

Principles for the establishment of a Citizens' Assembly

In proceeding with a Citizens `Assembly AmalgamationYes suggests consideration of the following:

- Engage meaningfully with the first nations at the outset of the process
- Adhere to the process used by North Cowichan and Duncan
- Funding to be ideally provided by the Province, but if not, then shared equally among the two municipalities and the Province
- Led by citizens of both municipalities who have a variety of backgrounds, interests, skills and abilities, balanced by gender, generational representation and proportional to the populations of both municipalities
- Membership should be open to all citizens except for elected officials and staff. (Members of the Board for Amalgamation Yes would not seek membership on the Assembly)
- Arms length from the bureaucracy with its own administrative support
- Transparent and open to the public and allowing for public participation
- Struck and established before the 2018 municipal election
- Led by a contractor who is a-political and neutral on the issue of amalgamation

It is critical that elected officials move forward on this issue with dedication and commitment. They need to walk the talk, so that citizens and ultimately the electorate have their say in how they wish to be governed.

Better is Possible

Shellie Gudgeon

Chair, Amalgamation Yes

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