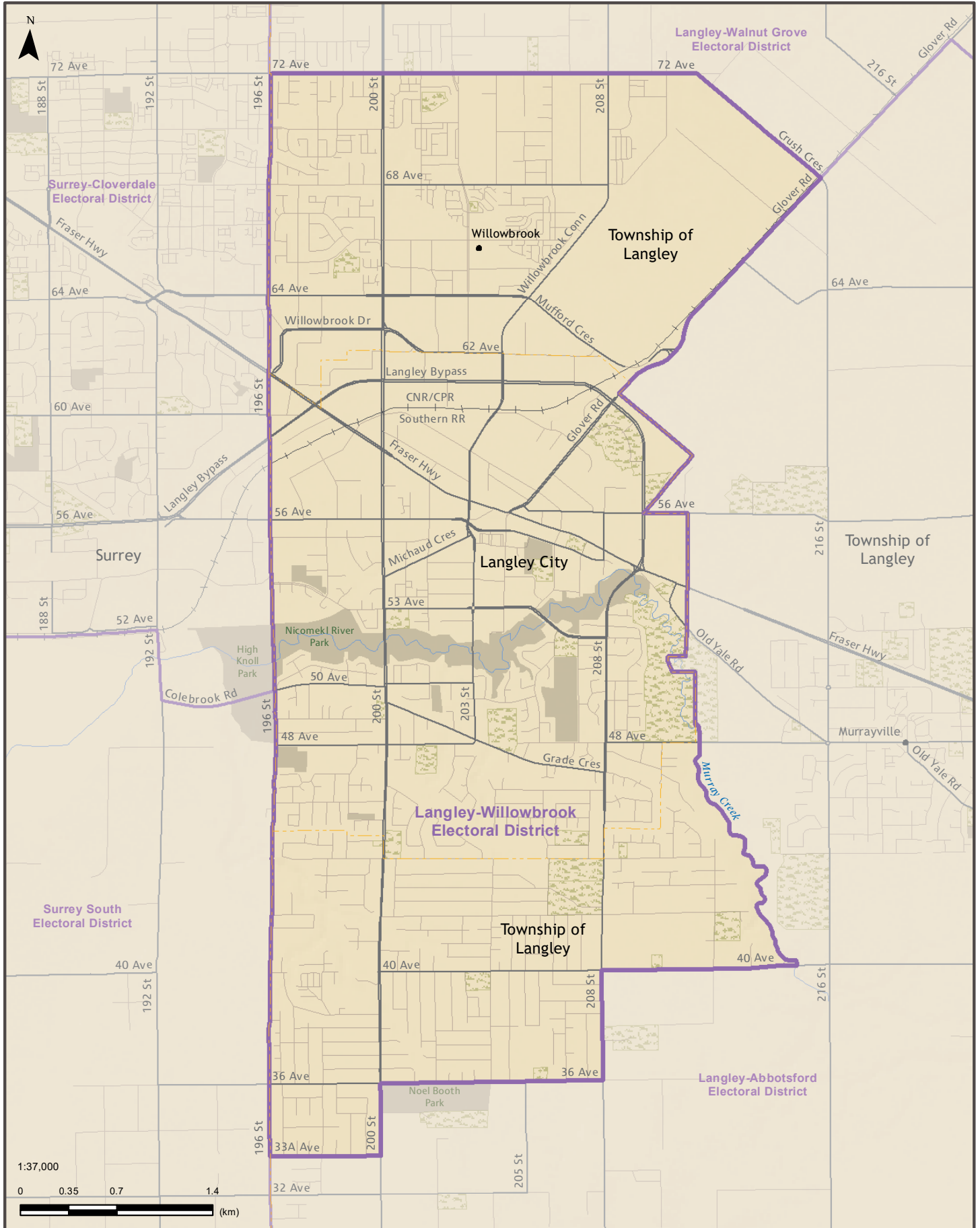
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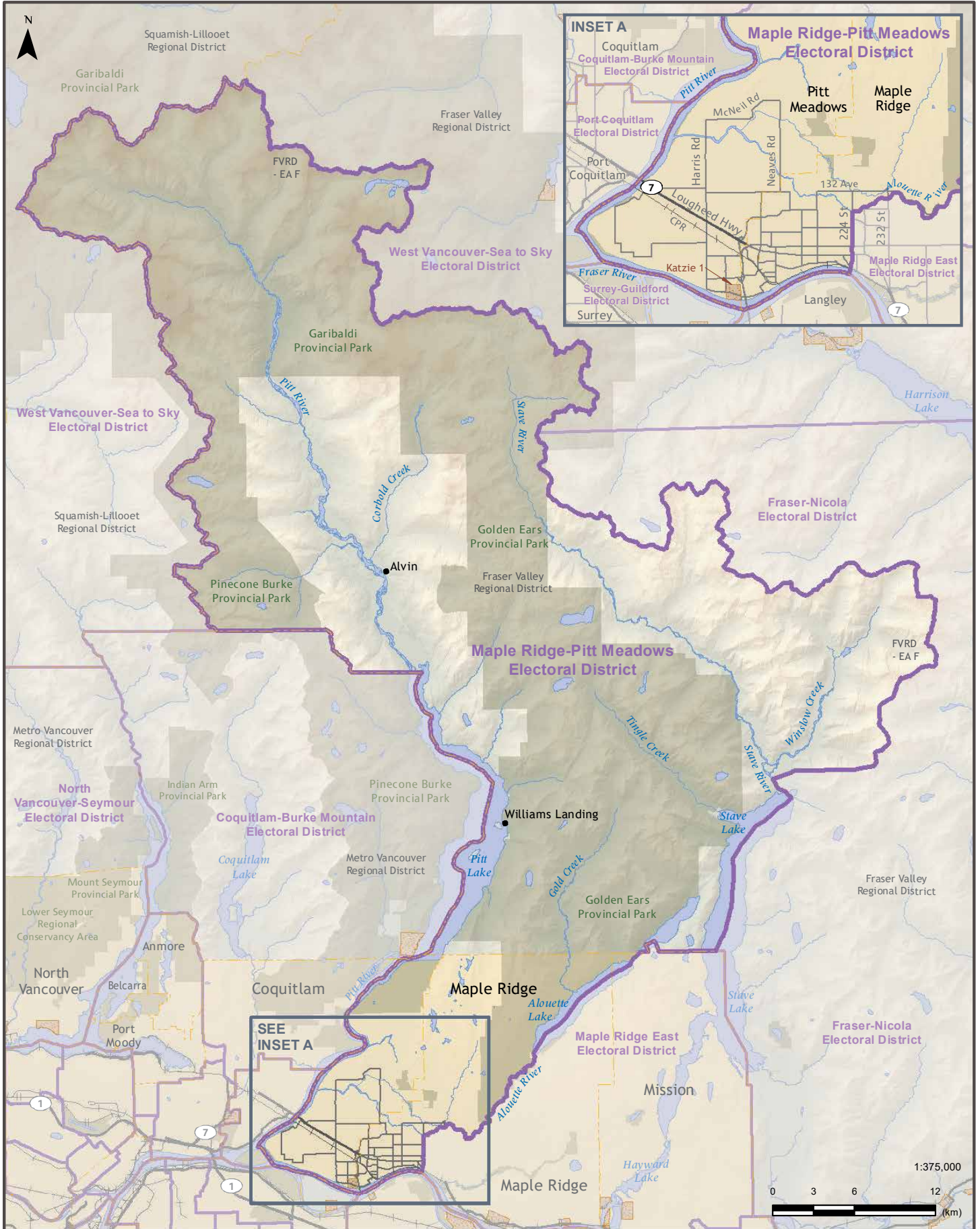
Proposals | Fraser Valley-Langley-Maple Ridge











Burnaby-New Westminster-Tri-Cities

Current Electoral Districts (9)

Burnaby-Deer Lake
 Burnaby-Edmonds
 Burnaby-Lougheed
 Burnaby North
 Coquitlam-Burke Mountain
 Coquitlam-Maillardville
 New Westminster
 Port Coquitlam
 Port Moody-Coquitlam

Proposed Electoral Districts (10)

Burnaby Centre
 Burnaby East
 Burnaby-New Westminster
 Burnaby North
 Burnaby South-Metrotown
 Coquitlam-Burke Mountain
 Coquitlam-Maillardville
 New Westminster-Coquitlam
 Port Coquitlam
 Port Moody-Burquitlam

TABLE 13: BURNABY-NEW WESTMINSTER-TRI-CITIES ELECTORAL DISTRICTS
 NOTE: THIS CHAPTER USES PROPOSED ELECTORAL DISTRICT NAMES



This area currently consists of nine electoral districts located between the Fraser and Pitt Rivers, Burrard Inlet and the City of Vancouver. It includes Burnaby, Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, Port Moody and New Westminster, except Queensborough. Proposing adjustments to electoral boundaries in this area is challenging because of its rapid rate of population growth and the fact that two of its ridings are close to the top of the usual deviation range.

We heard about the distinct identities of neighbourhoods in this area, its many transportation corridors and public transit networks.

We propose adding a new electoral district to the area, making consequential boundary adjustments to neighbouring ridings and five electoral district name changes.

We consider it more important to ensure room for growth in this area's ridings by adjusting boundaries to keep their populations similar than to follow existing municipal boundaries where that would result in electoral districts with very different populations. In part, this is because young voters told us that they feel their votes are less valuable because of overpopulation in these electoral districts. Some people told us that the area needs two new electoral districts. We consider one additional riding sufficient

IMAGE 14: BURNABY, B.C.
CREDIT: ROSHAN RAJ
AUGUST 5, 2021

TABLE 14: BURNABY-NEW WESTMINSTER-TRI-CITIES POPULATION, DEVIATION AND AREA
SOURCE: 2021 STATISTICS CANADA CENSUS COUNT

Electoral District	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Burnaby Centre	53,458	-0.6	18
Burnaby East	54,748	1.8	36
Burnaby-New Westminster	53,035	-1.4	9
Burnaby North	53,351	-0.8	17
Burnaby South-Metrotown	52,278	-2.8	20
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain	60,743	13.0	617
Coquitlam-Maillardville	57,047	6.1	33
New Westminister-Coquitlam	58,003	7.9	13
Port Coquitlam	61,483	14.3	34
Port Moody-Burquitlam	59,769	11.2	84
Total/Average	563,915	4.9	881

to bring all electoral districts in the area within the usual deviation range and leave room for growth.

Burnaby

We propose a new electoral district centred on the City of Burnaby to address the rapid population growth in the City and surrounding areas. That means Burnaby will be represented by five electoral districts. We adjust the boundaries of these ridings to ensure that the population is relatively well balanced and that there is room for growth where projected. For example, we add the area around Metrotown south of Kingsway to the Burnaby South-Metrotown electoral district to keep the Skytrain corridor in one riding and allow room for the projected rapid population growth there.

New Westminister

The City of New Westminister has a population of approximately 79,000. We propose to adjust existing boundaries so that New Westminister residents are represented by three ridings: Burnaby-New Westminister, New Westminister-Coquitlam and Richmond-Queensborough. We believe that this allows for expected growth, keeps the urban core of New Westminister intact, and avoids splitting the community into too many electoral districts, which would reduce effective representation.

In light of our principle of balancing populations in neighbouring areas, we move Coquitlam's Cariboo neighbourhood into New Westminister-Coquitlam.

People expressed different opinions about whether the New Westminster neighbourhood of Queensborough, which was moved into Richmond-Delta in the 2015 electoral boundary adjustment, should remain in a Richmond riding or return to New Westminster.

We propose keeping it where it is because moving it would neither improve effective representation nor better balance electoral district populations.

Tri-Cities

We considered putting Westwood Plateau into a Port Moody electoral district and combining Burquitlam with Coquitlam. However, we heard that Port Moody is closely tied to Burquitlam and therefore propose including Burquitlam in a riding to be called Port Moody-Burquitlam. We recognize that Westwood Plateau fits well in the Coquitlam-Burke Mountain riding and have left it this way.

The Port Coquitlam electoral district is expected to continue growing at a moderate rate. This riding follows the municipal boundaries of the City of Port Coquitlam. The only change we propose is to move the Kwikwetlem First Nation reserve (Coquitlam 2) into neighbouring Coquitlam-Maillardville so that both *kʷikwəłəm* (Kwikwetlem) reserves are in the same electoral district.

Electoral District Descriptions

Burnaby Centre

Burnaby Centre includes the neighbourhoods of Cascade Heights, Garden Village, Deer Lake and Buckingham Heights. It runs along Boundary Road in the west and

Highway 1 and Lougheed Highway in the north. It follows Sperling Avenue, Lakefield Drive and Imperial Street in the east and Kingsway in the south.

Burnaby East

This riding includes Sullivan Heights, Westridge and Simon Fraser University. It is bounded by Burrard Inlet in the north and by Kensington Avenue in the west. The municipal borders of the City of Burnaby form its southern and eastern boundaries.

Burnaby-New Westminster

This electoral district includes the New Westminster neighbourhoods of Kelvin, Eastburn, Connaught Heights and the adjacent Burnaby neighbourhoods of Middlegate and Edmonds. Its boundaries follow Imperial Street in the north, Griffiths Drive in the west, Sixth Avenue in the south, and McBride Boulevard, Cumberland Street and Newcombe Street in the east.

Burnaby North

Burnaby North includes Burnaby Heights, Capitol Hill, Willingdon Heights and Brentwood Park. Its northern boundary follows Burrard Inlet. Its western boundary follows the municipal border of the City of Burnaby along Boundary Road. Its eastern boundary follows Kensington Avenue and a line extending north from Sperling Avenue to Burrard Inlet. Its southern boundary follows Highway 1 and the Lougheed Highway.

Burnaby South-Metrotown

This electoral district includes the Metrotown, Suncrest, and South Slope neigh-

bourhoods. It also includes the Skytrain corridor south of Kingsway. It is bordered by the Fraser River to the south, Tenth Avenue and Griffiths Drive to the east, Kingsway to the north and Boundary Road to the west.

Coquitlam-Burke Mountain

This riding includes downtown Coquitlam, River Springs, Sun Valley and the core of the Westwood Plateau. It follows David Avenue, Johnson Street, the CP Railway and the City of Coquitlam municipal boundary in the south. In the north and east, it follows the Metro Vancouver Regional District. In the west, it follows the City of Coquitlam municipal boundary, Indian Arm and Indian River.

Coquitlam-Maillardville

Coquitlam-Maillardville includes Maillardville, Austin Heights, Fraser Mills, Ranch Park and Mayfair. Its boundaries follow Blue Mountain Street in the west, the Fraser River in the south, and Guilford Way in the north. Its eastern boundary follows the Coquitlam municipal boundary except where it jogs into Port Coquitlam to keep both k^wik^wəłəm (Kwikwetlem) First Nation reserves in the same riding.

New Westminster-Coquitlam

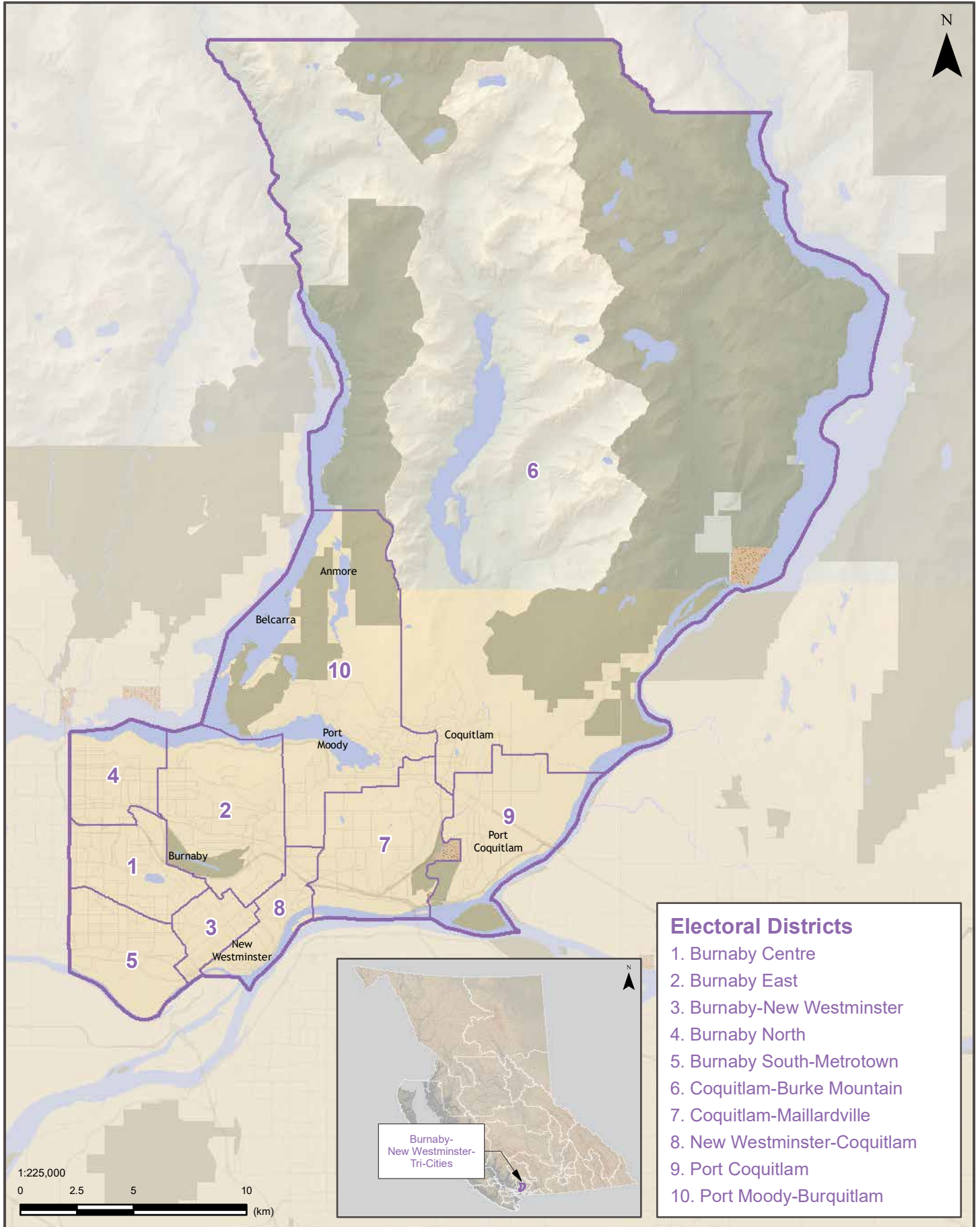
This riding consists of downtown New Westminster south and east of Sixth and Tenth Avenues. It includes the neighbourhoods of Queen's Park, Sapperton and Brunette Creek, as well as the southwestern part of the Coquitlam neighbourhood of Cariboo. Its boundaries run along Austin Avenue and Blue Mountain Street in the north and east, and they follow the Fraser River to the south and west.

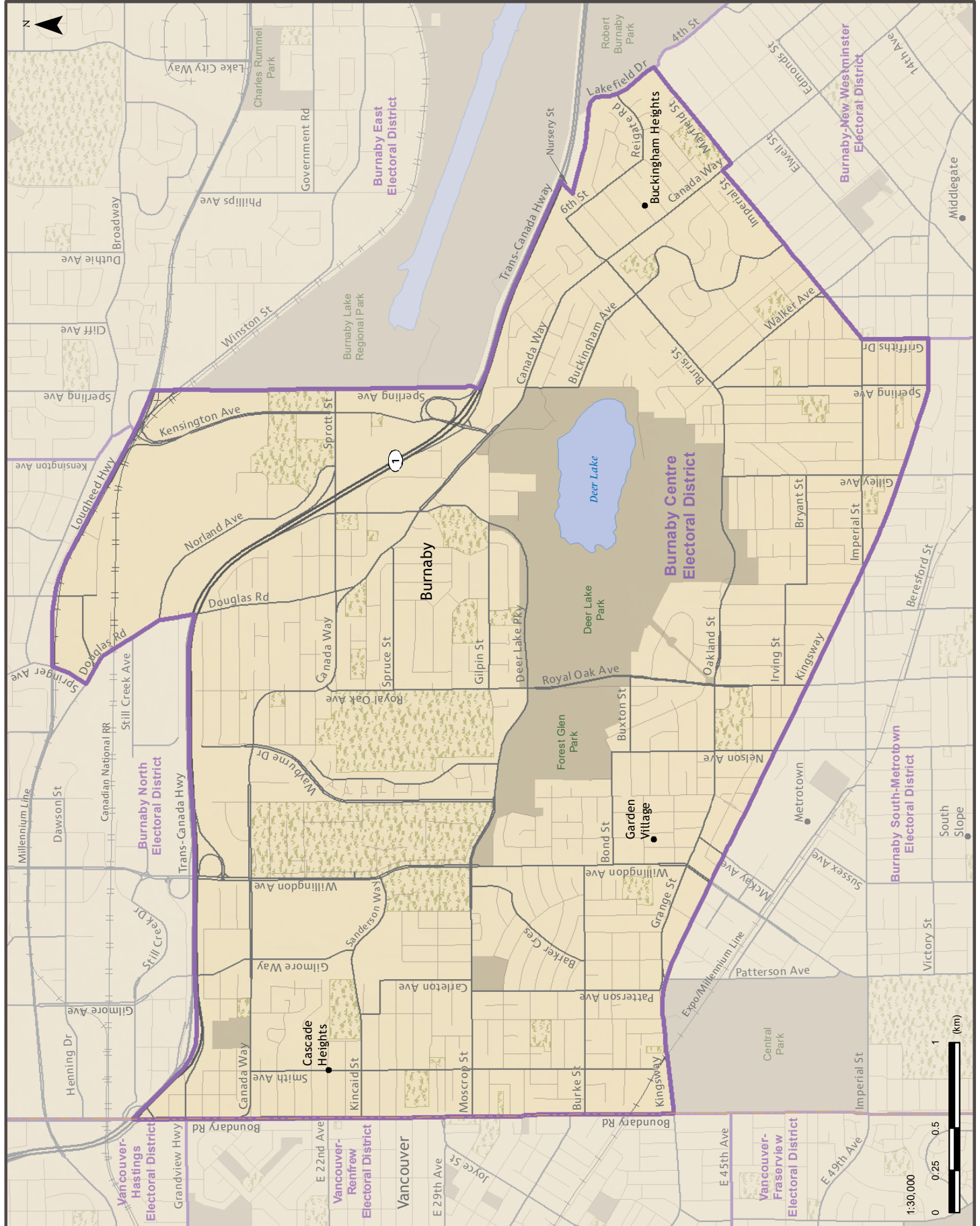
Port Coquitlam

This riding is centred on the City of Port Coquitlam. Its southern boundary follows the Fraser River south of Douglas Island, and its eastern boundary follows the Pitt River. Its northern and western boundaries follow the municipal borders of the City of Port Coquitlam, excluding the k^wik^wəłəm (Kwikwetlem) reserve in the City.

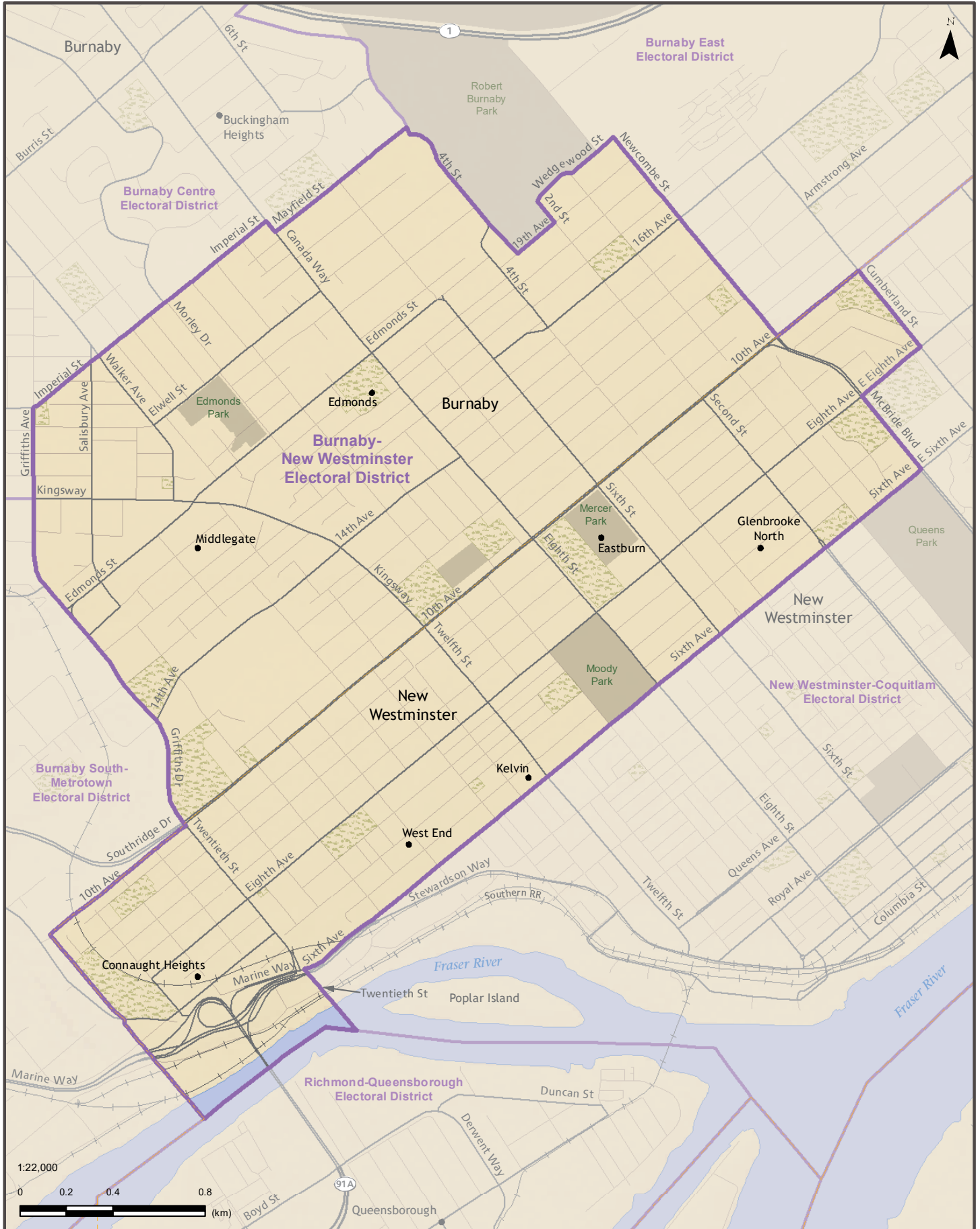
Port Moody-Burquitlam

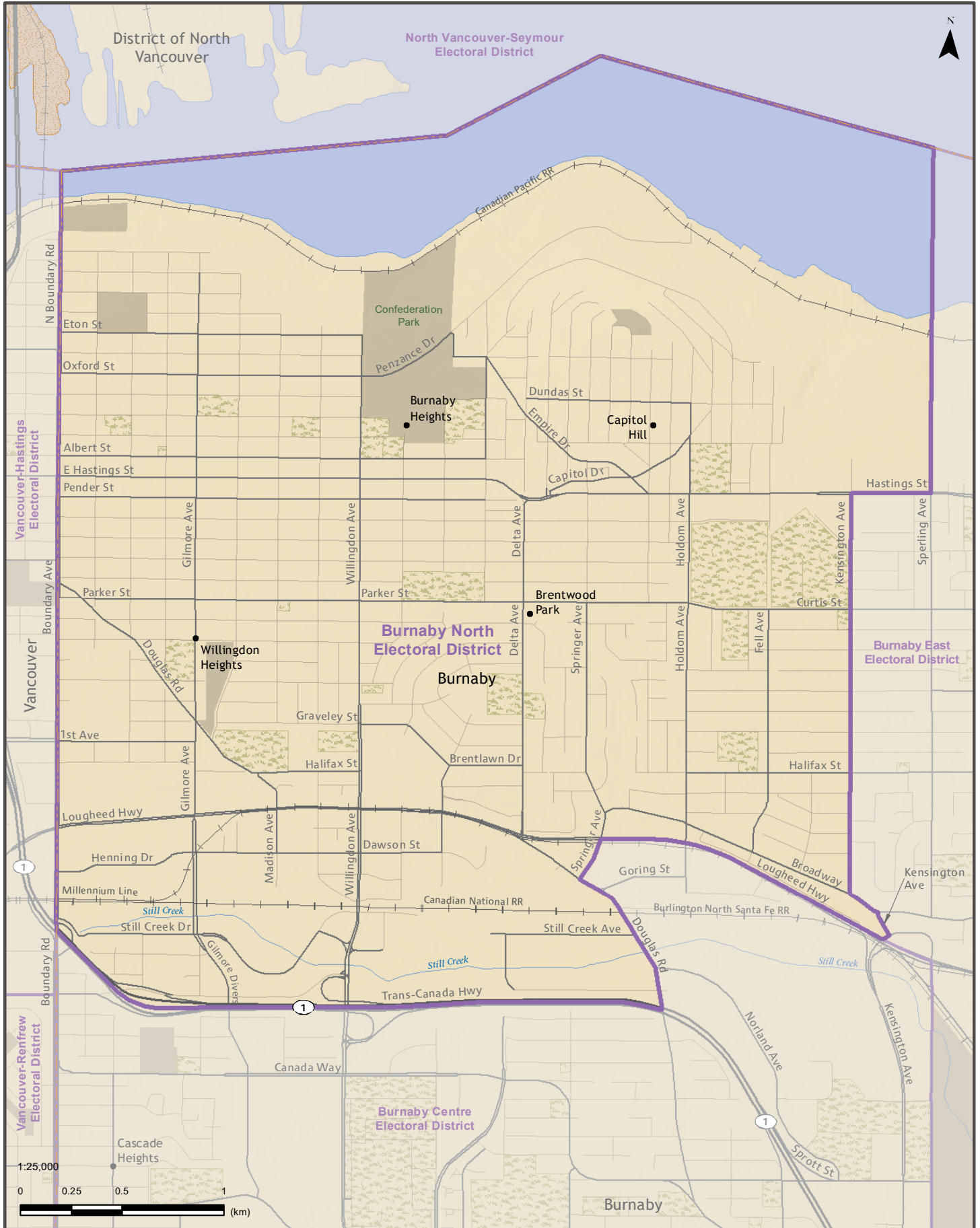
Port Moody-Burquitlam includes the City of Port Moody, the Villages of Belcarra and Anmore, and the Coquitlam neighbourhood of Burquitlam. It includes that part of Eagle Ridge between Guildford Way and David Avenue. Its southern boundary runs along Austin Avenue, and its northwestern and eastern boundaries follow the municipal borders of Coquitlam, Port Moody, Belcarra and Anmore.



