



Comment on objections 89

North Melbourne Chinese Association

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Dear Australian Electoral Commission,

We are writing on behalf of the North Melbourne Chinese Association, of which we have both been active & engaged members for over a decade. We are a volunteer-run organisation. We have both lived and worked in North Melbourne for many years.

The North Melbourne Chinese Association provides activities for the local Chinese community in North Melbourne. In particular, we provide traditional dancing classes for elderly residents, Ma-king, gentle exercise classes and other social activities. These activities are important in combating isolation, particularly amongst our community who are often cut off from the wider society due to language barriers or older age.

Our members are largely based in inner city suburbs, and participate in our activities for social connection and support.

Our organisation is deeply connected to the Melbourne community and we identify as an inner city organisation. We object to the proposal by the Victorian Labor Party for North Melbourne to become part of the Maribyrnong electorate, and do not see similarity between the suburb in which we operate, and the north western suburbs of Maribyrnong.

The Chinese community of Melbourne is either in the outer Eastern suburbs, or in the inner city suburbs - like the CBD, North Melbourne, Richmond, Carlton & Southbank. This is the community I know, and we do not have a connection to the north western suburbs of the Division of Maribyrnong. For the needs of our community to be best represented in the federal Parliament, I think it is very important for our community to stay united in the Division of Melbourne, with one MP who understands our needs.

To this, our organisation has an existing, strong relationship with Adam Bandt MP and his office, as the member for Melbourne. We would like to continue to be able to work with Adam and his team, who provide support to our Chinese community at the Centre.

Kind regards,

Irene Yin & Wei Ming Bao

Irene Yin - Secretary General

Wei Ming Bao - President

North Melbourne Chinese Association

