

Dear Gonzales Neighbour,

On the city of Victoria website there is a survey posted that asks one question regarding community representation for Gonzales. We encourage you to read below and consider voting at the following link. The survey ends June 18:

<https://engage.victoria.ca/neighbourhood-boundaries>

Background Information

In February, Mayor and Council conducted a “neighbourhood boundaries” workshop. The purpose of the workshop was primarily to discuss changes to boundaries between neighbourhoods but it also discussed potential changes to a few Neighbourhood Associations. The proposed changes are as follows:

1. Combine South and North Jubilee into one Neighbourhood Association. The two Jubilees are small on their own (~2500 people) and actually share one neighbourhood plan so the question was whether there should only be one Jubilee Assn to correspond to one plan.
2. To consider 3 options for Gonzales:
 1. To leave as is with Gonzales combined with Fairfield (FGCA);
 2. To have Gonzales join with the Rockland Neighbourhood Assn; or
 3. To have a separate Gonzales Neighbourhood Association (GNA).

The GNA Board supports the establishment of a separate Neighbourhood Association for Gonzales. Attached to this e-mail is the letter that was sent to Mayor and Council listing the reasons why Gonzales should have its own Neighbourhood Association. The letter is also at our website: www.gonzalesna.ca

Although it had not been considered in the past, if the opportunity arose, the GNA board would be open to the idea of forming one Neighbourhood Association with Rockland for the following reasons:

- combining the two neighbourhoods would put us closer to the city’s preferred size for Neighbourhood Associations at around 7000 residents;
- we are a similar size in population and so would not be dominated by the population of the other neighbourhood on the board;

- we have a shared geography and housing types; particularly on the height of land that extends from Gonzales Hill through to Queen Anne Heights through to the Lieutenant Governors house;
- we have similar views on development.; and
- there would be a larger membership base on which to draw an executive/CALUC from as well as the possibility of more programs for the community

The GNA supports options 2b or 2c; an independent neighbourhood association or joining Rockland for the reasons stated above.

If you have any questions or concerns or would like your name removed from our database please do not hesitate to contact us at gonzalesneighbours@gmail.com