



Suggestion 7

Martin Gordon

12 pages

From: Martin Gordon
To: [FedRedistribution - VIC](#)
Subject: Victorian redistribution
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Attachments: [Victorian 2017 redistribution.docx](#)

Attached is a submission for the redistribution for Victoria.

Could you confirm receipt?

Regards

Martin Gordon

[REDACTED]

Redistribution Committee for Victoria

The Committee,

I wish to make a submission for the redistribution of Victoria into 38 Divisions.

I propose that the new Division (which I anticipate will be located in the north west of Melbourne be named after the late Prime Minister the Rt Hon John Malcolm Fraser, who represented the Victorian Division of Wannon.

I discuss naming issues immediately below and also the details of the redistribution later on. I have sought to make use of local government boundaries to a significant degree (such as with Hotham, Isaacs, Wannon, Corgangamite, McEwen, Scullin, Batman, Jaga Jaga, Holt, Ballarat, and so on).

At the time of making this submission I was regrettably out of the country and unable to more accurately calculate elector numbers, hence my redistribution is more narrative in approach.

Naming

The discussion below canvasses the history of the names of Divisions within Victoria, and some suggested naming changes for the Commissioners to consider.

Federation names - still existing

Wannon, Corangamite, Corio, Ballarat, Bendigo, Gippsland, Flinders, Melbourne, Melbourne Ports, Indi, Kooyong.

1906

Fawkner (subsequently disestablished), Maribyrnong, Batman.

1913

Henty (subsequently disestablished).

1937

Deakin.

1948/49

Lalor, Gellibrand, Murray, Mallee, McMillan, Darebin, Burke (subsequently disestablished), Higgins, Chisholm, Higinbotham (subsequently disestablished), Isaacs, Wills, Hoddle (subsequently disestablished), La Trobe.

1955

Bruce, Scullin.

1968

Hotham, Holt, Casey, Diamond Valley (subsequently disestablished).

1984

McEwen, Streeton (subsequently disestablished), Calwell, Jaga Jaga, Menzies, Goldstein, Aston, Dunkley,

The following Federation names have also been disestablished, Wimmera, Yarra, Grampians, Echuca, Moira, Corinella (subsequently reestablished and disestablished again), Mernda, Laanecoorie, Bourke, Balaclava, Southern Melbourne, Northern Melbourne.

2017/18

The creation of a 38th Division in Victoria creates the circumstance to accommodate the naming of a Division after the late Prime Minister the Rt Hon John Malcolm Fraser, who represented the Victorian Division of Wannon. I would recommend the new Division be named Fraser. I anticipate that this Division would be in Western Melbourne.

The creation of a new Division (Fraser) has avoided the need to abolish a Division in the eastern part of Melbourne (due to uneven population growth), which could have been Chisholm (one of the few Divisions named after a woman).

The inner and middle eastern suburbs of Melbourne overall are some 60,000 electors short of a quota. Whilst the outer eastern Divisions Flinders, Holt, Isaacs, McMillan, Flinders and La Trobe are collectively over quota by a similar amount. To expand Kooyong, Chisholm, Deakin, Bruce, Hotham, Menzies, Aston sufficiently major changes need to be made with Jaga Jaga, Isaacs, Hotham, Bruce, Chisholm, Holt, La Trobe, McMillan and Flinders.

I propose the reestablishment of the Division of Wimmera in place of Mallee, which was the name that originally covered this area, it clearly refers to the broad region of the state, and it would remove confusion with former state electorate names in South Australia. Such a change would reestablish a federation name and further it is a Aboriginal name.

Melbourne Ports could be disestablished as it is confusingly similar name to Melbourne, and qualifying names tend to be avoided these days, and it could be used to accommodate the naming of Division in honour of the late Victorian Premier the Hon Joan Kirner. Mrs Kirner is the first and only Victorian woman Premier. Retiring the name Melbourne Ports and naming the new Division after a woman would redress the imbalance of female names that currently exists.

In time the concentration of Prime Ministers from New South Wales and Victoria will create some serious problems in naming Divisions, with disestablishments of names and renaming becoming necessary.

Description

I propose no changes to six Divisions as they are close to quota now and in 3.5 years time.

Gippsland - The existing Division is virtually on quota and will be within tolerance in 3.5 years. I would propose no changes to its boundaries.

Indi - The existing Division is virtually on quota and will be within tolerance in 3.5 years. I would propose no changes to its boundaries.

Murray - The existing Division is virtually on quota and will be within tolerance in 3.5 years. I would propose no changes to its boundaries.

