




P.O. Box 1749  
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**Item No. 11.1.1**  
**Halifax Regional Council**  
**October 18, 2011**

**TO:** Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council  
Original Signed

**SUBMITTED BY:**   
Richard Butts, Chief Administrative Officer

**DATE:** October 14, 2011

**SUBJECT:** NSUARB Recommendation – 16 Polling Districts in HRM

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**ORIGIN**

The July 27, 2011 decision of the NSUARB setting the number of districts and councillors in HRM at 16 plus the Mayor and directing HRM to determine the appropriate polling districts in HRM and return to the Board with a submission by October 21, 2011 (as extended).

The Halifax Regional Council motion of August 8, 2011, that Halifax Regional Council:

1. Not appeal the July 27, 2011 decision of the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board.
2. In order to bring the recommendation to Regional Council on the 16 polling District boundaries to be forwarded to the NSUARB that:
  - a) The task be assigned to HRM staff to determine the boundaries.
  - b) The report be brought back to Council to be received without amendment or debate to be forwarded to the NSUARB.

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council recommend to the NSUARB Option 1 **as revised** during the public consultation process with the 16 polling district boundaries as outlined in Attachment 1 of this staff report.



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**BACKGROUND**

Following the decision of the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (NSUARB) of July 27, 2011 Council considered the matter and passed the motion of August 8, 2011 directing staff to undertake a process to determine and recommend the boundaries for the sixteen (16) polling districts in HRM. The initial dates for the NSUARB hearings, set for October 12-14th, would have made public engagement extremely challenging. In light of that concern Council also passed a motion supporting a request to the NSUARB for an extension if required.

Staff engaged the following process to determine the proposed polling district boundaries:

- Adopt the Principles to be used in the process of setting the polling district boundaries
- Preparation of options and alternative approaches
- Internal review of options with various departments in HRM
- External review of options – Stantec Consulting as an independent 3<sup>rd</sup> party. (A detailed summary of the engagement and review undertaken by Stantec is provided as Attachment 2 of this report).
- Engagement with staff of the Halifax Regional School Board regarding a joint application process to the NSUARB
- Selection of two (2) scenarios to present to the public for consultation

Staff, in discussion with Stantec, commenced the public engagement process through the use of an on-line survey. Two (2) boundary scenarios were posted on-line along with detailed district maps. The public was asked to comment on which scenario they preferred, along with any additional comments or suggestions they wished to put forward.

To establish a “control” group, HRM engaged *The Marketing Group* (a local marketing company) to invite residents selected representatively from throughout HRM to fill out the survey to achieve approximately 1,000 responses in the control survey. The control responses were kept in a separate data base from the broader public survey. This approach allowed staff to evaluate preferences and responses in a controlled manner in addition to responses self-selected through resident participation. In total, between the control survey and the open survey almost 3,000 residents responded to the survey. A summary of the survey results is provided as Attachment 3 of this report.

During the survey process HRM requested an extension from the NSUARB in order to allow more time for consultation. That extension was granted and eight (8) public information meetings were scheduled and advertised – one in each Community Council area along with meetings in Sackville and the Eastern Shore. Approximately 160 people attended the eight (8) Public Information Meetings (PIMs). A detailed summary of the meetings and comments is provided as Attachment 4 of this report.

Additionally thirty-four (4) written submissions and five (5) surveys responses were received through the Clerk’s office. The written submissions are included as Attachment 5 of this report.



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Staff reviewed the comments and suggestions provided throughout the consultation process and consulted with 3<sup>rd</sup> party advisors where appropriate, including the Halifax Regional School Board, Stantec Consulting, and a volunteer citizen review panel. As appropriate, the alternative options were presented at the Public Information Meetings.

The Volunteer Citizen Review Panel was invited by the CAO to undertake a review of staff's analysis and recommendations. The Panel was comprised of Mr. Maurice Lloyd, Ms. Valerie Spencer, Mr. Paul Hyland and Mr. Bernie White. The panel's experience, knowledge and insights made a significant contribution to the independence of the review process.

The final recommendation on the 16 Polling Districts boundaries for HRM is, as Council directed, a staff recommendation which has taken into account the input and advice received from the public, consultants and advisors during the consultation process.

**DISCUSSION**

Each of the two proposed scenarios resulted, to a greater or lesser degree by community, in substantial changes in polling district boundaries. The single largest concern expressed at the PIMs was that the reduced number of districts will have a significant impact on the electoral representation for communities of interest as residents understand them. While there was an understanding by many residents of the constraints in setting of polling district boundaries, as a general observation, the more change experienced by a community the greater the concerns expressed with the new boundaries in either scenario.

**Survey Results**

In the open public survey overall preference was quite divided with a slight preference towards Scenario 2. However, preference changed significantly depending on which current polling district the respondents lived in. Residents in six (6) current polling district preferred Scenario 1 (Districts 2, 3, 8, 11, 17, and 19). Residents in nine (9) current polling districts preferred Scenario 2 (Districts 4, 5, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18, 22, and 23). Residents in eight (8) current polling districts had a relatively equal preference between the two scenarios (Districts 1, 6, 7, 9, 10, 15, 20, and 21).

