



August 12, 2014

Mayors and Councillors
Greater Victoria

Re: Non-binding Amalgamation Question

Dear Mayors and Councillors:

Further to the recent Angus Reid Poll results on amalgamation, the Hotel Association of Greater Victoria (HAGV) requests that you place a non-binding question on amalgamation on your municipal ballots in this fall's election.

We firmly believe that now is the time to ask the people about this issue. There is absolutely nothing to lose with asking a non-binding question and only insightful information to gain, regardless of the outcome.

The poll result speaks for itself:


- 84 per cent of capital region residents favour amalgamation
- 89 per cent support a non-binding referendum on amalgamation
- 80 per cent want an independent cost-benefit study and analysis

The HAGV, an arm of the British Columbia Hotel Association, represents over 6000 accommodation rooms that includes Greater Victoria, Sidney, and Sooke generating millions of tax dollars and employing an estimated 4,000 taxpayers.

I look forward to 13 municipalities participating with a query on the ballot in this fall's election.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours truly,


Reid James
Chairperson

Cc Premier C. Clark, Minister C. Oakes, Times Colonist, P. Nursey - Tourism Victoria, B. Carter - The Chamber, S. Jones - Amalgamation Yes, J. Chase - BCHA, HAGV