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## Glum times indeed for pro-amalgamation forces

When you consider the previous Liberal provincial government announced it would undertake a regional amalgamation review following the result of the 2014 governance survey (75.1 per cent of 88 per cent of regional representation voted yes to unity review questions) and when you also consider that then-Opposition MLA Carole James proclaimed she supported such a review, that we would now have a situation where the prospect of addressing regional governance in Victoria has never looked so glum.

The NDP government, in its haste to respect community powers over local autonomy, have thrown out the baby with the bathwater.

So what if Esquimalt voters voted by a 2-1 margin on a clear amalgamation review question. So what if multiple mayors wrote the province asking the previous government to respect voter wishes for such a review.

How can the NDP be proud of not doing its job, on what is the fundamental responsibility of provincial oversight?

To see them take pride in what amounts to literally no leadership whatsoever (even when community democracy requests it) is discouraging! Area residents deserve more than to be left with governance by headlines of the day whereby the NDP operates as schoolyard enforcer.

How visionless can a region get?

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