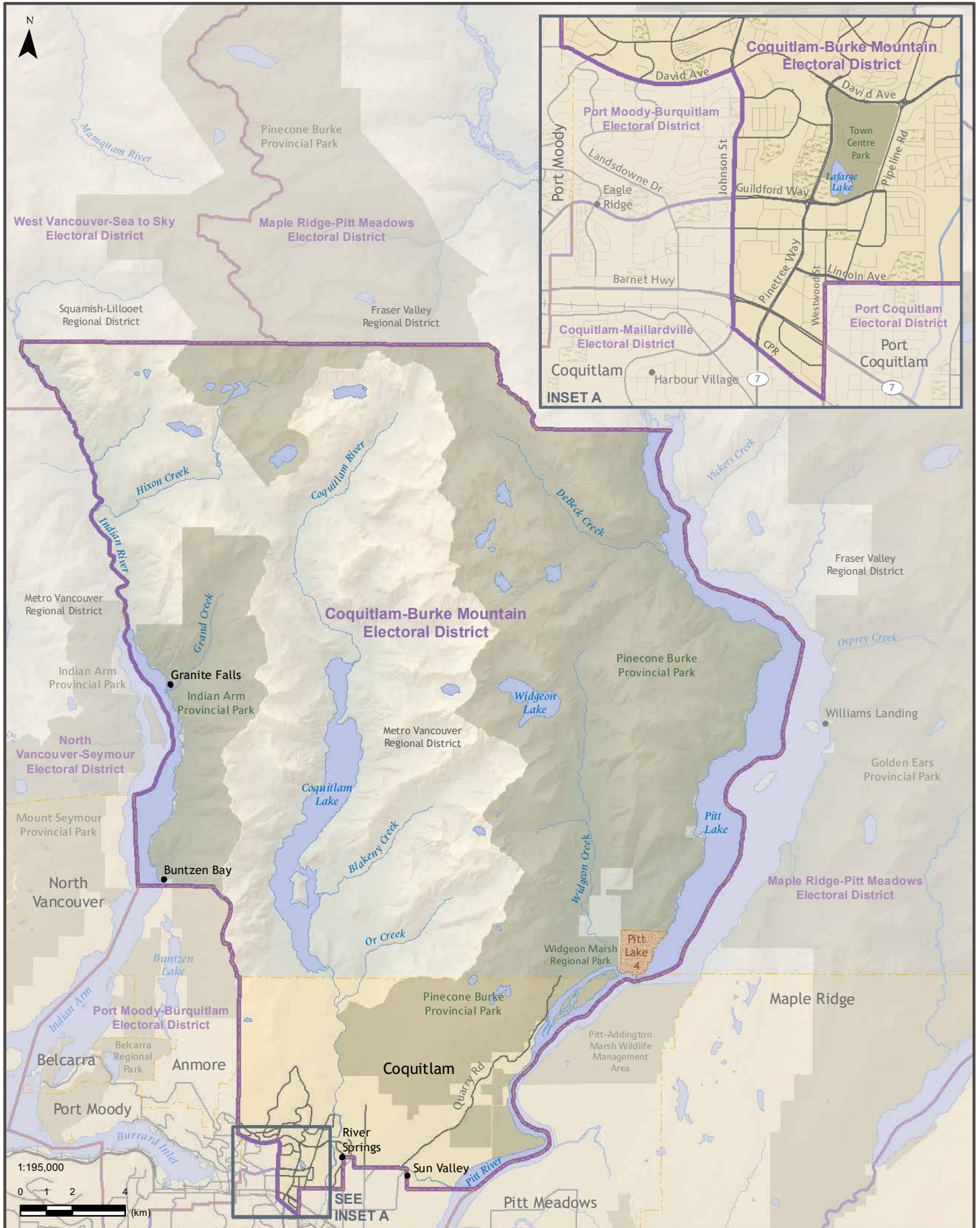


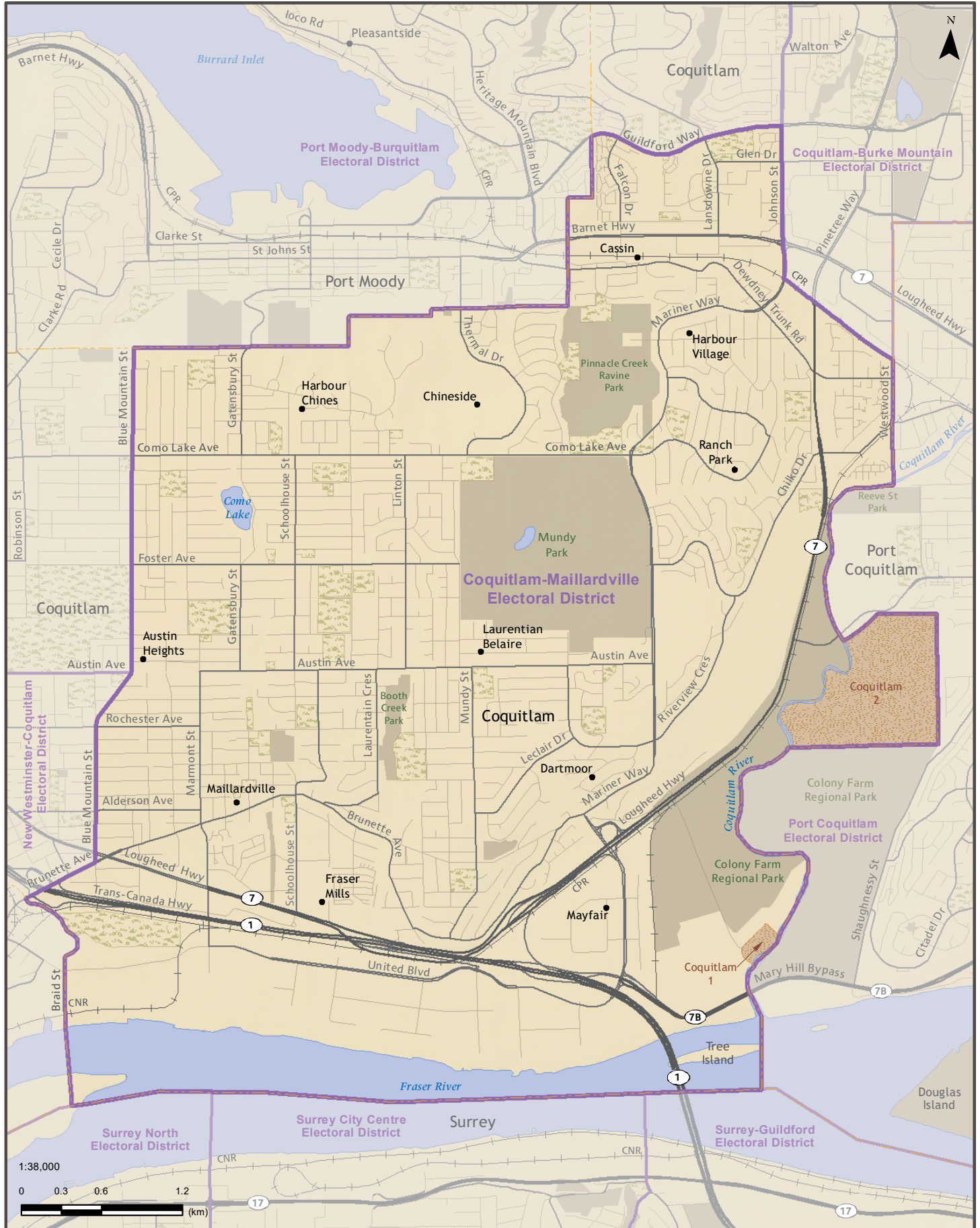


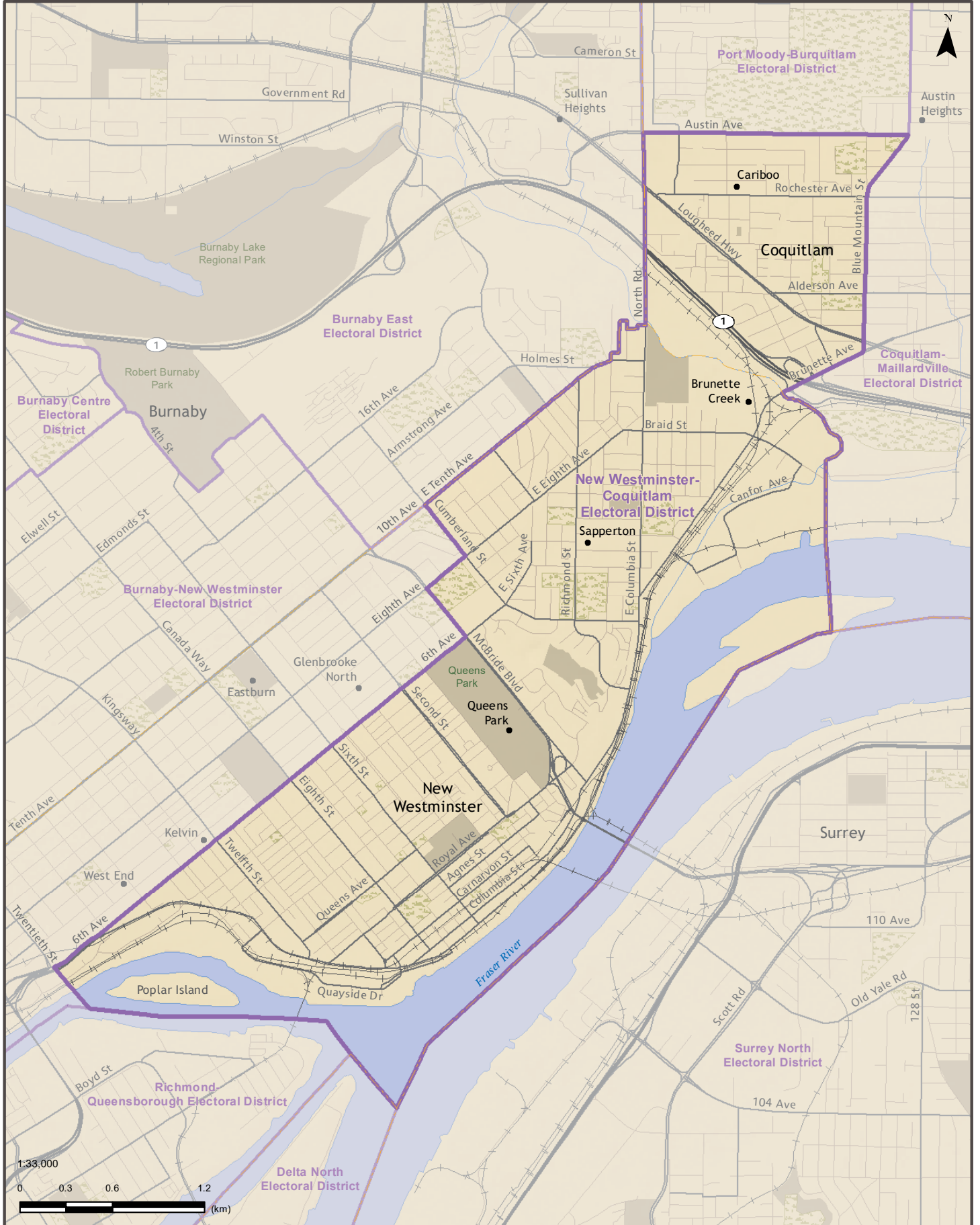


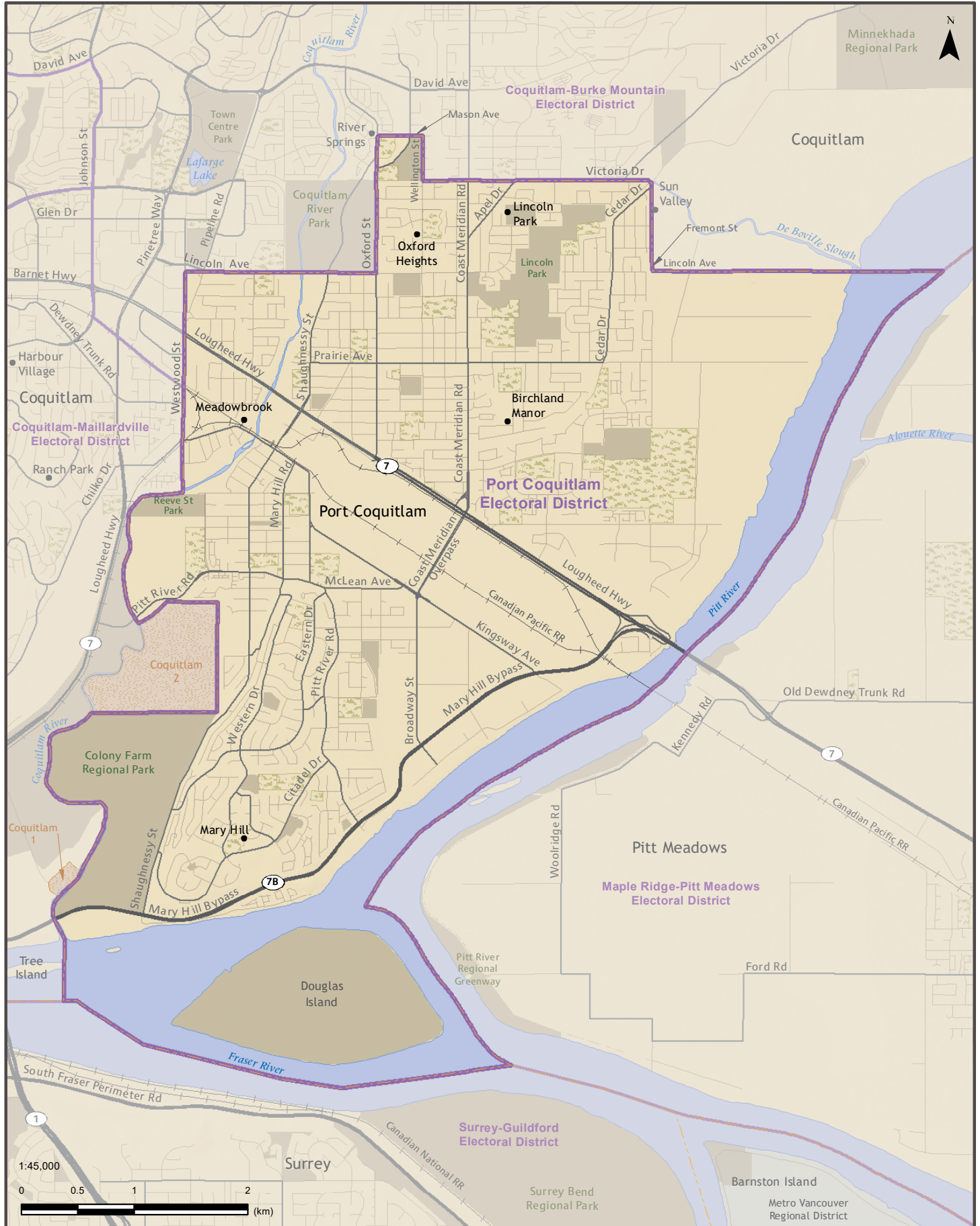


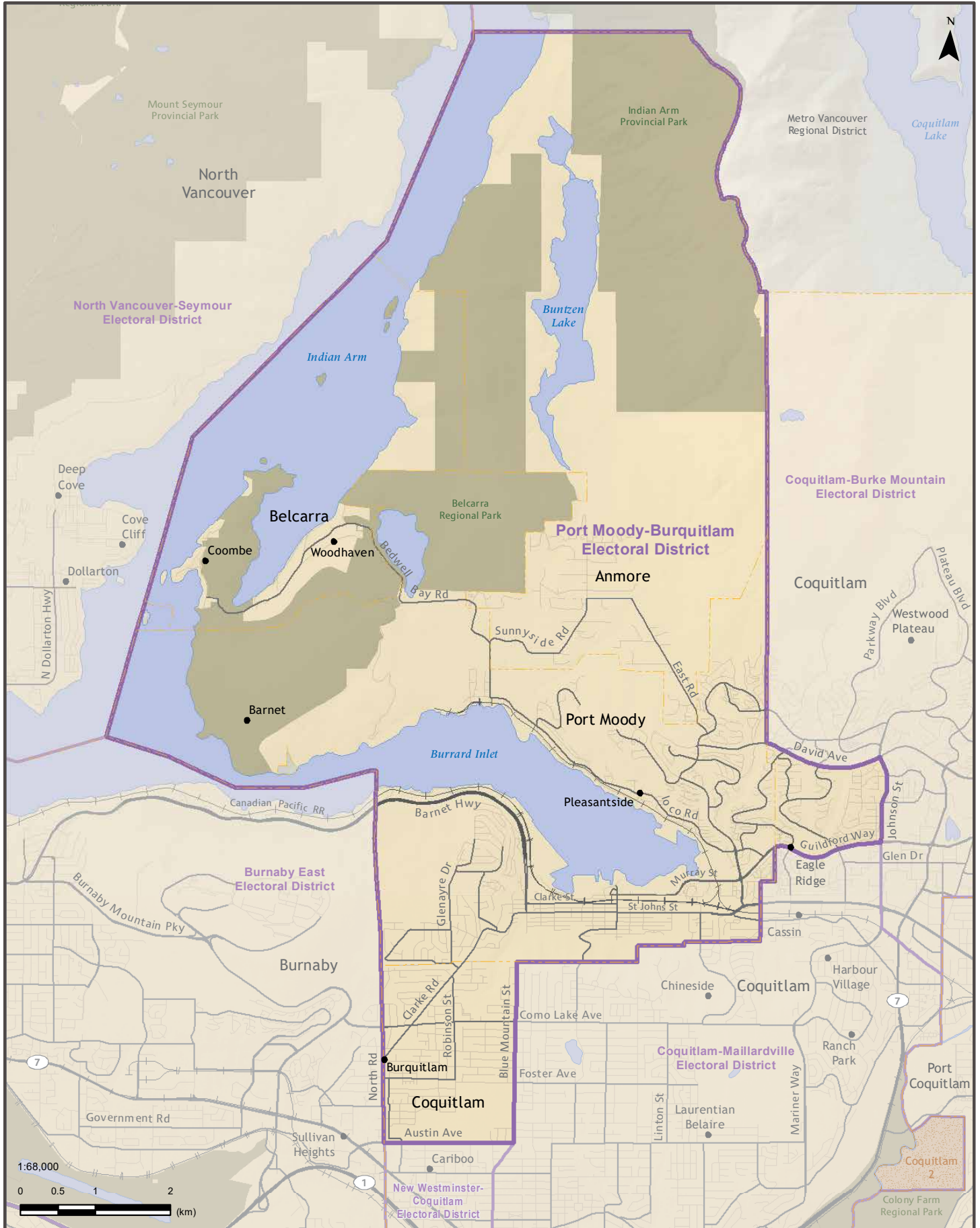












Surrey

Current Electoral Districts (9)

Surrey-Cloverdale
 Surrey-Green Timbers
 Surrey-Guildford
 Surrey-Fleetwood
 Surrey-Newton
 Surrey-Panorama
 Surrey South
 Surrey-Whalley
 Surrey-White Rock

Proposed Electoral Districts (10)

Surrey City Centre
 Surrey-Cloverdale
 Surrey-Fleetwood
 Surrey-Guildford
 Surrey-Newton
 Surrey North
 Surrey-Panorama
 Surrey-Serpentine River
 Surrey South
 Surrey-White Rock

TABLE 15: SURREY ELECTORAL DISTRICTS

NOTE: THIS CHAPTER USES PROPOSED ELECTORAL DISTRICT NAMES



The Surrey area's nine current ridings lie between Delta and Langley, bordered in the north by the Fraser River and in the south by the Canada-U.S. border. The area includes the Cities of Surrey and White Rock and is culturally and geographically diverse. It consists of dense urban centers and quickly growing suburbs, as well as industrial and agricultural lands. The population of this area is growing rapidly and is projected to continue to do so; however, some area ridings are growing significantly faster than others. Two current Surrey ridings, Surrey-Panorama and Surrey South, are well above the usual deviation range and among the most populous ridings in B.C.

It is challenging to adjust electoral boundaries in the Surrey area to ensure representation by population. The high population

density in some neighbourhoods means that a small change in geographic area results in a significant change in population. The unequal distribution of population between suburban and rural spaces compounds this issue. Our proposal brings all Surrey electoral districts within the usual deviation range with room for growth. We looked at Surrey's town centres as defined in the City of Surrey's Official Community Plan and avoided dividing them, except where necessary to avoid population discrepancies. Similarly, we tried to align

IMAGE 15: SKYTRAIN STATION, SURREY, B.C. CREDIT: PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA. SEPTEMBER 6, 2008

TABLE 16: SURREY POPULATION, DEVIATION AND AREA
SOURCE: 2021 STATISTICS CANADA CENSUS COUNT

Electoral District	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Surrey City Centre	57,566	7.1	17
Surrey-Cloverdale	56,731	5.5	30
Surrey-Fleetwood	60,668	12.8	15
Surrey-Guildford	60,783	13.0	46
Surrey-Newton	61,398	14.2	14
Surrey North	59,891	11.4	27
Surrey-Panorama	58,235	8.3	13
Surrey-Serpentine River	58,721	9.2	36
Surrey South	56,867	5.8	122
Surrey-White Rock	59,586	10.8	68
Total/Average	590,446	9.8	388

electoral boundaries with neighbourhood boundaries unless doing so would have resulted in significant population differences between adjacent districts.

During our consultations, we heard a lot of concern about the inequality of voting power in Surrey as compared to the province's more sparsely populated ridings. A number of people linked the reduced weight of a vote in Surrey to the predominance of its racialized residents, telling us that the issue has racial dimensions.⁴ We heard about the history of Surrey neighbourhoods, such as Cloverdale and Fleetwood, and about the importance of not splitting up communities of interest. We heard mixed views about whether Panorama Ridge should be in Surrey South or Surrey-Panorama.

In light of Surrey's rapid population growth, it is imperative to ensure that the populations of all Surrey ridings fall within the usual deviation range and that they have room for anticipated growth over the next eight years. In order to do this, we propose adding an electoral district to the centre of Surrey and making significant changes to all but one of Surrey's ridings.

In the northeast of Surrey, we recommend adjusting the boundaries of the current electoral districts of Surrey-Whalley and Surrey-Green Timbers. We propose creating a riding centred on Surrey's downtown core, which would be called Surrey City Centre, with much of the remaining area consolidated into a riding called Surrey North. This would include parts of Whalley and extend south to Surrey's industrial centre at 80th Avenue.

We extend Surrey-Guildford further south to include Port Kells, keeping the communities on the south bank of the Fraser River together.

We recommend changes to the boundaries of Surrey-Newton and Surrey-Fleetwood to reduce population disparities between these ridings and their neighbours. These adjustments keep Newton centre in one riding. We considered whether to include the area around Fleetwood Park in Surrey-Fleetwood but decided against this because it would have significantly increased the riding's population.

Our proposal also adjusts the boundaries of Surrey-Cloverdale to include Clayton Heights, East Cloverdale and the core of Cloverdale city centre in one riding. We move the population of East Cloverdale from Surrey South into Surrey-Cloverdale. We also move the neighbourhoods south of Highway 10, including Colebrook, from Surrey-Panorama into Surrey South. Although this means that Panorama Ridge is no longer in Surrey-Panorama, it ensures that the weight of votes in the riding is not reduced because of overpopulation.

The new electoral district we propose to call Surrey-Serpentine River is situated between Surrey-Panorama and Surrey-Cloverdale. It unites less densely populated neighbourhoods, agricultural land and recreation spaces—currently in Surrey-Panorama and Surrey-Cloverdale—in one electoral district.

Surrey City Centre

This riding is situated in Surrey's downtown core. It contains the Bridgeview neighbourhood, Green Timbers Urban Forest Park and the area south of Surrey

Memorial Hospital. Its northern boundary follows the Fraser River and its southern boundary follows 88th Avenue. In the east, its boundaries follow Quibble Creek Greenway, Bon Accord Creek and Invergarry Park to 148th Street. Its western boundary follows 132nd Street and Bridgeview Drive.

Surrey-Cloverdale

Surrey-Cloverdale includes Clayton and the core of Cloverdale. Its boundaries follow Highway 15 in the west and the municipal border of Langley in the east. Its northern boundary is 88th Avenue and its southern boundary is Colebrook Road and the Southern Railway.

Surrey-Fleetwood

This electoral district consists of Fleetwood town centre and part of the Johnson Heights neighbourhood. It runs along 140th, 144th and 148th Streets in the west and 88th, 92nd, 96th and 100th Avenues in the north. To the east, it follows 162nd and 164th Streets and, in the south, it follows 80th Avenue and Mahood Creek.

Surrey-Guildford

Surrey-Guildford contains the Fraser River south bank neighbourhoods of Port Mann, Fraser Heights, Tynehead, Annidale, Port Kells and Guildford's town centre. Its southern boundary is 88th Avenue, and its northern boundary follows the Fraser River, 106th and 108th Avenues. Its eastern boundary is the municipal border of Langley and its western boundary follows secondary roads and Bon Accord Creek.

Surrey-Newton

This riding includes Newton town centre, Strawberry Hill, Highland Creek, the main campus of Kwantlen Polytechnic University and the area around King George Boulevard north of 64th Avenue. Its boundaries follow 80th Avenue in the north and 64th and 68th Avenues in the south. It runs along 144th Street in the east and 120th Street in the west.

Surrey North

Surrey North includes the northern part of Newton and the western part of Whalley. Its eastern boundary follows 132nd and 140th Streets, and its southern boundary is 80th Avenue. The Fraser River forms its northern and western boundaries.

Surrey-Panorama

This electoral district includes the part of Surrey immediately north of Panorama Ridge. Its boundaries follow 156th and 152nd Streets in the east, and the municipal boundaries of Delta in the west. The riding extends from 64th and 68th Avenues in the north to Highway 10, King George Highway and the CN and CP Railway in the south.

Surrey-Serpentine River

This riding includes Surrey neighbourhoods east of Newton town centre and south of Fleetwood, as well as Cloverdale west of Highway 15. Its boundaries follow 176th street in the east and 56th Avenue in the south. Its western boundary runs along 142nd Street and its northern boundary follows Mahood Creek, 80th and 96th Avenues.

Surrey South

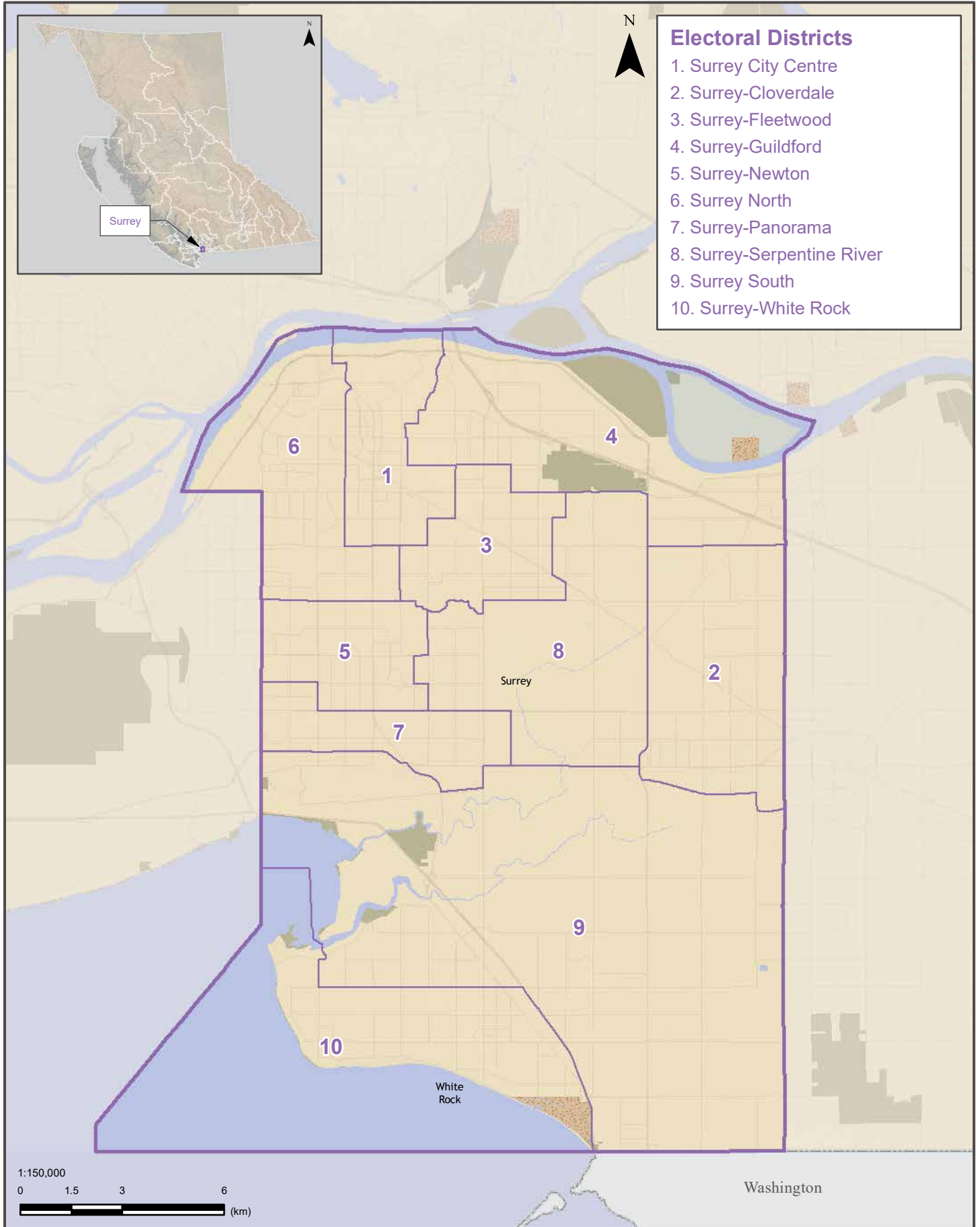
Surrey South includes the neighbourhoods of Panorama Ridge, Crescent, Grandview, Hazelmere and Douglas. Its eastern border is the Langley municipal boundary and its western border is the Delta municipal boundary. Its southern boundary is the Canada-U.S. border and its northern boundary follows 56th Avenue, King George Boulevard and 58th Avenue.

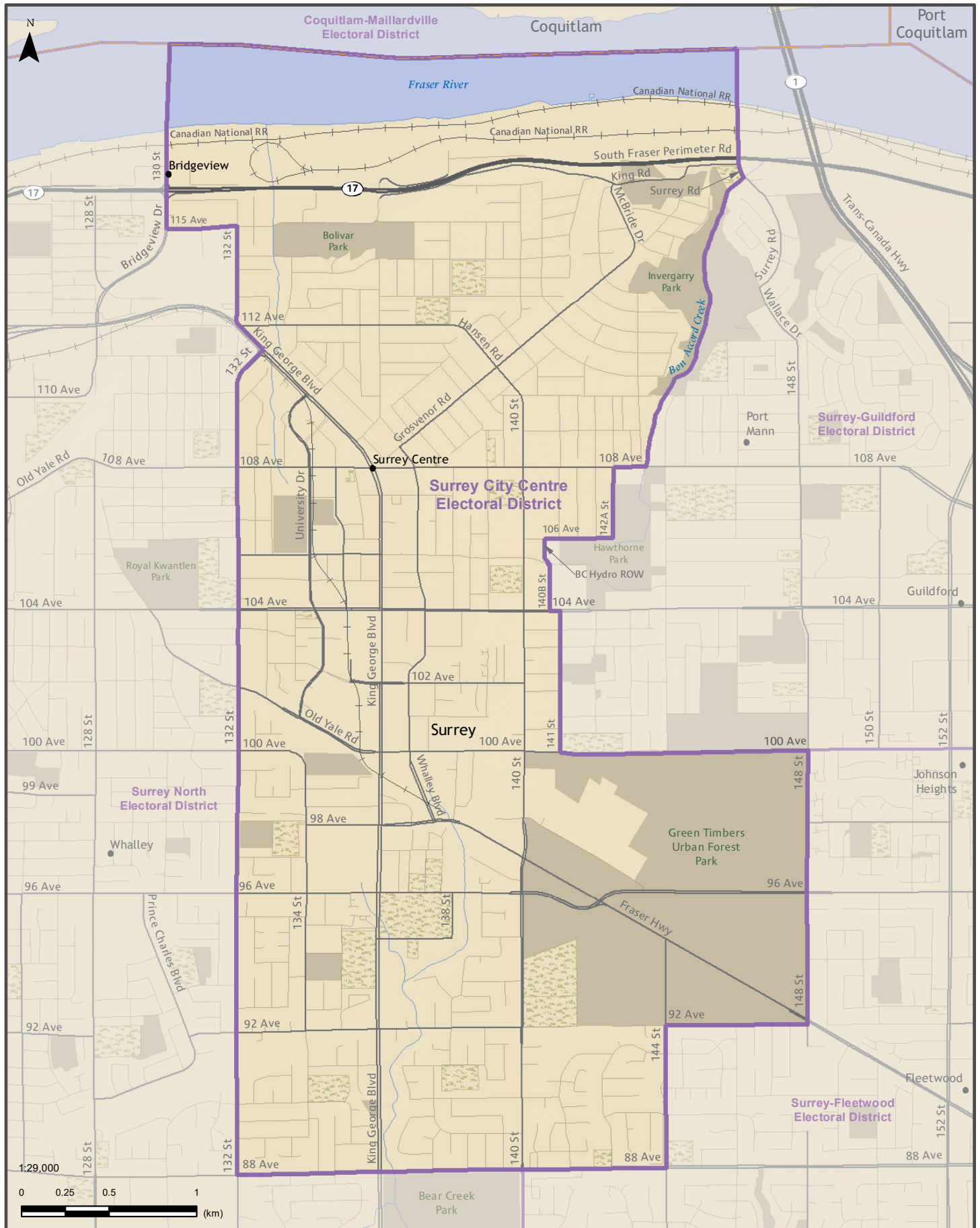
Surrey-White Rock

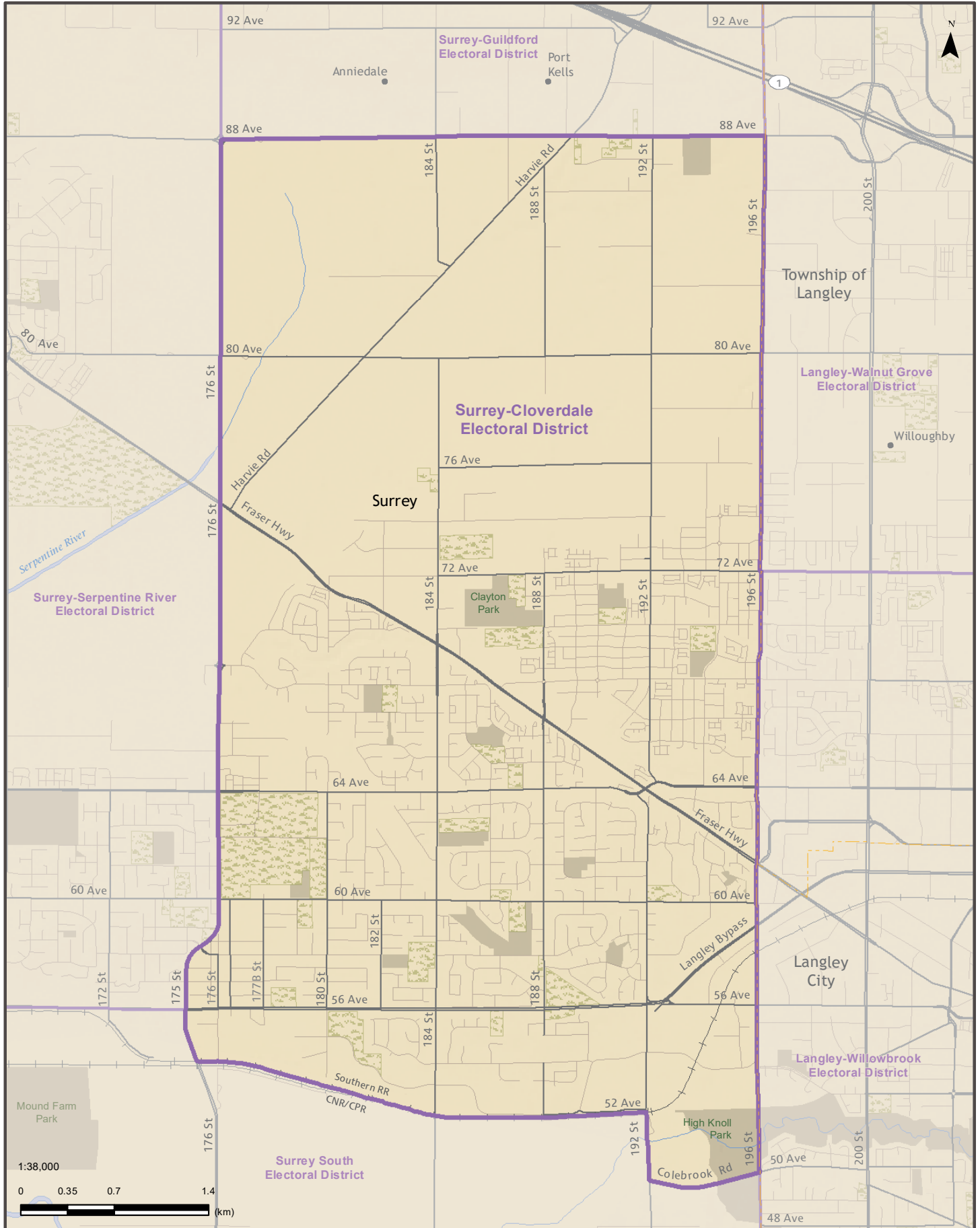
This electoral district includes the City of White Rock and the Surrey neighbourhoods of Ocean Park and Crescent Beach. Its southern boundary follows the Canada-U.S. border and its western boundary follows the municipal border with Delta. Its northern boundary follows 24th Avenue and its eastern boundary follows Highway 99.

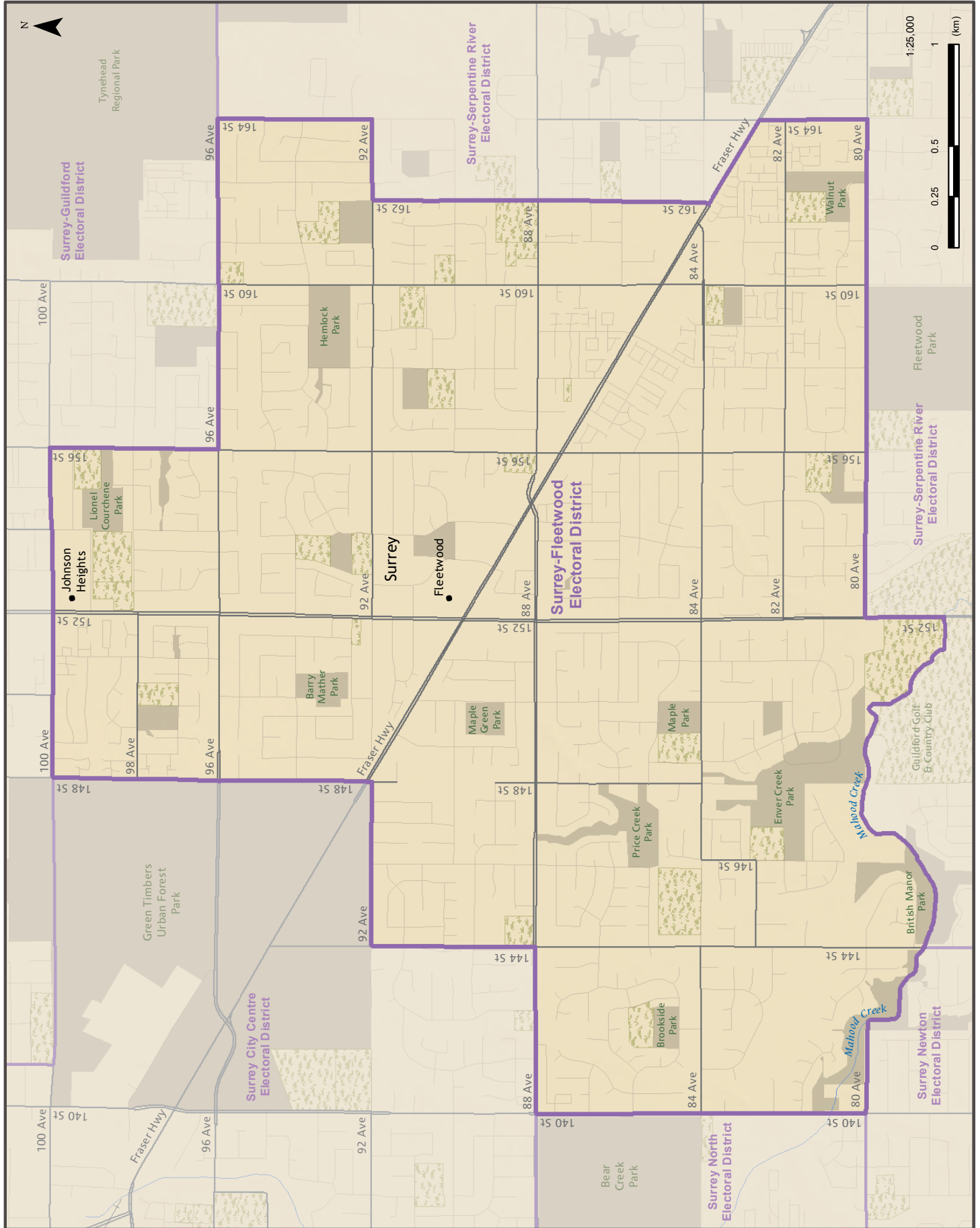
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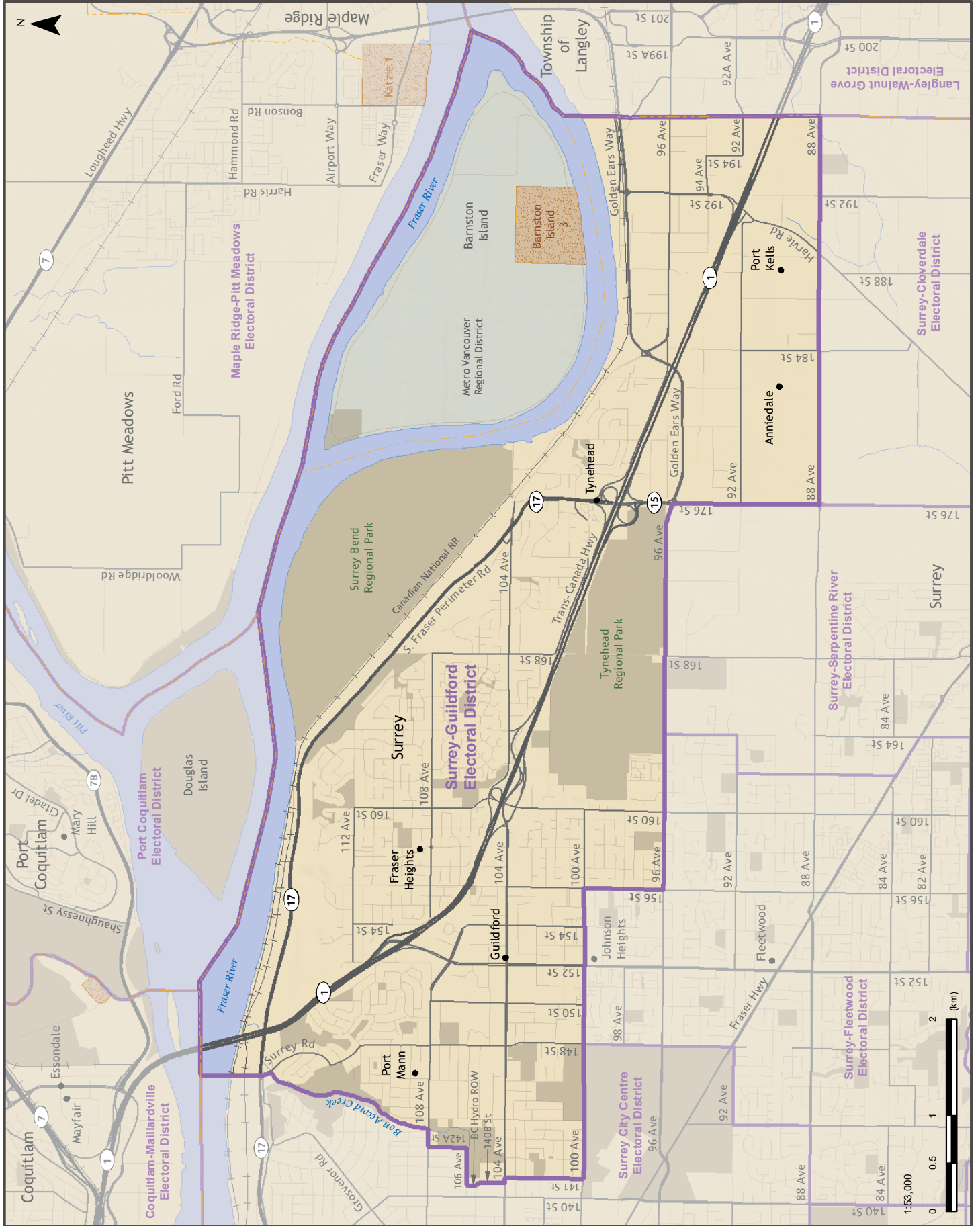
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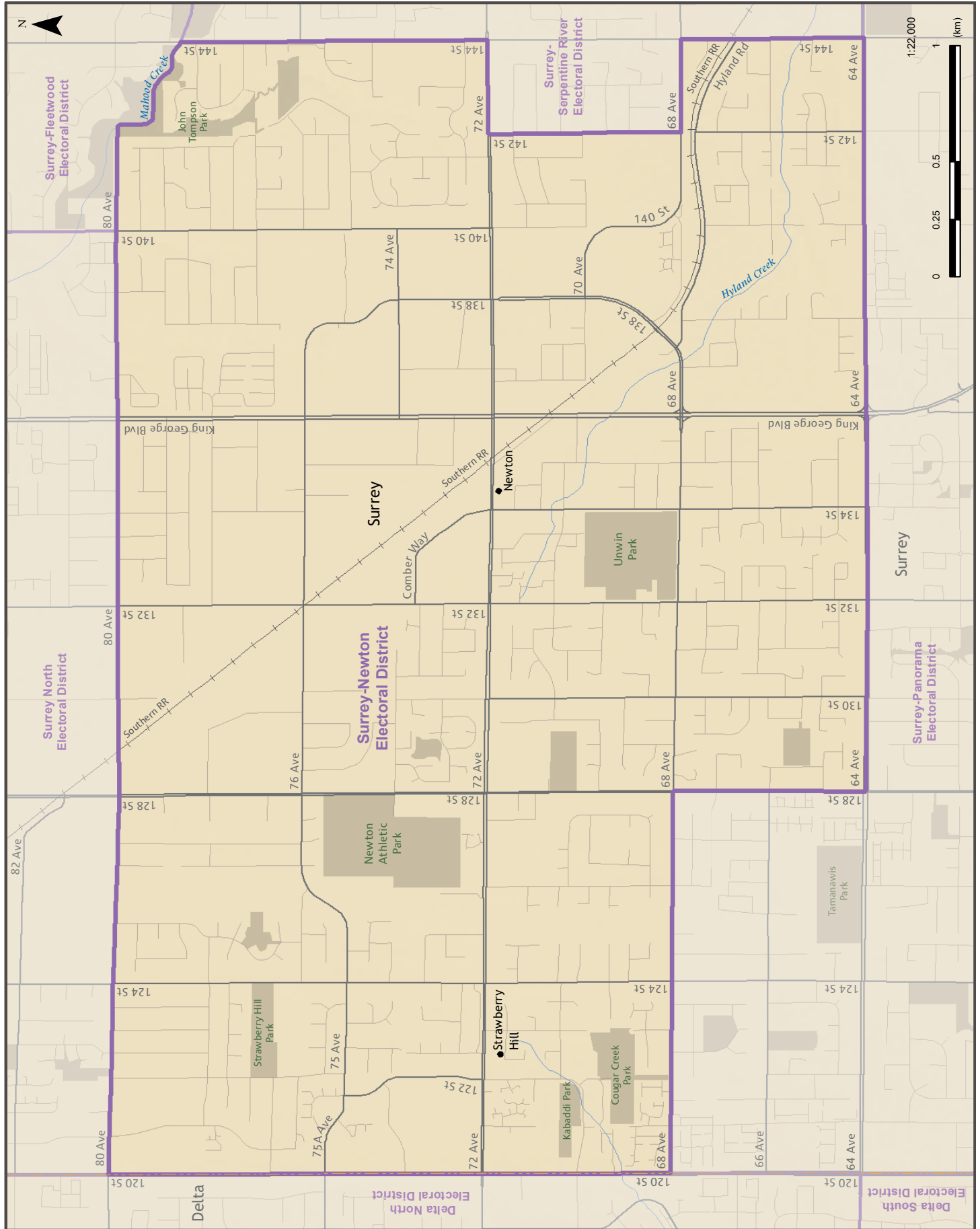