In the "control" by invitation survey preference was relatively evenly split with 47% of those stating a preference for Scenario 1, 45% stating a preference for Scenario 2 and 9% preferring neither. Difference by district was not as pronounced in the control survey results.

The reasons provided for preference differed by district and respondent and is provided in more detail in the raw data of the survey results to be posted on the HRM web site.

The results of the survey responses (by invitation and public) did not provide strong guidance, based on a regional perspective, as to which of the two scenarios staff should recommend.



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The individual survey comments served to highlight areas of concern that needed to be considered during the review process. Those included:

- Consideration of how rural representation would be impacted
- Specific communities of interest that needed to be taken into account -such as the Prospect Communities, the Sambro Loop and others
- Addressing the needs of the urban centre of both the peninsula of Halifax and downtown Dartmouth in the face of declining representation
- Taking into account the stated aspirations of competing community interests.
- Taking into account strong views expressed by residents of specific communities (such as Cole Harbour, Lakeview, Wellington & Fall River, Timberlea, Lakeside & Beechville, Peninsula west and others).
- The need to better balance voter distribution in districts proposed to have a greater than +/-25% voter deviation, such as Sackville (Scenario 1) or the southern coastal communities (Scenario 2)
- And, articulating changes in district boundaries brought about by the growth in specific areas along with redistribution required based on 16 districts in HRM.

## Public Information Meetings/Written Input

The themes from the survey responses were reinforced during the Public Information Meetings (PIMs) and through the written submissions. The survey results and the comments and ideas proposed by residents through the written submissions, and PIMs provided a number of alternatives to each of the scenarios. Each suggestion was reviewed and considered and, where possible, incorporated into a scenario.

## Revisions

The result of the public engagement was to improve each of the two scenarios proposed by staff so that each scenario better represented the views and aspirations as expressed by residents through the public engagement process. A list of revisions reviewed and recommended is provided as Attachment 6 of this report.

The revisions, based on public feedback have served to strengthen the final recommendation to Council and to the NSUARB.

## Review

The final review and recommendation is a result of:

- a) A review of the public input as provided through the two (2) surveys (invited & open), written submissions, and the eight (8) public information meetings. The public consultation resulted in improvements to both scenarios but was not conclusive in determining an over-riding statement of preference for one scenario over another on a regional basis.
- b) Consultation with the Halifax Regional School Board (HRSB) as to which of the two



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proposed Scenarios best represents the community of interests as expressed through the family of schools and school board representation. The response of the Halifax Regional School Board is that Scenario 1 (as revised) best meets the communities of interest as expressed by communities of schools and school board representation and that Scenario 2 would strongly challenge the interests of the HRSB. It is anticipated that the HRSB will provide a formal motion and submission to the NSUARB to that effect.

- c) The Volunteer Review Panel review. The panel reviewed the options and staff analysis and advised that Scenario 1 (as revised) best met the communities of interest on a regional basis - including strong rural representation and addressing the specific concerns put forward by communities of interest within the constraints as provided for under the polling district review process. The Panel also noted that decisions taken regarding forming the districts into Community Councils and ongoing discussions on governance would be important as HRM moves forward with the revised polling district boundaries.
- d) A final staff review with Stantec Consulting was conducted to ensure that the staff recommendation appropriately reflected the feedback received through the consultation process. The Stantec report is provided as Attachment 2 of this report.

In light of the feedback and reviews undertaken during the consultation, including that of the public, HRSB, the Volunteer Review Panel and Consultant staff determined that Scenario 1 (as revised) and as outlined in Attachment 1 of this report, best serves the principles adopted for the setting of the 16 new Polling Districts in HRM.

- Take growth into account
- Ensure parity between districts
- Meet the NSUARB requirement of voter equity (+/- 10% of average) or strongly defend other-wise
- Use identifiable boundaries where possible
- Consider communities of interest as much as possible given the significance of the change required in polling district boundaries
- Meets the NSUARB requirement to ensure that Lake Loon, Cherry Brook and Cole Harbour are retained within one (1) polling district while also addressing the expressed aspirations of surrounding communities.
- Takes a regional approach - strives for the best good for the most

Staff recommend Scenario 1 (as revised) on the basis that:

- It respects identifiable communities of interest across all of HRM.
- It retains a primarily rural district in eastern HRM and would provide voters in that area the opportunity to elect a member of Council to represent their interests and concerns.
- It retains communities of interest in the south western coastal areas of HRM.
- It provides the opportunity to have representation in the urban centres of both



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- Dartmouth and Halifax – which is a focus of the Regional Plan.
- It addresses growth in the fastest growing areas of HRM by establishing districts that include the major growth areas in HRM.
  - It provides for districts that have industrial/commercial centres such as Bayer's Lake/Burnside/Dartmouth Crossing and adjacent residential communities that surround those commercial growth centers within polling districts.
  - It substantially follows community boundaries and where required uses other identifiable boundaries to shape the polling districts.
  - It is strongly supported by the Halifax Regional School Board as the best option representing their families of school and communities of interest.
  - It was supported as the "preferred option given the constraints of setting polling district boundaries" by the Independent Review Panel.

