

# An electoral line through Lynn Valley?

The proposal to redraw the electoral boundaries for North Shore ridings is part of a review of all federal electoral districts undertaken every ten years that potentially alters riding boundaries to reflect the growth and redistribution of the population.

A proposed new electoral map of the North Shore's three federal ridings would see some big changes – including the separation of east and west Lynn Valley into two separate constituencies and the annexation of Ambleside into the riding of North Vancouver.

It's important and necessary work because it maintains fairness in the working of Canadian democracy by ensuring effective representation – with all ridings representing roughly similar numbers of citizens. But it is complex work and seldom geographically tidy.

Here in British Columbia, the task is being overseen by the independent and non-partisan Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for B.C. The 2021 census shows our province grew to over five million people, from 4.4 million in 2011. The Commission's mandate is to redraw boundaries to divide the province into 43 ridings (an increase of one), each representing about 116,000 people.

Information released earlier this year explained the impact of this proposal on the North Shore:

West Vancouver–Sunshine Coast–Sea to Sky Country (electoral district) has grown at a great pace. We are proposing reconfiguration of the three ridings of the North Shore by moving boundaries westward, and in Burnaby North–Seymour, northward.

For North Vancouver, that means the current eastern boundary of the riding would move west from the Seymour River to a line from the top of Mountain Highway, south to Lynn Valley Road then down the Cut to the Ironworkers Memorial Bridge. The portion of Lynn Valley east of Mountain Highway and Lynn Valley Road would become part of the Burnaby–North Seymour riding.

The western boundary of the North Vancouver riding would be shifted further west from Capilano Road to 15th Street in West Vancouver south of the Upper Levels Highway – essentially adding Ambleside.



## PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL

Public hearings are an important part of the process because its more than just drawing areas on a map with roughly 116,000 people in each. The law that governs the process, the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act, recognizes that a number of factors are important in providing effective representation, and so requires the Commission to consider “the community of interest or community of identity in or the historical pattern of an electoral district in the province.”

For residents of the neighborhoods of Lynn Valley and Ambleside concerned about the proposal, the fact that historical patterns and communities of interest and identity must be given considerable weight is meaningful in the Commission's deliberations.

At this stage, the proposal is just that – a proposal. The Commission held public hearings in twenty-seven BC communities between June and September this year to elicit public input. One such meeting was held in North Vancouver in June.

## INTERESTS OF AFFECTED COMMUNITIES

As the MP for North Vancouver, my goal is to assure the interests of those communities affected are met. On the North Shore, our neighbourhoods have strong identities. I want to make sure that, to the extent possible, this process enables communities to stay whole – always recognizing that the Commission has a difficult job and a range of considerations to take into account.

These suggested changes remain preliminary proposals. Any changes would not be implemented until April 2024 at the earliest. The Commission's recommendations will also be thoroughly debated in Parliament before the process is complete.

For more information about the proposed electoral boundary changes, maps, and public hearings, check out [redecoupage-redistribution-2022.ca](https://redecoupage-redistribution-2022.ca)

# A family reunion of strangers

North Vancouver's Inter River Park played host in mid-September to a reunion of a special kind of family – one that had been coming together each September for decades – until, of course, it could not, due to COVID. It was a reunion of a family of strangers – yet no introductions were needed. There were lots of smiles and a collective sense of relief at being together as a community in an expression of support for the Terry Fox Run.

This family's link is deeper than bloodlines... It's the connection of knowing from a fleeting moment of eye contact that you and that person over there share something that fills both your hearts. It's the feeling that, somehow, you've all been called to a common place to honour and celebrate something profoundly good and inspiring.

As just about every school child (and maybe everyone) in Canada knows, it was in September 1980, that Terry Fox was forced to end his Marathon of Hope. Since then, driven by Terry's inspiration, the foundation that bears his name has raised more than \$850 million in support of cutting-edge cancer research and treatments not even imagined 42 years ago – providing health and hope for millions.

## LIVING LEGACY

His legacy is personal for many Canadian families – including mine. Like thousands of North Shore youngsters, my daughters participated in their annual school Terry Fox Run for years. My eldest daughter now works as a researcher at the Terry Fox Lab of the BC Cancer Agency after time there as a summer student.



The scene at Inter River Park reflected the continuing contribution inspired by a young Canadian. That this was the 42nd Terry Fox Run was remarkable – as is our community's unwavering support over all that time. Terry Fox united Canadians in a way not seen before or since. We are all grateful for his life and for those who are following in his slipstream.



# Hope for Ukraine

More than half a year ago, Russia launched a brutal, illegal, and reprehensible assault on the sovereign state of Ukraine. In the time since, we have all seen the disturbing consequences of this senseless aggression. No one has felt these consequences more keenly than the Ukrainian people, where shortages of heating fuel, gasoline, food and medical services and supplies threaten their population as we move into winter.

