



**Committee of the Whole Report  
For the Meeting of July 17, 2025**

---

**To:** Committee of the Whole **Date:** May 29, 2025  
**From:** Curt Kingsley, City Clerk  
**Subject:** Victoria-Saanich Citizens' Assembly – Final Report Submission

---

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receive this report for information.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Attached for Council's information and consideration is the Final Report of the Victoria Saanich Citizens' Assembly on Amalgamation.

In the 2018 General and Local School Board Elections, voters in both the City of Victoria and the District of Saanich were asked a community opinion question:

"Are you in favour of spending up to \$250,000 for establishing a Citizens' Assembly to explore the costs, benefits and disadvantages of the amalgamation between the District of Saanich and the City of Victoria?"

A majority of voters in both municipalities supported the proposal. The process was delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic but resumed in 2024 with the establishment of the Citizens' Assembly, supported by MASS LBP and guided by a Terms of Reference approved by both Councils.

The Citizens' Assembly was composed of 48 randomly selected residents from both municipalities. It met for eight full-day sessions between September 2024 and April 2025. The Assembly concluded its deliberations on April 5, 2025 and announced its recommendation that the City of Victoria and the District of Saanich amalgamate into a single municipality.

Staff will report back to Council with more information on next steps and potential implications of the Assembly's recommendation after more discussions with the District of Saanich and the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs.

Respectfully submitted,

Monika Fedyczkowska  
Legislation and Policy  
Analyst

Barrie Nicholls  
Legislation and Policy  
Analyst

Curt Kingsley  
City Clerk

Susanne Thompson  
Deputy City  
Manager and  
Chief Financial Officer

**Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager**

**List of Attachments**

Appendix 1: Victoria-Saanich Citizens' Assembly Final Report (May 2025)