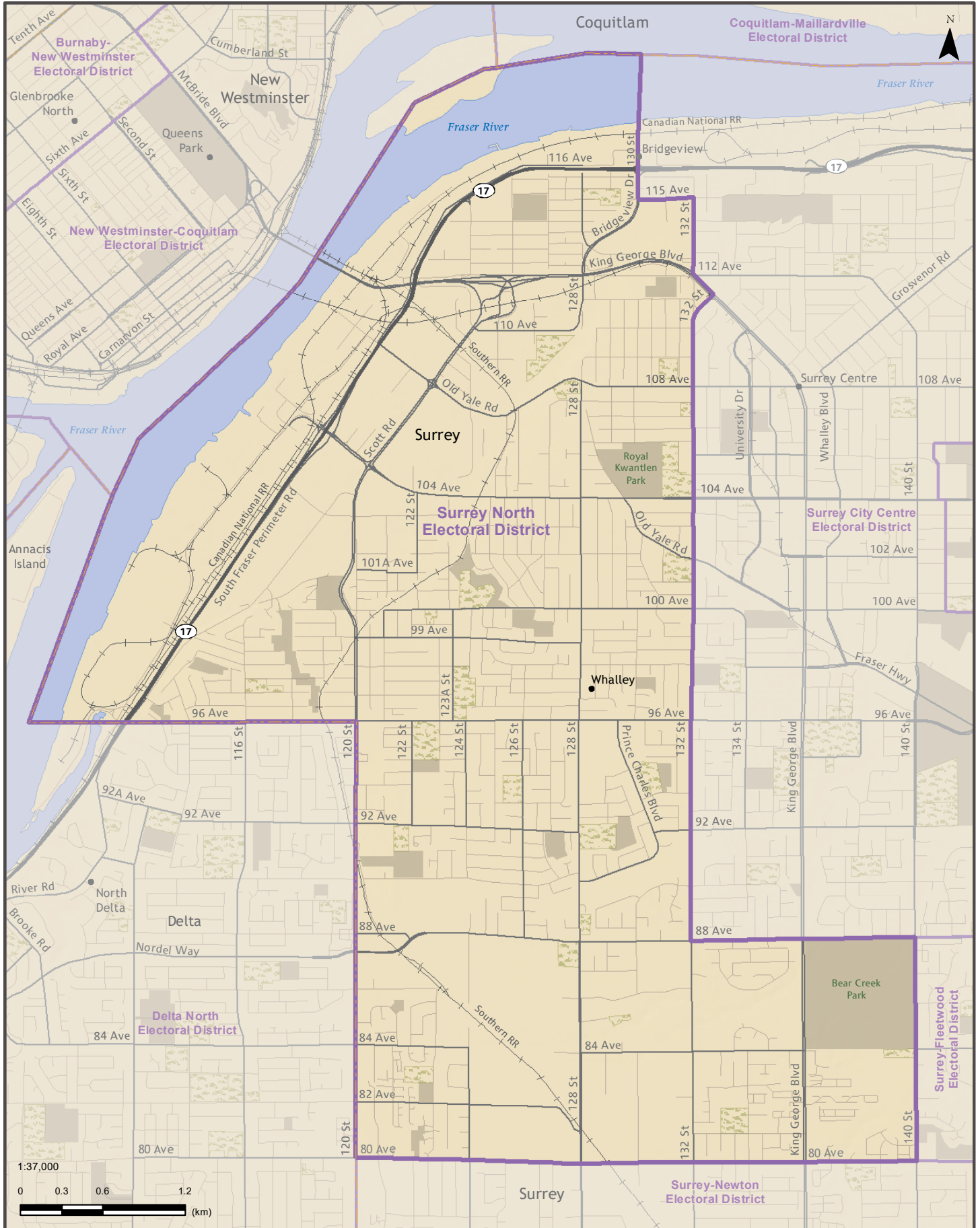


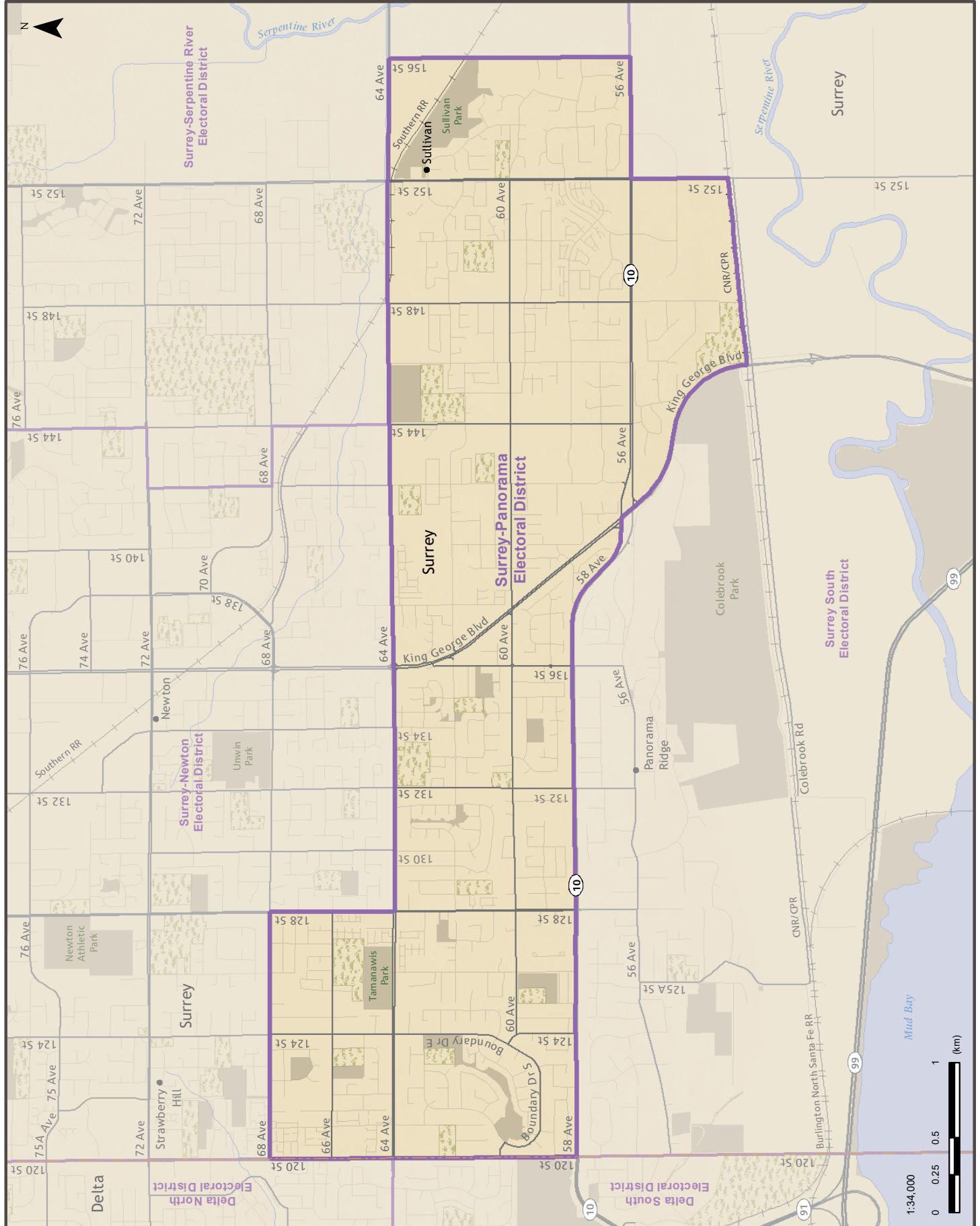


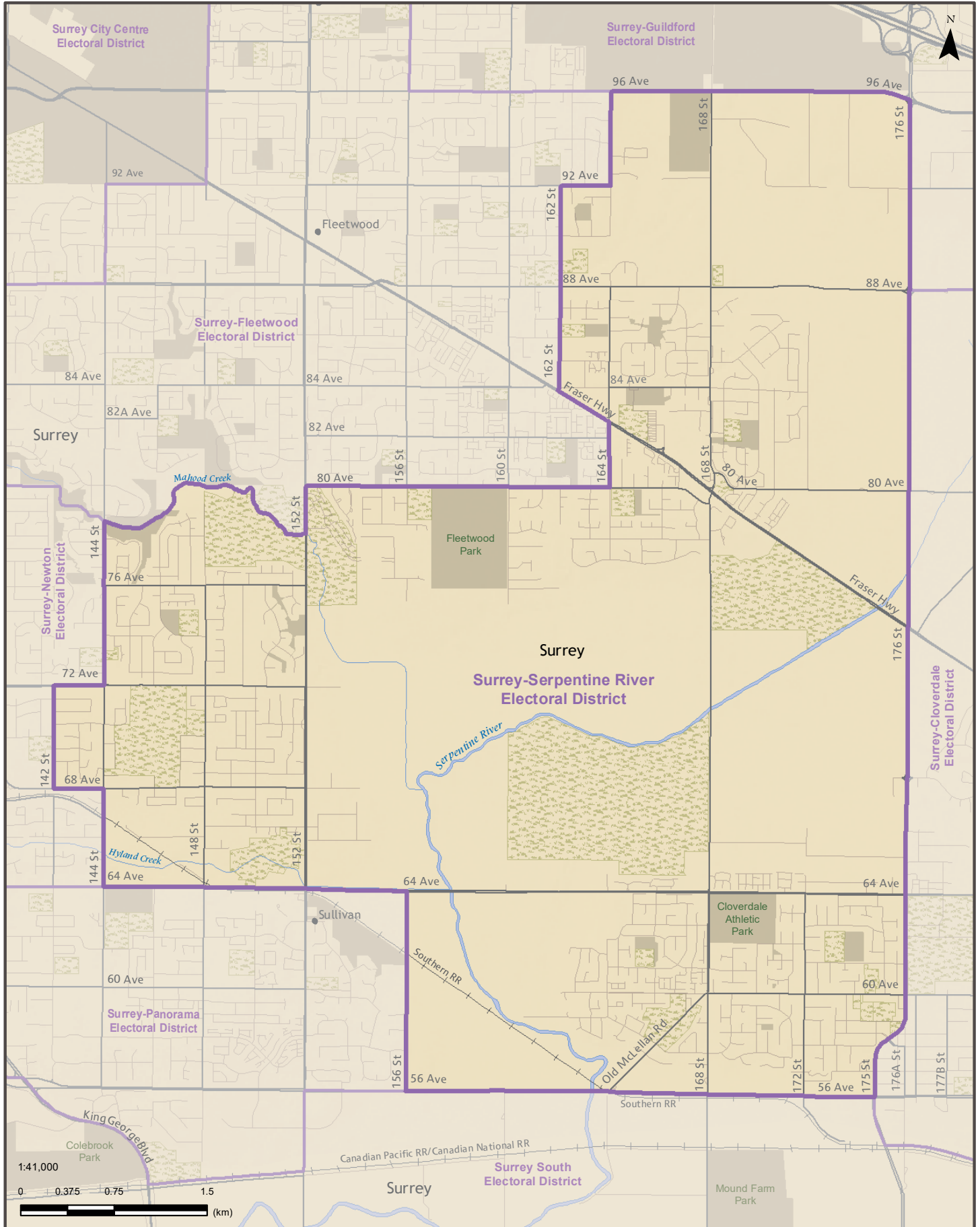


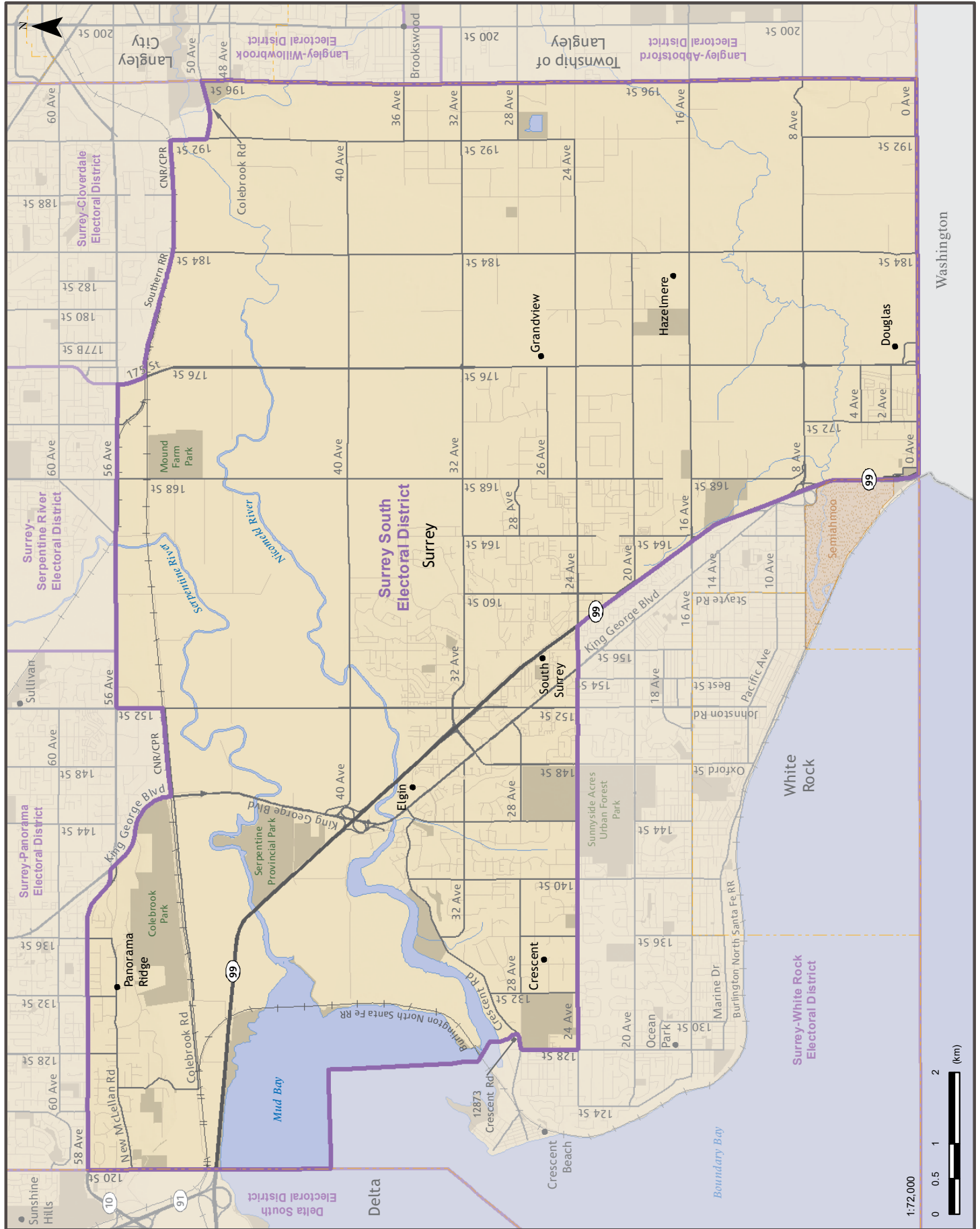


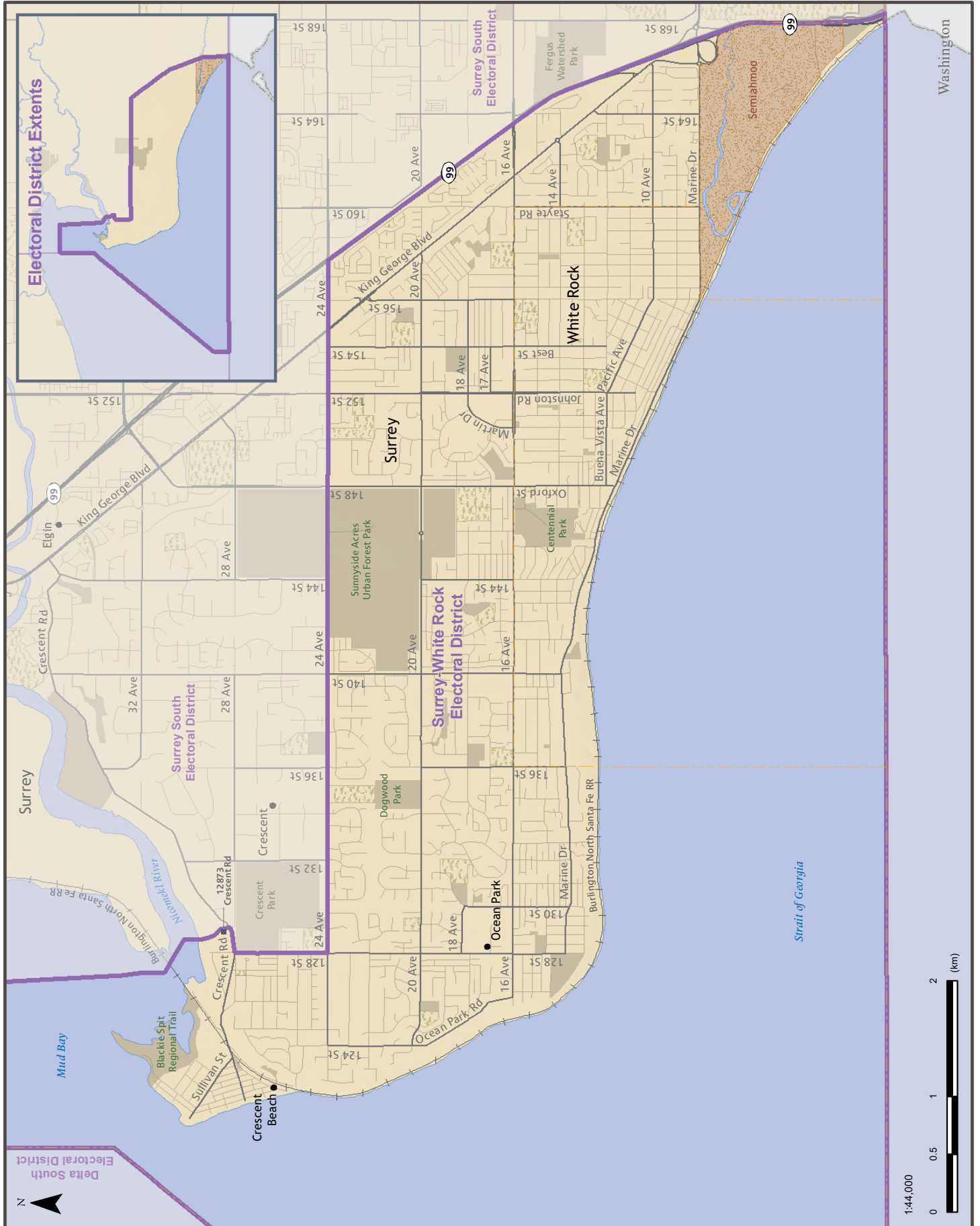




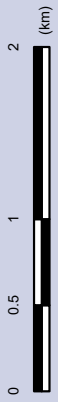








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Richmond-Delta

Current Electoral Districts (6)

- Delta North
- Delta South
- Richmond North Centre
- Richmond-Queensborough
- Richmond South Centre
- Richmond-Steveston

Proposed Electoral Districts (6)

- Delta North
- Delta South
- Richmond-Bridgeport
- Richmond Centre
- Richmond-Queensborough
- Richmond-Steveston

TABLE 17: RICHMOND-DELTA ELECTORAL DISTRICTS
NOTE: THIS CHAPTER USES PROPOSED ELECTORAL DISTRICT NAMES



Richmond-Delta's six electoral districts are situated at the mouth of the Fraser River. The City of Richmond is divided into four electoral districts, one of which includes the Queensborough neighbourhood of the City of New Westminster. The City of Delta is divided into two electoral districts.

While some people expressed concern about projected population growth in this area, many were satisfied with the current electoral boundaries. As noted in our discussion of New Westminster, there was a division of opinion about whether Queensborough should be moved back into a New Westminster riding. As Queensborough has ties to both New Westminster and Richmond, we propose no change to Queensborough.

We recommend other changes to the boundaries of Richmond's electoral districts so that they align more closely with neighbourhood boundaries defined in the City of Richmond's Official Community Plan, and to better balance populations between adjacent electoral districts. To better reflect the geography of two Richmond ridings, we propose renaming Richmond North Centre as Richmond-Bridgeport, and Richmond-South Centre as Richmond Centre.

Our proposal moves the Bridgeport neighbourhood out of Richmond-Queensbor-

IMAGE 16: FARM IN DELTA, B.C.
CREDIT: PROVINCE OF BRITISH
COLUMBIA. AUGUST 5, 2008

TABLE 18: PROPOSED RICHMOND-DELTA ELECTORAL DISTRICT POPULATIONS
SOURCE: 2021 STATISTICS CANADA CENSUS COUNT

Electoral District	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Delta North	58,813	9.4	28
Delta South	51,908	-3.5	455
Richmond-Bridgeport	54,724	1.8	453
Richmond Centre	54,474	1.3	7
Richmond-Queensborough	54,947	2.2	90
Richmond-Steveston	56,775	5.6	31
Total/Average	331,641	2.8	1,064

ough and into the Richmond-Bridgeport electoral district. We also recommend moving the neighbourhoods east of No. 2 Road and south of the Westminster Highway into this riding.

These adjustments better balance the population between adjacent ridings and keep similar neighbourhoods together. The urban electoral district of Richmond Centre contains Richmond's downtown core. Our proposal moves the residential area south of Blundell Road and west of Gilbert Road out of Richmond Centre and into the adjacent Richmond-Steveston electoral district, uniting suburban communities.

In Delta, we move the area south of 64th Avenue out of Delta North into the riding of Delta South. This change distributes the population of these two ridings more evenly and creates room for anticipated population growth in Delta North. It keeps the area around Watershed Memorial Park in one electoral district.

We acknowledge that our proposed boundary divides the suburb of Sunshine Hills; however, we do not believe that this adversely affects effective representation. The principle of representation by population favours this change because it reduces the population difference between Delta North and Delta South.

Delta North

Delta North contains the northeast part of the City of Delta and Anacis Island. It also includes the North Delta and Townsend. Its borders follow the South Arm of the Fraser River in the north and Kittson Parkway and 64th Avenue in the south. Its western boundary follows Highway 91, and its eastern boundary follows 120th Street.

Delta South

Delta South includes Ladner, Tsawwassen, Parkdale Gardens and Boundary Bay. Its boundaries follow the South Arm of the Fraser River and 64th Avenue in the north

and the Canada-U.S. border in the south. Its eastern boundaries follow Highway 91 and 120th Street. Its western boundary is the Strait of Georgia.

Richmond-Bridgeport

This electoral district covers northwest Richmond including Vancouver International Airport and the neighbourhoods of Thompson and Burkeville. Its eastern border is No. 5 Road and its southern border is Blundell Road. Its northern border follows the North Arm of the Fraser River, River Drive and Bridgeport Road. Its western boundary is the Strait of Georgia.

Richmond Centre

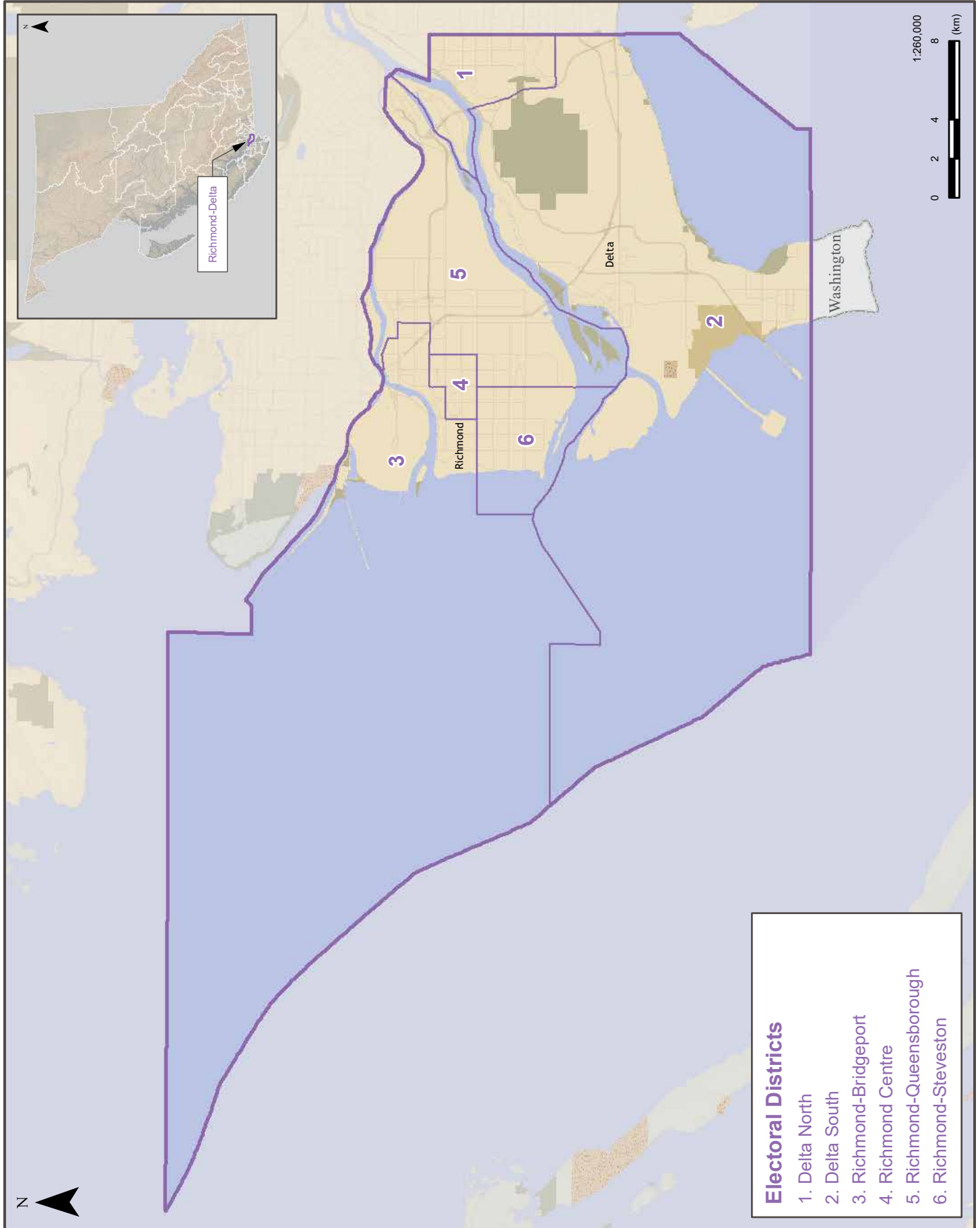
Richmond Centre contains Richmond's downtown core. Its eastern boundary is No. 4 Road and its western boundary is No. 2 Road. Its northern border follows Alderbridge Way and the Westminster Highway, and its southern border follows Blundell Road.

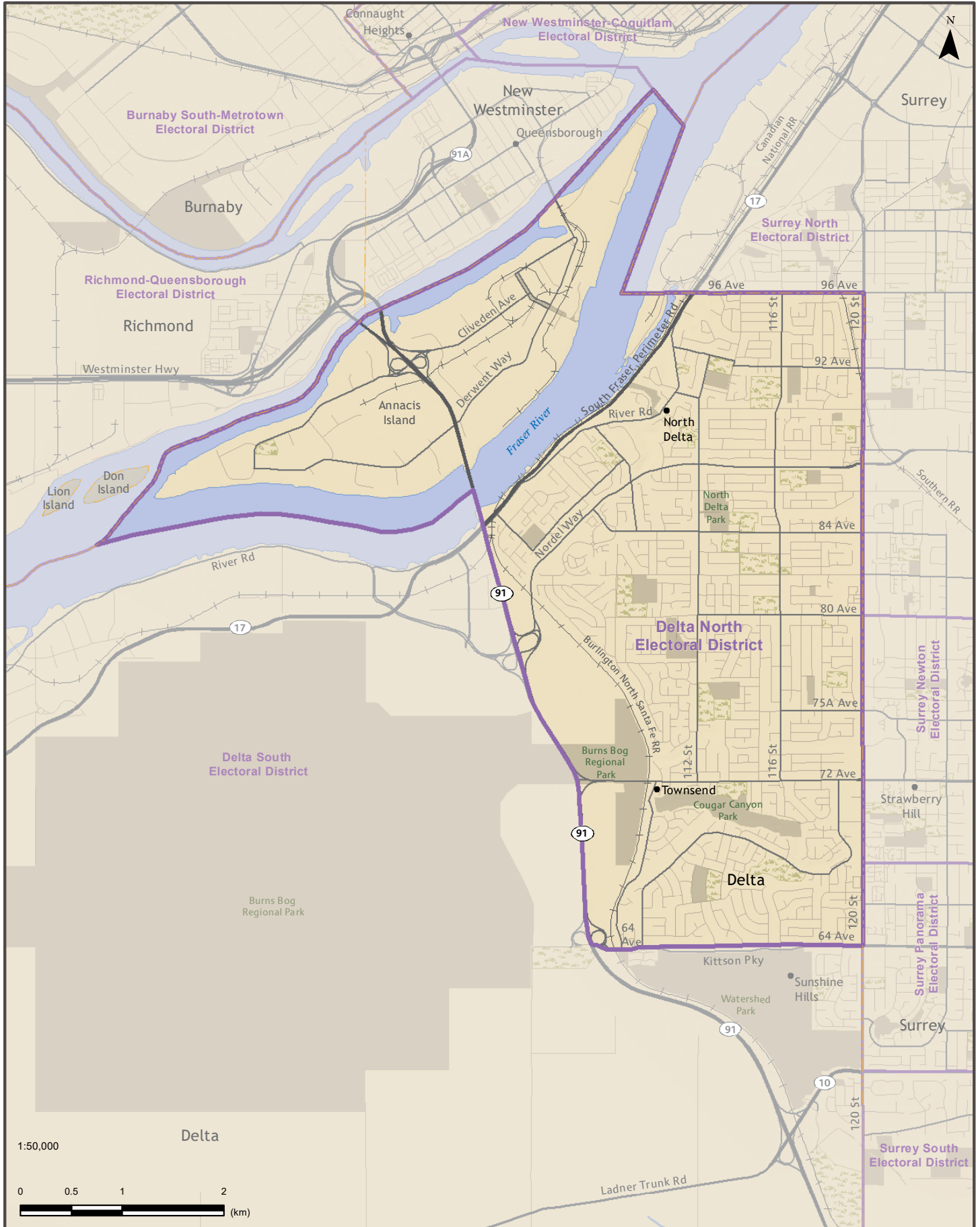
Richmond-Queensborough

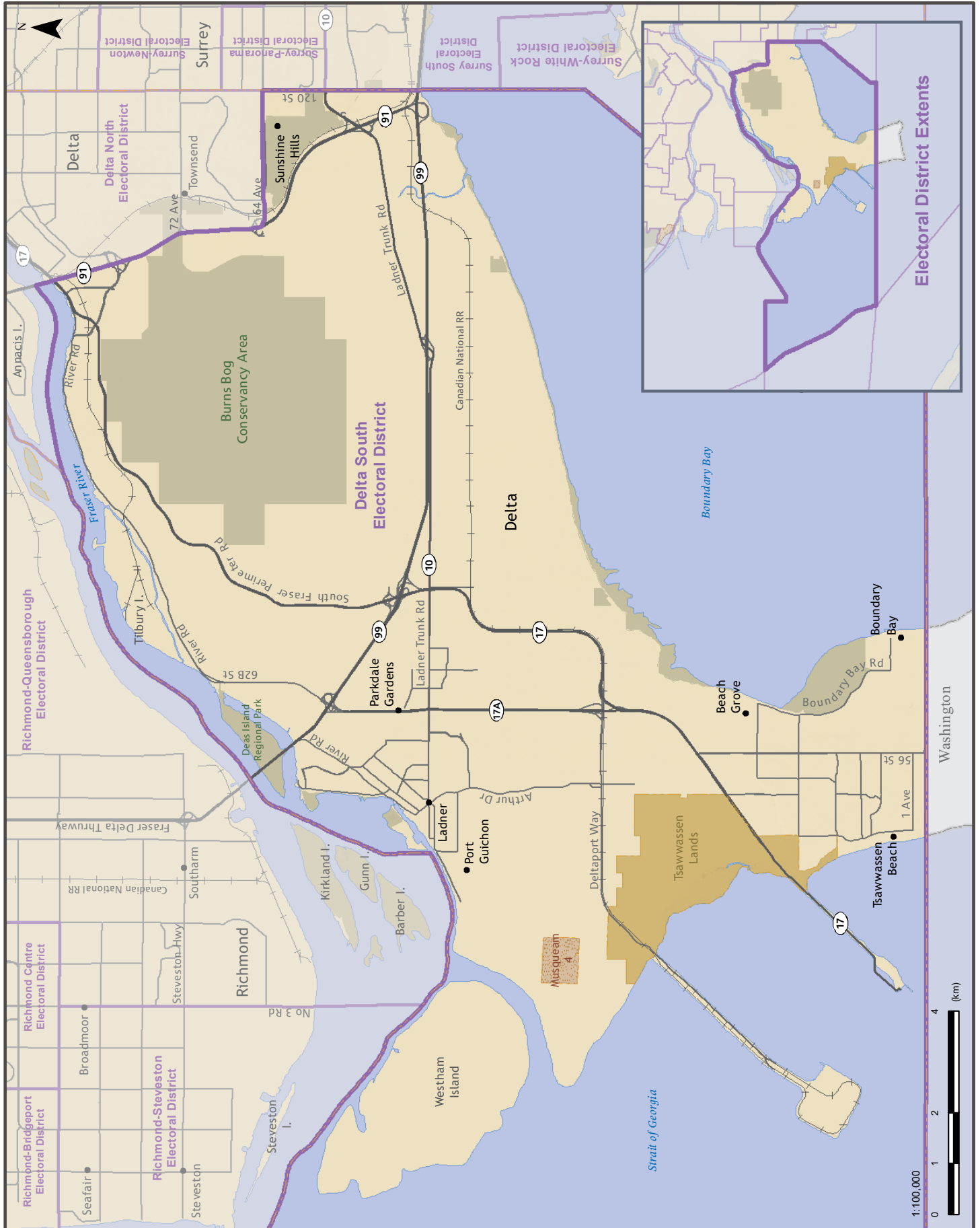
This riding encompasses the eastern portion of Lulu Island, including the New Westminster neighbourhood of Queensborough and the Richmond neighbourhood of Southarm. Its western boundary follows No. 3, No. 4 and No. 5 Roads, as well as Shell Road. Its northern, southern, and eastern boundaries follow the Fraser River.