Higgins - The existing Division is virtually on quota and will be within tolerance in 3.5 years. I would propose no changes to its boundaries.

Goldstein - The existing Division is virtually on quota and will be within tolerance in 3.5 years. I would propose no changes to its boundaries.

Kirner (Melbourne Ports) - The existing Division is virtually on quota and will be within tolerance in 3.5 years. I would propose no changes to its boundaries.

Western Victoria

Wimmera (formerly Mallee) - I propose the reestablishment of the Division of Wimmera in place of Mallee, which was the name that originally covered this area, it clearly refers to the broad region of the state, and it would remove confusion with former state electorate names in South Australia. Such a change would reestablish a federation name and further it is a Aboriginal name.

The addition of electors from Central Goldfields Council from Wannon will place this slowish growing Division above quota which will decline close to quota in 3.5 years time.

Wannon - The addition of the Council area of Golden Plains from Corangamite and Ballarat, and the loss of Central Goldfields Council to Wimmera (Mallee) will put both Wannon and Wimmera (Mallee) somewhat over quota, but both are slow growing Division and in 3.5 years will be close to quota.

Corangamite - The loss of that portion of Golden Plains to Wannon, will reduce the area of Corangamite considerably. Corangamite has being shrinking in size for sometime and its fortunes are shared with neighboring Corio. Corio needs to shed a small number of electors and the area of Mannerim and Marcus Hill which was only added to Corangamite in the last redistribution could be

transferred back to Corangamite, about 2,000 electors should be sufficient to place Corangamite slightly below quota and Corio slightly above.

Corio - Corio needs to shed a small number of electors and the area of Mannerim and Marcus Hill which was only added to Corangamite in the last redistribution could be transferred back to Corangamite, about 2,000 electors should be sufficient to place Corangamite slightly below quota and Corio slightly above.

Bendigo - The current Division can be left largely unchanged, although the loss of about 5,000 electors in the southern portion of Macedon Ranges to McEwen, would see about 5,000 electors from Woodend and Macedon and surrounds transferred to McEwen, which will become more rural in character from the addition of these areas.

Ballarat - The loss of Golden Plains to Wannon reduces Ballarat approximately to quota, a simple transfer that helps equalize elector numbers between neighboring Divisions.

Eastern and South Eastern Victoria

The inner and middle eastern suburbs of Melbourne overall are some 60,000 electors short of a quota. Whilst the outer eastern Divisions Flinders, Holt, Isaacs, McMillan, Flinders and La Trobe are collectively over quota by a similar amount. To expand Kooyong, Chisholm, Deakin, Bruce, Hotham, Menzies, Aston sufficiently major changes need to be made with Jaga Jaga, Isaacs, Hotham, Bruce, Chisholm, Holt, La Trobe, McMillan and Flinders.

Gippsland - no changes as noted above.

Dunkley - Whilst currently on quota, the Divisions immediately to its north and south are above quota. The slight southward displacement of Dunkley to south of Seaford Road and the transfer of these electors to Isaacs and the incorporation of Mount Martha and surrounds from Flinders will add an equivalent number of electors. This slight southward displacement is consistent with the need to move inner and middle eastern suburbs Divisions further out to the increasingly populous outer eastern Divisions.

Flinders - is well above quota and fast growing. The discussion above indicates transfers to Dunkley but as well other transfers are necessary to place Flinders closer to quota and within tolerance in 3.5 years time. The transfer of electors in Cardinia Council north of the South Gippsland Highway to La Trobe will achieve this. The use of the Highway as a boundary ensures that there is a contiguous boundary between the eastern and western portions of Flinders.

McMillan - the Division is well above quota and needs to lose electors to a neighboring Division. I propose that about 15,000 electors within, north and west of Pakenham be transferred to La Trobe. This will place McMillan within quota and tolerance within 3.5 years.

La Trobe - the current Division is slightly above quota but includes quite diverse areas ranging from east of Dandenong to the most easterly parts of the Knox Council and Yarra Ranges. The transfer of about 13,000 electors from Knox Council (areas such as Boronia etc) to Aston will remedy elector shortages there and enable changes to La Trobe to facilitate movements elsewhere with McMillan, Flinders and Holt. The transfers of parts of the Yarra Ranges currently in La Trobe such as Mount Dandenong to the Division of Casey should be considered to remedy a small elector deficiency. As noted above in McMillan the addition of electors from the Pakenham area will enable the transfer of electors currently in La Trobe in areas such as Narre Warren east of Clyde Road and south of the Monash Freeway (Princes Highway) to Holt, which is displaced slightly eastwards due to transfers to Isaacs.