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

As outlined in both HRM's submission to the NSUARB and agreed to by the Board in their decision of July 27, 2011, potential cost savings are not a material factor in the reduction in the size of HRM's council. Any budget adjustments required will be determined for the 2012-2013 fiscal year.

**FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES/BUSINESS PLAN**

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Project and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Project and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Substantial Community Consultation, as outlined in this report, was undertaken in the process of recommending the proposed sixteen (16) polling districts in HRM.

**ALTERNATIVES**

As noted, a second scenario (Scenario 2) has been placed before the public. Scenario 2 has also been revised as a result of the consultation process. District maps for Scenario 2 (as revised) will be provided to the NSUARB as part of the HRM application.

Scenario 2 (as revised) is not the recommended option.



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**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1- District Maps, Descriptions and % Variances for 16 Polling Districts in HRM for Scenario 1 (as revised)

Attachment 2- Stantec Report

Attachment 3- Review of Survey Results

Attachment 4- Review of Public Information Meetings


Attachment 5- Written Submissions


Attachment 6- List of Revisions Reviewed and Adopted During Consultations

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A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.html> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by: Cathy J. Mellett, Municipal Clerk phone 490-6456

Report Approved by:  **Original Signed**  
Mary Ellen Donovan, QC, Director Legal Services & Risk Management

Financial Approval by:  **Original signed**  
James Cooke, CGA, I. Clerk of Finance/CFO, 490-6308

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Attachment 1 – District Boundary Maps, Descriptions, Voter Counts and  
Percentage Variances – Scenario 1 (as revised)



**Voter Populations and Variance from District Average, Scenario 1, Scenario 2, and Recommended Boundaries**

Total Voters*	327,615
Districts	16
Voters/Dist	20,476
Above 10%	22,524
Below 10%	18,428
* from Environics Analytics 2012 projections	

**Dwelling Unit Calculation Method**

DIST		Voters	Deviation	
A-1	*	16,870	-17.6%	*
B-2	*	20,852	1.8%	*
C-3	*	19,219	-6.1%	*
D-4	*	18,564	-9.3%	*
E-5	*	19,676	-3.9%	*
F-6	*	18,450	-9.9%	*
G-7	*	21,522	5.1%	*
H-8	*	21,127	3.2%	*
I-9	*	22,064	7.8%	*
J-10	*	22,266	8.7%	*
K-11	*	22,392	9.4%	*
L-12	*	21,928	7.1%	*
M-13	*	20,116	-1.8%	*
N-14	*	19,833	-3.1%	*
O-15	*	23,021	12.4%	*
P-16	*	19,715	-3.7%	*



(as corrected Oct 17/11)

**Polling District Descriptions – Recommended Scenario 1 (as revised)**

**District A/1 – Eastern Shore/Musquodoboit Valley (3903 sq. km)**

The district encompasses the largely rural/coastal areas of HRM along the Eastern Shore and the Musquodoboit Valley.

Commencing at the communities of Porter's Lake and the Chezzetcook's the district continues along Highway 7 to the furthest eastern most communities of HRM and, taking in all communities on the connecting provincial highways (374, 224, 357) through to the Musquodoboit Valley. The district then extends through the Musquodoboit Valley following the boundaries of HRM including the communities of Carroll's Corner, Dutch Settlement, Lantz and Elmsdale (HRM portions), returning to Porters Lake following the community boundaries of Devon and Meaghers Grant.

**District B/2 –Fall River/ Waverley/Beaver Bank/Sackville (424 sq. km)**

Starting at the North West reaches of HRM and including the communities of Goff's, Enfield and the Airport, the district extends along highway 102 including the communities of Fletcher's Lake, Oakfield, Wellington, Fall River, Lakeview and Windsor Junction. The district also incorporates the community of Waverley along Highway 118. Moving westerly from Windsor Junction the district includes the communities of Lakeview, Beaver Bank, Middle Sackville (the portion north of Margeson Dr.) and Upper Sackville.

**District C/3 – Cole Harbour/Westphal/Lawrencetown/Prestons (201 sq. km)**

The district includes the north eastern portion of Cole Harbour along with the communities of Westphal, Lake Loon and Cherry Brook along with East and North Preston and surrounding areas through to Mineville and the coastal communities from Lawrencetown through to Lake Echo.

Commencing where Main Street intersects the Forest Hills Parkway this district includes the communities of Lake Loon, Cherry Brook, Westphal and the north eastern portion of Cole Harbour. Moving easterly along the Lawrencetown Rd the district includes the communities of Lawrencetown, East Lawrencetown, Three Fathom Harbour, Seaforth, Grand Desert and West Porters Lake. Moving easterly along Highway 7 the district includes Mineville, Lake Echo, East Preston and North Preston.

**District D/4 –Colby Village/Cow Bay/Eastern Passage (53 sq km)**

The district includes the neighbourhood of Colby Village as well as Cow Bay, Eastern Passage and Shearwater.

Commencing at Caldwell Road and Cole Harbour Road the district includes the Colby Village portion of Cole Harbour and extends along Bissett Rd to the community of Cow Bay. Following Cow Bay Road and the coast line the district through Eastern Passage and continues along the 322 Highway into Shearwater terminating at the community boundary. The boundary follows the Shearwater community boundary north easterly to reconnect at Caldwell Road.