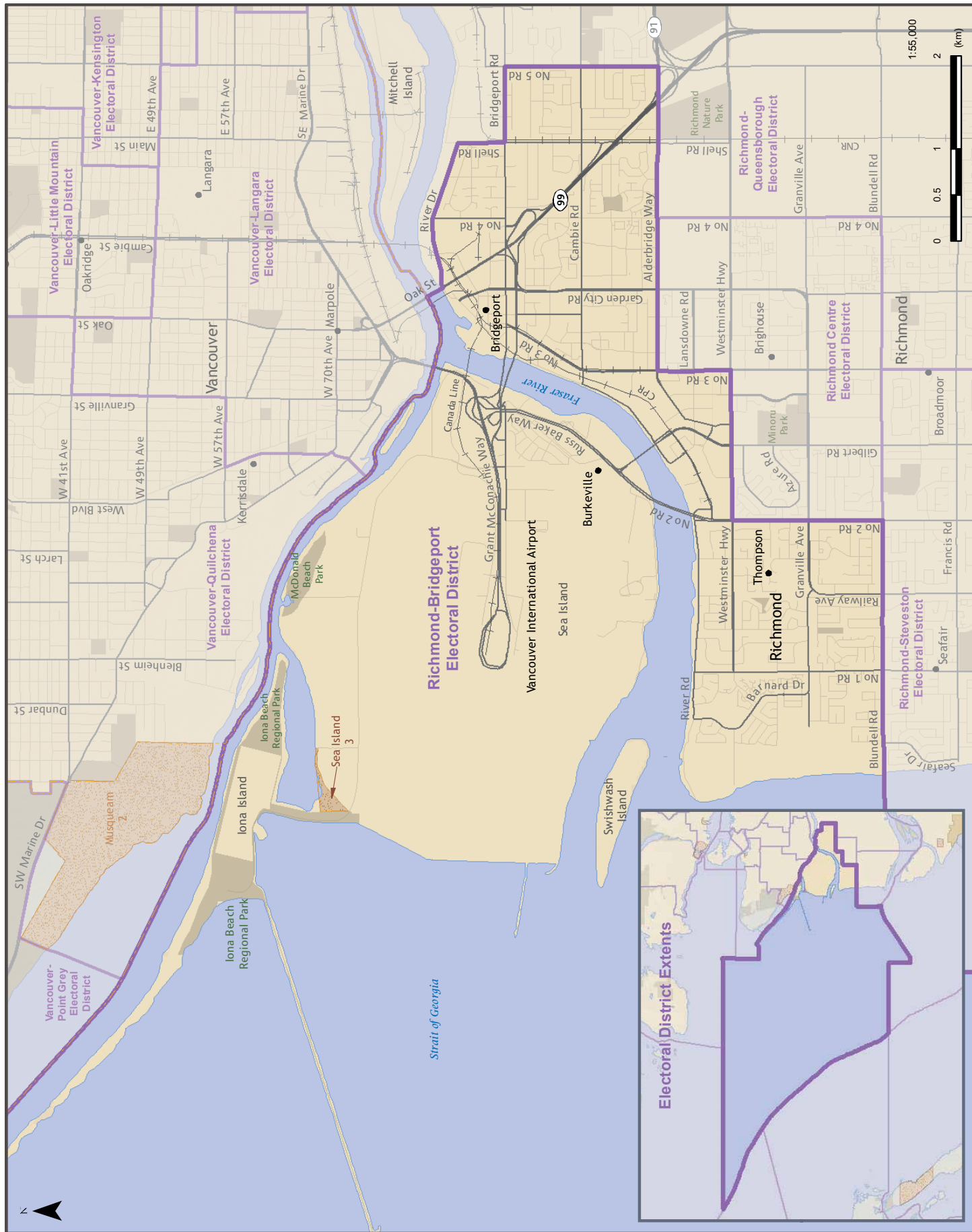
Richmond-Steveston

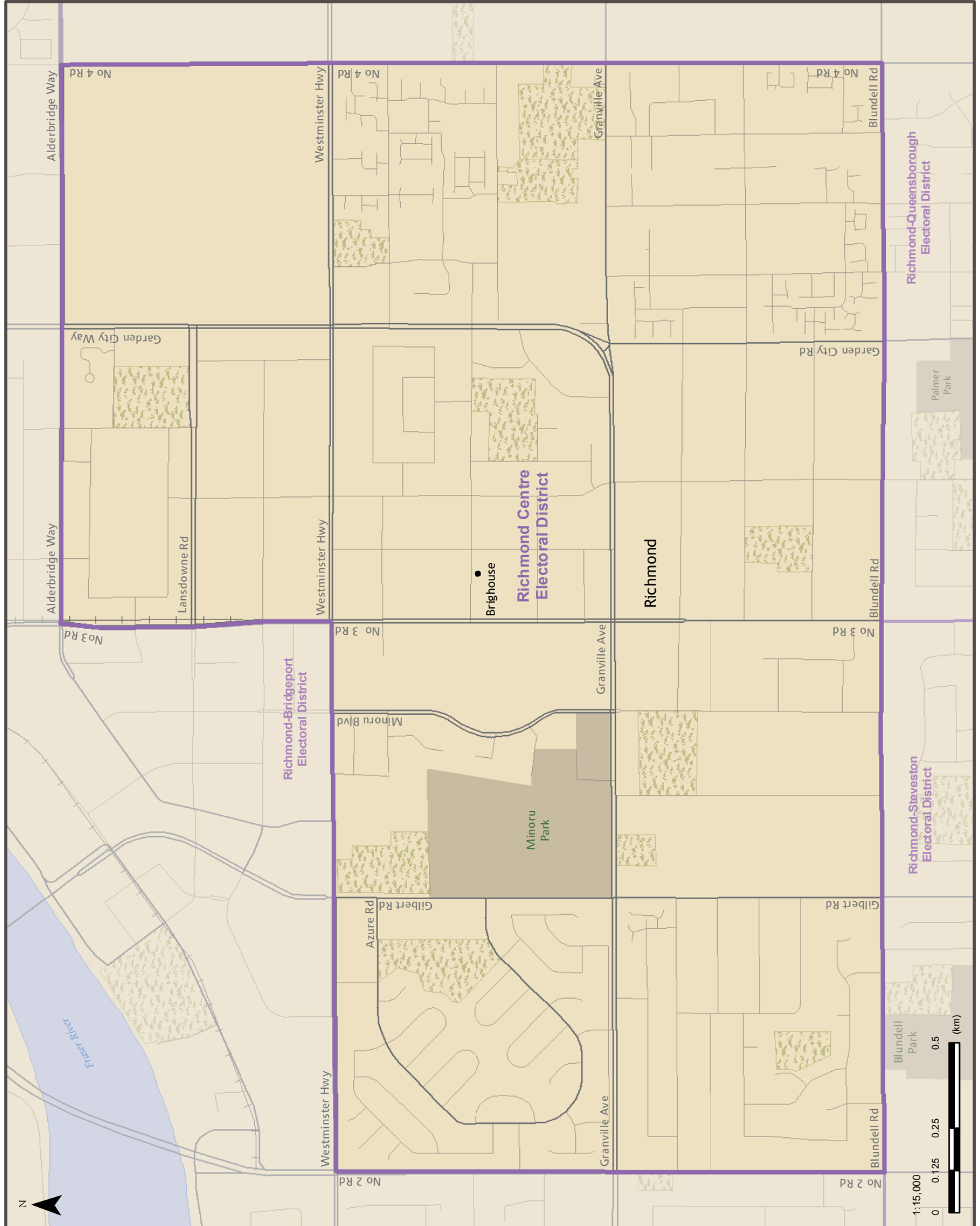
This electoral district includes the neighbourhoods of Steveston and Seafair. Its western boundary is the Strait of Georgia and its southern boundary follows the South Arm of the Fraser River. Its eastern boundary follows No. 3 Road, and its northern boundary follows Blundell Road.















Vancouver

Current Electoral Districts (11)

- Vancouver-Fairview
- Vancouver-False Creek
- Vancouver-Fraserview
- Vancouver-Hastings
- Vancouver-Kensington
- Vancouver-Kingsway
- Vancouver-Langara
- Vancouver-Mount Pleasant
- Vancouver-Point Grey
- Vancouver-Quilchena
- Vancouver-West End

Proposed Electoral Districts (12)

- Vancouver-Fraserview
- Vancouver-Hastings
- Vancouver-Kensington
- Vancouver-Langara
- Vancouver-Little Mountain
- Vancouver-Point Grey
- Vancouver-Quilchena
- Vancouver-Renfrew
- Vancouver-South Granville
- Vancouver-Strathcona
- Vancouver-West End
- Vancouver-Yaletown

TABLE 19: VANCOUVER ELECTORAL DISTRICTS
NOTE: THIS CHAPTER USES PROPOSED ELECTORAL DISTRICT NAMES



The Vancouver area includes the City of Vancouver and the University of British Columbia Endowment Lands. Vancouver is the largest municipality in British Columbia. Its 2021 Census population was 662,248, which represents 13.2% of the province's population. It is composed of urban neighbourhoods of varying density, most of which have grown significantly over the last eight years. Some electoral districts are currently close to or over the usual deviation range and the population of the area continues to grow. As in the Surrey area, the primary challenge in Vancouver is to ensure representation by population. We propose creating a new electoral district in this area, which means that Vancouver will have 12 ridings.

Adding an electoral district to the Vancouver area requires adjusting the boundaries

of multiple ridings and has further ripple effects because of population density. During our consultations, we heard about the integrity of neighbourhoods, their shared interests and their histories. We have kept these interests in mind but acknowledge that it is not always possible to draw boundaries that respect neighbourhood boundaries without creating significant population imbalances. In such cases, we believe that representation by population requires neighbourhoods to be divided between adjacent ridings. Most of our recommendations focus on

IMAGE 17: VANCOUVER, BC
CREDIT: ELECTIONS BC.
AUGUST 4, 2019

TABLE 20: VANCOUVER POPULATION, DEVIATION AND AREA
SOURCE: 2021 STATISTICS CANADA CENSUS COUNT

Electoral District	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Vancouver-Fraserview	58,686	9.1	12
Vancouver-Hastings	58,095	8.0	14
Vancouver-Kensington	58,593	9.0	9
Vancouver-Langara	55,724	3.6	12
Vancouver-Little Mountain	57,034	6.1	10
Vancouver-Point Grey	56,818	5.7	41
Vancouver-Quilchena	56,957	5.9	24
Vancouver-Renfrew	56,922	5.9	8
Vancouver-South Granville	56,134	4.4	7
Vancouver-Strathcona	54,588	1.5	12
Vancouver-West End	57,332	6.6	14
Vancouver-Yaletown	55,307	2.9	4
Total/Average	682,190	5.7	167

the west side of Vancouver, south of the downtown core. That is because population growth rates in this area diverge more than elsewhere in Vancouver.

We recommend adding a new electoral district in Vancouver's South Granville neighbourhood. The proposed riding of Vancouver-South Granville incorporates parts of the current Vancouver-Point Grey, Vancouver-False Creek and Vancouver-Fairview electoral districts. It responds to input we received that south False Creek is distinct from and has little in common with downtown Vancouver. We also move the border of Vancouver-Point Grey east to Balsam Street.

We rename Vancouver-Fairview as Vancouver-Little Mountain to reflect our inclusion of the Little Mountain neighbourhood in the riding. Vancouver-Little Mountain includes Mount Pleasant south of Kingsway and extends from Oakridge in the south to Olympic Village in the north. We considered whether Olympic Village has closer ties to Yaletown or southern False Creek. To include Olympic Village in the same riding as Yaletown would have required us to divide established neighbourhoods like Chinatown or the Downtown Eastside, which we believe could adversely affect their effective representation.

To better reflect our proposed boundaries, we rename the current riding of Vancouver-Mount Pleasant as Vancouver-Strathcona. As a consequence of removing the South Granville neighbourhoods from the current Vancouver-False Creek electoral district, Yaletown and Gastown are in the same riding, which we propose to call Vancouver-Yaletown instead of Vancouver-False Creek. These changes balance current riding populations in these areas and reflect projected future population growth rates.

We propose minor adjustments to the electoral district boundaries of Vancouver-Langara, Vancouver-Fraserview, Vancouver-Kensington and Vancouver-Kingsway. These changes better balance the populations of these ridings and allow room for future growth. We propose renaming Vancouver-Kingsway as Vancouver-Renfrew to better reflect its geographic area.

We heard about the importance of the Punjabi Market and we reviewed the definition of this community in the City of Vancouver and Sunset community plans. Our proposed boundary between Vancouver-Langara and Vancouver-Kensington runs along E 49th Street. The dense population of this area meant that moving the boundary to E 48th Street would have created a population imbalance that we did not consider justified.

Vancouver-Fraserview

This electoral district includes the Victoria-Fraserview and Killarney neighbourhoods. Its southern boundary is the Fraser River, and its northern boundary follows E 49th, E 45th and E 41st Avenues. In the west, it is bounded by Crompton, Ross,

Inverness and Fraser Streets and, in the east, it follows Boundary Road.

Vancouver-Hastings

This riding includes Hastings-Sunrise, Still Creek and the eastern part of Grandview-Woodlands. Its western border is Commercial Drive, and its eastern border is Boundary Road. In the south, the riding's boundary follows the Grandview Highway and E 12th Avenue, its northern boundary follows Burrard Inlet.

Vancouver-Kensington

Vancouver-Kensington includes the southern half of the Kensington-Cedar Cottage neighbourhood and Mountain View Cemetery. Its southwest boundary follows Ontario Street and E 49th Avenue. Its eastern boundary follows Nanaimo Street and Rupert Street, and its northern boundary runs along Kingsway.

Vancouver-Langara

This electoral district includes Langara, Marpole and the western part of the Sunset neighbourhood. It is bounded by the Fraser River in the south, and W 41st and W 49th Avenues in the north. In the west, its boundary follows Angus Drive and Granville Street and, in the east, it runs along Inverness and Ross Streets.

Vancouver-Little Mountain

Vancouver-Little Mountain is centered on Queen Elizabeth Park and includes the neighbourhoods of South Cambie, Oakridge, Olympic Village and Mount Pleasant west of Kingsway. The riding extends as far south as 49th Avenue and its eastern boundary follows Fraser, Prince

Edward, and Ontario Streets. Its northern border runs along False Creek and Terminal Avenue. In the west, it follows Oak and Cambie Streets.

Vancouver-Point Grey

Vancouver-Point Grey includes the UBC Endowment Lands, Point Grey, the western part of Kitsilano and part of the Dunbar neighbourhood north of King Edward. The Strait of Georgia forms its northern, western and southern boundaries. Its eastern boundary follows Camosun Street, W King Edward Avenue, W 16th Avenue and Balsam Street.

Vancouver-Quilchena

This electoral district includes the x^wməθk^wəyəm First Nation reserve (Musqueam 2), Arbutus Ridge, Kerrisdale, Shaughnessy and Dunbar-Southlands. It extends from the Fraser River in the south to W 16th Avenue in the north. Its western boundary follows the border of the UBC Endowment Lands and W King Edward Avenue to Dunbar Street, and along Dunbar Avenue to W 16th Avenue. Its eastern boundary follows Oak Street, Granville Street and Angus Drive.

Vancouver-Renfrew

This riding includes Trout Lake and the Renfrew-Collingwood neighbourhood south of the Grandview Highway. It extends from Commercial and Victoria Drives in the west to Boundary Road in the east. Its southern border runs along E 45th Avenue and Kingsway, and its northern boundary follows E 12th Avenue and the Grandview Highway.

Vancouver-South Granville

Vancouver-South Granville lies south of the Granville Street bridge. It includes South Granville, Fairview and eastern Kitsilano. The riding extends from W 16th Avenue in the south to False Creek in the north. Its borders follow Cambie Street in the east and Balsam Street in the west.

Vancouver-Strathcona

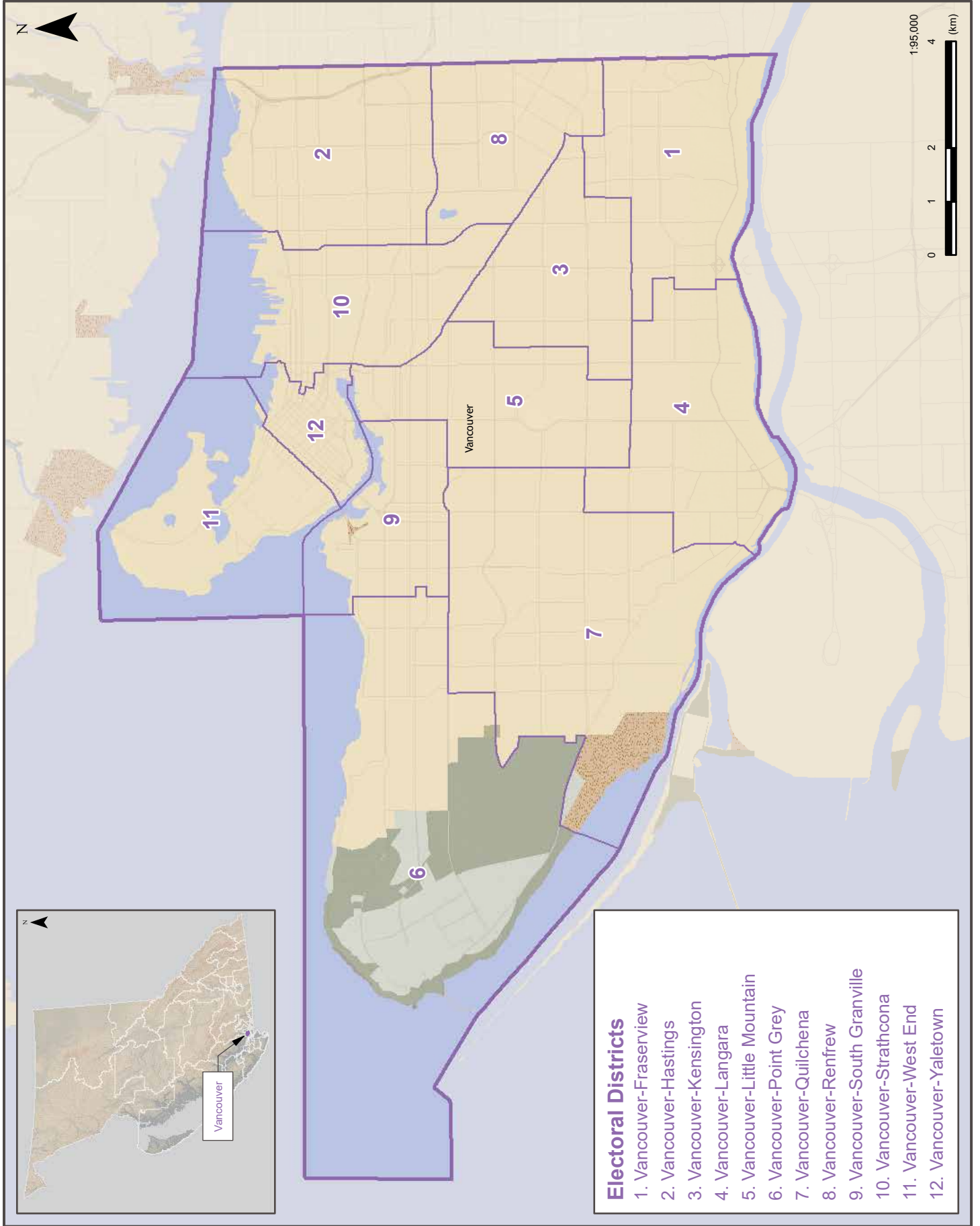
This electoral district includes Strathcona and Chinatown, as well as parts of the Grandview-Woodland, Kensington-Cedar Cottage and Mount Pleasant neighbourhoods. Its northern boundary follows Burrard Inlet, and its southern boundary follows Kingsway. The western boundary follows Main and Quebec Streets northbound into Gastown. In Gastown, the boundary runs west to Abbot Street and follows Alexander Street and Waterfront Road to Burrard Inlet. Its eastern boundary follows Victoria and Commercial Drives, as well as Victoria Drive North.

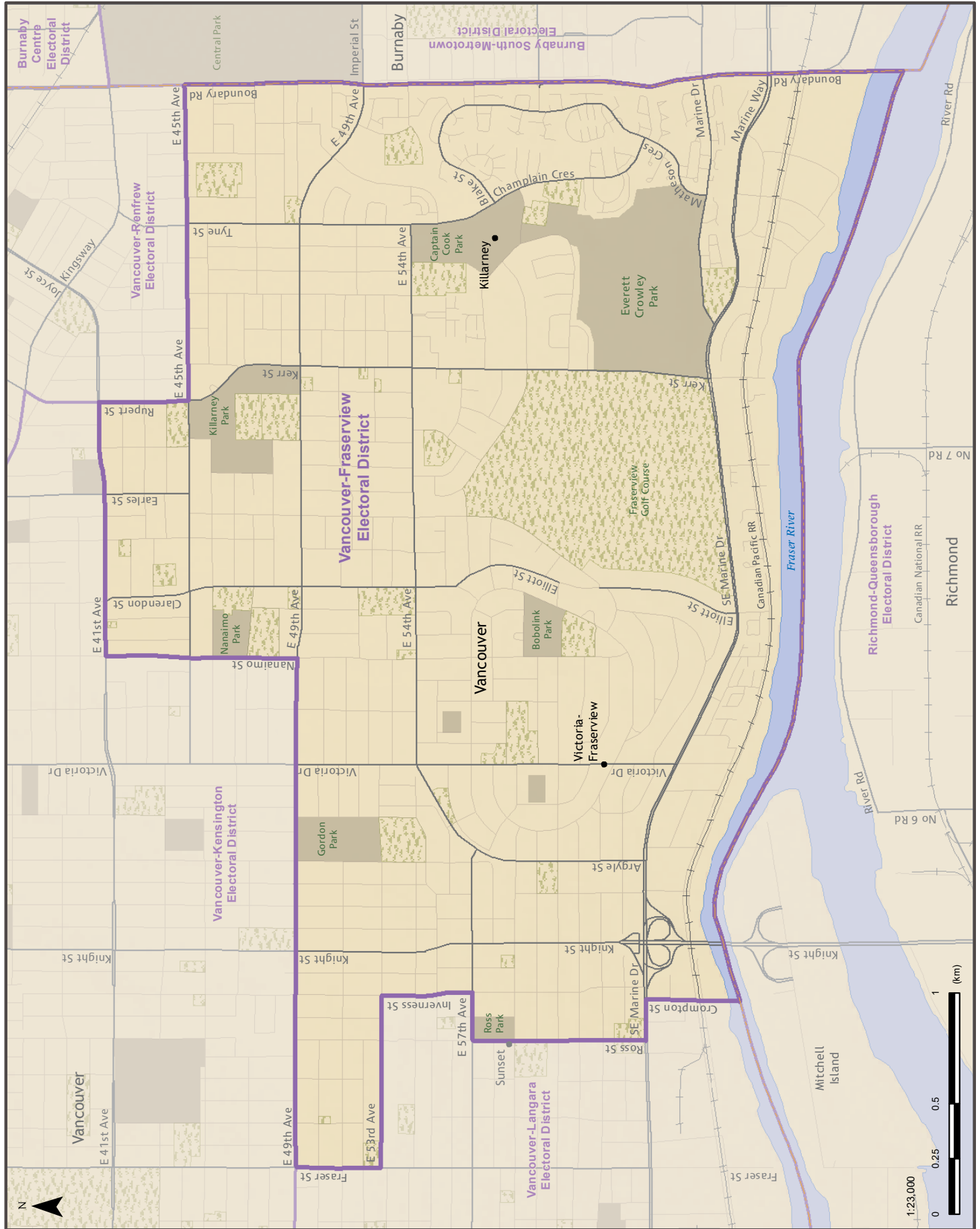
Vancouver-West End

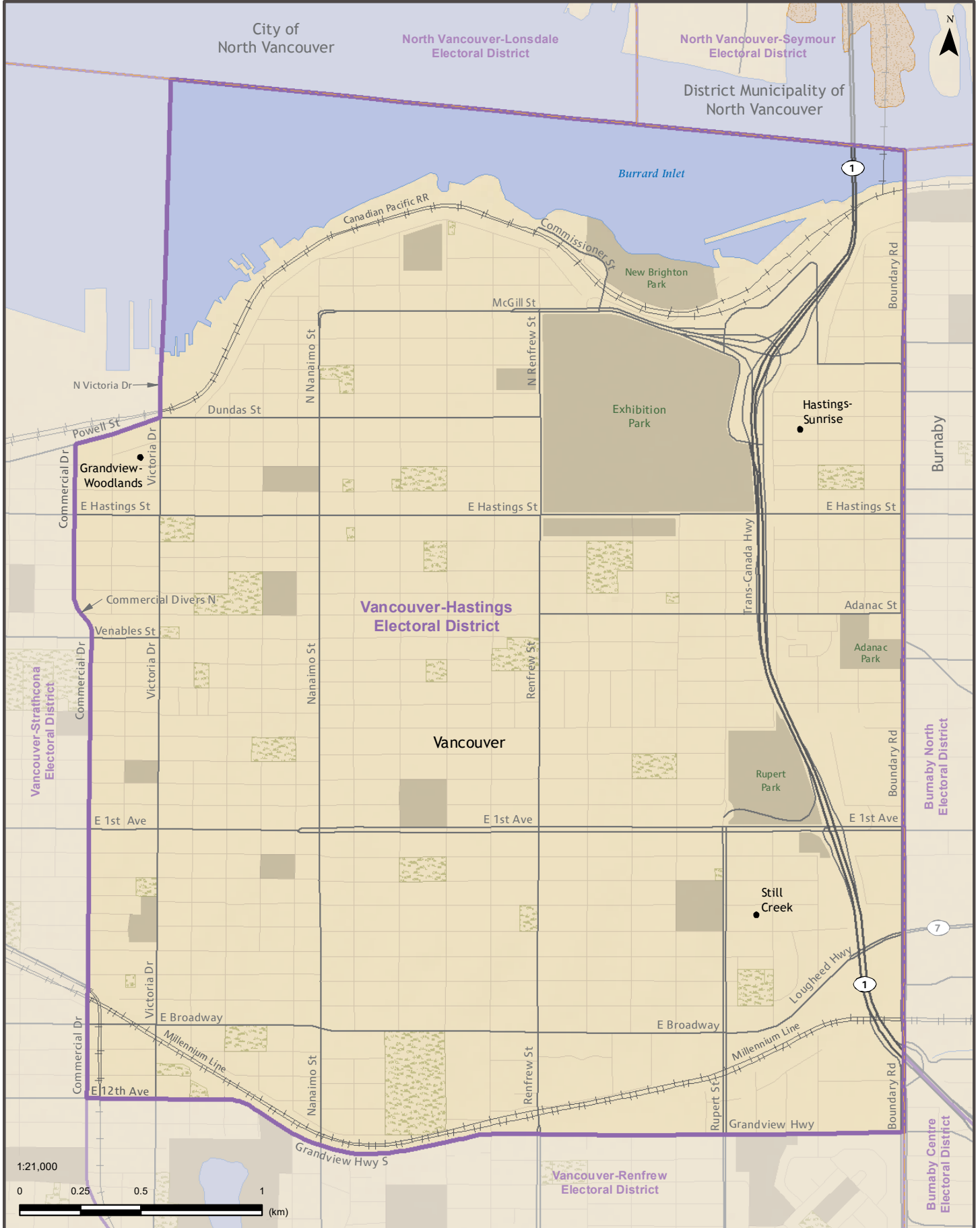
This riding includes the West End, Coal Harbour, Davie Village and Stanley Park. Its boundaries follow English Bay and False Creek in the south and west, Burrard Inlet and Coal Harbour in the north, and Burrard Street in the east.

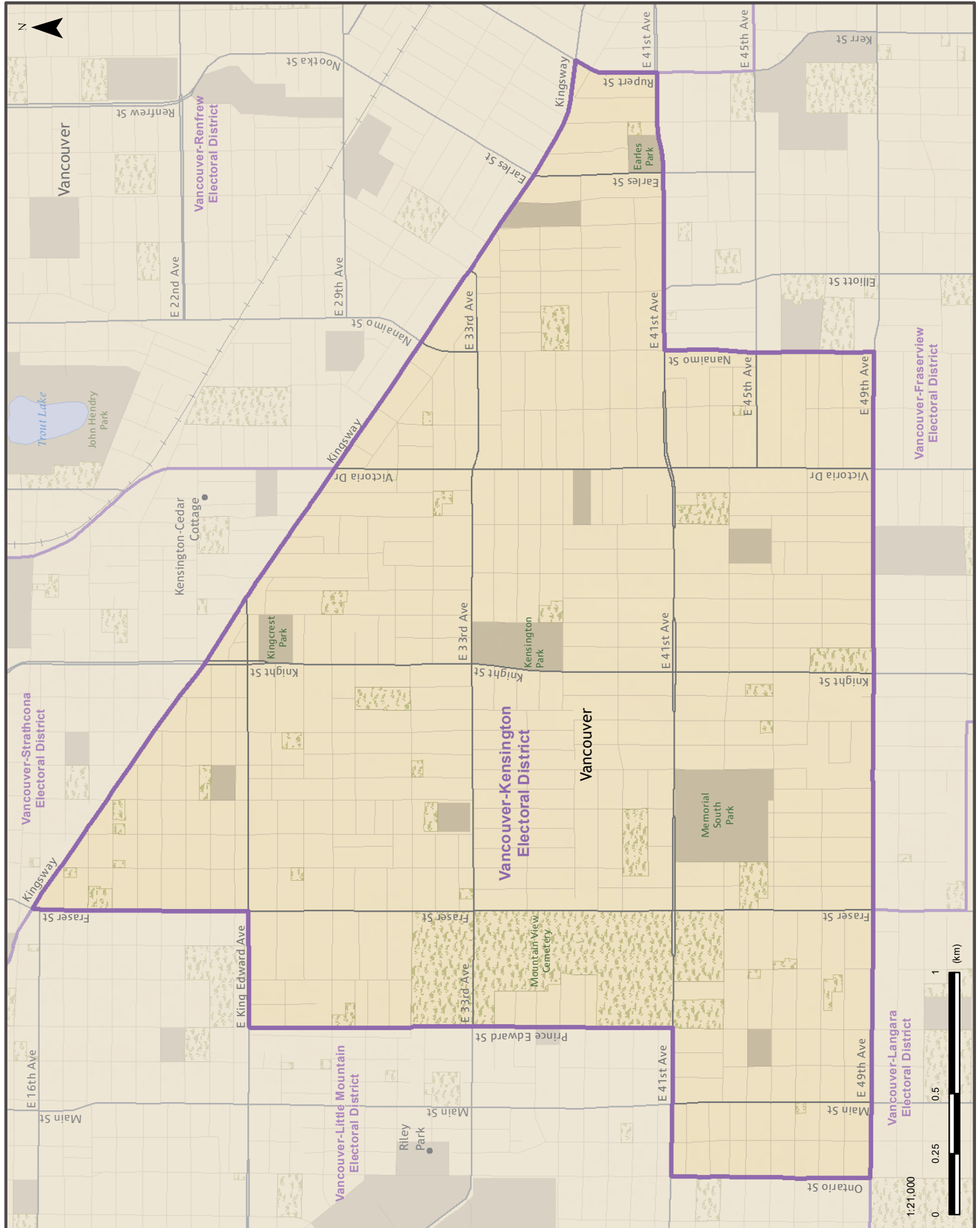
Vancouver-Yaletown

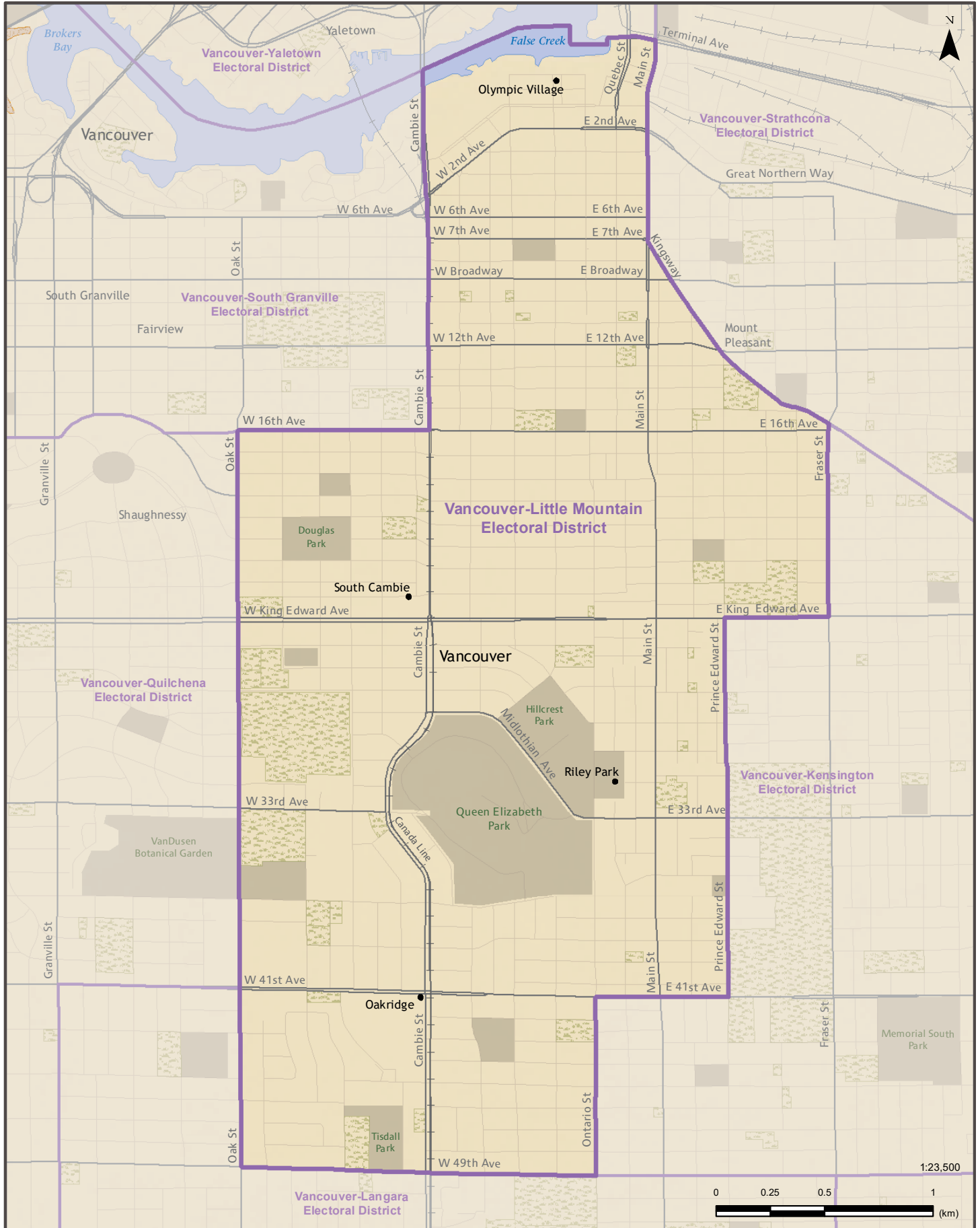
This electoral district includes Yaletown, Gastown and downtown Vancouver north of False Creek. Its boundaries follow Vancouver Harbour in the north and False Creek in the south. Its western border is Burrard Street, and its eastern border is Main Street.