Eastern Melbourne

The inner and middle eastern suburbs of Melbourne overall are some 60,000 electors short of a quota. Whilst the outer eastern Divisions Flinders, Holt, Isaacs, McMillan, Flinders and La Trobe are collectively over quota by a similar amount. To expand Kooyong, Chisholm, Deakin, Bruce, Hotham, Menzies, Aston sufficiently major changes need to be made with Jaga Jaga, Isaacs, Hotham, Bruce, Chisholm, Holt, La Trobe, McMillan and Flinders.

Kirner (formerly Melbourne Ports) - I propose the renaming of the Division of Melbourne Ports to remove a qualifying name, and create a Division to honour the first and only woman Premier of Victoria, the Hon Joan Kirner. As noted above there is a dearth of Divisions named after women, and in the case of Mrs Kirner she is a first, who should be so honored.

The existing Division is below quota but growing. I would suggest that no changes be made to the boundaries.

Goldstein - no changes as noted above.

Higgins - no changes as noted above.

Kooyong - the Division is considerably under quota and the addition of about 7,000 electors from Mont Albert and surrounds from Chisholm, will both add areas of similar socio-economic character and bring Kooyong up to quota.

Menzies - the Division is considerably below quota and the addition of about 7,000 electors from the Nillumbik Council area north of the Yarra River from Jaga Jaga means that disruption to Casey, Kooyong, Chisholm, Deakin (which are all below quota) is not further exacerbated. Whilst the crossing of the Yarra may be seen as significant, it is less of a barrier in the upper reaches of the river, and in the past Divisions such as Diamond Valley sat completely astride the Yarra in this area. The intrusion

into the Nillumbik Council is limited under this proposal and is less problematic than a cascade of adjustments through a large number of under quota neighboring Divisions.

Deakin - this Division like others in the eastern suburbs is below quota. The addition of electors from Monash Council in Bruce north of High Street and East of Springvale Road should bring sufficient electors for Deakin to be close to quota and within tolerance over the next 3.5 years.

Chisholm - this Division like others in the eastern suburbs is below quota. I have proposed the transfer to Kooyong of about 7,000 electors from Mont Albert and surrounds from Chisholm, as this minimizes the disruption to other Divisions and join areas of similar socio-economic character and bring Kooyong up to quota. the addition of additional electors from Bruce will make the Division more compact and less elongated as it has become over recent decades.

I propose that the northern part of Bruce (except for the small transfer of Monash Council to Deakin above) essentially using Ferntree Gully Road and Monash Freeway to the west as a southern boundary. Noting that Bruce is similarly becoming elongated, this modification will help remedy this for both Divisions.

Bruce - this Division like others in the eastern suburbs is below quota. Like Chisholm and Holt many Divisions are becoming increasing elongated and some serious redesigns of boundaries are required. I describe under Chisholm and Deakin transfers of the area north of Ferntree Gully Road and the Monash Highway from Bruce. There is a belt of middle (ie neither inner or outer Melbourne suburbs) suburbs in Hotham, Chisholm, and Bruce that are currently split between three councils Glen Eira, Kingston and Monash, yet are all of similar age and interests.

I propose that Bruce assume a east-west orientation bounded in the north by the Monash Freeway and Ferntree Gully Road, taking in the remainder of Monash Council from Bruce (ie north of Police Road); taking in that portion of Chisholm south of Monash Freeway and that part of Hotham north of South Road (the Glen Eira Council boundary); then eastwards along the course of the proposed freeway until it intersects Westall Road then north along Westall Road until it meets Centre Road (Police Road continuation).

Hotham - this Division like others in the eastern suburbs is below quota. The discussion above gives an indication of substantial changes to Hotham. The level of under quota enrollments in the east of Melbourne requires substantial changes and in some cases the effect cascades. To make up elector shortfalls to Divisions north and east of Hotham, I propose that Hotham be lose all the areas north of South Road, and the proposed freeway, to Bruce and then follow south and east along the Kingston Council boundary taking in all the portion of the Kingston Council in Isaacs.

This construction of Hotham, makes Hotham a essentially entirely Kingston Council based Division, assuming a more coastal orientation. The communities of interest, means of transport and communication are strong. I would urge the commissioners in this direction.