#### District E/5 – Dartmouth East (16 sq km)

The district commences at the southerly boundary of Dartmouth where Pleasant St and Main Rd intersect. The boundary continues along Pleasant St to Highway 111 encompassing the neighbourhood of South Woodside. From there the boundary follows Highway 111 to Main St, moving easterly along the center of Main St to the Forest Hills Parkway. The boundary then turns southerly along the center of the Forest Hills Parkway to Cole Harbour Road and continuing westerly to Caldwell Rd including Wexford Rd, the western portion of Delta Dr., Cherrywood Dr and all associated Streets.

The district includes the neighbourhoods of South Woodside, Russell Lakes, Portland Estates and Hills and Woodlawn.

#### District F/6- Dartmouth Centre (11 sq. km)

The district includes most of old Dartmouth within the circumferential highway.

Starting at Highway 111 the boundary continues northerly until the intersection with Woodland Ave. The boundary then extends down the center of Woodland Ave to the intersection with Victoria Rd. and continues southerly onto Boland Rd to Jamieson St and south westerly to the Harbour.

#### District G/7 – Dartmouth North/the Lakes (58 sq. km)

The district includes Dartmouth North, Burnside, Dartmouth Crossing and Dartmouth the Lakes.

The district commences at the intersection of Highway 111 and Main St (the shared boundary with District E/5) and continues east to Forest Hills Ext, north to the community boundary with Montague Gold Mines and into Waverley just south of the Silversides neighbourhood. The boundary then heads west to Windmill Rd at the community boundary between Dartmouth and Bedford and then southerly to the boundary with District F/6 at Jamieson St.

#### District H/8 – Peninsula South (8 sq. km)

The district takes in the southern portion of the peninsula of Halifax. The district includes Spring Garden Rd and the majority of the historic downtown of Halifax along Barrington St to the Harbour. This district also includes Point Pleasant Park and Sable Island.

The boundary commences at the North West Arm and commencing at the bottom of Jubille Rd. follows Jubilee Rd to Oxford St and extends north along Oxford St to Quinpool Rd. then extends along the centre line of Quinpool Rd. to Cogswell St. The boundary then moves along Cogswell St at the commons to North Park St. to North Park St and northward to Cornwallis St and down Cornwallis St to the harbour.

#### District I/9- Peninsula North (7 sq. km)

The district takes in the dockyards, container port and the Gottingen St & Agricola St Business Areas as well as the Hydrostone neighbourhood. The district follows the shared boundary with District H/8 and takes in the northern portion of the peninsula of Halifax. At the corner of Oxford St and Quinpool Rd. the boundary moves northward along Oxford to Bayers Rd and westward to Joseph Howe Dr. The boundary then moves northward along Connaught Avenue to the Bedford Highway and follows the harbour at the Bedford Basin to the lower end of Cornwallis St. The boundary then turns up Cornwallis St. following the boundary between District H/8



Peninsula South to North Park St, along the commons at Cogswell St. to Quinpool Rd to return to the corner of Oxford St. and Quinpool Rd.

District J/10 – Fairview/Clayton Park (8 sq. km)

The district takes in the neighbourhood of Fairview, Rockingham and the majority of Clayton Park below Dunbrack Street including Mount St. Vincent University. This district extends from the boundary with District I/9 at Joseph Howe Drive along the Bedford Highway to Princes Walk

The boundary, just north of Princes Walk, crosses to the Bedford/Halifax community boundary on Kearney Lake Road and extends back along Kearney Lake Road to Dunbrack Street and along Dunbrack Street to Lacewood drive. The district includes the streets of Clayton Park West above Dunbrack Street (Chadwick, Chelsea, Harrington Streets) and extends past the western portion of Washmill Lake Drive to Highway 102 and proceeds down Highway 102 back to Joseph Howe Drive.

District K/11 – Peninsula West/ Armdale (12 sq. km)

This district takes in a portion of the Western peninsula of Halifax and extends from the roundabout to include the neighbourhoods of Armdale, Springvale and along the Herring Cove Rd as far as the Williams Lake Rd and along the Purcell's Cove Rd just past Hall's Rd.

The boundary extends from Oxford St on Halifax Peninsula up Bayers Rd to Connaught Ave and along Joseph Howe Dr to Highway 102. The boundary then extends along Highway 102 and back to the North West Arm Dr. to Cherry Lane. The boundary then follows Penney, Hillary and Mont Streets to the Herring Cove Rd and along the Herring Cove Rd to extend behind the streets off of the Williams Lake Rd to the Purcell's Cove Rd to just past Halls Rd. The boundary then returns along the North West Arm towards the roundabout as far as the bottom of Jubilee Road where it turns up Jubilee Rd to join at the corner of Oxford St and Jubilee Rd.

District L/12 – Clayton Park West/ Beechville/Timberlea (84 sq. km)

This district takes in the western portion Clayton Park above Dunbrack Street to Park Land Drive (including the Canada Games Centre) along with the Bayer's Lake retail centre and extends along the St Margarets Bay Road as far as Exit 4 of Highway 103 to include the communities of Beechville, Lakeside and Timberlea.

