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# Objection 533

Richard W Gall

2 pages

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [FedRedistribution - NSW](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed changes to North Sydney federal Electorate  
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[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
11<sup>TH</sup> July 2024

Dear Sir or Madam,

The proposal to split the federal electorate of North Sydney between adjoining electorates is of concern to me as a long-term resident in the electorate.

I was attracted to the electorate nearly 30 years ago due to the local council's then reputation for good management and low rates as well as Mayor Ted Mack's genuine service to the community at local council and later as an independent member of the House of Representatives.

In 2011, I was honoured to be declared Citizen of the Year by North Sydney Council for services to a number of volunteer organisations within the electorate. At no time have I held a board or committee position in any organisation throughout the federal electorate.

The proposed split of the North Sydney federal electorate does not seem to acknowledge some special features within the electorate. Namely, the large amount of land associated with private schools and the traffic approaches for the Sydney Harbour bridge and tunnel. These land masses in themselves do not contribute much to the population density of the electorate but the private school enrolments, which are almost constantly growing, are adding to the increased volume of compact dwellings that are a feature of several communities within the electorate. Large increases in population are due to follow completion of the new Metro stations such as Victoria Cross and Crows Nest.

For the past two years there has been a marked revival in community spirit throughout the electorate as a consequence of having an independent federal member who regularly presents in the house consolidated views of the community drawn from focus groups and a timetable of visits to villages and shopping centres throughout the electorate. Some key initiatives include a trial centre aimed at becoming a model for a carbon neutral community, introducing senior school children to the living federal parliament, and recognising and respecting the cultural diversity within the electorate. This last point included a festival of song and dance last May with colourful performances by youth groups from our electorate and representative of cultures far from Australia.

During The Voice referendum, our electorate was one of only a disappointing few around the country that voted in excess of 60% in support of the YES case. This result did not just happen by accident but was achieved by a strong truthful information campaign involving expert speakers at a local auditorium (including an indigenous spokesperson), a letterbox drop of the whole electorate, classroom sessions to enable both the Yes and No arguments to be discussed and saturation coverage by volunteers of voting booths to remind the late-deciders of the strong feeling within the community.

In another welcoming gesture, an attractive multi-lingual pack was prepared and mailed out to every Asian national on our electoral roll to acknowledge the Lunar New Year.

Hopefully, after consideration of the above and the broad range of activities currently being pursued by the community that is the North Sydney electorate you will put aside the proposal to disband or merge us with neighbouring electorates.

Yours faithfully,

Richard W Gall