

2017 Provincial Election Questionnaire
Capital Region Municipal Amalgamation Society (Amalgamation Yes)
<http://www.amalgamationyes.ca>

TO EACH CANDIDATE STANDING FOR ELECTION TO PUBLIC OFFICE IN ONE OF THE PROVINCIAL
ELECTORIAL RIDINGS COMPRISING CAPITAL REGION DISTRICT in MAY 2017.

Please complete and return this questionnaire to amalgamateyes@gmail.com by April 15, 2017
Responses will be posted on the <http://www.amalgamationyes.ca> website.

Candidate name: _____Andy
Mackinnon _____
Candidate for: _____Green Party_____ (name of provincial party: Liberal, NDP,
Green, Other)
Provincial Electoral Riding of: _____Esquimalt -
Metchosin _____

- 1.** During the municipal election in November 2014, the majority electorate in the Capital Region District voted in favour of reducing the number of municipalities in the CRD and/or a study towards that end. In municipalities within your riding, the majority of voters were in favour of local government reform and rejection of the status quo. Both the Premier and the Minister responsible promised a fulsome amalgamation study. But since that time there has been scant movement toward that goal, and the current government has stated that the Capital Integrated Government and Services Initiative (CISGI) information gathering project will not look at amalgamation. There has been a failure of the current government to adequately respond to the will of the electorate. **If elected, what will you do to recognize the democratic will of the people of Greater Victoria?**

Well, your question isn't quite right – you state that “In municipalities within your riding, the majority of voters were in favour of local government reform and rejection of the status quo.”. There were no referenda in three of the four municipalities in the riding of Esquimalt – Metchosin. Regardless, I think it's worth investigating consequences of some limited local amalgamation of the sort suggested by Mayor John Ranns of Metchosin.

- 2.** The CRD is beset by controversy around its decision-making processes. The CRD Board is comprised of members appointed from the 13 municipalities who are not directly elected to represent regional interests. Rather, they are appointed to represent their municipality's interests and this results in costly

failures to reach rational and prudent decisions on such matters as secondary sewage treatment, regional transportation, regional growth, public safety and other issues. **If elected, what reforms or changes, if any, will you make to address pressing regional issues?**

I think the CRD does some things well, and could certainly do other things better. (Couldn't we all?) I believe we need a regional body such as the CRD.