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WoW Business and Social Network

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Dear Redistribution Committee,

The Women of Whitehorse (WoW) is a Business and a Social Network for Women. Founded in 2015, we are based in Melbourne's Eastern suburbs. Our values are Connection, Collaboration and Community, hence our keen interest in this redistribution.

We facilitate professional & casual networking functions for both Business and Social Events in-person, organising a lunch & a dinner meetup every month at different venues. We aim to connect women at all stages of their lives – whether they are young and have recently moved into our area, or empty nesters who are suddenly feeling a little lonely and have need of new friendships. We are about building the community, as well as supporting and promoting our local traders and tradies. Our group is well established and has helped many women since our inception.

As a Whitehorse-based group we also have contact, from time to time with our political representatives. This might take the form of seeking support for a community facility, or to advocate for issues concerning one or more of our members. We therefore would like to briefly write in support of your proposed electoral boundaries for Whitehorse.

Firstly, we agree with the decision to unite Box Hill into a single federal electorate. Box Hill is set to receive significant public and private investment and future development, so including it all in one electorate is a good move.

Having united Box Hill, the next question is in which electorate should Box Hill be included. We agree with your decision to include it in the Menzies electorate. In our view, Box Hill is closely connected to Doncaster.

Many of us go to Westfield Doncaster to shop, often by the 903 bus. The primary and secondary school zones around Box Hill, Doncaster and Balwyn overlap, building shared community and family friendships throughout the area. Many of our children and grandchildren participate in educational and sporting activities around Doncaster, facilitated by easy transport links. Most of us have family members and friends who live in Doncaster.

As a community organisation, we are surprised that some people think that Box Hill is somehow more closely related to Ringwood and Croydon than Doncaster. This concept is completely ridiculous to anyone who lives in the Box Hill area, and we emphatically reject this idea.

We again congratulate the Redistribution Committee for its draft boundaries and oppose any attempts to alter the very cohesive proposal you have put forward.

Yours sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

Jennifer Brosnan – WoW Founder