Isaacs - This Division as the discussion above indicates is impacted by changes with Hotham. Isaacs I propose to take in all of the Greater Dandenong Council area (which is current split between Bruce, Hotham and Isaacs). The existing eastern, and southern boundaries are quite strong, moving partly into the Frankston Council area, to which I propose that those parts of Seaford north of Seaford Road be included in Isaacs from Dunkley. To increase the elector numbers in Isaacs, a portion of Casey Council (currently in Holt) will also need to be included, ideally this include areas of Dandenong such as Doveton, Eumemmerring, Endeavour Hills which straddle the Monash Freeway.

Holt - is currently well in excess of quota and losses of electors to Isaacs in that portion of Casey Council this include areas of Dandenong such as Doveton, Eumemmerring, Endeavour Hills which straddle the Monash Freeway. the transfer of electors currently in La Trobe in areas such as Narre Warren east of Clyde Road and south of the Monash Freeway (Princes Highway) to Holt, which is displaced slightly eastwards due to transfers to Isaacs. Holt under this proposal would assume a more square shaped appearance, entirely within the Casey Council.

Aston - this Division like others in the eastern suburbs is below quota. The transfer of about 13,000 electors from Knox Council (areas such as Boronia etc) from La Trobe to Aston will remedy elector shortages there and enable changes to La Trobe to facilitate movements elsewhere with McMillan, Flinders and Holt. The transfers of parts of the Yarra Ranges currently in La Trobe such as Mount Dandenong to the Division of Casey should be considered to remedy a small elector deficiency.

Casey - this Division like others in the eastern suburbs is below quota, but only slightly so and could be left without changes. However electors in La Trobe in Yarra Ranges such as around Mount Dandenong or even the Knox Council could be added.

Northern Melbourne and Central Victoria

Jaga Jaga - this Division like others in the eastern suburbs is below quota. The proposed loss of about 7,000 electors from the Nillumbik Council area north of the Yarra River from Jaga Jaga means that disruption to Casey, Kooyong, Chisholm, Deakin (which are all below quota) is not further exacerbated. Whilst the crossing of the Yarra may be seen as significant, it is less of a barrier in the upper reaches of the river, and in the past Divisions such as Diamond Valley sat completely astride the Yarra in this area. The intrusion into the Nillumbik Council is limited under this proposal and is less problematic than a cascade of adjustments through a large number of under quota neighboring Divisions.

The proposed loss of electors to Menzies can be remedied by the inclusion of all electors in Banyule Council from Scullin and the addition of electors around La Trobe University currently in Darebin Council and Batman. The current Darebin council boundary and resultant Jaga Jaga/Batman boundary appears to be quite anomalous.

Scullin - the existing Division is well above quota, incorporating some fast growing suburbs and straddling Whittlesea, Banyule and Nillumbik Councils. The transfer described above from Jaga Jaga to Menzies and from Batman and that portion of Banyule Council in Scullin to Jaga Jaga have the effect of restoring Jaga Jaga to quota. The areas of Nillumbik Council within Scullin might be better placed

with the remainder of Nillumbik currently in Scullin being placed in McEwen and consolidate those fast growing urban areas currently in Whittlesea that are within McEwen in Scullin.

The addition of areas such as Mernda, Mill Park, South Morang and Wollert in Scullin seems a logical inclusion, rather than a logical exclusion from Scullin. The means of transport and communication tend to run north-south in the Division rather than currently crossing east-west spanning Whittlesea and Nillumbik.

McEwen - this Division is the most over quota, the most sprawling and incorporating a range of urban areas along a broad front of the outer northern suburbs of Melbourne. I have proposed changes to various Divisions in western and northern Victoria only one of which involves transferring electors into McEwen and that is taking about 5,000 electors from Bendigo in Macedon Ranges would see about 5,000 electors from Woodend and Macedon and surrounds transferred to McEwen, which will become more rural in character from the addition of these areas.

I have proposed the addition of the Nillumbik Council areas currently in Scullin to be transferred to McEwen, again adding to the rural/semi-rural character of McEwen, and consolidating urban areas adjacent to each other in the more urbanized neighboring Division wherever possible. Similarly I have proposed that areas such as Mernda, Mill Park, South Morang and Wollert be in Scullin seems a logical inclusion, rather than a logical exclusion from Scullin. The means of transport and communication tend to run north-south in the Division rather than currently crossing east-west spanning Whittlesea and Nillumbik.

I propose that the entirety of the Hume Council be excluded from McEwen, as these areas sprawl on several fronts into Sunbury and also Craigieburn. The effect of these changes is to make McEwen more rural in character and less of the character of a collection of outer suburbs. If there were a population centre point for McEwen under these changes it would be slightly to the north of where it currently is. Despite all these changes I believe McEwen will continue to be a above average growth Division, but less so than it currently is.