The boundary commences at the Bayer's Lake interchange of Highway 102 and extends northwest along Highway 102 to the intersection with North West Arm Dr. It then traverses behind Birchdale Crescent and Westridge Drive to connect with Lacewood Drive. The boundary then moves easterly along Lacewood Drive to Dunbrack Street on onward to the Kearney Lake Road interchange. The boundary continues along Highway 102 to Larry Uteck Blvd and across to the Kearney Lake Road and then onto the Bedford/Halifax community boundary. The boundary continues westerly across country to Exit 4 on Highway 102. The boundary then extends westerly to Nine Mile River encompassing the community of Otter Lake and returns to the interchange at Highway 102 and Highway 103 where it commenced.

District M/13- Spryfield/Sambro/Prospect Rd (354 sq. km)

The district includes Spryfield and Leiblin Park and the communities along Highway 349 and 306 known as the Sambro Loop. The district also includes the coastal portion of the Purcell's Cove Rd/Highway 253 as well as the communities known as the "Prospect Communities" extending from Goodwood along Prospect Rd as far as the Peggy's Cove preservation area.



#### District N/14 –South Shore/Hammonds Plains (685 sq. km)

The district stretches from Hubbards to Upper Tantallon along the St Margarets Bay Rd, and then from Tantallon to the Peggy's Cove preservation area (including Peggy's Cove) along the Peggys Cove Rd. Inland the communities of Hubley, Lewis Lake, Stillwater Lake, Upper Hammonds Plains, Lucasville are included as well as the neighbourhoods of Kingswoods North and South.

The boundary extends from the Peggy's Cove preservation area (including Peggy's Cove) across St. Margaret's Bay to the furthest west boundary of HRM at Hubbards, including in the district the communities along Peggys Cove Rd to Tantallon and along St Margarets Bay Rd to Hubbards. The boundary then follows the line between HRM and Lunenburg and Hants Counties to Highway 101 at Upper Sackville. The boundary then follows the Sackville River to Westpoint Drive in the community of Lucasville and follows the community boundary line of Lucasville to include Lucasville and Kingswood North and South within the district. The boundary then turns west again to follow the community boundary lines between Hammonds Plains and Timberlea to connect with Highway 103 at Exit 4. The boundary follows the 103 south to the community boundary of Otter Lake and extends west across country following community boundary lines to reconnect to Peggys Cove Rd at Peggy's Cove.

#### District O/15 –Sackville (27 sq. km)

The district follows the community boundary of Lower Sackville with the exception of the eastern most boundaries along Cobequid Rd, which excludes the subdivision of Stone Mount. The district also includes the portion of the community of Middle Sackville south of Margeson Dr.