As the Prime Minister recently reminded us, Canada has long been a leader in international efforts to advance peace and continues to be a strong voice for human rights. Along with liked-minded partners in the UN, we are working to promote the rule of law. Canada stepped up quickly to assist Ukraine, and continues to work with our allies to assure the Ukrainian people and others within the European Union are fully supported.

This crisis situation - which is having far-reaching impacts on the world's most vulnerable, including through food shortages, the rising cost of food and fuel, and conflict-related sexual violence - has brought to the surface our collective dependency – and Ukraine's dependency in particular – on Russian oil and gas.

Soon after the Russian invasion, Canada moved, alongside several allies, to increase production of oil and gas by 300,00 barrels per day to ease global energy prices and to enable greater supply to flow to our European friends.

In late August, Canada and Germany announced a joint declaration of intent to establish a Canada-Germany Hydrogen Alliance.

This initiative will assist Germany and other European nations to accelerate the energy transition to renewables and hydrogen.

This is one of the ways that Canada is helping to alleviate the consequences of the Russian invasion into Ukraine.

However, it is by no means the only way. Canada has also provided humanitarian and military support to Ukraine and we will continue to do so.

In addition to the response of the Canadian government, many Canadians have risen to the occasion and have provided, without hesitation, funding, supplies, and physical and emotional support for the thousands who have suffered at the hands of the aggressors. The Canadian government has backed them with funding, materiel, supplies, resources, and personnel.



## In The Community



North Shore Neighbourhood House Food bank visit

Pride at Shipbuilders Square



Turning Trash into Treasure Exhibit at CityScape Community Art Space



Now's the time to update your COVID vaccination. Consider wearing a mask in indoor public spaces; stay safe.

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One of the groups working relentlessly to support Ukraine is the Maple Hope Foundation. Back in June, the foundation’s president, Iaroslav Pokhilko, generously gave me one of his own vyshyvankas to wear in solidarity on Vyshyvanka Day. He recently came for a visit to my office, where we chatted about how he maintains his sense of hope for the future.

“Maple Hope Foundation formed in 2014, in response to the Crimea situation,” Iaroslav explained. The foundation has gone on to provide shelter for children affected by conflict in Ukraine, to assist soldier amputees with rehab and rest here in Canada, to provide financial support for 25 families of wounded or killed soldiers, to send donations of clothing and other necessities for children, and now to provide medical and military supplies such as armoured vests, as well as financial donations.

As a small foundation, they are nimble and can respond to immediate need. They operate through networks and everything they do goes directly to where it is most required. The foundation partners with various organizations and volunteer groups in Canada and Europe to procure and deliver aid directly to on-the-ground volunteers in Ukraine.



They are beginning a program for children affected by the separation of families due to this violence, and assisting in the resettlement of families who have needed to flee the conflict zones.

**“It will take an enormous effort to rebuild what has been destroyed, but good comes from our work.”**

— Iaroslav Pokhilko, Maple Hope Foundation

## Riding for her life

For many, summer is associated with rest, relaxation and rejuvenation. North Vancouver resident, Bianca Hayes, had more challenging plans for her summer. Bianca, 31, embarked on a 5700 km bike ride across Canada to raise awareness for Ovarian Cancer... for her second time.

Four years ago, Bianca lost her sister Katrina, 32, to ovarian cancer; it was then she was made aware of how little people knew about this scourge, and how underfunded research continues to be. With this knowledge, the advocate-turned-cyclist took it upon herself to raise money for research and awareness surrounding this devastating disease.

Bianca set out in 2019 on her first cross-country ride, finishing in 19 days and raising \$50,000. This year, Bianca set out again to cross the country in a record-breaking time of 15 days with the ultimate goal of raising \$1 million. Bianca was on track to break the Guinness World Record when tragedy struck in



picture credits to @coconutcreativeco

Quebec. A motorcycle collision knocked her bike out from under her; Bianca sustained relatively minor injuries that prevented her from finishing the ride to Halifax this time around.

This did not prevent her from continuing her fundraising efforts. With a total of \$170,000 so far in her campaign, Bianca has achieved her goal of raising money and awareness for ovarian cancer, despite her motorcycle-shaped roadblock. As a North Vancouver resident, Bianca has made us all proud – both in her expeditions across the country, and her crusade to raise awareness.

While her custom-made steel frame bike was able to carry her only part of the distance this time, Bianca’s journey moves forward as the fight against cancer continues. She hopes to make the trip again in 2024.

**Thank you, Bianca, for representing our city, province and country and most importantly, Katrina, so admirably.** The difference Bianca has



made in raising awareness and money for such a worthy cause will continue to impact lives for years to come.