Western Melbourne

All the Divisions in the west and north of Melbourne with the exception of Jaga Jaga are over quota, some significantly so.

Melbourne - the Division is both well over quota and fast growing. The commissioner had considered options previously of transferring Docklands out of Melbourne to Melbourne Ports. The design and character of the inner city is changing. If any electors need to be transferred out of the Division the easiest place would be the northern part of Yarra Council, the continuation of Alexandra Parade and then following the Yarra and Melbourne Council boundary north and west to Park Street. Part of Yarra Council is already in Batman and also Wills.

The retention or otherwise of that portion of Whittlesea Council in Batman could otherwise be transferred to Scullin. Losing electors from Batman would mostly easily involve the transfer of the La Trobe University precinct including Macleod and Bundoora to Jaga Jaga

Batman - is discussed above under Jaga Jaga and Melbourne. The surplus electors of Melbourne could be transferred to Batman, Wills or both. Batman is closer to quota than Wills and transfers to Wills are less required unless significant transfers are required to modify Calwell, or accomplish transfers to the new Division of Fraser.

Wills - as noted above, Wills is significantly over quota. those parts of Moonee Ponds Council currently in Wills should be transferred out, and also those areas of Oak Park and Glenroy west of Pascoe Vale Road until it meets the northern Moreland Council boundary, as it is long well defined boundary which should provide sufficient numbers to remove the surplus electors in Wills.

Gellibrand - the current Division is slightly over quota but in order to address the surplus of electors in both it, Lalor (which is significantly over quota), Gorton and Maribyrnong, I propose that each Division be significantly changed. With Gellibrand, I propose that those parts of Maribyrnong south of the Princes Highway and all of Brimbank currently in Gellibrand be placed in Maribyrnong.

I propose that Gellibrand include virtually all of Hobsons Bay Council (except for that portion of Laverton, north of the Princes Highway, if number do not permit), and those portions of Wyndham Council south of the Princes Highway currently within Lalor. This movement of Gellibrand south and loss of its norther portions effectively brings Lalor well within quota.

Lalor - is significantly over quota, as as noted in Gellibrand above, the transfer of those portions of Lalor south of the Princes Highway should be sufficient to place both Gellibrand and Lalor within quota. The realignment also reflects the significance of the Princes Highway in defining the communities in the area.

Gorton - the current Division like several in western Melbourne are significantly over quota. The northern, western and southern boundaries conform to the Melton Council boundaries and should be retained. The entire Melton Council should remain in Gorton and the use of the railway line to Sunbury would be a better longer boundary than currently used, to define Gorton and Maribyrnong. Similarly Derrimut/Station/Kings Road makes a a well defined north-south boundary.

The eastern portions of Gorton, ie in Brimbank Council that is not retained in Gorton, should be placed in Maribyrnong, which will become a Division largely confined to the western side of the Maribyrnong River.

Maribyrnong - as indicated in the discussion above in respect of Gellibrand and Gorton, Maribyrnong will become a Division defined in the east by the Maribyrnong River and include most of the Maribyrnong Council (north of the Princes Highway) and almost all of Brimbank Council.

Calwell - the Division is currently defined in the east by the Hume/Whittlesea Council boundary. As discussed under McEwen in particular I propose to define McEwen as a clearly rural/semi-rural Division and include clearly urban areas in adjacent urban areas. Accordingly I propose that Calwell northern boundary be that of the Hume Council, including Craigieburn and Kalkallo, Mickelham and Yuroke. The elector surplus in Wills could be applied to Calwell, which currently spans across the Maribyrnong River and Calder Highway. Calwell appears to possess disparate communities of interest, in part caused by the division of the electorate by the Tullamarine Airport.

Fraser - in creating the new Division of Fraser, I considered a range of options including possible locations of the Division. Clearly the elector enrollments indicated that the new Division would be in the west of Melbourne. Having considered how Gellibrand, Lalor, Gorton, Maribyrnong, Calwell should be positioned, the outcome for Fraser was a residual of a corridor of communities connected along the Calder Highway from Sunbury (currently in McEwen), Keilor (In Calwell), Strathmore and Essendon (In Maribyrnong). Fraser will include both the current and former city airports (Tullamarine and Essendon). The largest local government area with the Division will be (most of) Moonee Ponds Council, which occupies the eastern bank of the Maribyrnong. Portions of Hume and Brimbank Councils are also included.

Conclusions

I wish the commissioners well in their deliberations.

Martin Gordon