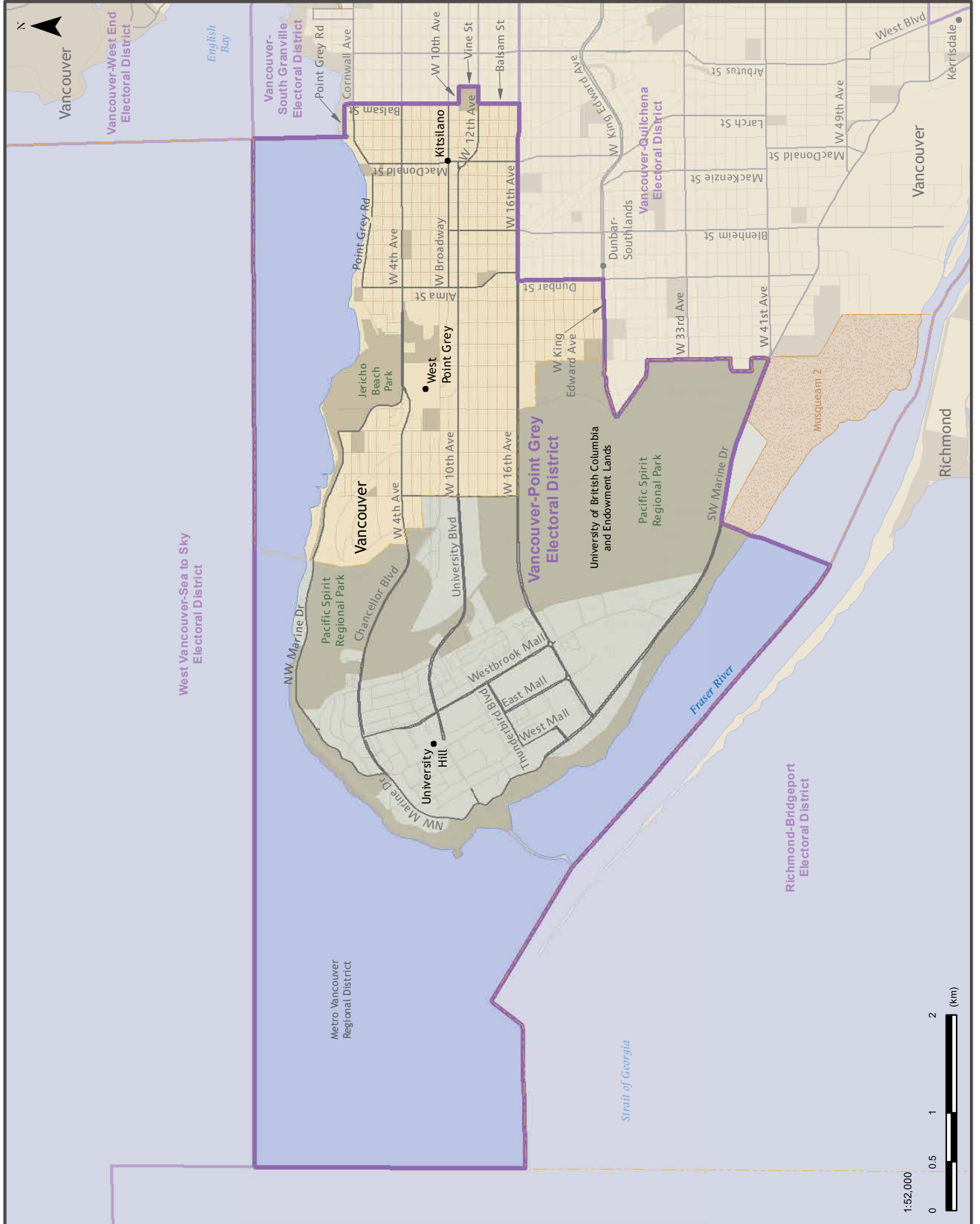


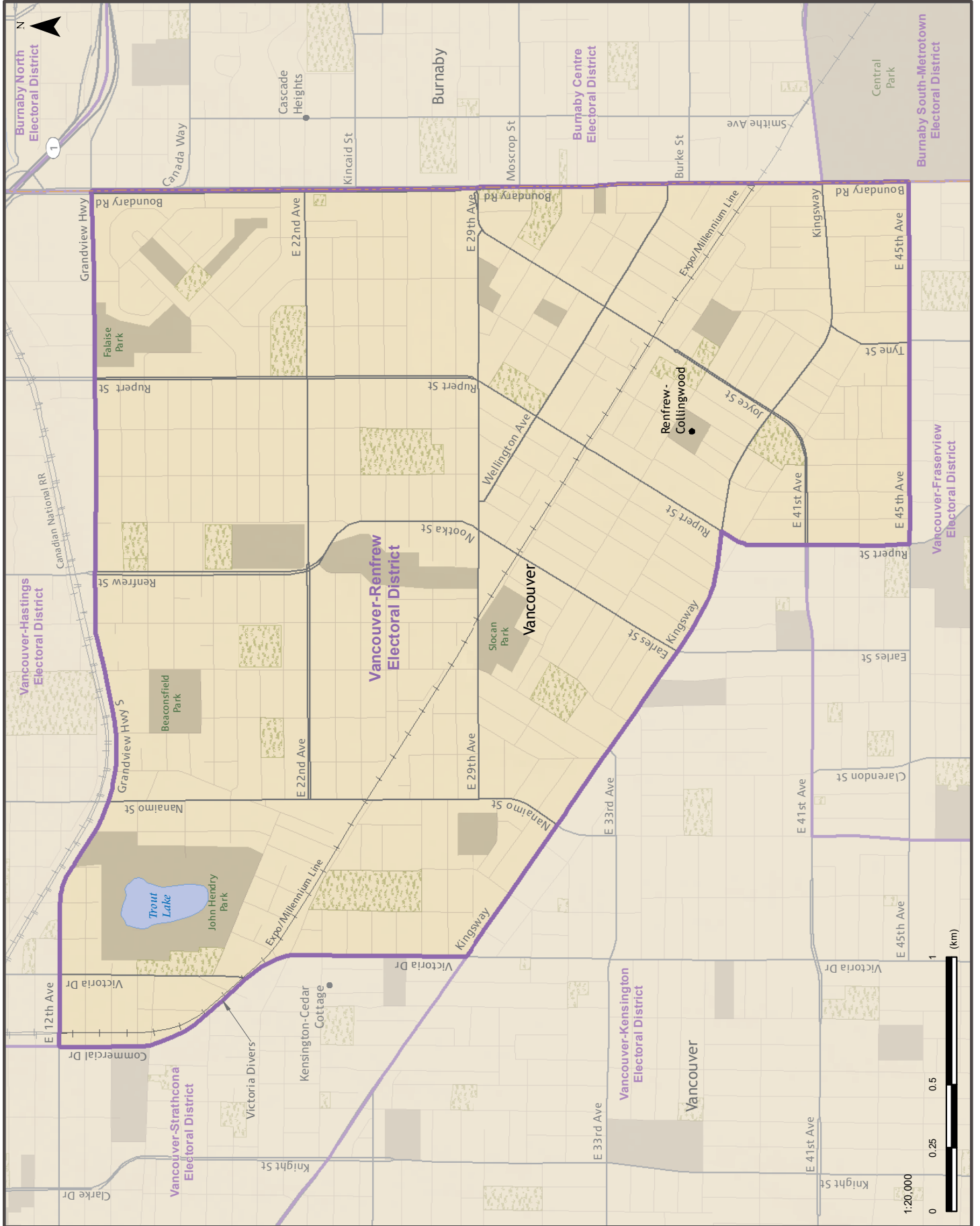


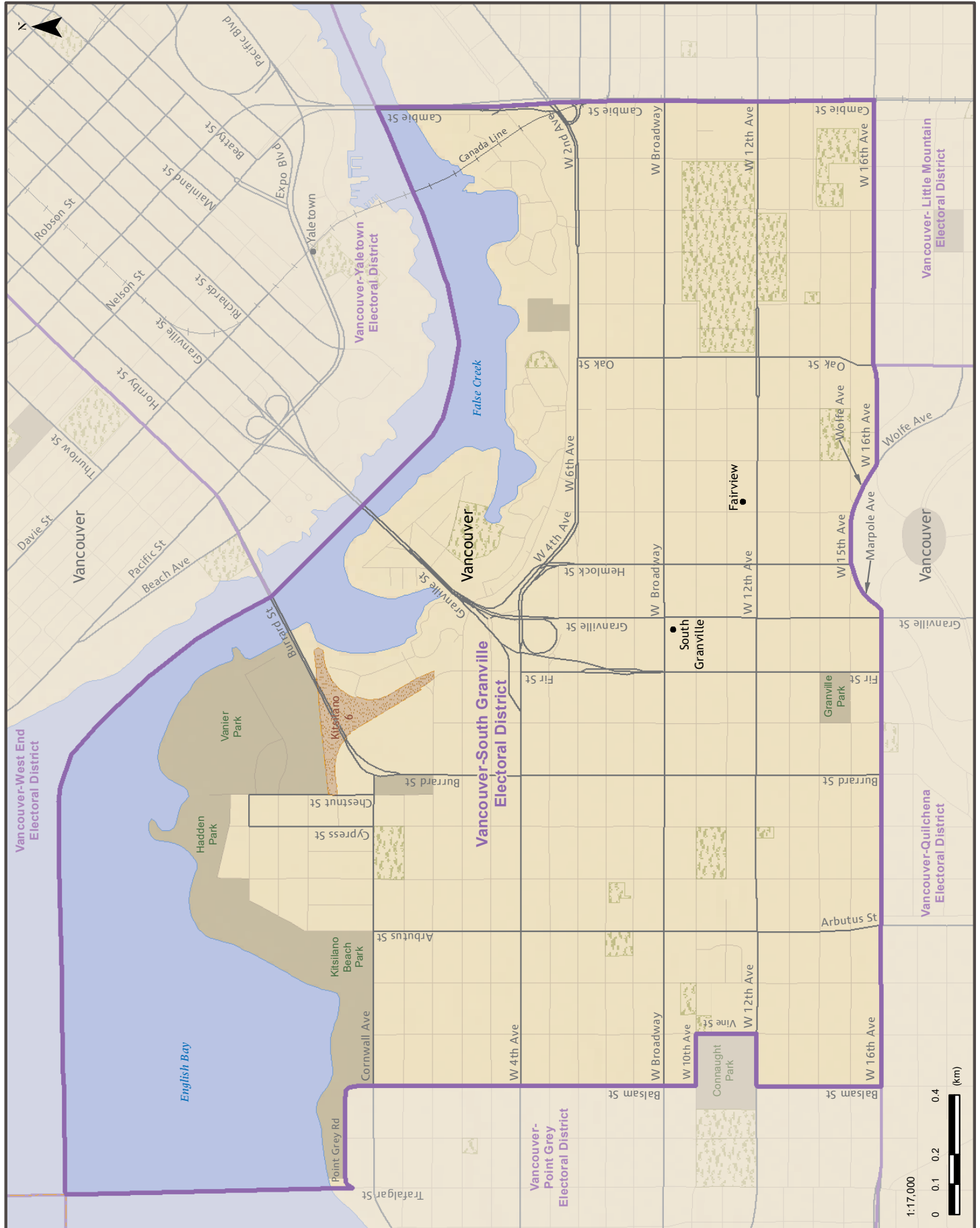


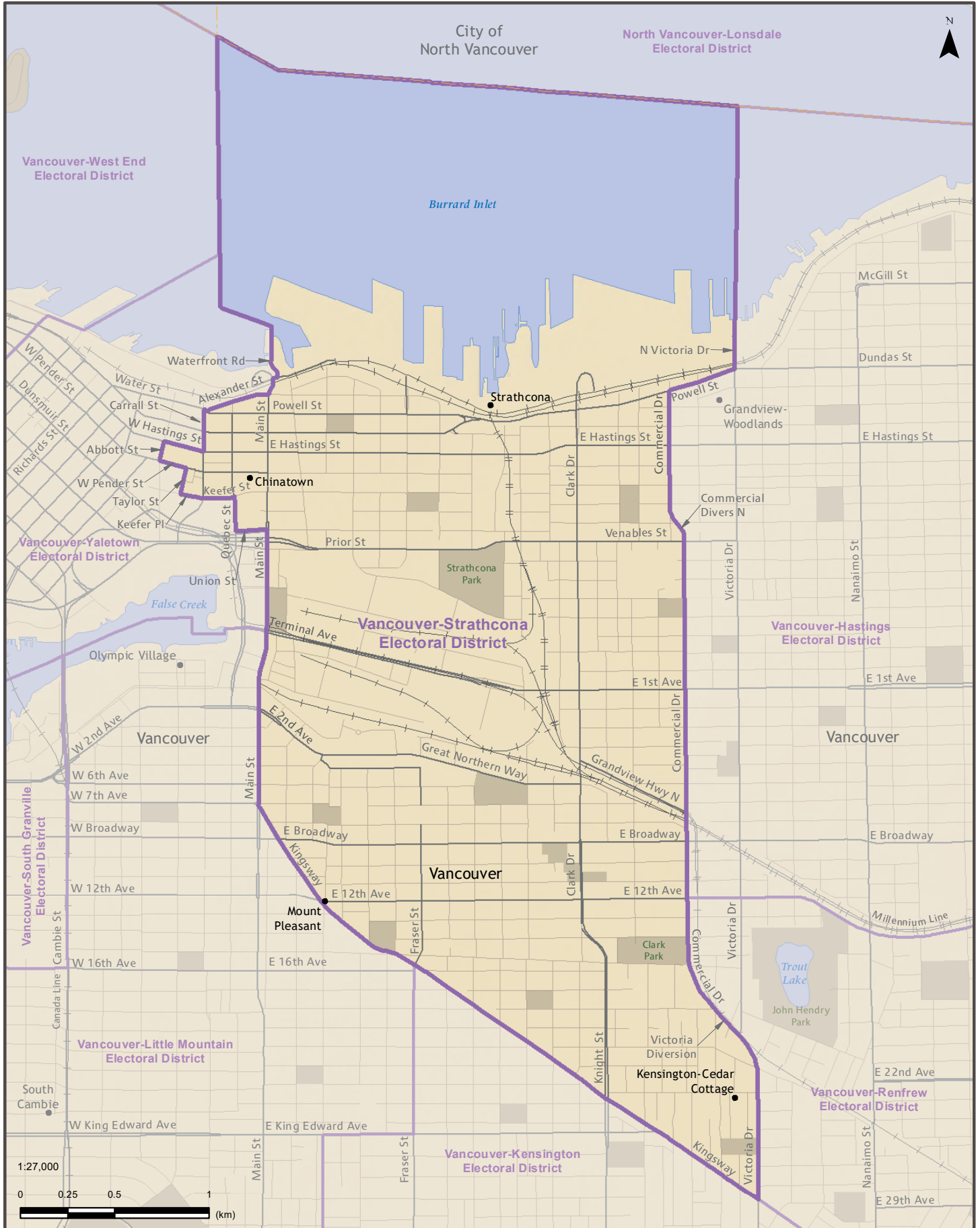




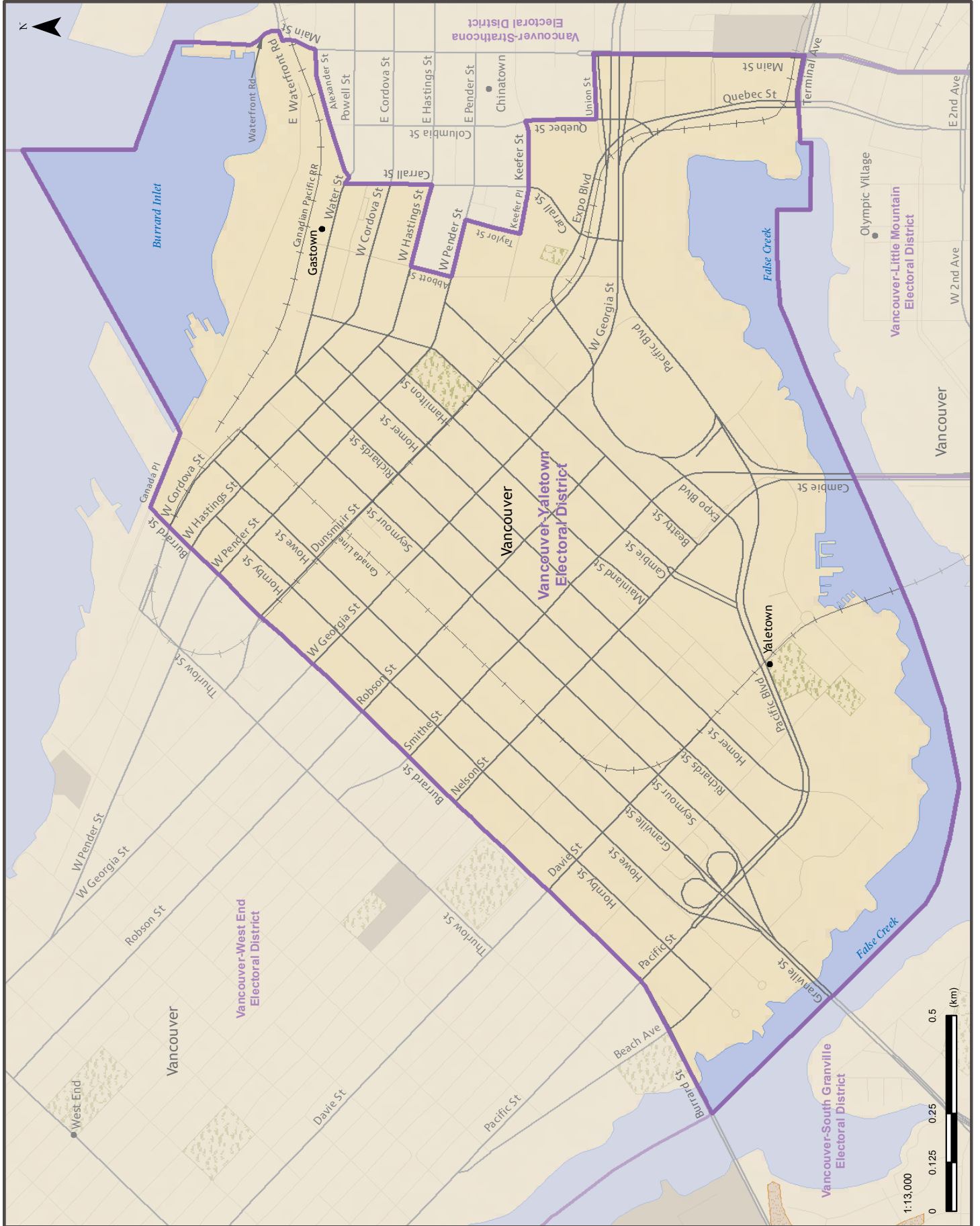












North Shore-Sea to Sky-Sunshine Coast

Current Electoral Districts (5)

- North Vancouver-Lonsdale
- North Vancouver-Seymour
- Powell River-Sunshine Coast
- West Vancouver-Capilano
- West Vancouver-Sea to Sky

Proposed Electoral Districts (5)

- North Vancouver-Lonsdale
- North Vancouver-Seymour
- Powell River-Sunshine Coast
- West Vancouver-Capilano
- West Vancouver-Sea to Sky

TABLE 21: NORTH SHORE-SEA TO SKY-SUNSHINE COAST ELECTORAL DISTRICTS
NOTE: THIS CHAPTER USES PROPOSED ELECTORAL DISTRICT NAMES



The North Shore-Sea to Sky-Sunshine Coast area is made up of five electoral districts. They include the north shore of Burrard Inlet, the Highway 99 corridor and the Sunshine Coast. The area's population is concentrated in North and West Vancouver. Travel outside these cities is challenging because of mountain roads and dependence on ferries. Some people told us that the Sea to Sky corridor should have its own riding. We understand that the Sea to Sky corridor has an identity and interests distinct from West Vancouver. Although its population is growing quickly, it is not yet large enough to justify an additional electoral district.

Our proposals adjust the boundaries of four of these five electoral districts to distribute the population more evenly, allowing for projected population growth. To reduce the high population of North

Vancouver-Lonsdale, we propose moving North Lonsdale and the area east of Lynn Creek out of the riding and into North Vancouver-Seymour. This allows room for expected future growth around North Vancouver's urban core and brings the population of the North Vancouver-Seymour electoral district in line with its neighbouring ridings.

To better balance the populations of the West Vancouver-Capilano and West Vancouver-Sea to Sky electoral districts, we propose extending the boundaries

IMAGE 18: STAWAMUS CHIEF MOUNTAIN SQUAMISH, B.C. CREDIT: TOM WHEATLEY. JUNE 8, 2022

TABLE 22: NORTH SHORE-SEA TO SKY-SUNSHINE COAST POPULATION, DEVIATION AND AREA
SOURCE: 2021 STATISTICS CANADA CENSUS COUNT

Electoral District	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
North Vancouver-Lonsdale	61,954	15.2%	22
North Vancouver-Seymour	61,855	15.0%	391
Powell River-Sunshine Coast	53,217	-1.0%	21,093
West Vancouver-Capilano	62,569	16.4%	81
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky	62,161	15.6%	11,698
Total/Average	301,765	12.2%	33,285

of West Vancouver-Capilano to include the neighbourhoods south of the Upper Levels Highway. This will reduce the population in the large, fast growing West Vancouver-Sea to Sky electoral district.

North Vancouver-Lonsdale

North Vancouver-Lonsdale includes the City of North Vancouver's urban core and the Lower Lonsdale and Norgate neighbourhoods. Its southern boundary is Burrard Inlet, and its northern boundary follows W 29th and E 25th Streets. Its eastern boundary is Highway 1 and the municipal boundary of the City of North Vancouver. In the west, its boundary follows the Lions Gate Bridge to the Capilano 5 Reserve north to Marine Drive.

North Vancouver-Seymour

This electoral district includes the communities of Lynn Valley, Dollarton, Deep Cove and the Tsleil-Waututh First Nation. It also includes North Lonsdale and the area east of Lynn Creek. Its

southern boundary is Burrard Inlet, and its northern boundary follows the Metro Vancouver Regional District. Its eastern border follows Indian Arm and Indian River. Its western border runs along the Trans-Canada Highway, Montroyal Boulevard, Mosquito Creek and the Capilano River.

Powell River-Sunshine Coast

This riding includes the communities of Gibsons, Sechelt, Lund, Powell River and Texada Island. Its boundaries follow the qathet Regional District in the south; the Sunshine Coast Regional District in the east; and the Strathcona Regional District in the north and west.

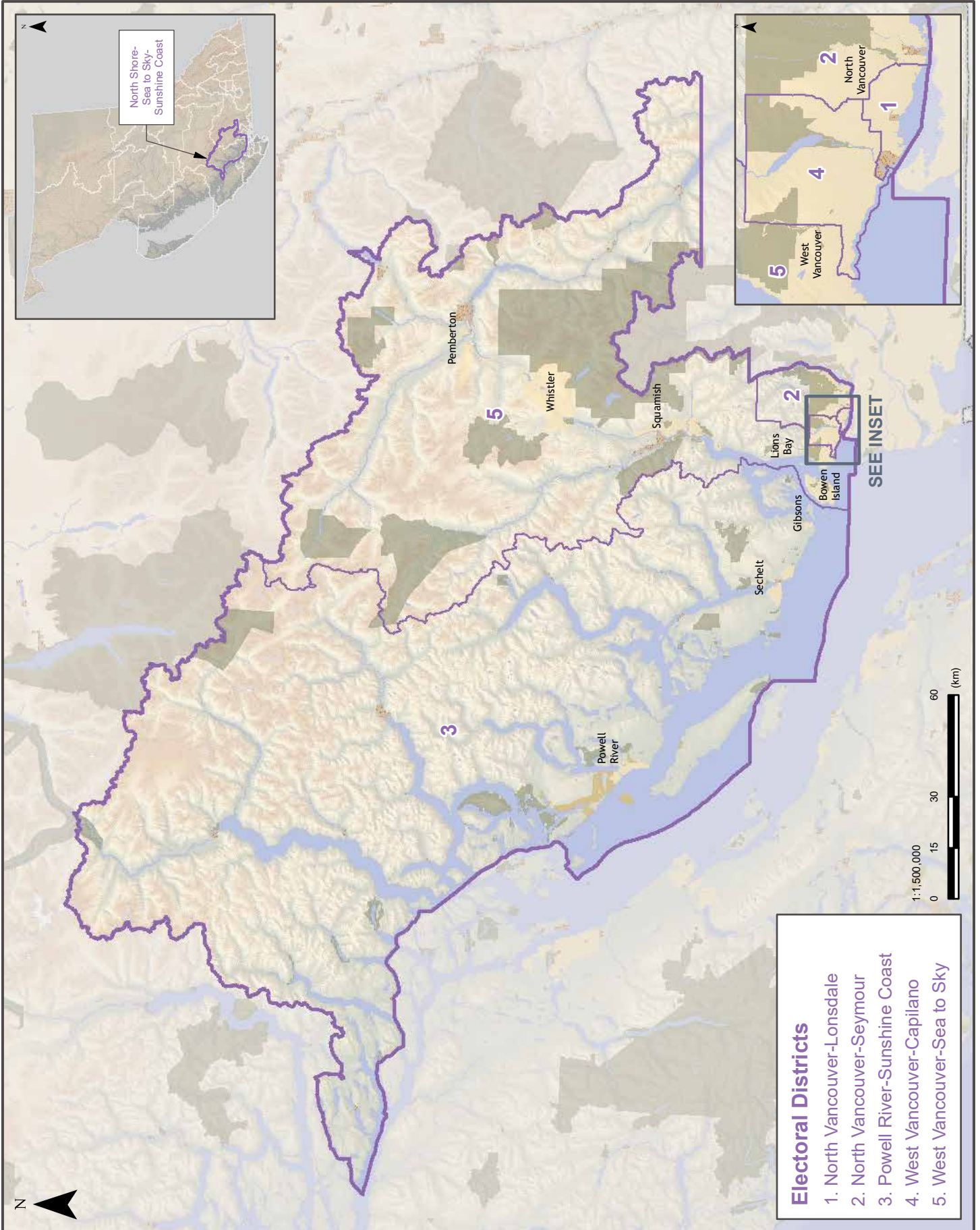
West Vancouver-Capilano

West Vancouver-Capilano consists of West Vancouver's city centre, Pemberton Heights, Ambleside, Park Royal, Dunderave, Sandy Cove and that part of Westmount south of the Upper Levels Highway. It follows the boundaries of the District of West Vancouver in the north and south.

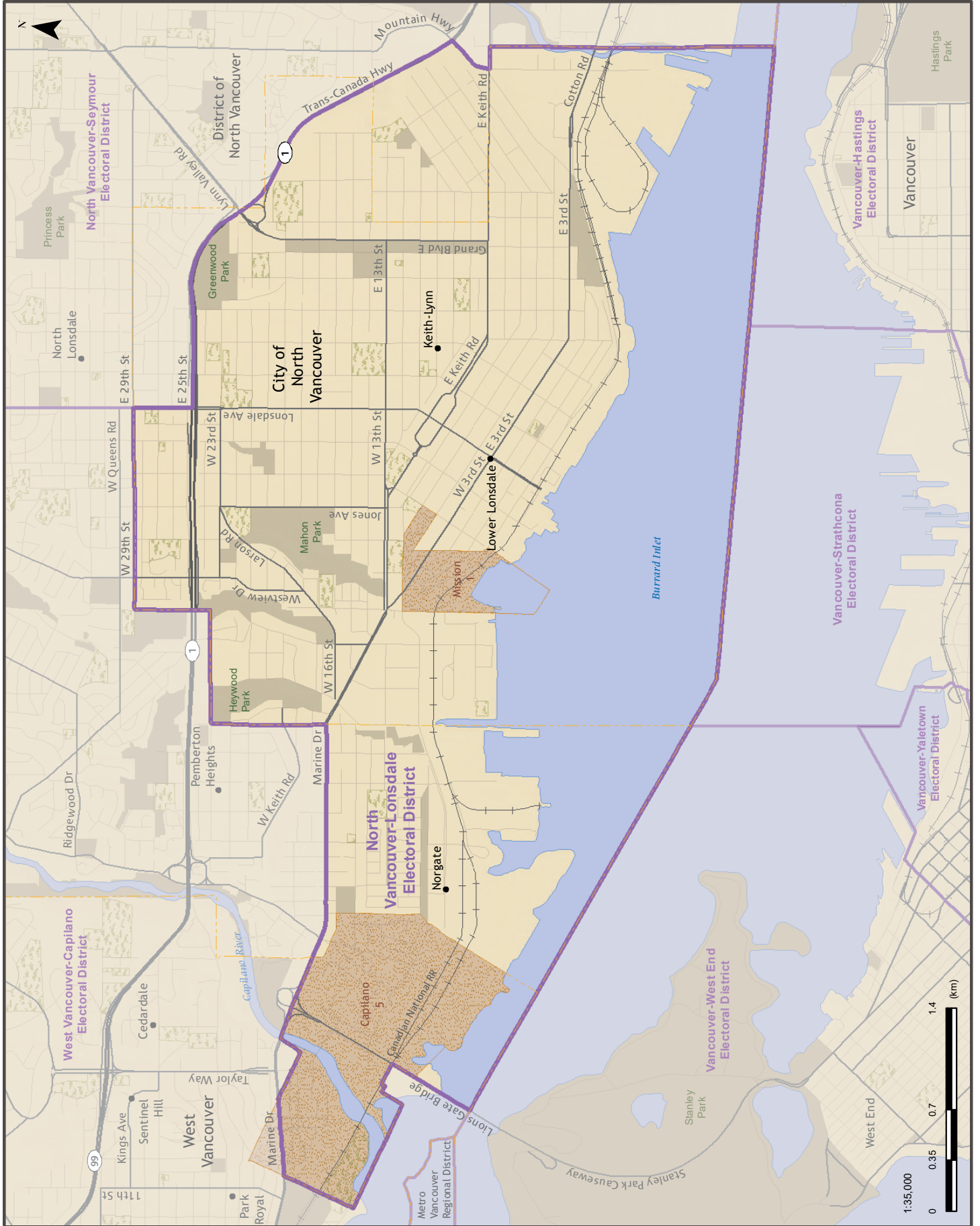
Its eastern boundary follows Mosquito Creek, Montroyal Boulevard and Lonsdale Avenue. Its western boundary follows Cypress and Rodgers Creeks.

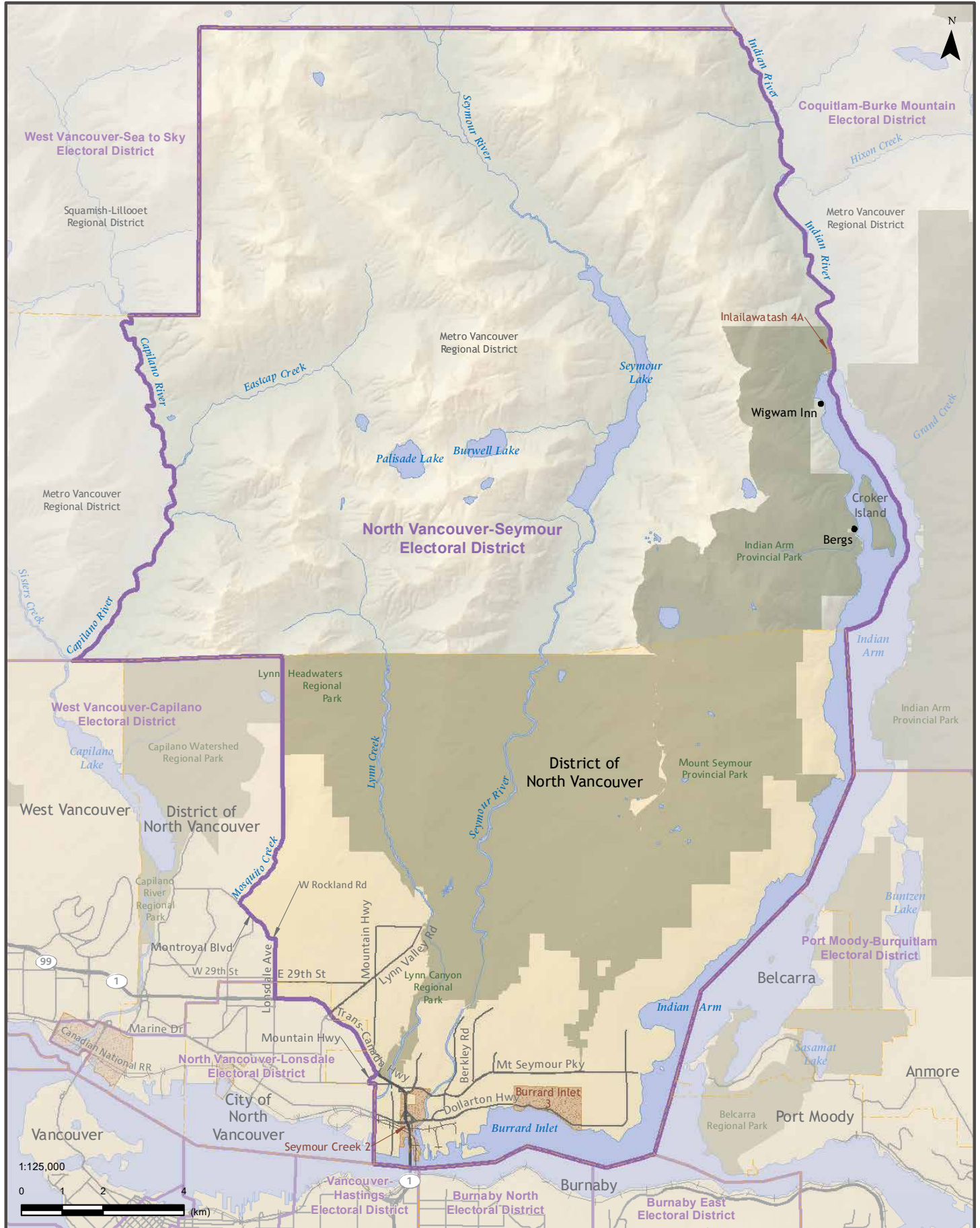
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky

West Vancouver-Sea to Sky includes the residential neighbourhoods of West Vancouver west of Cypress Creek, Bowen Island, Lions Bay, Squamish, Whistler and Pemberton. This riding's northern boundary follows Squamish-Lillooet Regional District Electoral Area C, and the western boundary follows Fraser Valley Regional District Electoral Area C. Its eastern boundary follows the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District and its southern boundary is Burrard Inlet and the Strait of Georgia.

