



**ESQUIMALT RESPONSES**  
**Amalgamation Yes Questionnaire**  
**2018 Municipal Election**  
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1. Are you in favour of a [citizens' assembly](#) process to look at governance in your community and its relation to the region? Why or why not? Please explain.
  
2. 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 would be better served if the entire CRD Board was directly elected by voters region-wide? Why or why not? Please explain.

**ESQUIMALT CANDIDATE RESPONSES: (NOTE: Candidates listed in alphabetic order. Mayoral candidates denoted with “M”)**

Name	Q 1: Supporting the Citizens' Assembly Model?	Q 2: Electing CRD Board by all voters, region-wide?
<b>Ken Armour</b>		
<b>Meagan Brame</b>		
<b>Barb Desjardins - M</b>		
<b>Veronica Greer</b>	This is a very vaguely worded question, but yes I would be willing to take a look at the governance in my community. I am confused about why there would be a need to look at our governance and it's relation to the region? It would be useful to say why you want this.	No I do not. I am not in favour of amalgamation because it would take away from what makes each community unique. Services would be centralized and Victoria would end up benefiting while smaller communities would get left out or lose resources. In studying several other Canadian cities who have amalgamated their surrounding municipalities, it has done nothing to save money (which is something people are hoping would happen), and it has resulted in a reduced quality of services for each region. There is no example where this would work well. Anyone who would like amalgamation to happen should find an example where it has gone well and present that in their argument.
<b>Jacob Helliwell</b>		

<b>Andrew Hrushowy</b>		
<b>Lynda Hundleby</b>		
<b>Tim Morrison</b>		
<b>Chris Munkacsi</b>	<p>Yes, I am supportive of a citizens' assembly. This is an important decision for the Greater Victoria Area. I believe there are areas that elected officials and municipal staff will be involved in the process. I believe members of the community should have the right and opportunity to participate in the process</p>	<p>Municipal Mayors and Councillors are democratically elected by their communities and appointed by their municipalities to the CRD. By legislation, these appointments are responsible to represent the interests of their home municipalities, the people who voted for them and the communities they represent.</p> <p>In 1965, the CRD was created. It can take on any function that a municipality can perform on their own and the board is made up of municipal Councillors and Mayors. Having lived in Ottawa from 1999 to 2003, where I lived through the shock that a full Amalgamation created over a short implementation time span. I believe we should maximize the options that the regional district system offers. Working together, we created the Public Library System where residents can use, check out or return a book seamlessly throughout any Greater Victoria Public Library across the region. Also, Our Regional Rec Centre Pass allows usage of any municipal facility from Sidney to Sooke.</p> <p>There is more work to be done. We need to maximize the usage of the CRD and build on agreements and common shared services such as Police and Fire fighting across the region.</p> <p>The cost of keeping our regional representation in our municipalities in \$9.85 per capita. If we do amalgamate it is likely we will follow the model in Ontario, in which they use the Ward System. The former municipalities retain their form and shape and still retain their representation as the citizens in that Ward would elect their representative to council.</p>
<b>John Roe - M</b>	<p>Yes I am, it's a process that needs to be discussed, not at only in the political realm, but the community needs the facts, in infrastructure inground and above ( what we own ), audited report showing what we have and the projected costs in the future. With this audit a cost analysis of the potential savings or otherwise in Amalgamation and or integration, example, sewer / storm sewers, roads, parks etc.</p>	<p>Yes, but we would need to have some type of the Ward system for the regions, currently the Mayor and or Councilor, is so overwhelmed by the roles they play, the communication of decisions made at the table when presented at council, are watered down or not discussed in detail. So I guess my question is the model proposed like Saanich, elected to council elected to CRD?</p>
<b>Stephane Vaudandaine</b>		
<b>Jan Vermeulen</b>		