

**2020 Victoria By-election Questionnaire**  
**Capital Region Municipal Amalgamation Society (Amalgamation Yes)**  
<http://www.amalgamationyes.ca>

TO EACH CANDIDATE STANDING FOR ELECTION TO PUBLIC OFFICE in the City of Victoria By-Election, April 4, 2020.

Please complete and return to [amalgamateyes@gmail.com](mailto:amalgamateyes@gmail.com) by March 15, 2020. Responses will be posted on the <http://www.amalgamationyes.ca> website.

**Candidate: JEREMY CARADONNA**

1. The electorate-approved Citizens' Assembly (CA), which is well underway in Saanich and Victoria, will be tasked to make recommendations to those respective councils on the potential for unification. If the CA recommends that the two municipalities merge, what will you do to facilitate this process and ensure the voters have an opportunity to vote on the recommendations in a binding referendum?

*I would organize multiple events and platforms in which voters could assemble in person and online to debate, engage, and assess the potential impacts of amalgamation. Events would include visioning sessions, town hall assemblies, and learning workshops. A decision to amalgamate would be a momentous change for our community and it could occur only with broad social consent and a fully informed citizenry.*

2. Notwithstanding a municipal merger, do you agree that combining critical services, such as policing and fire fighting, would provide more effective and efficient public safety for the residents of Greater Victoria? Yes or no. Please explain.

*Yes, I believe it could, but I await more robust evidence-based research to convince me of the argument. I also believe that Victoria, as currently defined, and as the hub of the CRD, has the most to gain from amalgamation, should the people support it. Our police force, for instance, carries more than its fair share of the burden of policing a metropolitan population that frequents our downtown core.*

3. The current Capital Region District Board consists of municipal councillors and mayors who are appointed from the 13 municipalities. By legislation, these municipal appointments are responsible to represent the interests of their home municipalities. Do you think that regional interests could be better served if the entire CRD Board was directly elected by voters region-wide? Why or why not? Please explain.

*I answer the question with a question: Would the directly elected CRD councillors be chosen from amongst the same pool of elected representatives in the 13 municipalities, or would they be an entirely different set of councillors? My answer would depend on the answer to this question.*