

ITEM ADDED TO AGENDA

FOR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 28, 2022

SUBMITTED ON NOVEMBER 28, 2022, BY AMANDA MOMBOURQUETTE

1. ITEM: Federal Boundary Review

2. BACKGROUND:

- (a) **Define/explain issue:** In a report recently unveiled by the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for Nova Scotia, proposed changes to the province's 11 federal ridings include significant alterations to the boundaries of the island's two electoral districts.

The three-person bipartisan commission, comprised of chair Justice Cindy Bourgeois, Cape Breton University political science professor David Johnson and Dalhousie University professor Louise Carbet, has recommended dramatic redrawings of the riding boundaries of Cape Breton-Canso and Sydney Victoria.

Cape Breton-Canso, currently represented by Liberal MP Mike Kelloway, will lose the former town of Glace Bay, but will gain the entirety of Antigonish County, including the town of Antigonish, which is presently in the Central Nova electoral district. The riding, with a suggested name of Cape Breton-Canso-Antigonish will also include all of the District of Guysborough, all of Richmond, Inverness and Victoria counties and the rural parts of the Cape Breton Regional Municipality.

The other altered riding will be called Sydney-Glace Bay and is expected to include the urban communities of the CBRM, including Sydney, Sydney River, Coxheath, Westmount, Glace Bay, Dominion, Reserve Mines, New Waterford, North Sydney and Sydney Mines.

Outcome Requested: From the maps, it's evident that the geography proposed will have a significant negative impact on the ability of an MP to serve constituents and effectively work with municipalities within the riding. Requesting Council's support to advocate for maintaining the current boundary.

3. STAFF COMMENTS: