





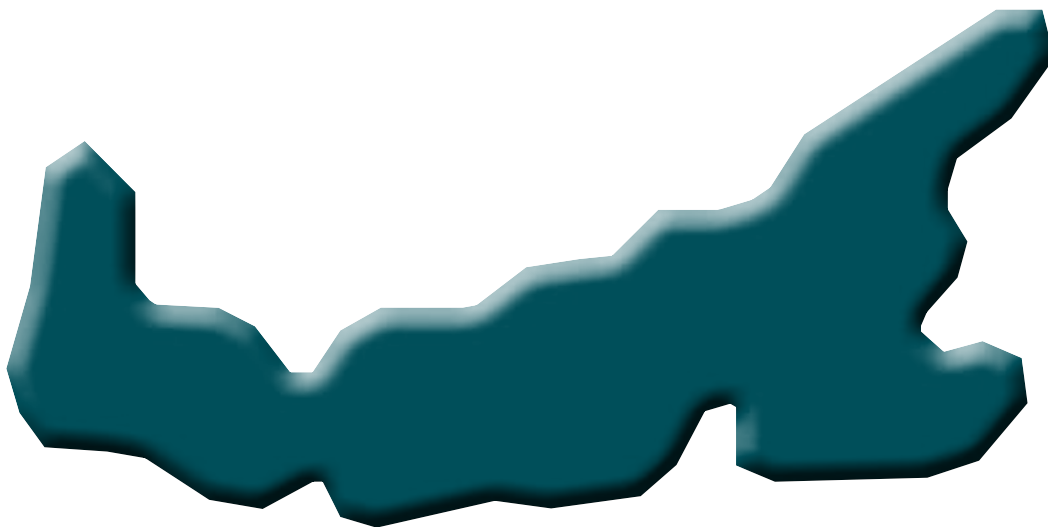
Redistribution
Federal Electoral Districts

Redécoupage
Circonscriptions fédérales



**Report of the
Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission
for the Province of Prince Edward Island**

2012



Report of the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for the Province of Prince Edward Island

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Report



Introduction

Mandate of the Commission

Each decade a commission is established in the province to undertake a review of the federal electoral districts. Such reviews occur nationwide and are a legislated mechanism to ensure that the population shifts that naturally occur are periodically taken into account. The shifts in demographics can affect the distribution of voting rights, and this is subject to review after each decennial census. The *Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act*, R.S.C. 1985, c. E-3 (the Act) sets out the procedure for the review.

In early 2012, the Honourable Gordon L. Campbell was appointed Chair of the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for the Province of Prince Edward Island. In addition, the Honourable Armand DesRoches and Mr. Eugene Murphy were appointed by the Speaker of the House of Commons to serve as Commission members, effective February 21, 2012.

For each province, a separate commission works to achieve the following consistent objectives:

- propose a new electoral map for the province by considering such criteria as average population numbers, communities of identity and interest, historical patterns of an electoral district, and geographic size of electoral districts;
- consult with Canadians through public hearings;
- submit a report on their considerations and propose an electoral map to the House of Commons;
- consider objections from members of the House of Commons; and
- prepare a final report outlining the electoral boundaries for the province.

It is important to note that commissions consider the input received from Canadians and members of the House of Commons when determining the boundaries. However, as independent bodies, they make all final decisions as to where these boundaries will lie.

The decennial census of the population of the Province of Prince Edward Island was taken in 2011, and pursuant to the provisions of the Act, the Chief Statistician of Canada reported that the population was then fixed at **140,204**. The province is divided into four (4) electoral districts, designated as Cardigan, Charlottetown, Egmont and Malpeque. In Prince Edward Island the designated number of electoral districts is protected by legislation, and despite varying electoral quotas across the country, the province is guaranteed four seats.

The Act provides that the population of each electoral district shall correspond as nearly as possible to the electoral quota for the province. The Prince Edward Island **electoral quota is 35,051** inhabitants per electoral district. It is, however, necessary to take into consideration certain factors stated in section 15 of the Act. That section defines the applicable factors for redistribution as follows:

15. (1) In preparing its report, each commission for a province shall, subject to subsection (2), be governed by the following rules:

(a) the division of the province into electoral districts and the description of the boundaries thereof shall proceed on the basis that **the population** of each electoral district in the province as a result thereof **shall, as close as reasonably possible, correspond to the electoral quota for the province**, that is to say, the quotient obtained by dividing the population of the province as ascertained by the census by the number of members of the House of Commons to be assigned to the province as calculated by the Chief Electoral Officer under subsection 14(1); and

- (b) the commission shall consider the following in determining reasonable electoral district boundaries:
- (i) the **community of interest** or **community of identity** in or the **historical pattern of an electoral district** in the province, and
 - (ii) a manageable geographic size for districts in sparsely populated, rural or northern regions of the province.