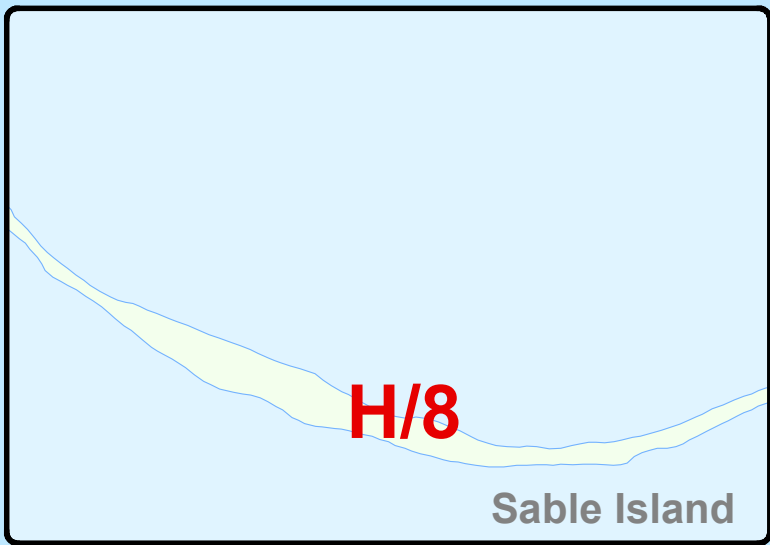
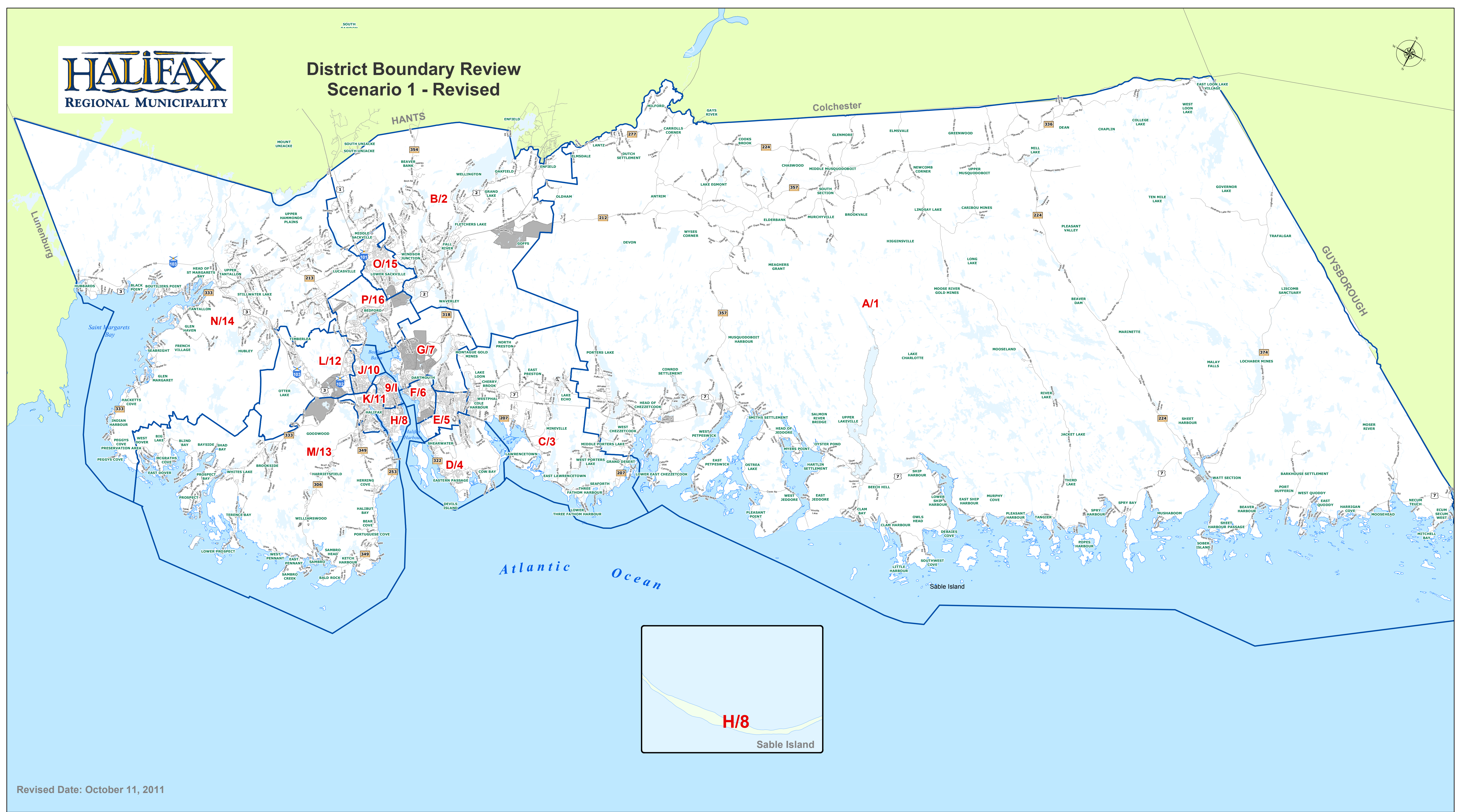
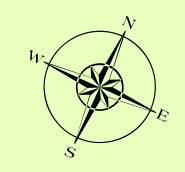
#### District P/16 – Bedford/Bedford South & West (50 sq. km)

The district includes the accepted community boundary of Bedford as well as the new and growing Bedford West and South neighbourhoods and a portion of the old City of Halifax adjacent to Shaunslieve Dr.

The boundary commences at the boundary with Districts O/15 and N/14 at the Sackville River and follows the Sackville River to Highway 102 and the Bedford By-pass. The boundary then follows the Bedford Community boundary to Windmill Road above the Burnside Industrial Park and out into the Bedford Basin. The boundary then extends across the Basin to Shaunslieve Dr where it continues westerly across country to Highway 102. The boundary follows Highway 102 to Exit 2B and continues westerly to the Kearney Lake Road running along the centre of Kearney Lake in conjunction with the boundary of District L/12. The boundary then extends up the Kearney Lake Road (incorporating both sides) to the intersection with the Hammonds Plains Road and continues across country to reconnect at the Sackville River.