## Activism through art



### THE SCIENCE AND THE SACRED

When discussing with Paula the gravity of the work she produces, she had this to say:

**“I have the impression that we, as human beings must really start to learn the capacity of our brains, minds, and spirits. We can invent new technologies and even solutions to the problems we have created, but we also must change our thinking, our beliefs and our habits or risk falling down the same way again. We MUST become better human beings. After years of study on these topics, the energy of this is embedded in my work and my presentations.”**

Paula makes an astute observation in this quote. We, as stewards of the Earth, are not only responsible for creating new solutions to problems that are produced as a result of human interference but on a grander scale, must change how we view our natural resources to prevent us from making the same mistakes that damage our ecosystems time and time again.

This year, our government announced the largest ever investment in Canada to keep our waterways safe and clean for future generations through the updated Oceans Protection Plan. The protection of the oceans that lap our borders are critical to life, both on land and sea, and without adequate and sustainable protection, we will fall victim to the same mistakes of our past. To protect our oceans is to protect the future wellbeing of all life forms that depend on them, as opposed to retroactively counting on correcting our past mistakes.

The passion and devotion that Paula pours into her art are representative of the qualities we as humans should embody to uphold our job as stewards of this Earth. Bridging the gap between art and science helps us, as humans, understand better the sacred nature of the natural world we inhabit. Without it, we would not exist, so we must do everything in our power to honour it through its protection.

Earlier this summer, my team had the pleasure of meeting with Paula Nishikawara, an Emily Carr alumni and former North Vancouver resident whose activism takes its form in conservationist artwork. Paula’s powerful artwork strives to emphasize the importance of protecting our oceans and the life that exists within their waters. Her creativity in breathing new life into trash and animals that are long forgotten by humans – but forever remembered in our oceans – is a true testament to not only her skills as an artist, but her passion as an environmental activist.

To Paula, her art is an opportunity to share with the world the sanctity of what exists within our oceans, bridging the gap between science and art. From intricate installations that draw attention to the trash polluting our waterways, to her contemporary style of gyotaku, the Japanese art of creating prints from the bodies of fish that inhabit these very waters, Paula’s steadfast advocacy for the health of our oceans through art has been making big waves in the sphere of conservationist artwork. She has had her work exhibited around the globe. Travelling to countries like Nigeria and Germany, to Australia and back to Canada, Paula has shared her passion and talent with the public while raising awareness of the importance of ethical and adequate stewardship of our oceans.



### OCEANS PROTECTION PLAN

Scan QR code below to learn more and explore all the ways in which we aim to protect our oceans for future generations.



## Helping young Canadians gain meaningful experience

School is back to normal for most North Van families this fall. So now is a great time to point out some opportunities for North Vancouver youth here in their own backyard. As MP for North Vancouver, I value the opinions and experience of youth, recognizing they are the future of the country.



### CONSTITUENCY YOUTH COUNCIL

#### North Vancouver, British Columbia

Calling all youth aged 14-24!

Go to my website [www.jonathanwilkinson.libparl.ca](http://www.jonathanwilkinson.libparl.ca) to apply!

#YouthMatters

#NorthVancouver

### CONSTITUENCY YOUTH COUNCIL (CYC)

My CYC invites North Vancouver youth from 14 to 24 to delve into issues that matter most to them. Organizing events, discussing critical issues and engaging in local politics are some of the main activities of CYC. Ultimately, CYC represents the voices of youth in my riding, and through me, to the government in Ottawa.

Applications are ongoing for my CYC – fill out the form under the Youth Council tab on my website. I encourage anyone with interest to apply; no previous experience necessary!

### STUDENT LEADERSHIP PROGRAM (SLP)

Available for post-secondary students, SLP provides paid internships in MP offices across the country during the summer months. It is a chance for youth to work alongside government representatives and experience government in action, both in constituency offices and in Ottawa.

Applications for SLP open in the new year. Check [www.jonathanwilkinson.libparl.ca](http://www.jonathanwilkinson.libparl.ca) for updates.



Thomas (left) and Siavash (right), summer SLP interns

### GRADUATING FROM CYC TO SLP

Meet Siavash. He started as a member of my CYC and was subsequently hired as one of our SLP summer interns for 2022.

**My combined experience in CYC and SLP has been really beneficial to me – it’s helped me understand how government works, and that my local MP is much more accessible to me as a young Canadian than I had ever realized.**

**While the CYC helped me learn about the non-partisan aspect of government and gain valuable experience in community engagement, I also found it was a great way to meet other young people learning more about government who shared an interest in community involvement.**

**My experience working in the office in Ottawa and in North Vancouver as an SLP intern was super beneficial personally and professionally. I saw how government actually gets things done, and I also learned plenty of office skills that will transfer over to many other workplaces.**

**My time with CYC and SLP has significantly contributed to my personal development, and I look forward to continuing my involvement in local government. That sense of being comfortable as a young person interacting with my government representatives has been a real eye-opener.**

## BREAKING NEWS

The House of Commons Page Program is now accepting applications for 2023/24!

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