Factors for Consideration

In reviewing the legislated factors, the Commission has determined that manageable geographic size is not a relevant consideration in the Province of Prince Edward Island. The key consideration is to achieve a close proximity to the electoral quota. The 2011 Census revealed that the population of each electoral district in the province is within 2.72% of the current electoral quota. This is a highly desirable variance range and would only be disrupted by the Commission for very compelling reasons.

The previous commission had recommended changes to the electoral district boundaries, which effectively established strong voter parity while accounting for the community of interest, community of identity, and the historical pattern of the electoral districts in the province.

The Commission's Decision

The Commission's initial proposal included **no changes** to the electoral district boundaries.

When the existing electoral boundaries were created in 2002, there were negative variances from the electoral quota of -4.67% in Charlottetown and -2.25% in Malpeque respectively. As predicted these electoral districts continue to show the most population growth. The current population data arising from the 2011 Census shows the following variances:

Population Quota: 35,051		
Federal Electoral District	Population 2011	Variance
Cardigan	36,005	2.72%
Charlottetown	34,562	-1.40%
Egmont	34,598	-1.29%
Malpeque	35,039	-0.03%

Given the insignificant variances arising from the 2011 data, the Commission sees no reason to adjust the current boundaries. There have been no observable shifts in communities of interest or identity, nor has there been any recent change in the historical pattern of the electoral districts. The Commission is convinced that the current electoral boundaries are working effectively.

The Commission recognized that its proposal did not advance change; however, public comments were welcomed to assist the Commission in ensuring that the obligations of the Act had been fully discharged.

Public Hearings

Notice of Sittings for the Hearing of Representations

The Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for the Province of Prince Edward Island, pursuant to the Act, proposed to hold sittings for the hearing of representations on the matter of the proposed electoral districts for the province at the following places:

Elmsdale	Westisle Composite High School	Tuesday, October 9, 2012
Summerside	Parkside Elementary School	Wednesday, October 10, 2012
Charlottetown	Charlottetown Rural High School	Thursday, October 11, 2012
Morell	Morell Regional High School	Tuesday, October 16, 2012
Hunter River	Central Queens Elementary School	Wednesday, October 17, 2012

No submissions to make representations at a hearing were received by the posted deadline and the Commission elected to cancel all the hearings except the one scheduled for Charlottetown.

In accordance with subsection 19(3) of the Act, a map was prepared showing the division of the province into electoral districts and indicating the representation and names of each electoral district, together with the boundaries of each electoral district, all of which are set out in the following schedule. In addition a geography specialist was on hand to assist the commissioners in answering the public's questions or concerns arising from the Commission's proposal.

There was light attendance at the Charlottetown public hearing, where the Commission reviewed the existing boundaries with the attendees and discussed the areas in the Charlottetown district that were sensitive to future change. There were no presentations made to the Commission advocating any change to the proposal.

The Commission remains satisfied that no changes to the existing electoral boundaries are required during this redistribution process.

Dated at Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, this 3rd day of December, 2012.

The Honourable Gordon L. Campbell
Chair

The Honourable Armand DesRoches
Member

Mr. Eugene Murphy
Member

Ms. Michele Dorsey
Commission Secretary

CERTIFIED copy of the Report of the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for the Province of Prince Edward Island.

Signature

Date

Schedule

Schedule



Schedule — Boundaries and Names of Electoral Districts

There shall be in the Province of Prince Edward Island four (4) electoral districts, named and described as follows, each of which shall return one member.

In the following descriptions:

- (a) all cities, towns, counties, communities, islands and Indian reserves lying within the perimeter of the electoral district are included unless otherwise described;
- (b) wherever a word or expression is used to denote a territorial division, such word or expression shall indicate the territorial division as it existed or was bounded on January 1, 2011; and
- (c) lot numbers and boundaries are referenced to *Meacham's 1880 Atlas*.

The population figure of each electoral district is derived from the 2011 decennial census.

Cardigan

(Population: 36,005)

(Map 1)

Consisting of:

- (a) the County of Kings;
- (b) that part of the County of Queens comprised of: lots 35, 36, 37, 48, 49, 50, 57, 58, 60 and 62; the Town of Stratford; and
- (c) Governors Island and all other islands adjacent to the County of Kings and to the above-mentioned lots.

