



## **2019 NT Electorate Boundary re-distribution submission Alice Springs Country Liberals Party Alice Springs Branch**

Current enrolment statistics as at 15/2/19 show that Araluen & Braitling electorates are currently over the quota of 5511 by 17.27% and 28.91% respectively. Namatjira is currently under quota by 10.38%. The combined effect being Central Australian electorates are over quota by 35.8%.

Scrutiny of all the Darwin and Palmerston enrolments combined show they are currently over quota by 8.1%. The discrepancy is greater in Central Australia and surrounding bush electorates.

Our proposal to address this inequity is as follows:

1. Return to three electorates incorporating the population of Alice Springs and nearby populated areas (currently in Namatjira) that access Alice Springs as a service area.
2. Return to similar boundaries prior to the 2015 redistribution and in particular the communities of Papunya, Yuendumu, Mt Liebig, Haasts Bluff and Hermannsburg should be reinstated within the electorate of Namitjira in keeping with the redistribution committee mandate to keep community of interests within proposed electorate divisions.
3. Rationalisation of electorate boundaries in the remote Top End including redistribution of Arafura (currently under quota 16.91%) proportioned to adjacent electorates that are communities of interest.
  - a. For example: Re-distribute Tiwi into Daly & increase Stuart up into Katherine region.
4. Further adjustment of boundaries to existing electorates of Daly, Stuart, Barkly & Namatjira to re-adjust electoral enrolments closer to the desired quota of 5511.

We propose that the 2015 re-distribution in Central Australia was undertaken without due consideration of the effect on communities of interest within the electorates resulting in disproportionate representation and detrimental to cultural representation.

With the current redistribution process we request that consideration is given to the following factors:

1. Service areas and access routes. For example: residents in the remote town of Lajamanu in Stuart electorate are better serviced by Katherine than Tennant Creek due to access roads.
2. Communities of interest as previously mentioned. Papunya, Yuendumu, Mt Liebig, Haasts Bluff and Hermannsburg should be reinstated within the same electorate retaining communities of interest and cultural representation.
3. Geographical boundaries separating tropical and arid regions.

The 2015 redistribution has also resulted in significant over-representation in the existing electorates of Araluen and Braitling in Alice Springs and Spillet in the Top End.



Reinstating a third electorate in Alice Springs and redistributing the current electorates of Braiiting (7104 enrolments) and Araluen (6463 enrolments) across three electorates would result in approx. 4522 enrolments with each electorate under quota by approx. 990 voters.

To rectify this situation and maintain enrolments close to the desired quota our proposal is that SA1 boundaries surrounding Alice Springs that are currently within Namatjira should be incorporated within the proposed three Alice Springs electorates. Residents within these SA1 areas live close to the town of Alice Springs and identify as town or rural residents rather than remote.

The quota for Namatjira could then be increased through the re-allocation of Arafura and the flow-on adjustment to electorate boundaries (Arnhem, Barkly, Stuart etc) between the current divisions of Arafura and Namatjira causing no disturbance to the existing electorate boundaries in Darwin & Palmerston.

Examples of SA1 areas that could be brought within the proposed three Alice Springs electorates are listed below. This list is not conclusive and could be extended to pick up further enrolments close to the town of Alice Springs thereby increasing the quota for each electorate.

Sample of SA1 areas to be incorporated within the proposed three Alice Springs electorates:

SA1 7105110 Connellan x230  
SA1 7104702 Forresters Camp x 67  
SA1 7104514 Charles creek Camp x 66  
SA1 7105105 Ross Highway x 229  
SA1 7105106 Ross Highway x 194  
SA1 7105107 Southern Town camps x 158  
SA1 7104501 Stuart Highway (right of Todd River north of Alice Springs) x 16  
SA1 7104911 Mt Johns x 43  
SA1 7105108 Blatherskite park x 47

### **Proposed name of new electorate**

We propose that the newly formed electorate in Alice Springs be named **BATTARBEE**

Reginald (Rex) Ernest Battarbee (16 December 1893 – 2 September 1973) was an Australian artist notable for painting landscapes of Central Australia, and for teaching Aboriginal artist Albert Namatjira to paint.

About 1940, Battarbee moved permanently to Central Australia. He conducted classes for an expanding group of Aboriginal artists and arranged exhibitions of Namatjira's paintings in the southern capitals. As the Hermannsburg School of watercolourists developed, Battarbee became its promoter and helped to regulate the supply and distribution of its works to art markets. He was a member (from 1943) and chairman (1951–1956) of the Aranda Arts Council and a member of the two advisory committees also formed to protect the artists' interests.

The Battarbees lived at Alice Springs and opened an Aboriginal art gallery, Tmara-mara, in their home. Rex continued to paint and exhibit. Battarbee was appointed O.B.E. in 1971 for his services to art and Aborigines. Battarbee was a fellow (1937) of the Royal South Australian Society of Arts. Rex Battarbee died on 2 September 1973 in the Old Timers' Home, Alice Springs, and was buried with Methodist forms in the town's cemetery. His work is represented in the Art Gallery of South Australia and the National Gallery of Victoria.