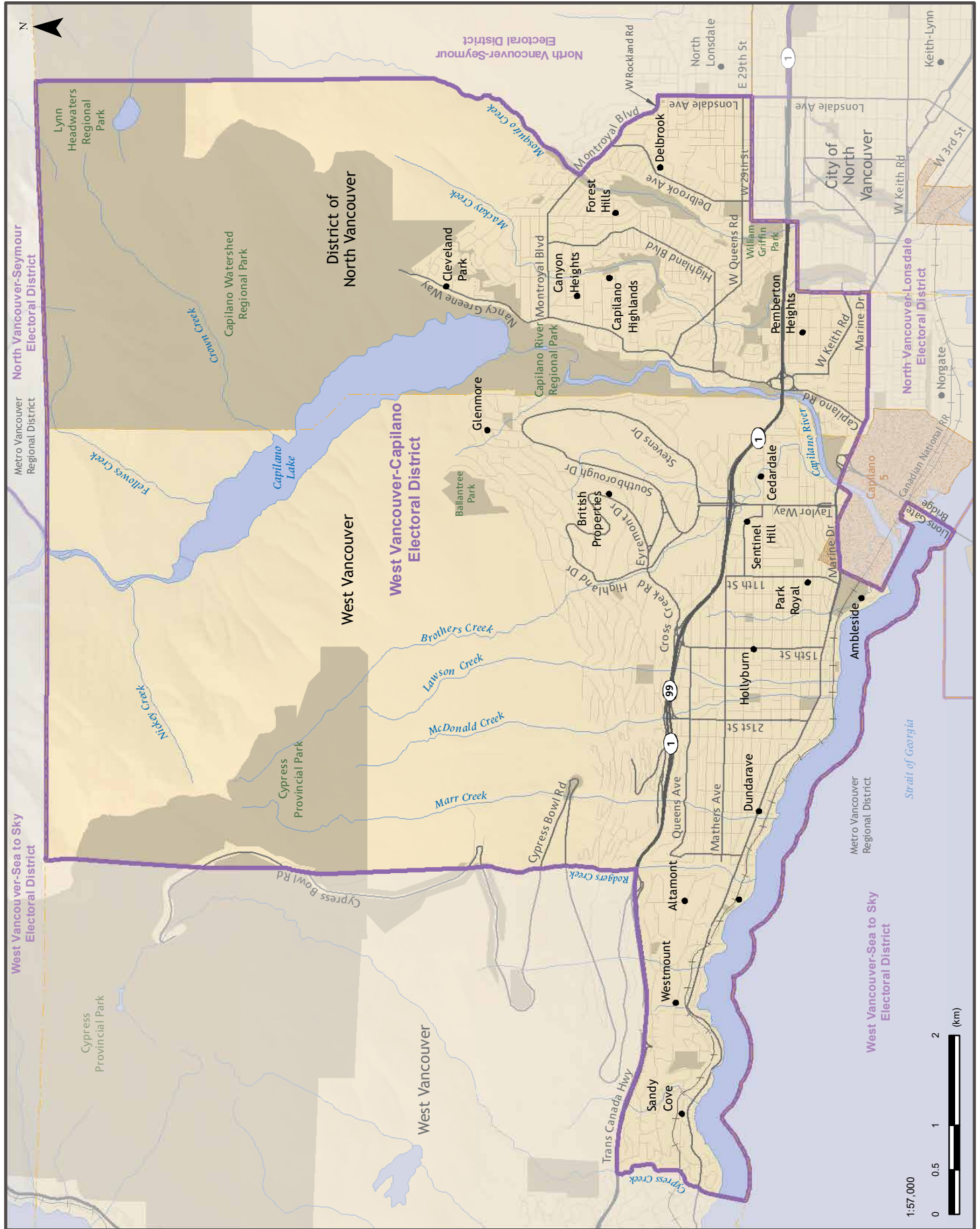


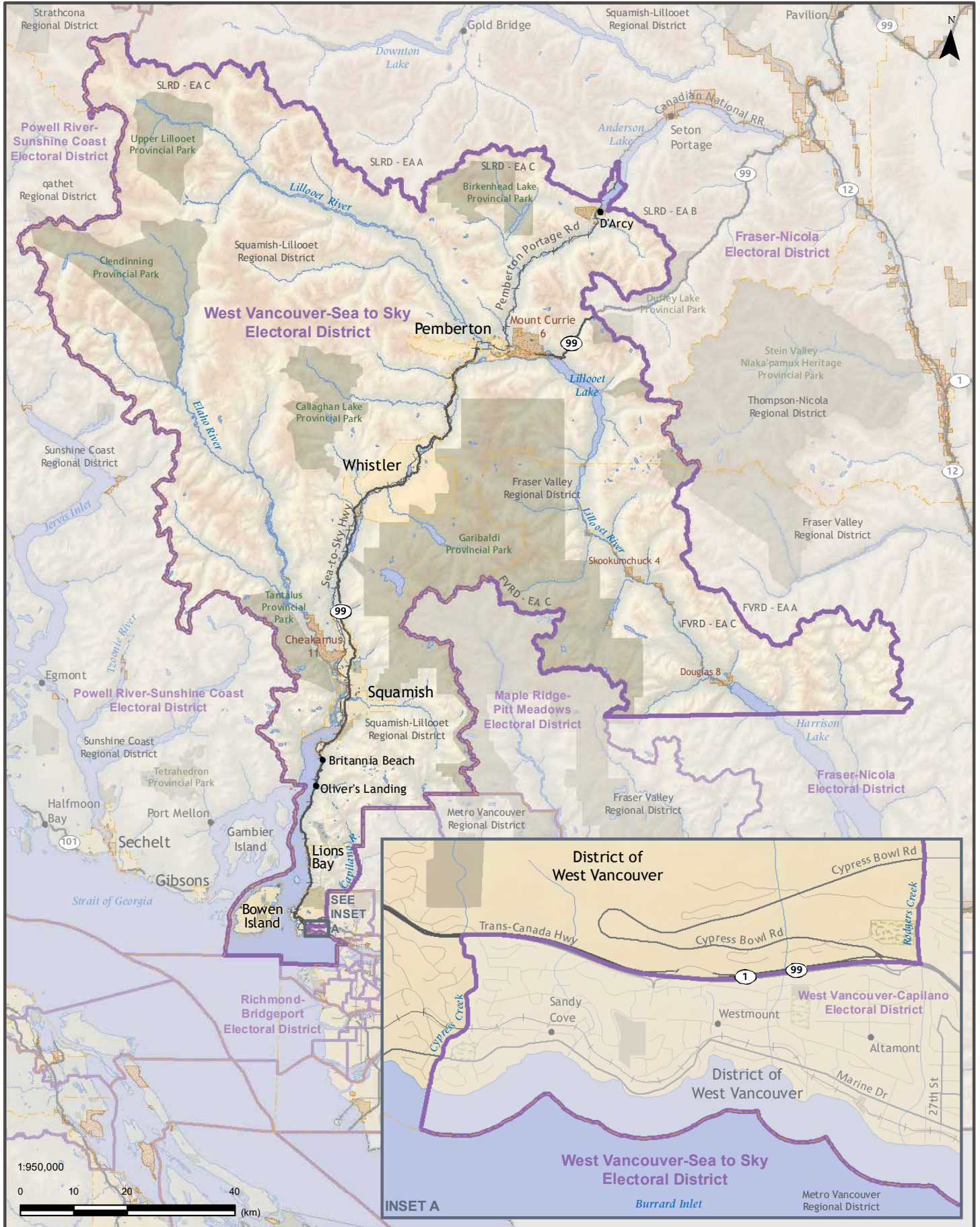
- Electoral Districts**
1. North Vancouver-Lonsdale
 2. North Vancouver-Seymour
 3. Powell River-Sunshine Coast
 4. West Vancouver-Capilano
 5. West Vancouver-Sea to Sky











06



Future Considerations

THE COMMISSION SUBMITTED ITS FINAL REPORT ON APRIL 3, 2023, MARKING THE END OF ITS PROCESS.

Considerations for the Legislative Assembly

Through the course of our work as a commission, a number of pertinent issues have arisen that we believe require further thought and consideration.

We will document some of these issues in our administrative report for the consideration of future commissions as they embark on their mandates. However, there are two issues that we believe would be better addressed by legislators. We respectfully raise and describe them below.

Incorporation of Indigenous Names in Electoral Districts

In 2019, British Columbia was the first jurisdiction in North America to adopt the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and, in 2022, unveiled a five-year action plan for upholding that declaration. The action plan is intended to ensure that the government can align its laws with UNDRIP through meaningful consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Peoples. The plan has four central themes: self-determination and the right of self-government; title and rights of Indigenous Peoples; ending Indigenous-specific racism; and social, cultural, and economic well-being. The plan also includes consulting on and developing a process for incorporating Indigenous names into municipalities and regional districts.

Our Act allows us to propose new names for B.C.'s electoral districts. During our public consultations we heard suggestions from some that specific Indigenous names should be included in electoral district names. We support this in principle, but believe that a naming initiative requires meaningful consultation with Indigenous Peoples that goes beyond the scope and time limits for our Commission.

Whether as part of the process for incorporating Indigenous names into municipalities and regional districts or separately, we hope that legislators will implement a process for incorporating Indigenous names in electoral districts.

Extension of Consultation Timeline

The legislated timeline for the completion of a Commission's mandate is 18 months: the preliminary report must be tabled with the Speaker within 12 months of the establishment of a Commission, and the subsequent final report must be tabled within six months following that date. Given that a Commission must form, hire staff, and plan its work, then dedicate sufficient time for deliberations and report development, the time available for public consultation is necessarily truncated.

For our Commission, the initial consultation phase was between the launch of our website on February 22, 2022, and May 31—just over three months. The second phase of public consultation was between the tabling of our preliminary report on October 3, 2022, and November 23—approximately seven weeks. Within these phases, we endeavoured to consult as broadly as possible with the public and other stakeholder; however, the relatively short duration limited our opportunities for engagement. Holiday periods and the difficulty of winter travel in some parts of the province also limited our consultations.

We believe that a longer legislated timeline for Commission work would support a more robust and meaningful consultation process. Bearing in mind the need for Elections BC to implement the boundary changes enacted by the legislature before a subsequent provincial election, we recommend legislators consider extending the duration of an electoral boundaries commission to 24 months. The establishment of the commission could begin eight months following the completion of each second provincial general election, instead of 12 months, to allow for this extended timeline.

07



Appendices

Appendix A: Changes From the Preliminary Report to Final Report

Chapter 5 of the final report sets out our final proposals for adding electoral districts, revising electoral district boundaries and changing electoral district names from what they presently are. However, for those who are interested in our process, this appendix explains the evolution of our proposals from preliminary to final reports.

After tabling our preliminary report to the Legislative Assembly on October 3, 2022, we asked members of the public and MLAs to comment on our recommendations. We also reviewed our preliminary recommendations ourselves to identify any concerns.

Starting in January 2023, we deliberated on the input we received to consider whether changes from the preliminary recommendations were warranted. We used the same guiding principles set out in Chapter 4 of our preliminary report. In addition, we decided not to recommend changes to our preliminary proposals unless the new change would be more closely aligned to our guiding principles. Where a proposed change would have significant impact on other electoral district boundaries, we were especially cautious, recognizing that some people affected by the proposed change would not have had a chance to comment on it.

Most of the input we received in our final consultations identified close ties between communities or neighbourhoods as the rationale for being in a single electoral district. We agree that this can be a way to enhance effective representation. However, drawing an electoral boundary between two communities does not necessarily reduce the effectiveness of representation. We were mindful that representation by population is as fundamental as effective representation, and therefore did not recommend changes that would create significant population differences between adjacent ridings.

The changes to electoral districts below are organized by the same areas used in our preliminary report. We highlight major changes between the preliminary report and the final report with subsections. Under the sub-heading “Other Issues,” we discuss changes that were suggested in our final consultations but which we decided not to propose.

Vancouver Island

Brentwood Bay

Our preliminary report proposed moving most of Brentwood Bay into Saanich South. The comments we received highlighted the cohesiveness of this community. To keep Brentwood Bay intact, we decided to include all of Brentwood Bay in the Saanich North

and the Islands riding. To balance the populations between these neighbouring electoral districts, we decided instead to move the Keating neighbourhood from Saanich North and the Islands into Saanich South.

Thetis, Penelakut and Valdez Islands

The preliminary report included Thetis, Penelakut and Valdez Islands in the Nanaimo-Ladysmith riding. We heard that Thetis and Penelakut access services through Chemainus, which is in the Cowichan Valley riding, and that Valdez has no public transportation links. That is why we propose including Thetis, Penelakut and Valdez Islands in Cowichan Valley.

City of Nanaimo

The preliminary report split the City of Nanaimo into three ridings. We heard that the boundaries in north Nanaimo were confusing. To address this, we adjusted the boundaries proposed in the preliminary report to create two Nanaimo electoral districts. Nanaimo-Gabriola contains the downtown core extending north to Departure Bay and includes Gabriola Island. Nanaimo-Lantzville (called Nanaimo-Ladysmith in the preliminary report) contains the rapidly expanding northern half of the city as well as the closely integrated District of Lantzville.

Oceanside, Ladysmith and Saltair

As a result of dividing Nanaimo into two ridings, with north Nanaimo neighbourhoods in one riding, we joined Oceanside, Ladysmith and Saltair in one electoral district.

Other Issues

During our final consultations, we heard proposals to move Cumberland into the riding of Courtenay-Comox; to split the proposed Juan de Fuca electoral district, separating the Malahat communities from the Juan de Fuca ones; and to include more of Langford-Highlands and Esquimalt-Colwood in Juan de Fuca. Upon review, we decided not to propose these changes because they did not better achieve our guiding principles than the proposals in the preliminary report.

Impact on Electoral District Names

We propose two changes to the riding names recommended in the preliminary report to better reflect the geographic areas the electoral districts represent:

Preliminary Report	Final Report
Nanaimo-Ladysmith	Nanaimo-Lantzville
Nanaimo-Oceanside	Ladysmith-Oceanside

The North

Having reviewed the preliminary report and the comments received, we propose no changes to the preliminary recommendations. Although it is possible to adopt different boundaries, these changes would not enhance effective representation. We remain convinced that the number and boundaries of the northern electoral districts are truly necessary for effective representation of these residents.

Impact on Electoral District Names

We have made one name change from those proposed in the preliminary report for the North region because it better reflects the geographic area that the electoral district represents:

Preliminary Report	Final Report
North Coast	North Coast-Haida Gwaii

Prince George and the Cariboo

College Heights

The preliminary report divided the College Heights neighbourhood between two electoral districts; however, we learned that our proposed boundary was confusing for College Heights residents. As we explored possible solutions, we affirmed the need to balance the populations of Prince George electoral districts. We also recognized that Stoner and Hixon are connected to communities in Prince George-North Cariboo by Highway 97, making it important that they remain in Prince George-North Cariboo. We revised our proposal to keep more of College Heights in Prince George-North Cariboo; however, we could not contain the entire neighbourhood in one riding without creating a significant population discrepancy between affected electoral districts. We also changed the proposed name of the Prince George-Cariboo electoral district to Prince George-North Cariboo to better distinguish it from Cariboo-Chilcotin.

Barriere, Clearwater and Neighbouring Communities

The preliminary report moved these communities from a Kamloops riding into a Cariboo riding. Residents pointed out that the North Thompson and Wells Grey Provincial Park share major transportation and service links with Kamloops. In our review, we noted that the transportation connection to the rest of the Cariboo riding would necessitate travel over a mountain pass on a secondary highway. We agreed this has a potential adverse impact on effective representation. That is why we propose including the communities of Barriere and Clearwater, along with their surrounding areas, in a Kamloops riding, and changing the name from Kamloops-North Shuswap to Kamloops-North Thompson.

Ashcroft and Cache Creek

Having moved Barriere and Clearwater into a Kamloops riding, we expanded the Cariboo-North Thompson electoral district south to include the communities of Cache Creek and Ashcroft. This is necessary to keep the riding's population within the usual deviation range. Cache Creek and Ashcroft share a major transportation corridor along Highway 97 with communities such as 100 Mile House and Williams Lake. This change also reduces the geographic size of the Fraser-Nicola electoral district. The changes in this area improve effective representation for residents of all affected communities.

Impact on Electoral District Names

We propose two name changes from those in the preliminary report to better reflect the geographic area the Prince George and Cariboo districts represent:

Preliminary Report	Final Report
Cariboo-North Thompson	Cariboo-Chilcotin
Prince George-Cariboo	Prince George-North Cariboo

The Kootenays

Brouse

The preliminary report proposed locating the community of Brouse in the Kootenay West electoral district. Upon review, we agreed that the close relationship between Brouse and the Village of Nakusp justifies placing Brouse in the same riding as Nakusp, which is Kootenay Central. This enhances effective representation for Brouse residents without negative impact on the Kootenay West electoral district.

Christina Lake Area

The preliminary report proposed locating Christina Lake in Kootenay West. We heard about the strong ties between Christina Lake and Grand Forks, and the transportation challenges Christina Lake residents would face in accessing a Kootenay West MLA. In our review, we also recognized that Christina Lake and Grand Forks share an administrative boundary. For these reasons, our final report keeps Christina Lake in Boundary-Similkameen, the same riding as Grand Forks. Although our decision requires further changes in the Monashee area, as discussed below, we believe that all of these changes enhance effective representation without compromising representation by population.

Monashee Mountains East to Cherryville

Our preliminary report included Cherryville in the Vernon-Monashee electoral district. As a result of moving Christina Lake into Boundary-Similkameen, the population of Kootenay West fell below the usual deviation range. We decided to address this by adding to Kootenay West the Monashee Mountains area extending east to Cherryville. We considered that this promotes effective representation because Cherryville shares a transportation corridor with other Upper Arrow Lakes communities (Fauquier and Burton) via Highway 6.

Other Issues

We heard from Cranbrook residents that our preliminary proposed electoral boundary should not follow the municipal border of Cranbrook because that divides people who live in the city’s outskirts from their main service centre. While we made minor adjustments to simplify the boundary between Kootenay Central and Columbia River-Revelstoke, we decided not to propose significant changes suggested because they would decrease the population of Columbia River-Revelstoke below the lower limit of the usual deviation range.

We also heard concerns about splitting north and south Slocan Valley communities between two electoral districts along the Highway 6 corridor. People told us that these communities participate in joint regional initiatives and our preliminary proposal would require elected representatives to drive through one electoral district to reach another. We saw merit in these concerns but did not propose changes because the sparse population of the ridings in this area meant that change would compromise the principle of representation by population.

Impact on Electoral District Names

We propose two name changes from the preliminary report to better reflect the geographic area these ridings represent:

Preliminary Report	Final Report
Kootenay East	Kootenay-Rockies
Kootenay West	Kootenay-Monashee

The Interior

Barriere, Clearwater and Wells Grey Provincial Park

As noted in the previous section on Prince George and the Cariboo, in our final report, we moved these areas out of a Cariboo riding and into Kamloops-North Thompson.

North Shuswap Communities

To address the increased population in Kamloops-North Thompson resulting from the addition of Barriere and Clearwater, we moved the north Shuswap communities around Seymour Arm into the riding of Salmon Arm-Shuswap. This change from the preliminary report unites Shuswap communities in one electoral district and better balances populations between affected ridings.

Vernon, Lumby, Coldstream and Monashee

We heard concerns that the preliminary report split the City of Vernon between three electoral districts. We agree that a municipality of approximately 45,000 people should not be so divided. However, addressing that problem was challenging because of rapid growth in Vernon and its mixture of urban, suburban and rural neighbourhoods.

We adjusted the boundaries so that the City of Vernon is in one electoral district. Doing that required further changes to keep neighbouring electoral districts within the usual deviation range. Although we recognized that Coldstream and Greater Vernon are closely tied, their combined populations are too large for a single electoral district. We believe it is important for all of Coldstream to be in one riding. After extended deliberations, we proposed combining Coldstream with Kelowna-Lake Country and changing the riding name to Kelowna-Lake Country-Coldstream.

As noted in the previous section on the Kootenays, we moved the Monashee area including Cherryville out of the Vernon-Lumby electoral district (called Vernon-Monashee in the preliminary report). Doing so better balances the populations of area ridings and divides fewer communities.

Kelowna Centre and Kelowna-Lake Country

We adjusted the boundary between Kelowna Centre and Kelowna-Lake Country proposed in the preliminary report, recognizing that John Hindle Drive is a clearer northern boundary for Kelowna Centre. Having learned that a significant development is planned for McKinley Landing Ridge, we moved the boundary north to McKinley Road, following a natural area into Lake Okanagan. This provides a better boundary from the lake and improves the division of Kelowna's component neighbourhoods.

Other Issues

We reviewed input about other areas in the Interior but concluded that the changes proposed did not better align with our guiding principles. We deliberated at length about the two following proposals.

We heard that the Okanagan Indian Band reserve (Okanagan 1) community is more closely connected to Vernon than to communities in Salmon Arm-Shuswap, their current electoral district. However, we noted that other Okanagan Indian Band reserves are located in Salmon Arm-Shuswap. Moving this reserve into Vernon-Lumby would have significantly increased the population of that electoral district, compounding the challenges of adjusting boundaries there. We did not see that effective representation for residents of this reserve would be compromised by remaining in the Salmon Arm-Shuswap electoral district, so did not propose this change.

We received more input advocating that Big White should be included in a Kelowna riding. Some stressed Big White's economic and service ties to Kelowna, while others said many Big White property owners have a principal residence in Kelowna. We agree that Big White's access to hospitals and other services in Kelowna is relevant to effective representation but the location of a secondary residence is not. As Big White is part of the Kootenay Boundary Regional District, it has administrative ties to its current electoral district of Boundary-Similkameen. In light of that, we were not convinced that moving Big White into a Kelowna riding would provide more effective representation.

Impact on Electoral District Names

We propose name changes to three electoral districts from those recommended in the preliminary report to better reflect the geographic areas they represent:

Preliminary Report	Final Report
Kamloops-North Shuswap	Kamloops-North Thompson
Kelowna-Lake Country	Kelowna-Lake Country-Coldstream
Vernon-Monashee	Vernon-Lumby

Fraser Valley-Langley-Maple Ridge

Durieu, Dewdney, Deroche, Lake Errock and Harrison Mills

The preliminary report recommended that the communities of Durieu, Dewdney, Deroche, Lake Errock and Harrison Mills, which are located on the north bank of the Fraser River, be included in the Chilliwack North riding, along with communities south of the Fraser River. We heard that these North Fraser communities have limited service connections and transportation links with the communities in the rest of the Chilliwack North riding. Recognizing that, as well as the adverse impact on population of moving Ashcroft and Cache Creek out of Fraser-Nicola, we adjusted the boundaries of Fraser-Nicola to include these North Fraser communities.

Popkum and Yarrow

In our final deliberations we adjusted the boundaries of the two Chilliwack ridings that we had initially proposed, moving Yarrow into Chilliwack-Cultus Lake, and Popkum into Chilliwack North. This change both better reflects the community boundaries in the area and better balances the populations.

Abbotsford

We made two small adjustments between the Abbotsford ridings from the proposal in the preliminary report. First, we moved the Sumas Mountain neighbourhood from Abbotsford-Mission into Abbotsford South. This change better balances the populations of the ridings, keeping projected growth in mind while respecting the boundaries of Abbotsford's neighbourhoods. Second, we adjusted the boundary between Abbotsford-Mission and Abbotsford-West to follow Old Clayburn Road east, and then south on McMillan Road to Old Yale Road.

Langley

The preliminary report recommended adding an electoral district in the Langley area. We heard a number of suggestions about how we could better locate the new boundaries. We reviewed these comments along with neighbourhood definitions in Langley's Official Community Plans and growth projections. As a result, we propose the following three Langley ridings: Langley-Willowbrook, called Langley-Murrayville in the preliminary report, includes the City of Langley and the dense urban neighbourhoods immediately to the city's north; Langley-Abbotsford, called Langley-Aldergrove in the preliminary report, includes the more rural parts of Langley Township, including Murrayville, Aldergrove, and western most part of Abbotsford; and Langley-Walnut Grove, called Langley-Willoughby in the preliminary report, includes Walnut Grove, Willoughby and Fort Langley.

Other Issues

Some people disagreed with our preliminary proposal and suggested that Agassiz, Kent and Harrison Hot Springs should remain in a Chilliwack electoral district. After further review, we remained convinced that our original rationale, which was that these North of the Fraser communities are connected to the rest of Fraser-Nicola by Highway 7, is justified.

Impact on Electoral District names

We propose three name changes to those proposed in the preliminary report to more accurately reflect their constituent communities:

Preliminary Report

Final Report

Langley-Aldergrove

Langley-Abbotsford

Langley-Murrayville

Langley-Willowbrook

Langley-Willoughby

Langley-Walnut Grove

Burnaby-New Westminster-Tri-Cities

New Westminster

People expressed concern that the preliminary report proposed to divide the City of New Westminster among five ridings, diluting the effectiveness of representation for residents of this city of 79,000. After deliberation, we reduced the number of New Westminster ridings to three. We did so by moving the New Westminster neighbourhood of Connaught Heights out of Burnaby South and Victory Heights out of Burnaby East and including them both in Burnaby-New Westminster. The three New Westminster ridings are Burnaby-New Westminster, New Westminster-Coquitlam and Richmond-Queensborough.

Port Moody, Westwood Plateau, Burquitlam and Maillardville

We heard that the boundaries proposed in the preliminary report for these areas did not respect neighbourhood and subdivision boundaries. We examined our initial proposal more closely and adjusted them so that Burquitlam and Port Moody are in the same riding, changing the riding's name from Port Moody-Westwood Plateau (as proposed in the preliminary report) to Port Moody-Burquitlam. We decided that Westwood Plateau is a good fit in its present riding, Coquitlam-Burke Mountain, and no longer propose to change it.

We received feedback that Maillardville should not be included in a New Westminster riding because of its historic ties to Coquitlam. In light of that we decided to move Maillardville back into a Coquitlam riding, reuniting it with Austin Heights. We also changed the name of this riding to Coquitlam-Maillardville instead of Coquitlam-Mundy Park, which we had proposed in the preliminary report. In order to maintain balanced populations between adjacent ridings, we moved the Cariboo neighbourhood out of Coquitlam and into the New Westminster-Coquitlam electoral district.

Impact on Electoral District Names

We propose three name changes from those proposed in the preliminary report to better reflect their constituent communities:

Preliminary Report

Final Report

New Westminster-Maillardville

New Westminster-Coquitlam

Coquitlam-Mundy Park

Coquitlam-Maillardville

Port Moody-Westwood Plateau

Port Moody-Burquitlam

Surrey

Cloverdale

Comments made during our final consultations helped us better understand the boundaries of the historical community of Cloverdale, which our preliminary report had divided between two electoral districts. With a population of approximately 76,000, Cloverdale is too large for a single electoral district. However, we adjusted the proposed riding boundaries so that East Cloverdale and Cloverdale city centre are in one riding and made consequential adjustments for other Surrey electoral districts to ensure that district populations remain balanced.

Other Surrey Ridings

As noted above, we adjusted the boundary between the Surrey Central and Surrey South ridings to follow the 56th Avenue, creating a more logical boundary. We also adjusted the boundary between Surrey Central and Surrey-Fleetwood to follow Mahoud Creek, and the boundary between Surrey Central and Surrey-Newton to follow Bear Creek.

Other Issues

We received mixed views about whether Panorama Ridge should be moved from the Surrey South electoral district into the Surrey-Panorama riding, and whether Fleetwood Park should be moved from Surrey Central into Surrey-Fleetwood. Having reviewed these possible changes, we concluded that the high concentration of people in these Surrey electoral districts meant that such changes would create significant disparities in the populations of adjacent ridings.

Impact on Electoral District Names

We propose two name changes from those recommended in the preliminary report. We changed Surrey Central to Surrey-Serpentine River to reduce the confusion between this riding and the Surrey City Centre electoral district. The name Surrey-Cloverdale acknowledges the historical community of Cloverdale.

Preliminary Report

Surrey Central

Surrey East

Final Report

Surrey-Serpentine River

Surrey-Cloverdale

Richmond-Delta

We decided to propose minor changes from the preliminary proposals for this area's electoral districts to better align with the City of Richmond's Official Community Plan and follow more arterial roads.

Other Issues

Following the preliminary report, people told us that the Delta neighbourhoods south of Kittson Parkway should not be moved from Delta South into Delta North. We confirmed our preliminary proposal as necessary to balance the populations of these two ridings.

Impact on Electoral District Names

We propose no changes to those recommended in the preliminary report for the Richmond-Delta area.

Vancouver

Marpole

People expressed concern that our preliminary report divides the historic community of Marpole between two ridings. Marpole is one of Vancouver's oldest communities and the City has developed a Marpole Community Plan. In light of this, we adjusted the boundary between Vancouver-Quilchena and Vancouver-Langara to run along 57th Avenue and Angus Drive. That means the historic centre of Marpole is entirely in Vancouver-Langara.

Dunbar

We adjusted the recommendation in the preliminary report and moved Dunbar south of 16th Avenue out of Vancouver-Point Grey and into Vancouver-Quilchena, recognizing that the population of the latter is growing slower than the former. This change better balances the populations of these ridings following the removal of some of Marpole from Vancouver-Quilchena.

Shaughnessy

We also adjusted the preliminary report recommendation for this riding by moving most of Shaughnessy into Vancouver-Quilchena to maintain a more even distribution

of population between west side area ridings, again recognizing Vancouver-Quilchena's slower projected growth.

Oakridge

The Oakridge area redevelopment is underway and projected to significantly increase the population of this neighbourhood. Upon review of our preliminary proposal, we considered that the impact of this anticipated growth would be greater than we had initially thought. We therefore moved Oakridge from Vancouver-Langara into Vancouver-Little Mountain. We also made minor adjustments to the boundary between Vancouver-Langara and Vancouver-Kensington.

Other Issues

Following the preliminary report, we heard mixed views about whether Olympic Village has closer ties to South False Creek or Yaletown. Moving Olympic Village into Yaletown would require dividing other neighbourhoods such as Chinatown and the Downtown Eastside. We were not convinced that such a change would improve effective representation. We also considered suggestions to extend the eastern boundary of Vancouver-Point Grey into the western part of Vancouver-South Granville, but decided not to do so because the population density in this area would have resulted in adjacent ridings with markedly different populations.

Having heard concerns that our preliminary recommendations divided the Punjabi Market, we reviewed the boundary between Vancouver-Kensington and Vancouver-Langara. While the northern boundary of the Punjabi Market in the City of Vancouver and Sunset Community Plans runs along E 48th Avenue, our proposed boundary follows E 49th Avenue. We decided that we could not move the boundary any further north because it would create a significant population discrepancy between adjacent ridings.

Impact on Electoral District Names

We propose one name change for the Vancouver area in response to feedback that we received:

Preliminary Report

Vancouver-Trout Lake

Final Report

Vancouver-Renfrew

North Shore-Sea to Sky-Sunshine Coast

We did not make any changes to the proposed boundaries or electoral district names in the preliminary report for this area.

We received input suggesting that West Vancouver should have its own riding because it faces different issues than the Sea to Sky corridor. Some suggested that the Sea to Sky corridor should start at Lions Bay and that Bowen Island should move into the Powell River-Sunshine Coast riding. We examined different options for this area and determined that, because the only transportation link between Bowen Island and the mainland is through West Vancouver, Bowen Island should remain in a West Vancouver riding.

