

Amalgamation not necessarily the answer

Re: “ ‘Transforming’ region not always desirable,” letter, May 13.

Kudos to the mayor of View Royal for correctly pointing out that the advantages and disadvantages of amalgamation in the capital region must be thoroughly researched before any decisions are made. Why should amalgamation occur?

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I suspect David Screech might already know there is no evidence available to suggest that amalgamation saves money. Indeed, the opposite has been true in Canadian urban areas that have amalgamated.

Anecdotally, I can report that the quality of service deteriorated greatly after amalgamation occurred in Winnipeg.

The unique characteristics of the separate cities/municipalities decreased markedly.

I agree with Screech. We are fortunate to live here, and we need to proceed carefully on actions and decisions that would permanently alter the capital region.

Terry Vatr

Oak Bay

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