Charlottetown

(Population: 34,562)

(Map 1)

Consisting of the City of Charlottetown.

Egmont

(Population: 34,598)

(Map 1)

Consisting of:

- (a) that part of the County of Prince comprised of: lots 1 to 17 inclusive; the Community of Sherbrooke; the City of Summerside; Lennox Island Indian Reserve No. 1; and
- (b) the islands of Hog, Bird, Holman and all other islands adjacent to the above-mentioned lots.

Malpeque
(Population: 35,039)
(Map 1)

Consisting of:

(a) that part of the County of Queens comprised of: lots 20 to 24 inclusive, 29, 30, 31, 33, 34, 65 and 67; the Town of Cornwall; the Resort Municipality of Stanley Bridge, Hope River, Bayview, Cavendish and North Rustico; the communities of Brackley, Miltonvale Park, Union Road, Warren Grove and Winsloe South; Rocky Point Indian Reserve No. 3;

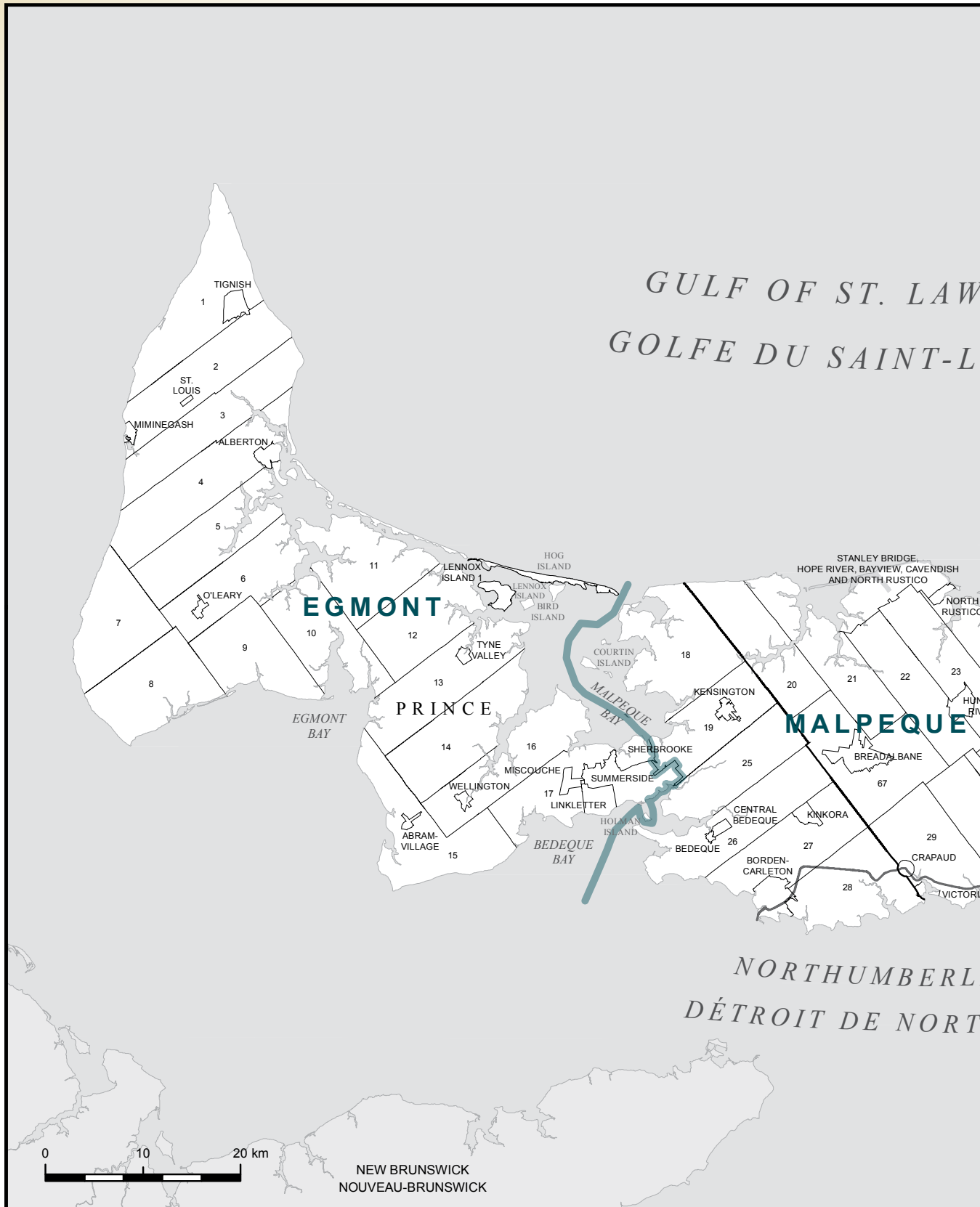
(b) that part of the County of Prince composed of: lots 18, 19, 25 to 28 inclusive, excepting the Community of Sherbrooke and the City of Summerside; and

(c) the islands of St. Peters, Courtin, Little Courtin, Ram and all other islands adjacent to the above-mentioned lots.

