

## SUBMISSION #6

- 6) **Submitted by:** Richard Sidney, Kaa Sháade Háni, Teslin Tlingit Council and Clara Jules, Mayor of the Village of Teslin  
**Date Submitted:** September 14, 2017  
**Electoral District:** Pelly-Nisutlin

### **Submission:**

Teslin Tlingit Council and Village of Teslin discussed the issue of electoral boundaries at our last joint council meeting on July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017. We are in agreement that the current boundary for the electoral district of Pelly-Nisutlin is inadequate.

There are no geographical ties between the Teslin area and Faro/Ross River area. The only road directly between the communities within the jurisdiction is the Canol Road, a seasonal dirt road that forces our MLA to travel through Watson Lake or Whitehorse to reach the other part of his riding. Furthermore, there are few cultural or historical connections between the areas. Very few Tesliners have family connections in either Ross River or Faro. For Teslin Tlingit Council, there is almost no historical alliances to the Ross River Dena Council (RRDC). As part of the Kaska Nation, the RRDC is more aligned cultural and political with the Watson Lake area.

Both VOT and TTC feel strongly that there are far more geographical and cultural ties with the Carcross and Tagish area. TTC and the Carcross Tagish First Nation (CTFN) meet politically and co-host Haa Kusteeyí Celebration bi-annually. Furthermore, the area is far more accessible to Teslin than our current arrangement and as the gateway to the Southern Lakes it would make sense for Teslin, Carcross and Tagish to be one riding. The potential voter numbers would be approximately 1000 voters which is very in line with most of the other rural ridings.

We look forward to further dialogue on this subject in the coming months.



September 14, 2017

Mr. Justice Ron Veale,  
Chair, Electoral District Boundaries Commission  
PO Box 2703  
Whitehorse, Yukon  
Y1A 2C6

Dear Mr. Veale;

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There are no geographical ties between the Teslin area and Faro/Ross River area. The only road directly between the communities within the jurisdiction is the Canol Road, a seasonal dirt road that forces our MLA to travel through Watson Lake or Whitehorse to reach the other part of his riding. Furthermore, there are few cultural or historical connections between the areas. Very few Tesliners have family connections in either Ross River or Faro. For Teslin Tlingit Council, there is almost no historical alliances to the Ross River Dena Council (RRDC). As part of the Kaska Nation, the RRDC is more aligned cultural and political with the Watson Lake area.

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We look forward to further dialogue on this subject in the coming months.

Sincerely,  
**TESLIN TLINGIT COUNCIL**



Richard Sidney  
Kaa Sháade Háni

Sincerely,  
**VILLAGE OF TESLIN**



Clara Jules  
Mayor

cc: Ross River Dena Council, Village of Faro