Appendix B: Current and Proposed Area Map Comparisons

Side-by-side comparisons begin on next page

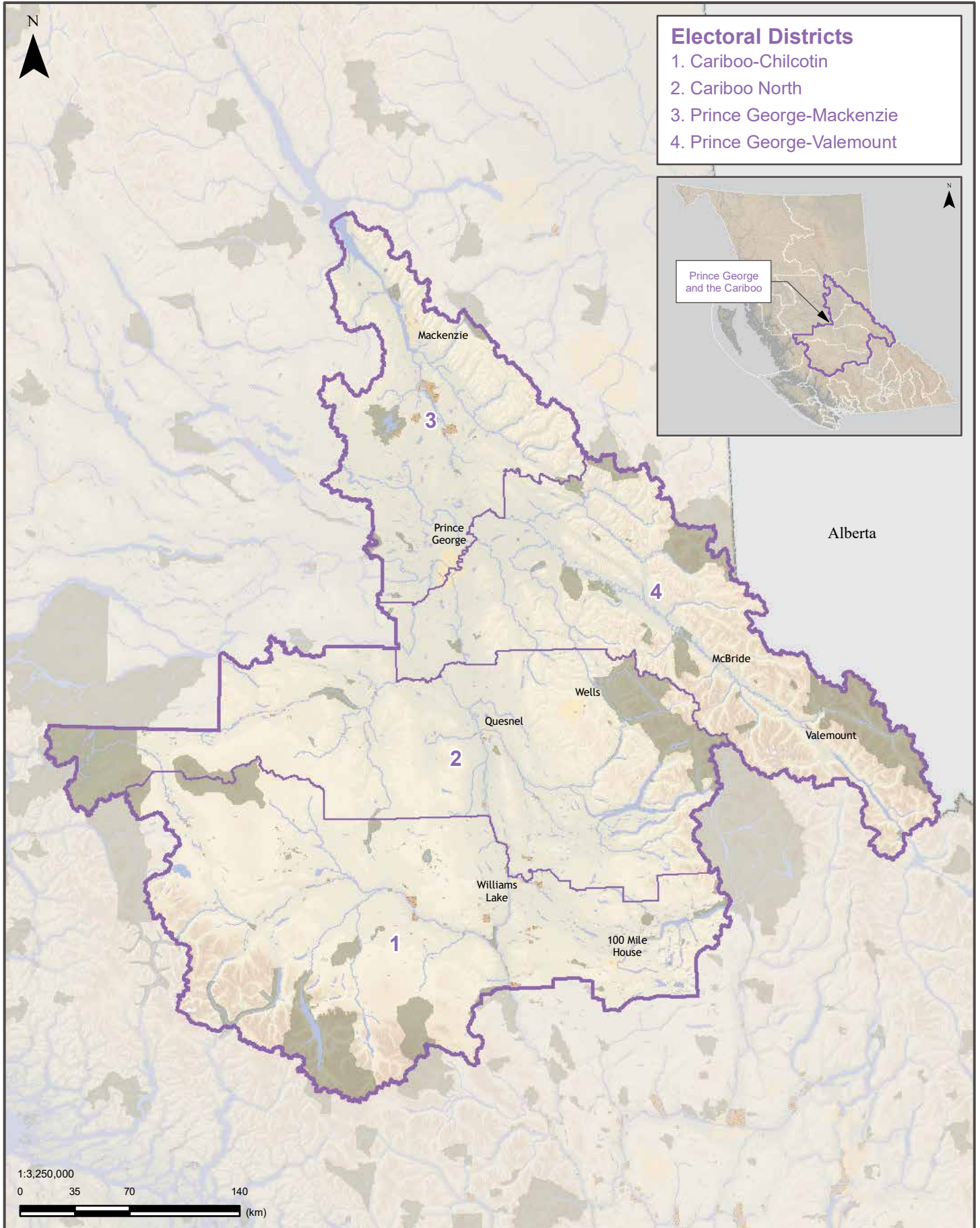


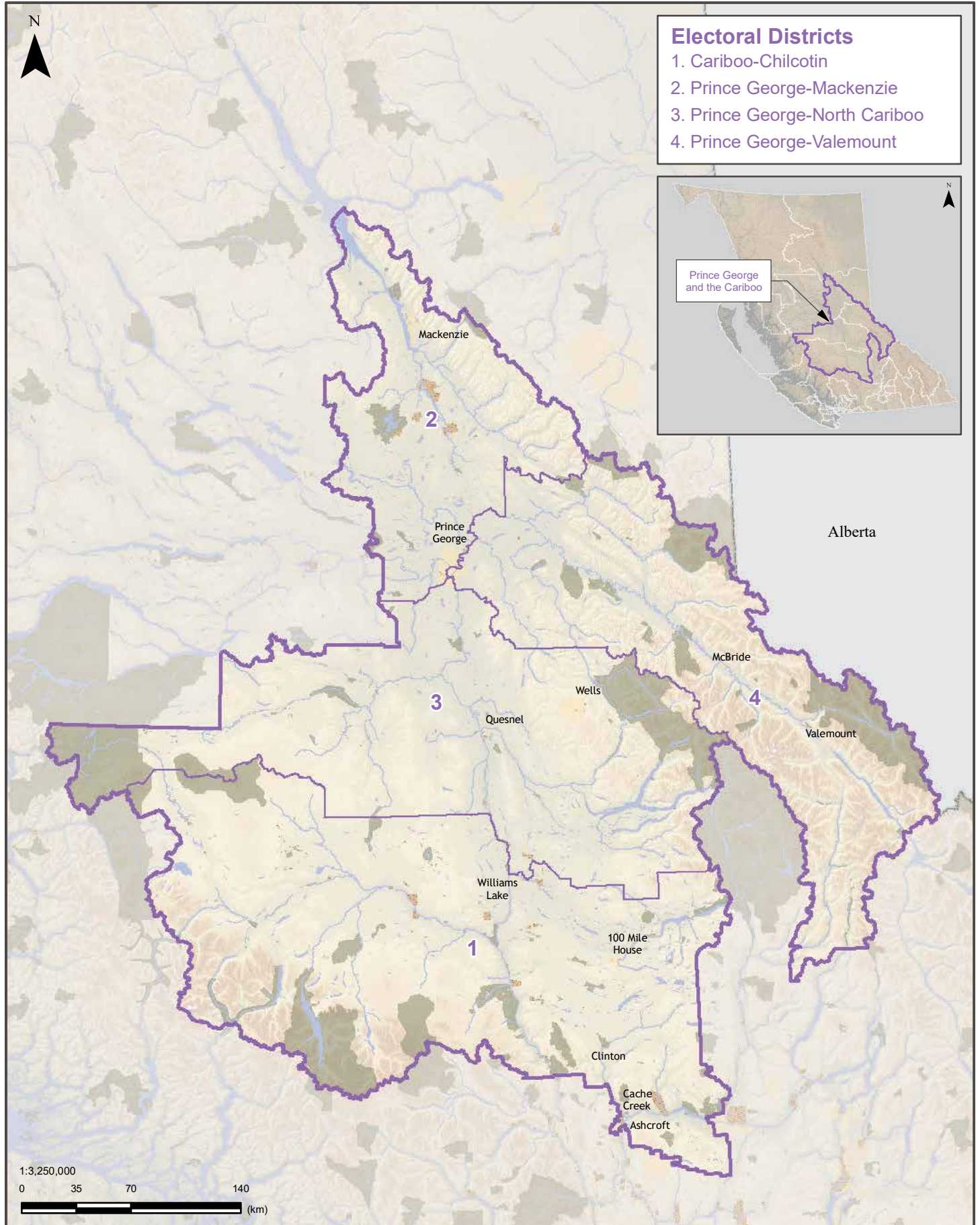


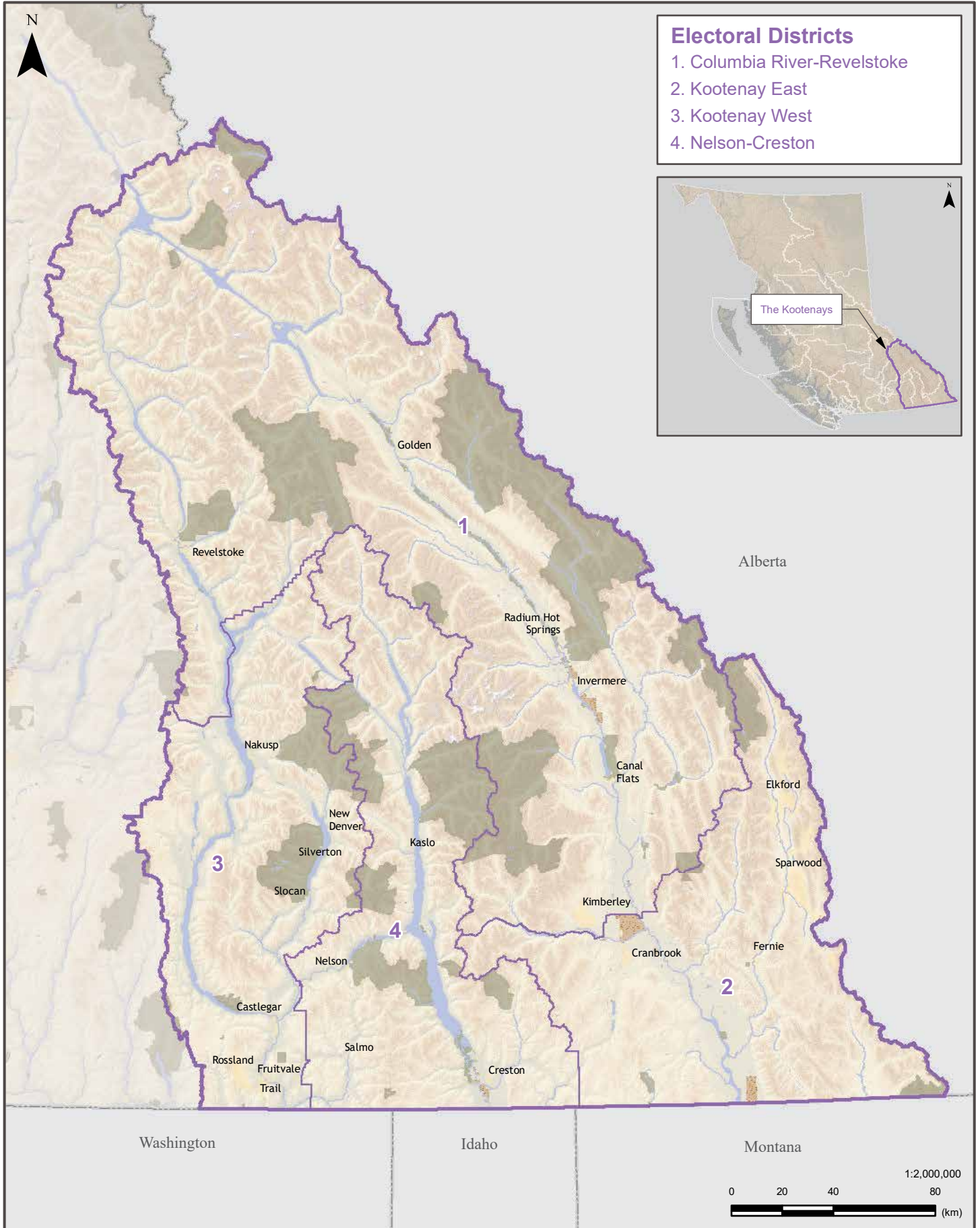


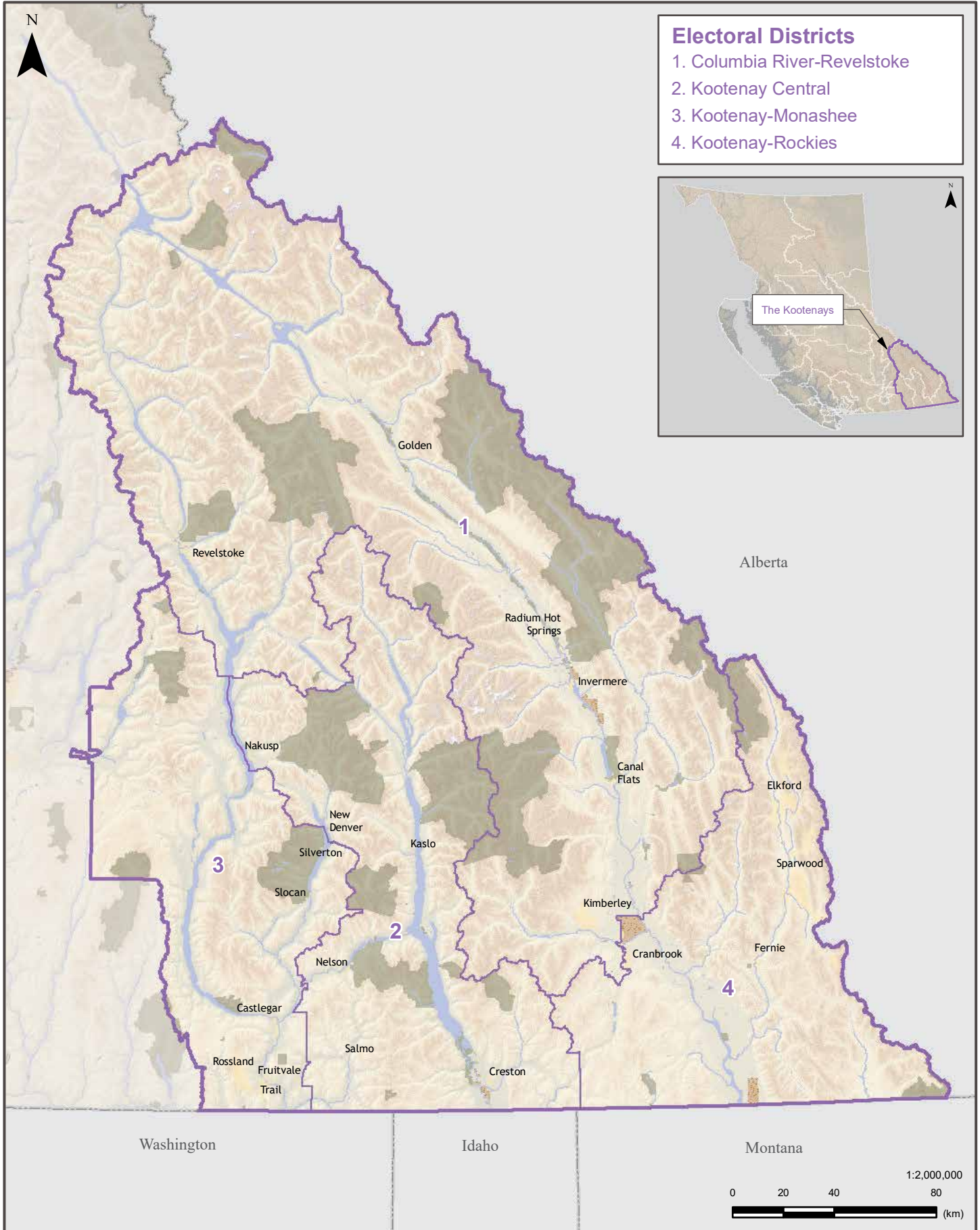
- Electoral Districts**
- 1. Nechako Lakes
 - 2. North Coast
 - 3. Peace River North
 - 4. Peace River South
 - 5. Skeena
 - 6. Stikine