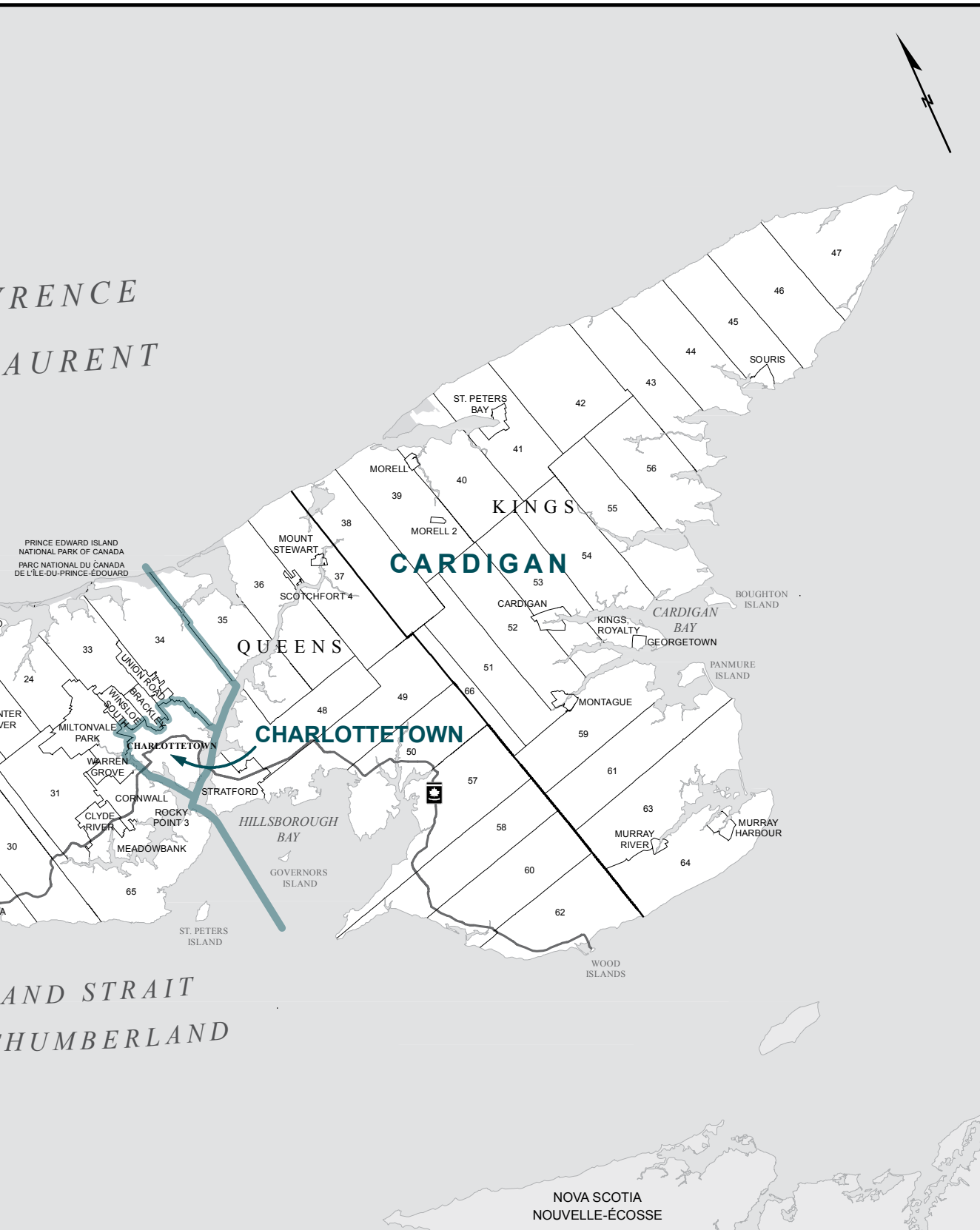
Map



Prince Edward Island (Map 1)



SOURCE: THE ELECTORAL GEOGRAPHY DIVISION, ELECTIONS CANADA.





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