

04 June 2003

**Electoral Boundary Redistribution Committee
ACT Electoral Commission
Plaza Level, Allara House,
48-56 Allara Street
Canberra City, ACT 2601**



***Gungahlin
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Electoral Boundaries – 2003 Distribution

Dear Committee Members,

The Gungahlin Community Council Inc. (GCC) is an incorporated, not for profit, community-based association operating within the Gungahlin region of the Australian Capital Territory.

The district represented by the Council covers an area in the north to northwest of the Territory between the ACT/NSW border and the Barton Highway, Federal Highway/Northbourne Avenue to the South and East.

The objectives of the council as defined in its constitution are as follows:

- To preserve and improve the social, cultural, economic and environmental well being of Gungahlin and the Gungahlin Community.

To achieve these objectives the Council undertakes to:

- Consult with members of the Gungahlin community;
- Represent the Gungahlin community, and lobby authorities on the community's behalf;
- Provide a non-political environment where members of the community can express their aspirations, concerns and suggestions;
- Provide a public forum where members of the community can obtain information, support and opportunities to network with others;
- Advise, support and / or assist any organisation with compatible objectives to those that have been adopted by the Council;
- Liaise with members of the public, legislators, officials and community representatives; and
- To provide appropriate information and opinions on matters relevant to the Gungahlin community.

In line with achieving these objectives the Council Executive Committee resolved that a submission to Electoral Boundaries – 2003 Distribution Committee would be made.



Comments regarding the Electoral Boundaries – 2003 Distribution

At present the Gungahlin region is predominately zoned within the electoral boundaries of Molonglo, however there are two suburbs Hall and Nicholls that have been excised from the rest of the Gungahlin and are situated in the electorate of Ginninderra.

Apart from the inclusion of two Gungahlin suburbs the Ginninderra electorate, Ginninderra is otherwise exclusively associated with the Belconnen community of interest and associated metropolitan area and has no obvious synergy with the Gungahlin Region.

The Gungahlin Community Council believes that the entire Gungahlin region (that is the area in the north to northwest of the Territory between the ACT/NSW border and the Barton Highway, Federal Highway/Northbourne Avenue to the South and East) should be located within a single electorate being either that of Molonglo or Ginninderra.

The Gungahlin Community Council does not have the available expertise or resources to determine which would be the most appropriate electorate in which to be located, nor do we have any preconceived ideas with regard to how the redistributed electoral boundaries should be redrawn outside the Gungahlin region. However it is assumed that it will be possible to achieve the desired effect within the confines of the current Electoral Legislation.

Conclusion:

The current practice whereby Gungahlin as a community of interest has been split and subdivided across two electorates should not be perpetuated.

The Gungahlin Community Council looks forward to this opportunity to place the whole of the Gungahlin region within a single Electorate for the next ACT Election in 2004.

Yours faithfully

Barry Dee - President
Gungahlin Community Council Inc.