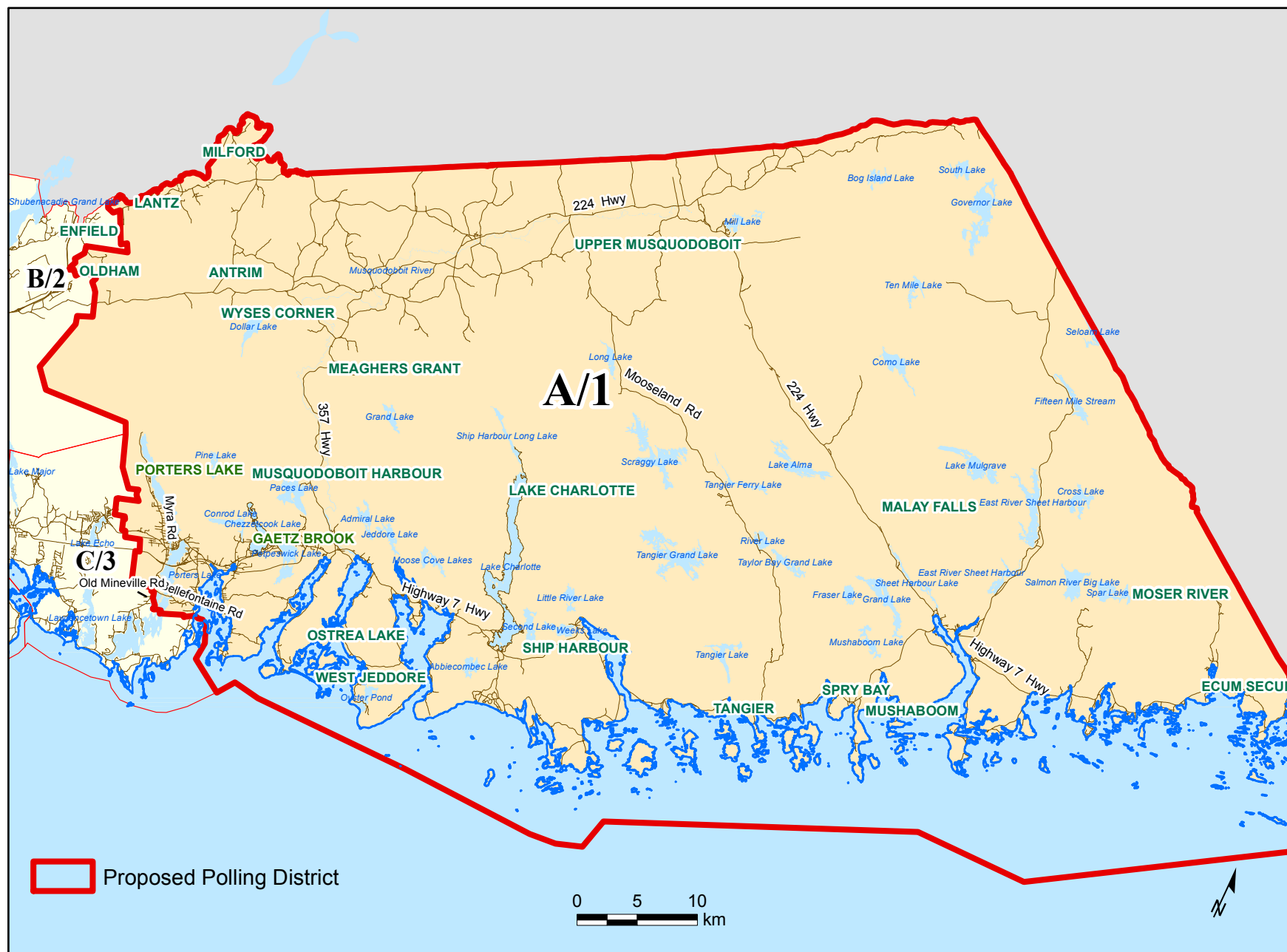


**District Boundary Review  
Scenario 1 - Revised**



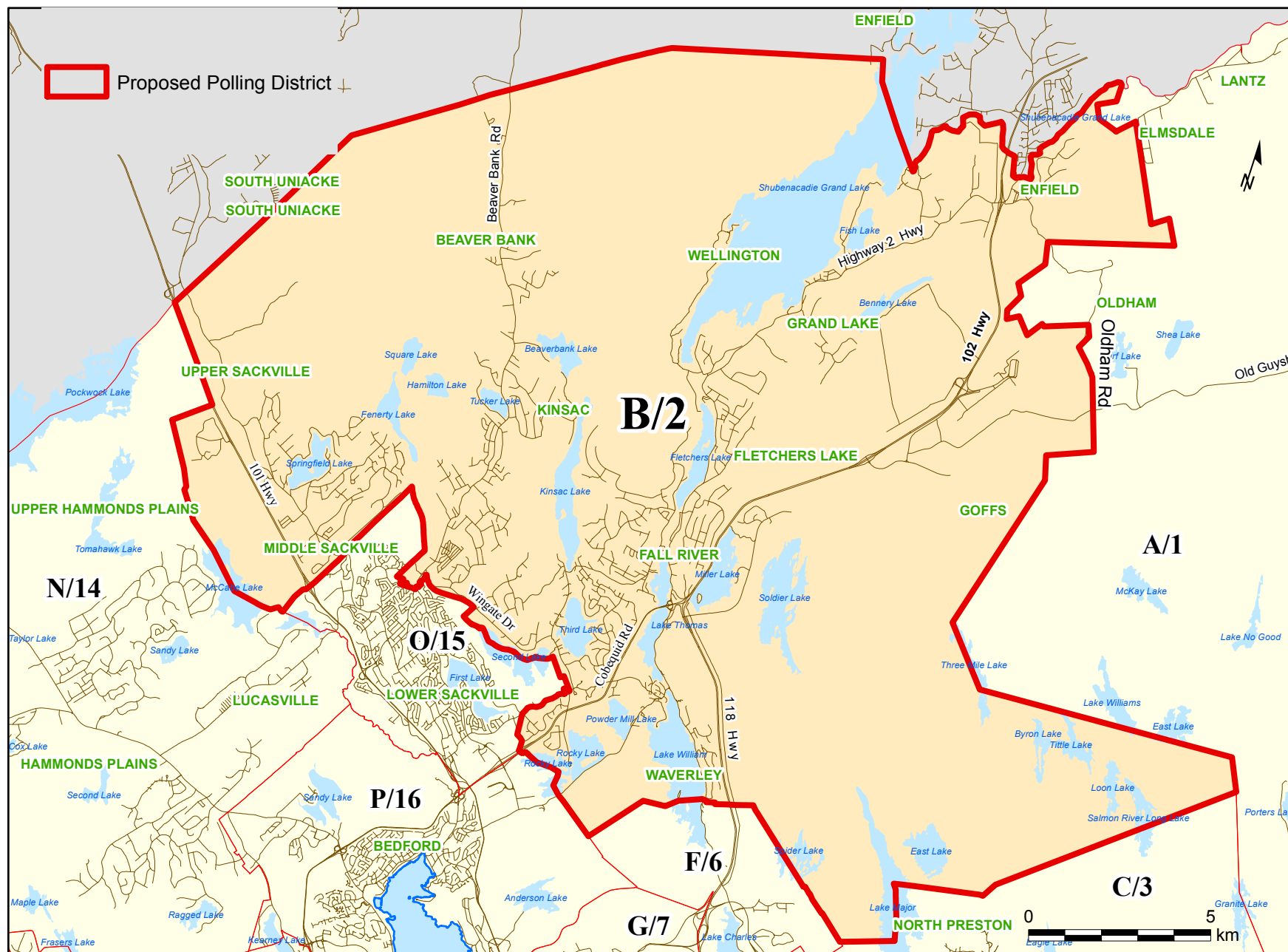