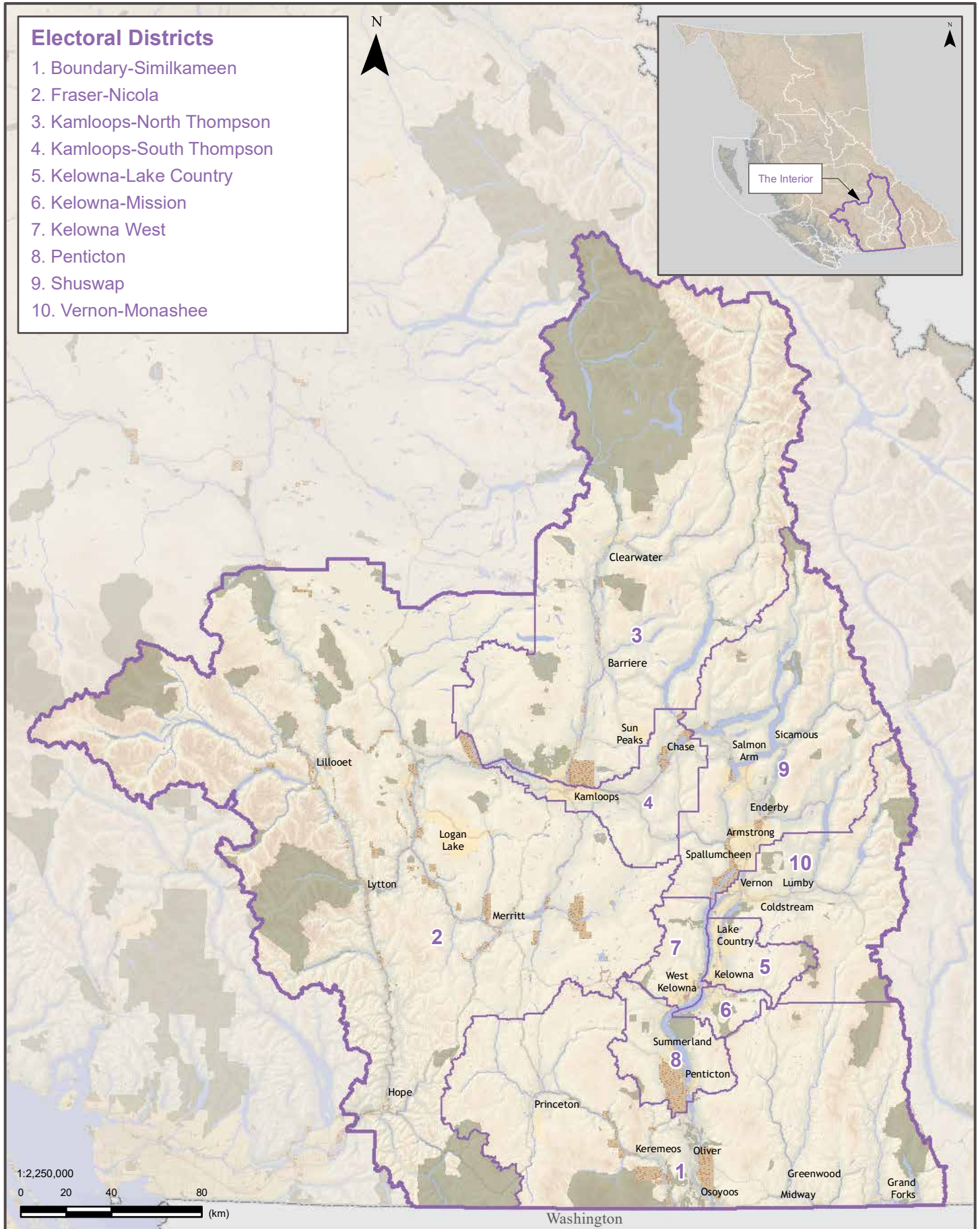


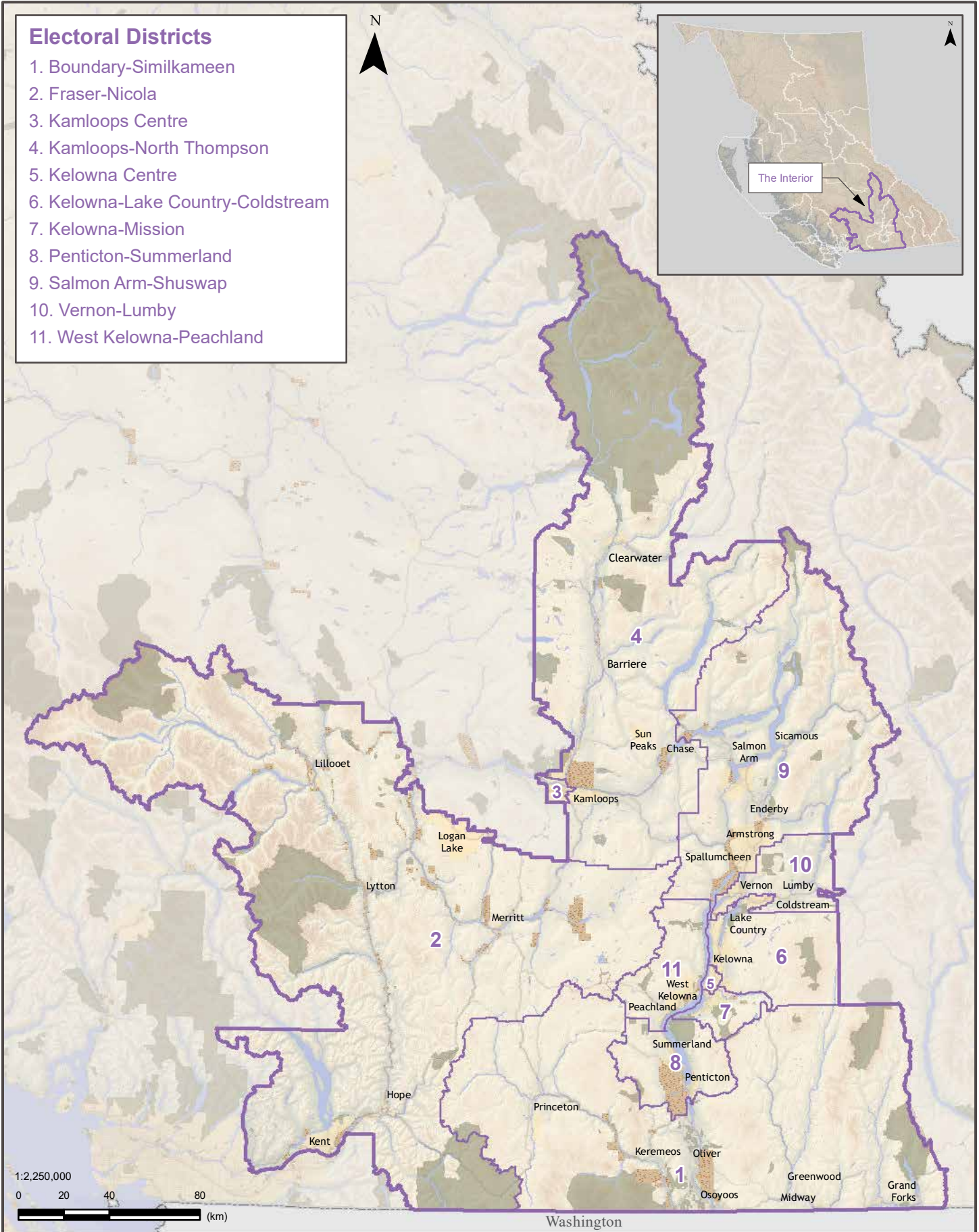


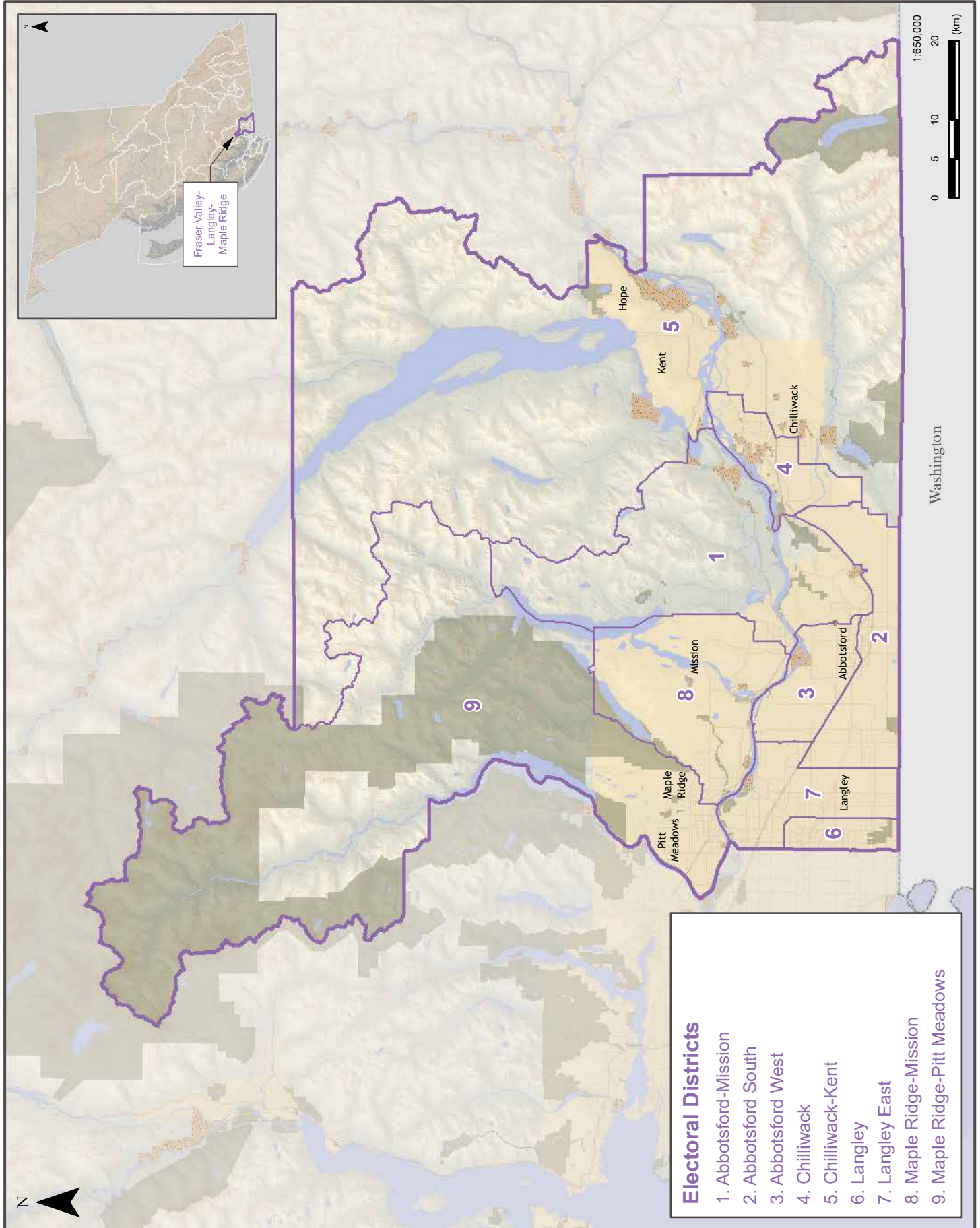


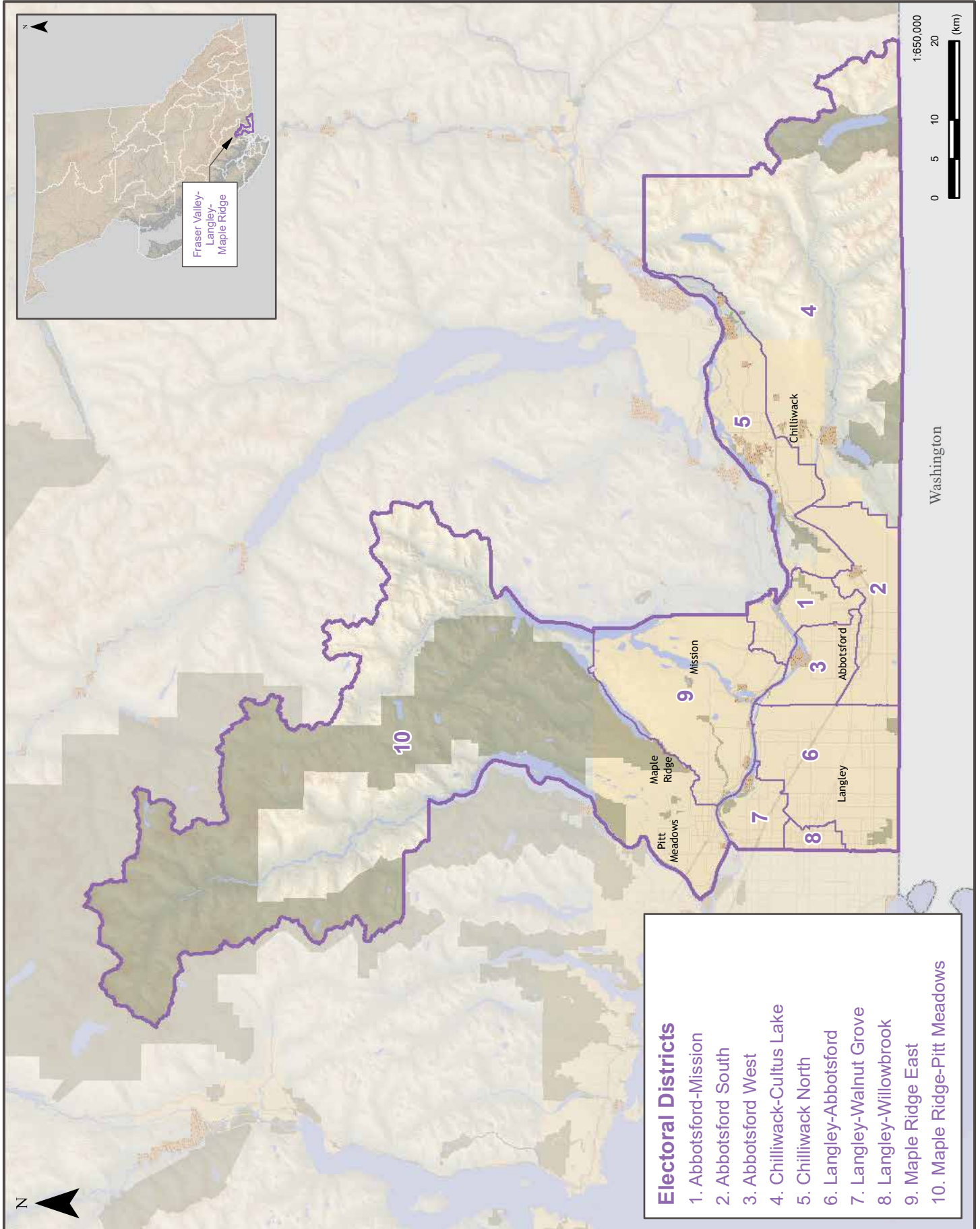


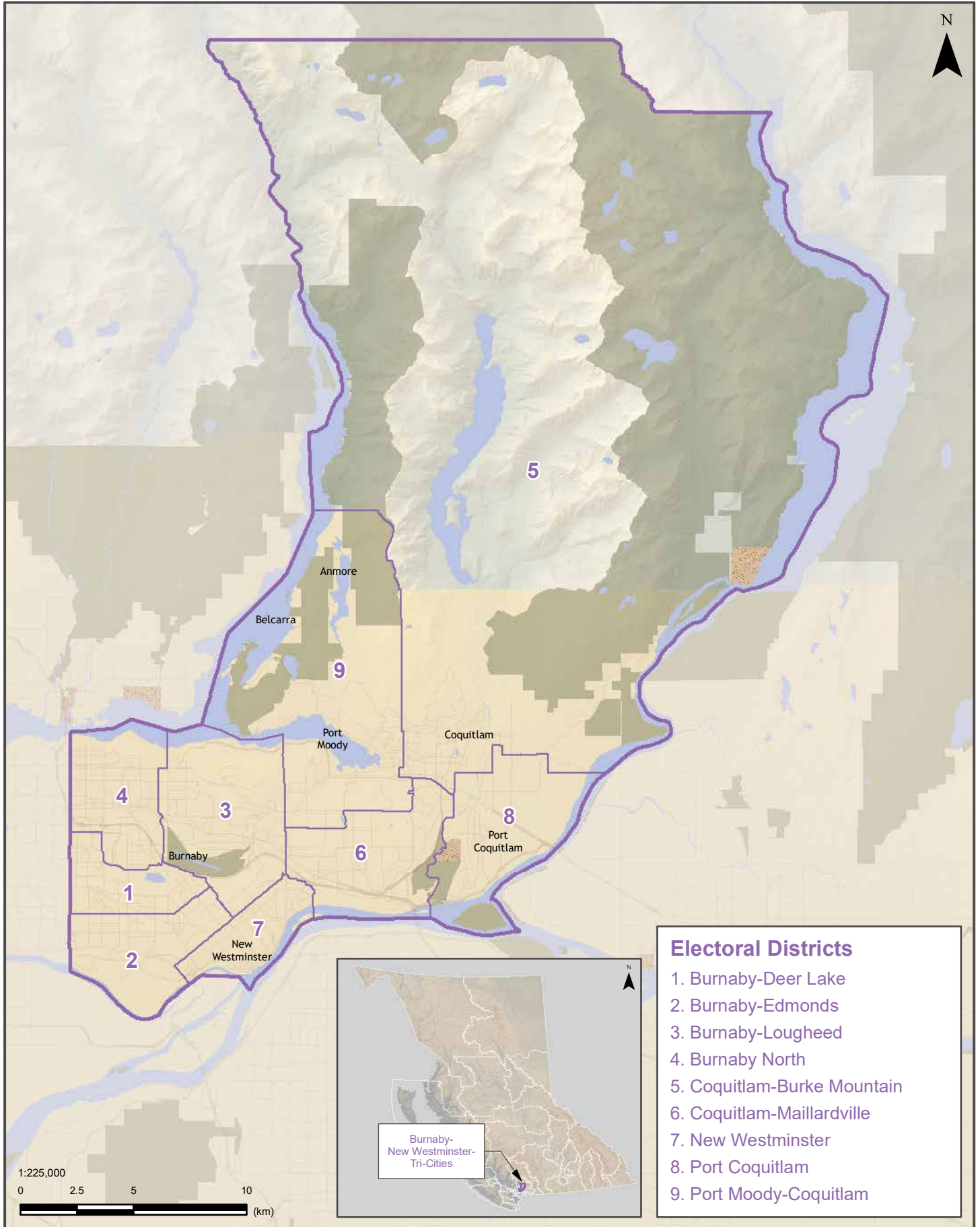


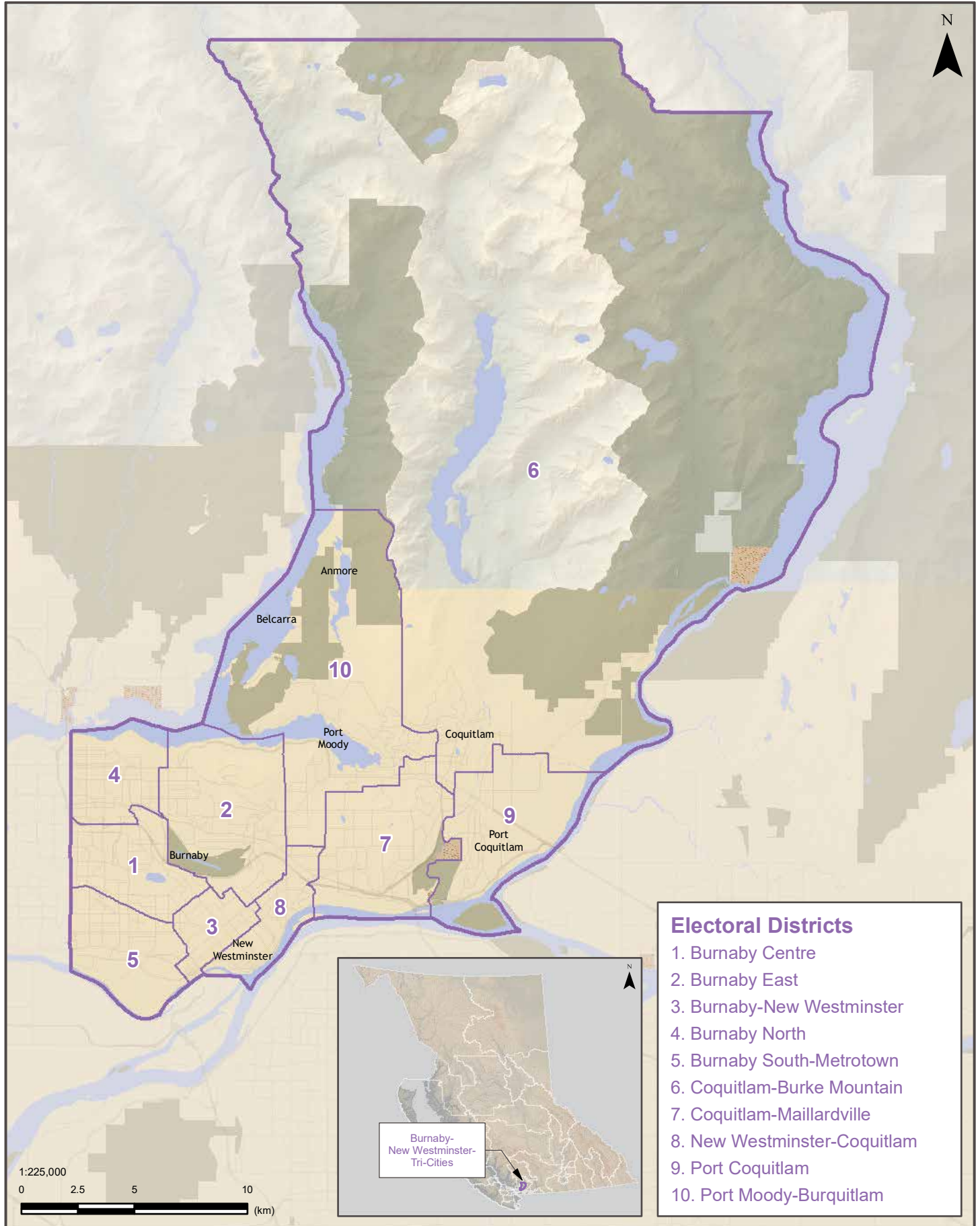


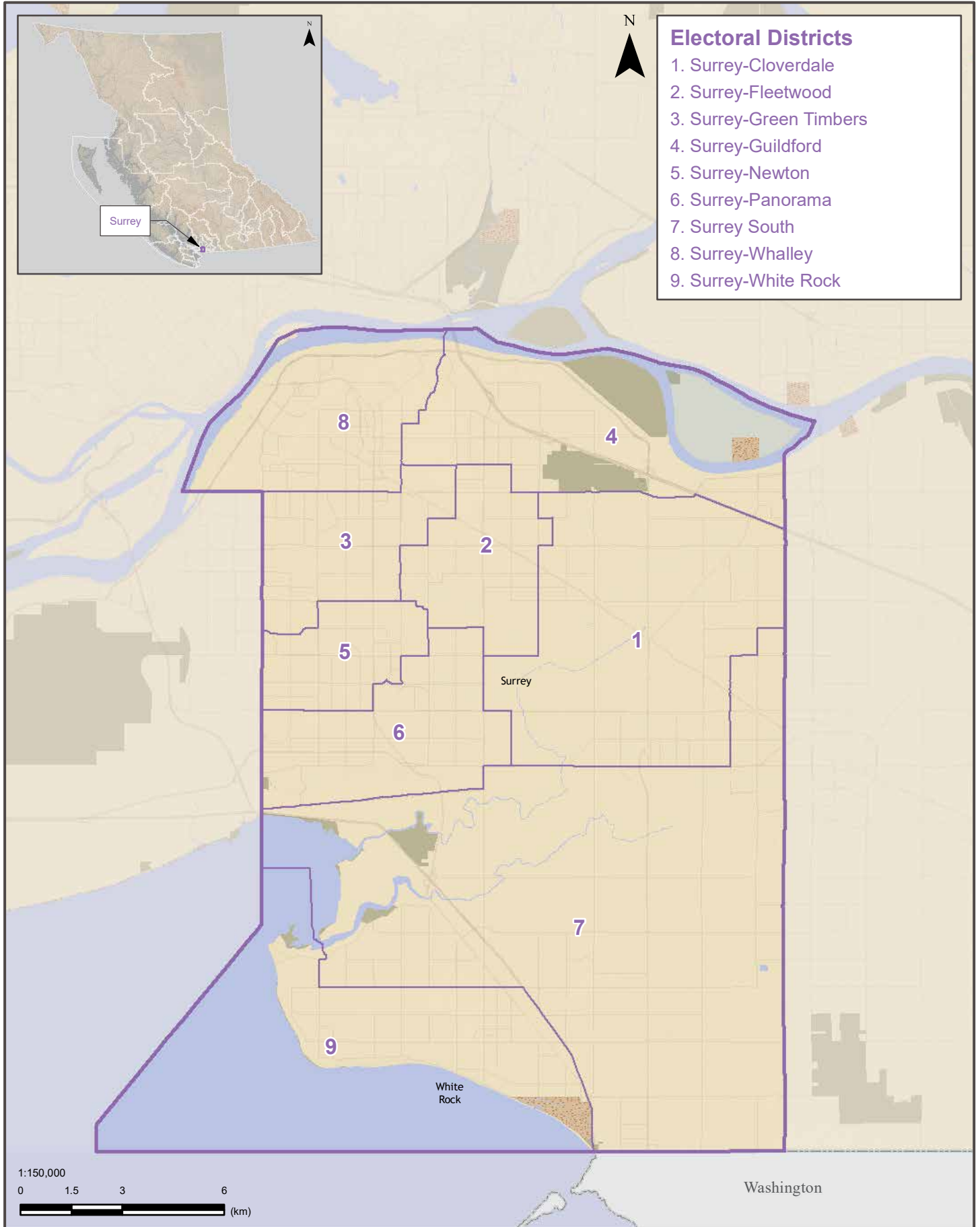


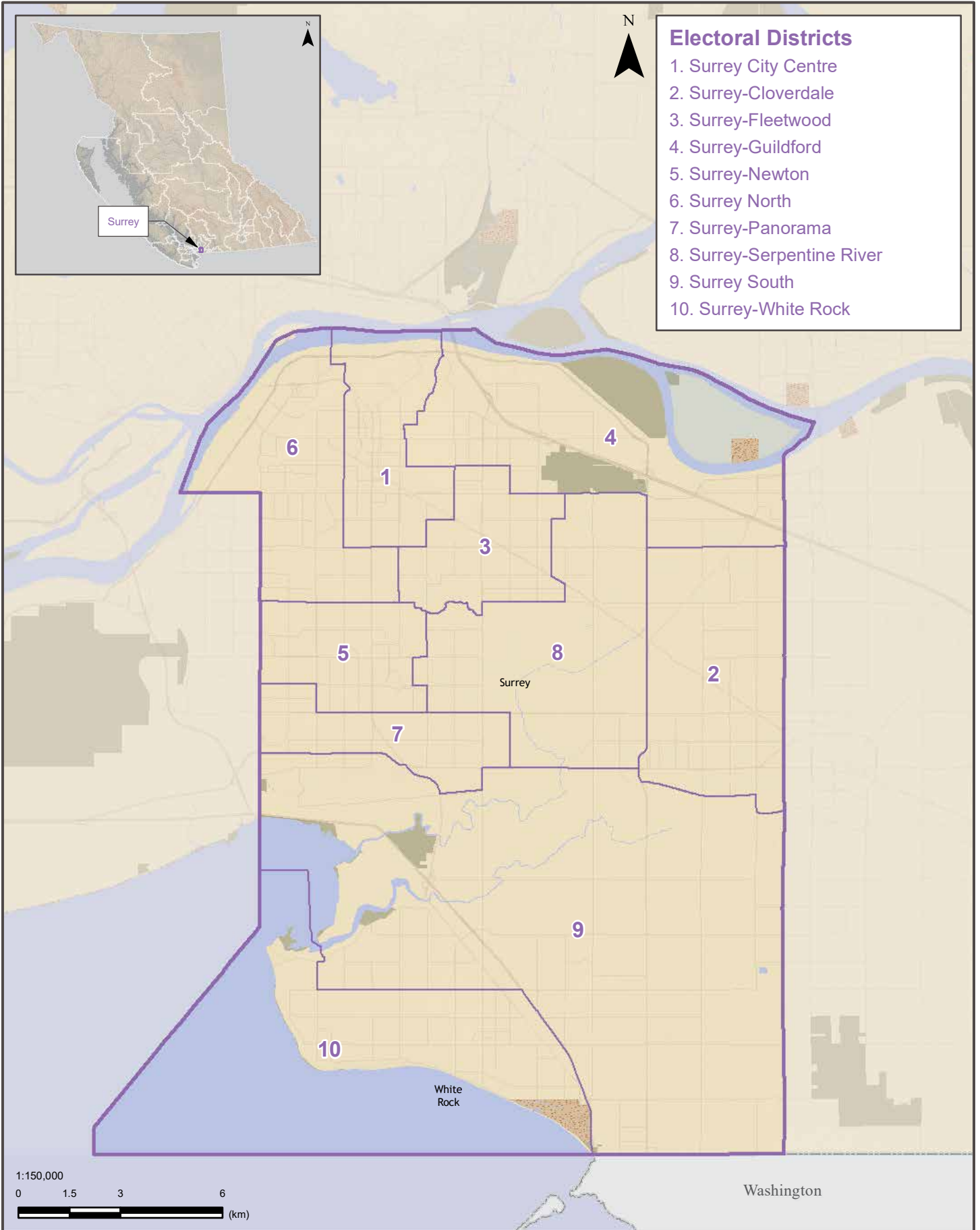


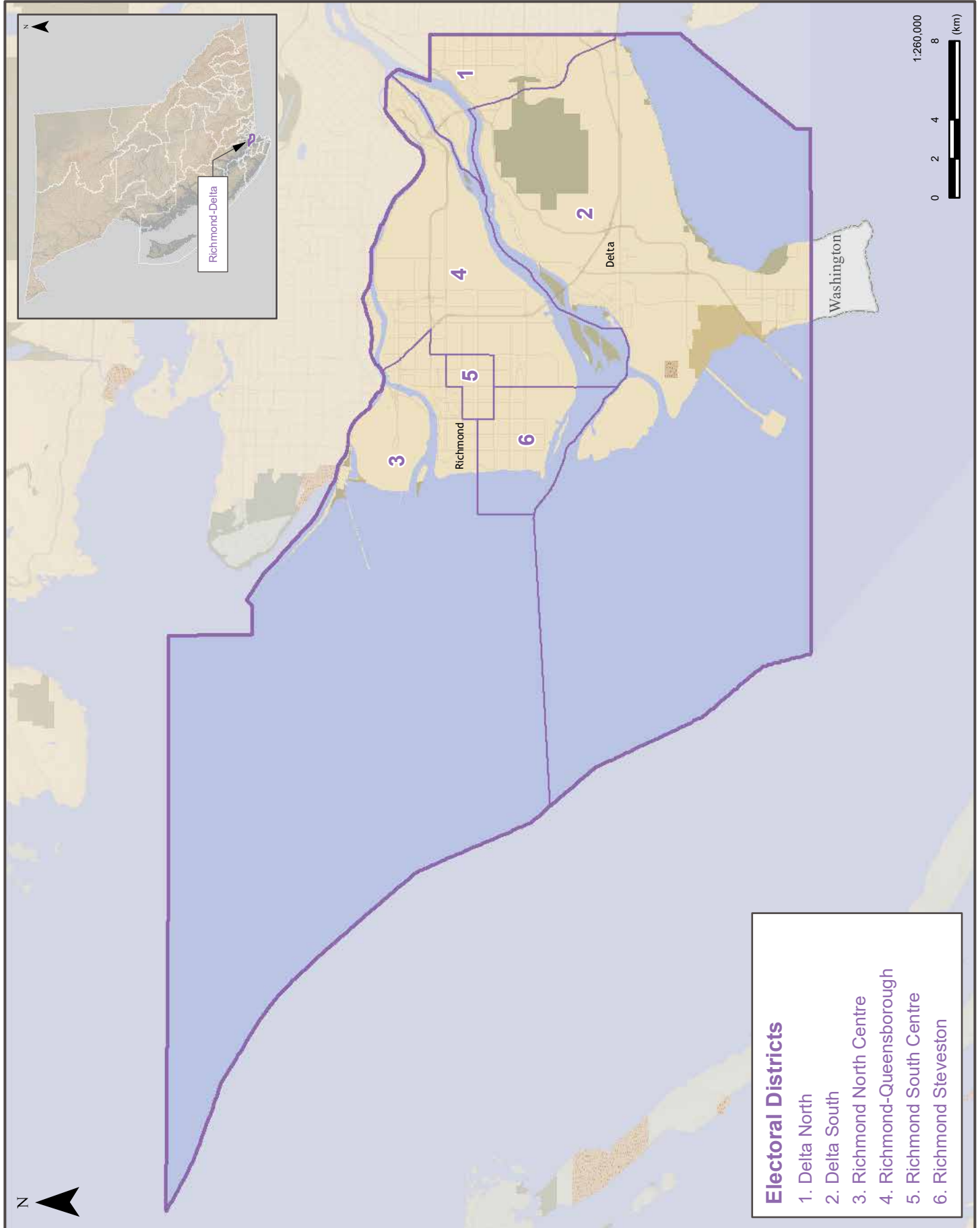


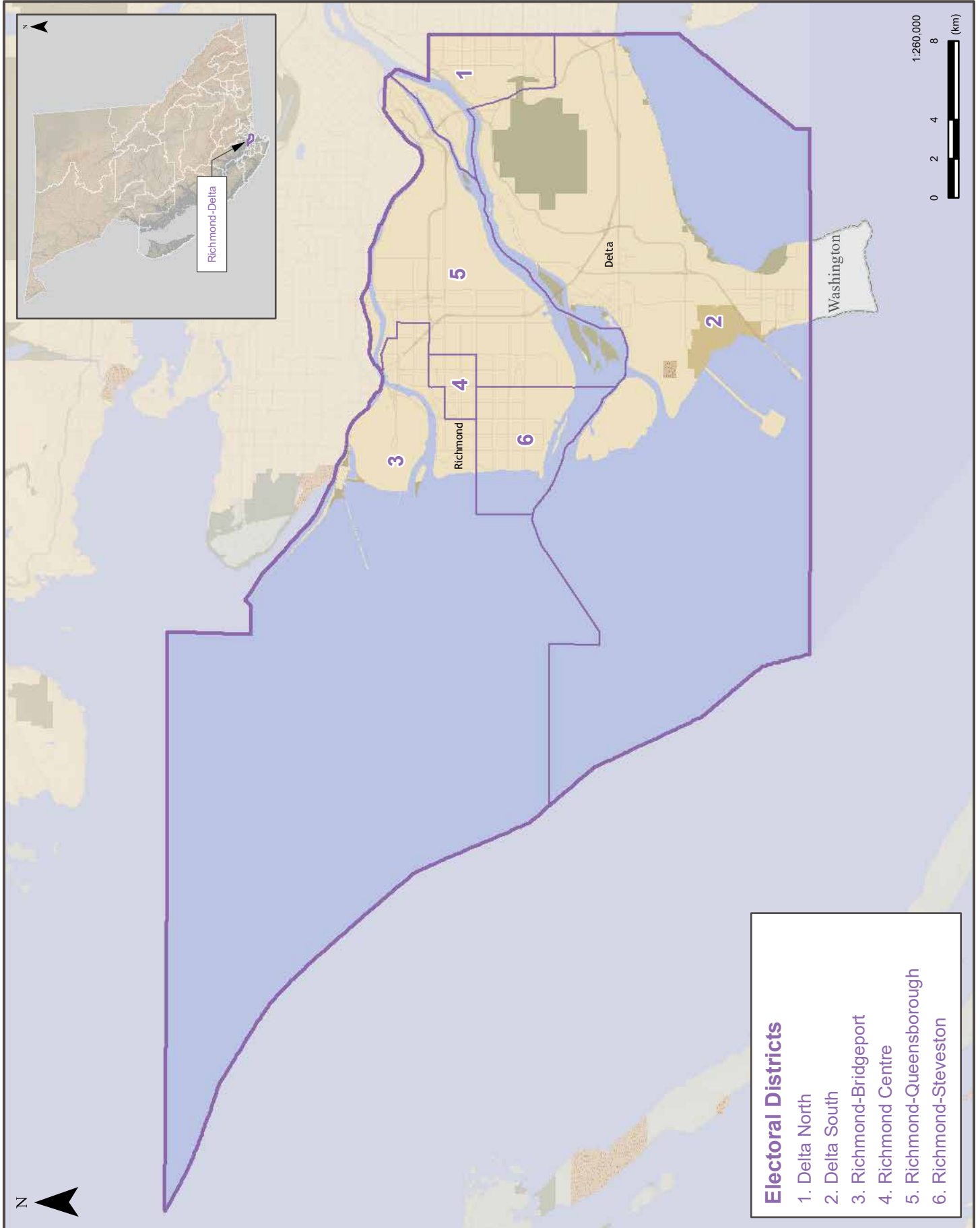


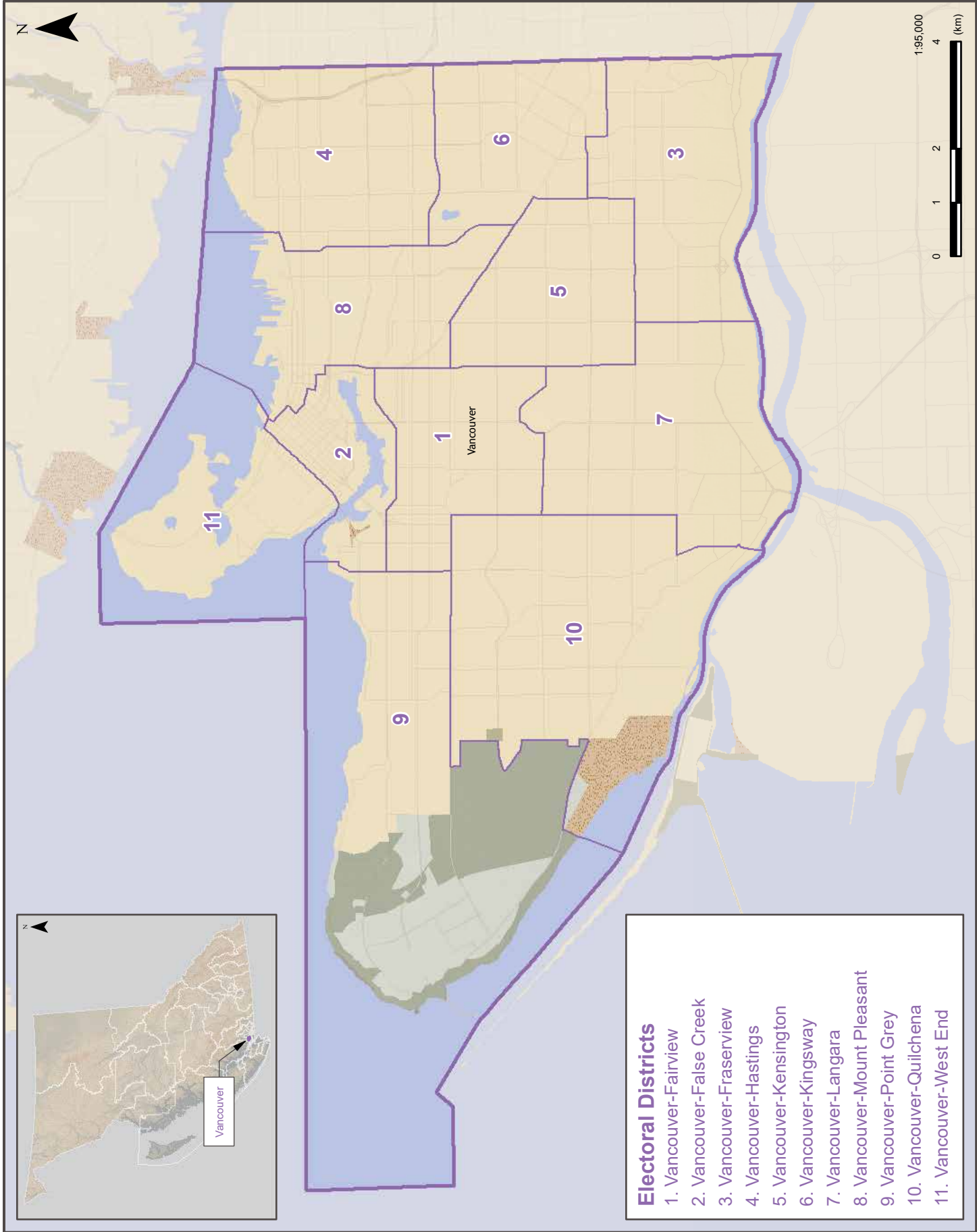


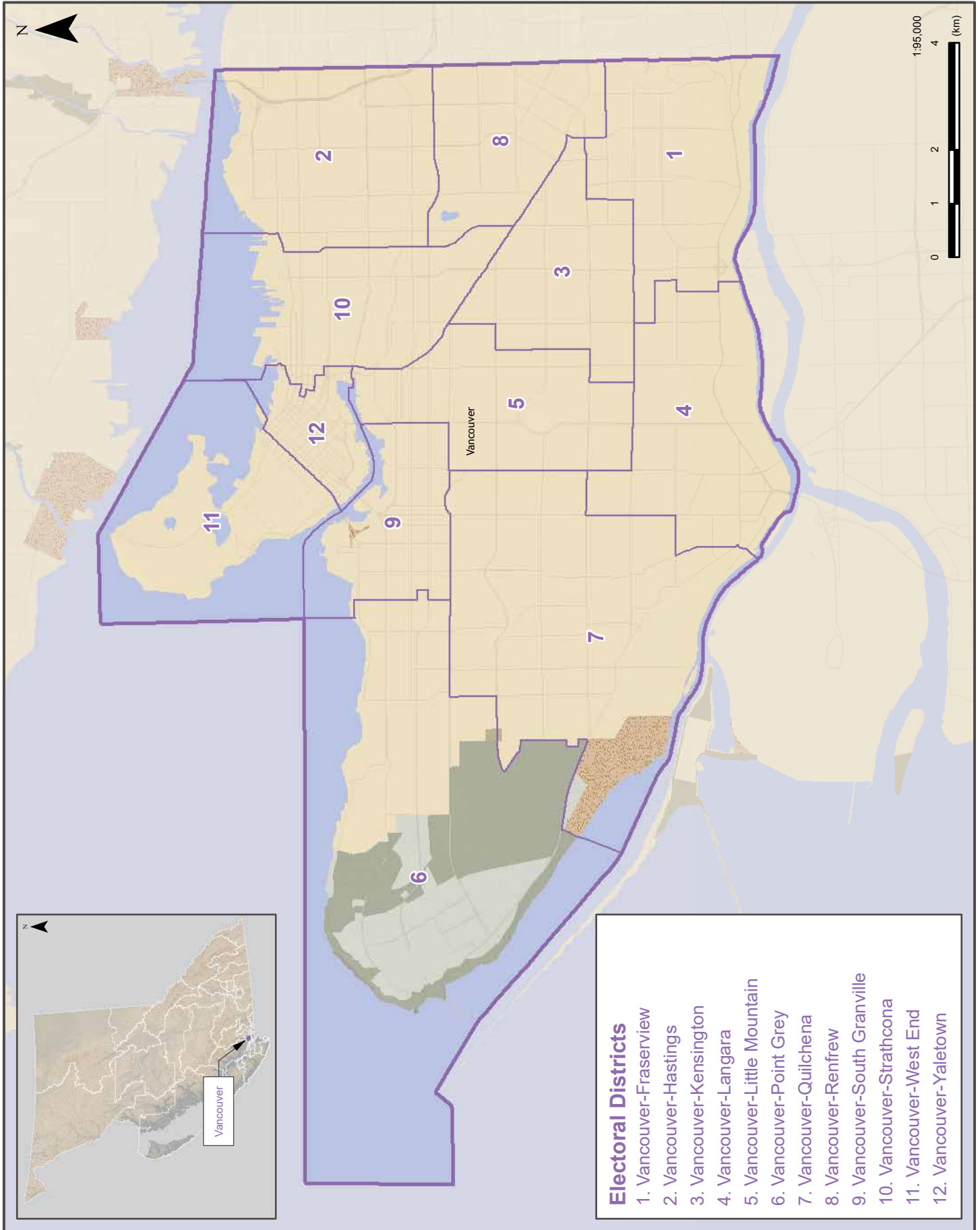


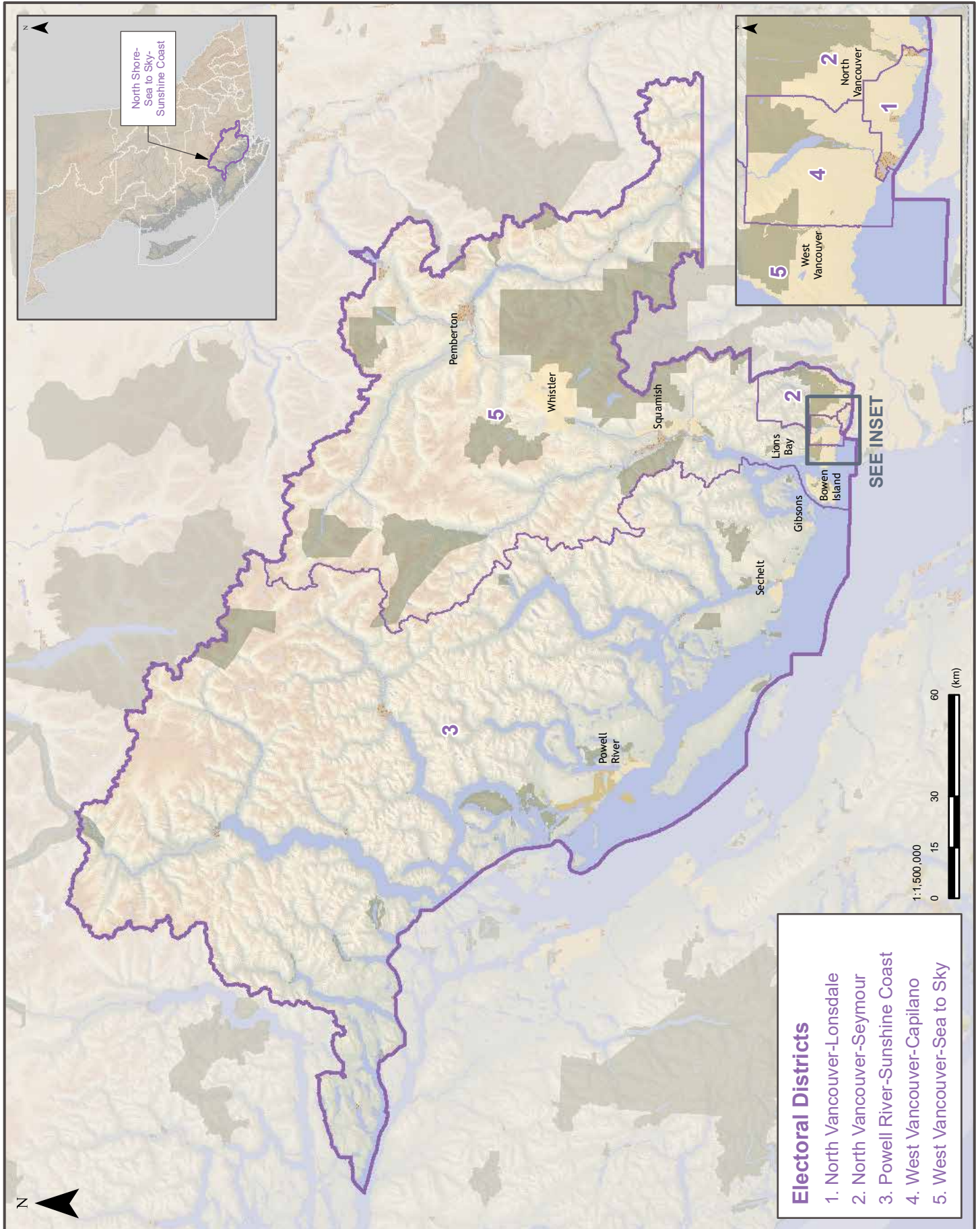


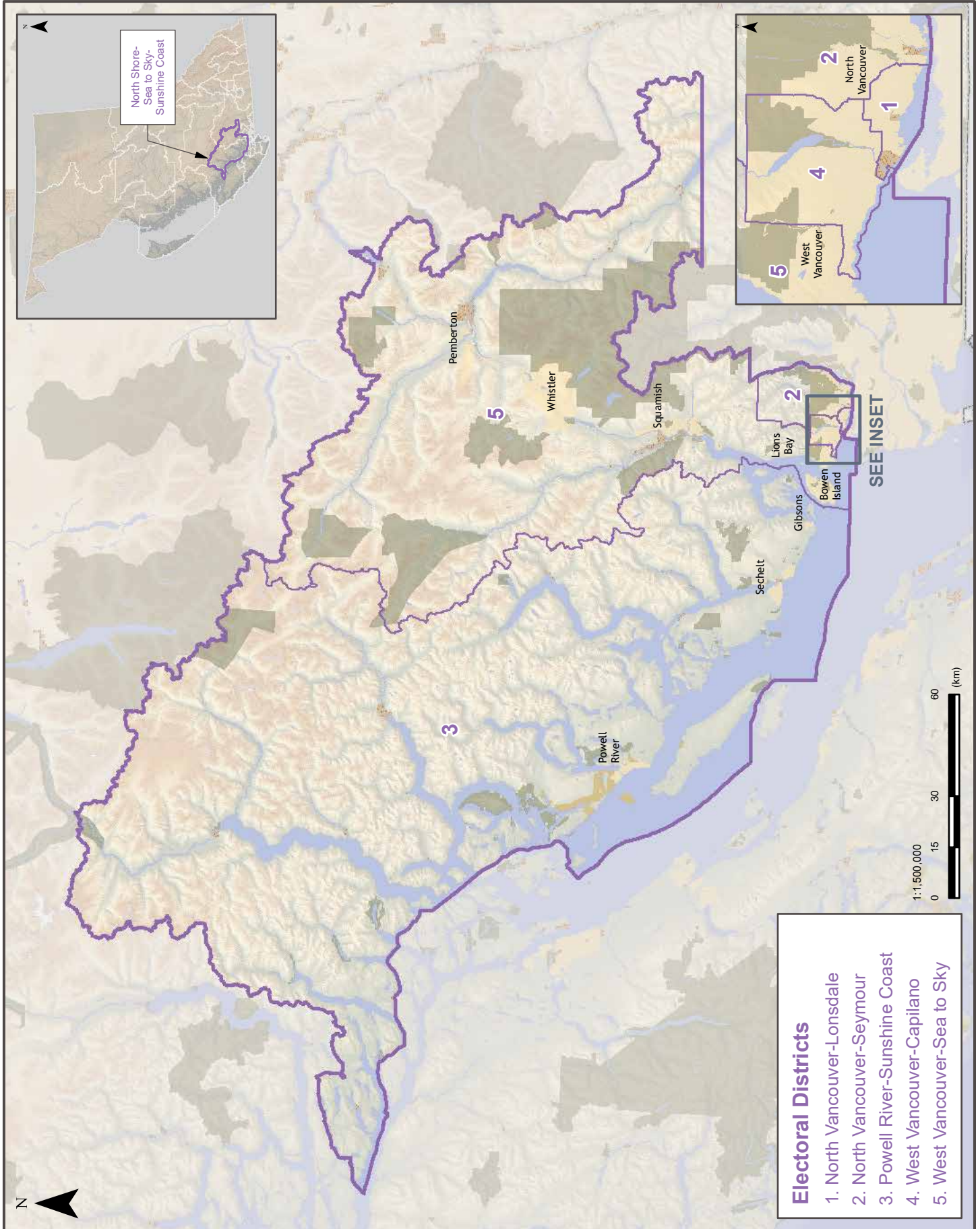












Appendix C: Population Estimates, 93 Proposed Electoral Districts

Statistics Canada 2021 Census Count

Electoral District	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Abbotsford-Mission	59,296	10.3	88
Abbotsford South	60,624	12.7	174
Abbotsford West	61,904	15.1	91
Boundary-Similkameen	48,109	-10.5	15,619
Bulkley Valley-Stikine	20,552	-61.8	196,484
Burnaby Centre	53,458	-0.6	18
Burnaby East	54,748	1.8	36
Burnaby-New Westminster	53,035	-1.4	9
Burnaby North	53,351	-0.8	17
Burnaby South-Metrotown	52,278	-2.8	20
Cariboo-Chilcotin	41,302	-23.2	55,800
Chilliwack-Cultus Lake	53,148	-1.2	1,113
Chilliwack North	52,440	-2.5	245
Columbia River-Revelstoke	40,904	-23.9	39,719
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain	60,743	13.0	617
Coquitlam-Maillardville	57,047	6.1	33
Courtenay-Comox	60,354	12.2	1,587
Cowichan Valley	55,158	2.6	2,320
Delta North	58,813	9.4	28
Delta South	51,908	-3.5	455
Esquimalt-Colwood	58,356	8.5	53
Fraser-Nicola	42,562	-20.9	27,818
Juan de Fuca-Malahat	44,980	-16.4	3,116
Kamloops Centre	60,681	12.9	114
Kamloops-North Thompson	60,586	12.7	17,024
Kelowna Centre	59,446	10.6	72

Electoral District	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Kelowna-Lake Country-Coldstream	58,671	9.1	2,227
Kelowna-Mission	59,723	11.1	523
Kootenay Central	41,985	-21.9	15,382
Kootenay-Monashee	41,446	-22.9	11,551
Kootenay-Rockies	41,241	-23.3	12,127
Ladysmith-Oceanside	56,308	4.7	2,127
Langford-Highlands	49,110	-8.7	86
Langley-Abbotsford	56,458	5.0	283
Langley-Walnut Grove	54,818	1.9	67
Langley-Willowbrook	57,709	7.3	23
Maple Ridge-East	57,888	7.7	369
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows	58,752	9.3	1,996
Mid Island-Pacific Rim	58,783	9.3	11,846
Nanaimo-Gabriola Island	59,172	10.0	504
Nanaimo-Lantzville	56,881	5.8	411
Nechako Lakes	25,293	-53.0	73,815
New Westminster-Coquitlam	58,003	7.9	13
North Coast-Haida Gwaii	21,980	-59.1	120,665
North Island	58,940	9.6	39,933
North Vancouver-Lonsdale	61,954	15.2	22
North Vancouver-Seymour	61,855	15.0	391
Oak Bay-Gordon Head	56,466	5.0	302
Peace River-North	40,375	-24.9	175,795
Peace River-South	25,635	-52.3	30,362
Penticton-Summerland	55,391	3.0	1,596

Appendix C: Population Estimates, 93 Proposed Electoral Districts, Continued

Statistics Canada 2021 Census Count

Electoral District	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Port Coquitlam	61,483	14.3	34
Port Moody-Burquitlam	59,769	11.2	84
Powell River-Sunshine Coast	53,217	-1.0	21,093
Prince George-Mackenzie	41,487	-22.9	20,500
Prince George-North Cariboo	43,265	-19.5	41,740
Prince George-Valemount	41,370	-23.1	33,427
Richmond-Bridgeport	54,724	1.8	453
Richmond Centre	54,474	1.3	7
Richmond-Queensborough	54,947	2.2	90
Richmond-Steveston	56,775	5.6	31
Saanich North and the Islands	57,901	7.7	1,506
Saanich South	58,671	9.1	105
Salmon Arm-Shuswap	62,420	16.1	8,689
Skeena	30,148	-43.9	31,610
Surrey City Centre	57,566	7.1	17
Surrey-Cloverdale	56,731	5.5	30
Surrey-Fleetwood	60,668	12.8	15
Surrey-Guildford	60,783	13.0	46
Surrey-Newton	61,398	14.2	14
Surrey North	59,891	11.4	27
Surrey-Panorama	58,235	8.3	13
Surrey-Serpentine River	58,721	9.2	36
Surrey South	56,867	5.8	122
Surrey-White Rock	59,586	10.8	68
Vancouver-Fraserview	58,686	9.1	12
Vancouver-Hastings	58,095	8.0	14

Electoral District	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Vancouver-Kensington	58,593	9.0	9
Vancouver-Langara	55,724	3.6	12
Vancouver-Little Mountain	57,034	6.1	10
Vancouver-Point Grey	56,818	5.7	41
Vancouver-Quilchena	56,957	5.9	24
Vancouver-Renfrew	56,922	5.9	8
Vancouver-South Granville	56,134	4.4	7
Vancouver-Strathcona	54,588	1.5	12
Vancouver-West End	57,332	6.6	14
Vancouver-Yaletown	55,307	2.9	4
Vernon-Lumby	57,423	6.8	1,265
Victoria-Beacon Hill	54,375	1.1	83
Victoria-Swan Lake	54,780	1.9	18
West Kelowna-Peachland	55,664	3.5	1,438
West Vancouver-Capilano	62,569	16.4	81
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky	62,161	15.6	11,698

Appendix D: Population Estimates, 87 Current Electoral Districts,

Statistics Canada 2021 Census Count

Electoral District	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Abbotsford-Mission	67,139	16.8	660
Abbotsford South	68,055	18.4	243
Abbotsford West	65,094	13.2	135
Boundary-Similkameen	48,104	-16.3	15,614
Burnaby-Deer Lake	61,613	7.2	14
Burnaby-Edmonds	63,733	10.9	22
Burnaby-Lougheed	58,820	2.3	37
Burnaby North	64,950	13.0	23
Cariboo-Chilcotin	33,987	-40.9	44,512
Cariboo North	28,944	-49.6	38,579
Chilliwack	52,231	-9.1	135
Chilliwack-Kent	62,792	9.2	3,168
Columbia River-Revelstoke	37,614	-34.6	37,704
Coquitlam-Burke Mountain	70,504	22.7	620
Coquitlam-Maillardville	55,876	-2.8	30
Courtenay-Comox	60,354	5.0	1,584
Cowichan Valley	63,177	9.9	1,685
Delta North	60,774	5.7	32
Delta South	49,947	-13.1	464
Esquimalt-Metchosin	55,272	-3.8	378
Fraser-Nicola	33,986	-40.9	34,830
Kamloops-North Thompson	59,565	3.6	21,641
Kamloops-South Thompson	63,592	10.6	2,437
Kelowna-Lake Country	75,047	30.6	1,165
Kelowna-Mission	67,994	18.3	528
Kelowna West	73,035	27.1	1,142

Electoral District	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Kootenay East	44,403	-22.8	13,210
Kootenay West	43,723	-23.9	12,009
Langford-Juan de Fuca	69,620	21.1	2,447
Langley	64,874	12.9	59
Langley East	77,530	34.9	186
Maple Ridge-Mission	68,042	18.4	393
Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows	61,813	7.5	1,980
Mid Island-Pacific Rim	58,783	2.3	14,099
Nanaimo	64,581	12.4	458
Nanaimo-North Cowichan	58,880	2.4	2,700
Nechako Lakes	25,293	-56.0	73,795
Nelson-Creston	38,744	-32.6	13,212
New Westminster	67,942	18.2	14
North Coast	21,980	-61.8	143,864
North Island	58,940	2.5	45,034
North Vancouver-Lonsdale	66,709	16.1	25
North Vancouver-Seymour	57,100	-0.7	388
Oak Bay-Gordon Head	56,466	-1.8	330
Parksville-Qualicum	60,069	4.5	978
Peace River North	40,375	-29.8	175,813
Peace River South	25,635	-55.4	30,364
Penticton	61,482	7.0	1,908
Port Coquitlam	61,483	7.0	35
Port Moody-Coquitlam	58,994	2.6	85
Powell River-Sunshine Coast	53,217	-7.4	21,007
Prince George-Mackenzie	46,920	-18.4%	20,511

Appendix D: Population Estimates, 87 Current Electoral Districts, Continued

Statistics Canada 2021 Census Count

Electoral District	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Prince George-Valemount	50,059	-12.9	31,467
Richmond-Queensborough	58,369	1.5	440
Richmond-Steveston	52,152	-9.3	92
Richmond North Centre	60,191	4.7	7
Richmond South Centre	50,208	-12.7	30
Saanich North and the Islands	62,565	8.8	1,519
Saanich South	54,007	-6.0	91
Shuswap	62,087	8.0	8,610
Skeena	30,148	-47.6	31,610
Stikine	20,552	-64.2	196,484
Surrey-Cloverdale	67,444	17.3	55
Surrey-Fleetwood	59,428	3.4	17
Surrey-Green Timbers	56,443	-1.8	18
Surrey-Guildford	60,663	5.5	42
Surrey-Newton	56,327	-2.0	12
Surrey-Panorama	77,899	35.5	24
Surrey-Whalley	69,489	20.9	27
Surrey-White Rock	59,586	3.7	68
Surrey South	83,167	44.7	125
Vancouver-Fairview	61,496	7.0	9
Vancouver-False Creek	71,880	25.0	6
Vancouver-Fraserview	65,070	13.2	13
Vancouver-Hastings	58,095	1.1	14
Vancouver-Kensington	60,287	4.9	9
Vancouver-Kingsway	61,870	7.6	9
Vancouver-Langara	64,192	11.7	15

Electoral District	Population	Deviation (%)	Area (sq km)
Vancouver-Mount Pleasant	61,610	7.2	13
Vancouver-Point Grey	64,491	12.2	42
Vancouver-Quilchena	55,867	-2.8	23
Vancouver-West End	57,332	-0.3	14
Vernon-Monashee	69,857	21.5	5,035
Victoria-Beacon Hill	62,741	9.2	90
Victoria-Swan Lake	54,780	-4.7	18
West Vancouver-Capilano	58,919	2.5	80
West Vancouver-Sea to Sky	65,811	14.5	11,709

Appendix E: Executive Summary, Datasets

Descriptions of Datasets Referenced by the Commission

2021 Census of Population - Statistics Canada

This dataset describes the population of British Columbia and its distribution across the province as of May 9, 2021. We used this population data—the most-recent and reliable that was available to us—to determine the total population of the province (5,000,879), and the populations of our proposed electoral districts.

WWW.STATCAN.GC.CA/EN/START

BC Route Planner - DataBC

This dataset identifies the average length of time and distance it takes to travel to locations within British Columbia. We used this data to determine how far a constituent within an electoral district would travel to reach their MLA office or satellite office.

WWW2.GOV.BC.CA/GOV/CONTENT/DATA/GEOGRAPHIC-DATA-SERVICES/LOCATION-SERVICES/ROUTE-PLANNER

BC Network Connectivity - Ministry of Citizens' Services, Connected Communities Branch

This dataset describes the level of cellular telephone and internet network connectivity in British Columbia.

CATALOGUE.DATA.GOV.BC.CA/DATASET/BC-NETWORK-CONNECTIVITY

Population Growth Projection - BC Stats

This dataset forecasts future population growth in British Columbia. These projections are based on historical population data from the BC Stats PEOPLE (Population Extrapolation for Organisational Planning with Less Error) model and the preliminary counts from the 2021 Census of Canada. This model has been modernised in 2022 with an expanded methodology to account for new data availability and understanding of population impacts and trends.

WWW2.GOV.BC.CA/GOV/CONTENT/DATA/STATISTICS/PEOPLE-POPULATION-COMMUNITY/POPULATION/POPULATION-PROJECTIONS

Remoteness Index - Statistics Canada

Statistics Canada measures the level of remoteness of a community with a remoteness index. This index measures the size of the community and distance to service centres in a travel radius that permits daily accessibility.

WWW150.STATCAN.GC.CA/N1/EN/CATALOGUE/17260001

Appendix F: Schedule, Initial Public Meetings

March - May 2022

Location	Day	Date
Vancouver	Monday	07-Mar
East Vancouver	Monday	07-Mar
Richmond	Tuesday	08-Mar
Delta	Tuesday	08-Mar
Surrey	Wednesday	09-Mar
Surrey	Wednesday	09-Mar
Langley	Wednesday	09-Mar
Abbotsford	Thursday	10-Mar
Chilliwack	Thursday	10-Mar
Hope	Thursday	10-Mar
Burnaby	Friday	11-Mar
Coquitlam	Friday	11-Mar
Virtual Meeting: Lower Mainland	Tuesday	15-Mar
Victoria	Monday	21-Mar
Langford	Monday	21-Mar
Nanaimo	Tuesday	22-Mar
Port Alberni	Wednesday	23-Mar
Courtenay	Thursday	24-Mar
Campbell River	Thursday	24-Mar
Port McNeill	Friday	25-Mar
Virtual Meeting: Vancouver Island	Tuesday	29-Mar
Nelson	Monday	04-Apr
Trail	Monday	04-Apr
Radium Hot Springs	Tuesday	05-Apr
Cranbrook	Tuesday	05-Apr
Penticton	Wednesday	06-Apr

Location	Day	Date
Kelowna (West)	Wednesday	06-Apr
Kelowna	Wednesday	06-Apr
Salmon Arm	Thursday	07-Apr
Revelstoke	Thursday	07-Apr
Kamloops	Friday	08-Apr
Virtual Meeting (South Central & South Eastern)	Monday	11-Apr
Masset	Tuesday	26-Apr
Prince Rupert	Wednesday	27-Apr
Terrace	Wednesday	27-Apr
Smithers	Thursday	28-Apr
Quesnel	Friday	29-Apr
Williams Lake	Friday	29-Apr
Virtual Meeting (North & Interior)	Tuesday	03-May
Prince George	Monday	09-May
Vanderhoof	Monday	09-May
Dawson Creek	Monday	09-May
Dawson Creek	Tuesday	10-May
Fort Nelson	Tuesday	10-May
Dease Lake	Tuesday	10-May
Powell River	Wednesday	11-May
Sechelt	Wednesday	11-May
West Vancouver	Thursday	12-May
Squamish	Thursday	12-May
Virtual Public Meeting (All Regions)	Friday	13-May

Appendix G: Schedule, Final Public Hearings

October - November 2022

Location	Day	Date
Prince George	Monday	17-Oct
Kamloops	Tuesday	18-Oct
Kelowna	Wednesday	19-Oct
Nelson	Thursday	20-Oct
Virtual Meeting (All Regions)	Friday	21-Oct
Victoria	Monday	31-Oct
Nanaimo	Tuesday	01-Nov
New Westminster	Wednesday	02-Nov
Langley	Wednesday	02-Nov
Surrey	Thursday	03-Nov
Coquitlam	Friday	04-Nov
Vancouver	Friday	04-Nov
Virtual Meeting (All Regions)	Tuesday	08-Nov



BRITISH COLUMBIA
Electoral Boundaries
Commission

**FINAL REPORT TO THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF
BRITISH COLUMBIA**

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