# Proposed Polling District A/1:



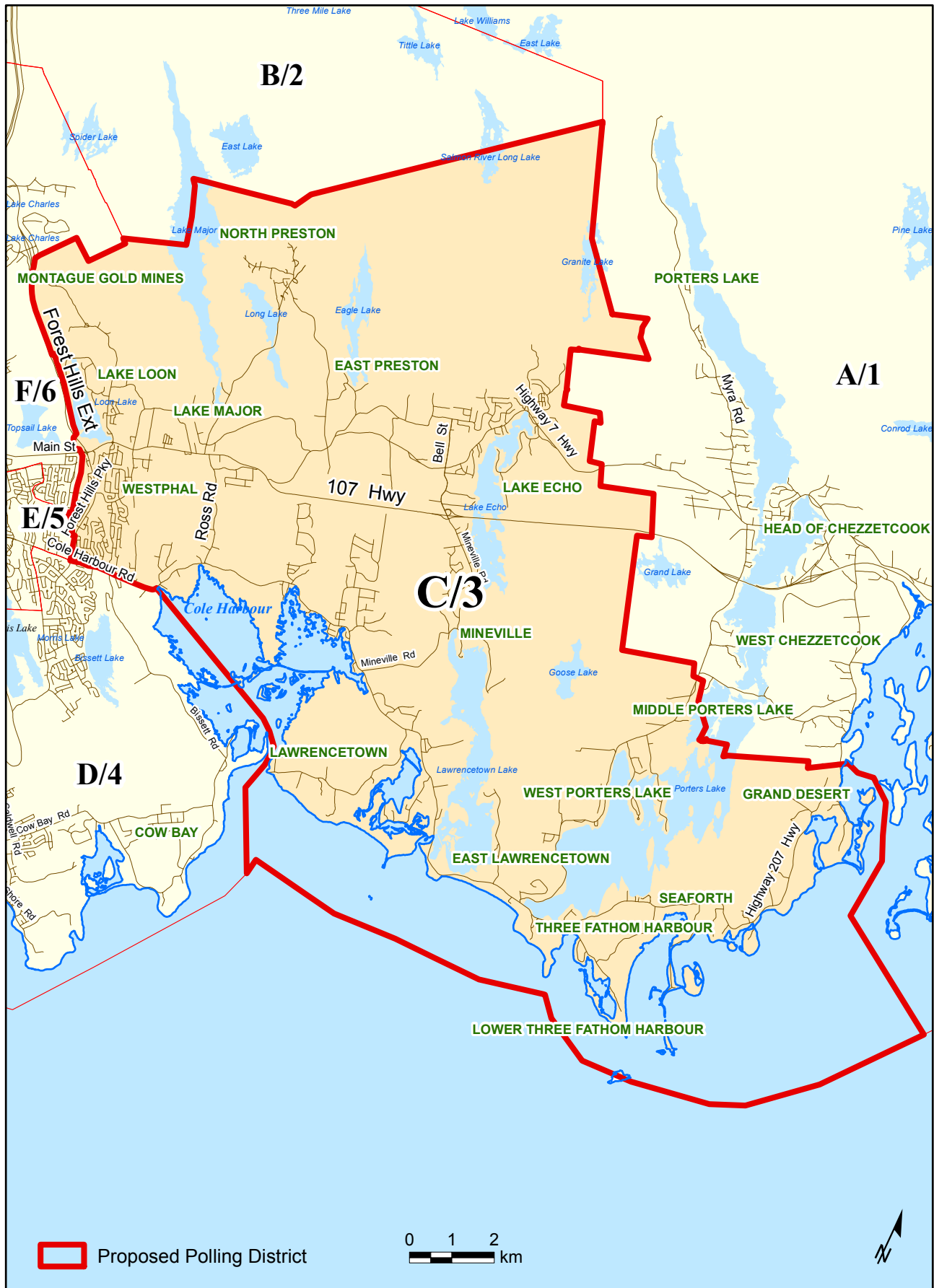


# Proposed Polling District B/2:



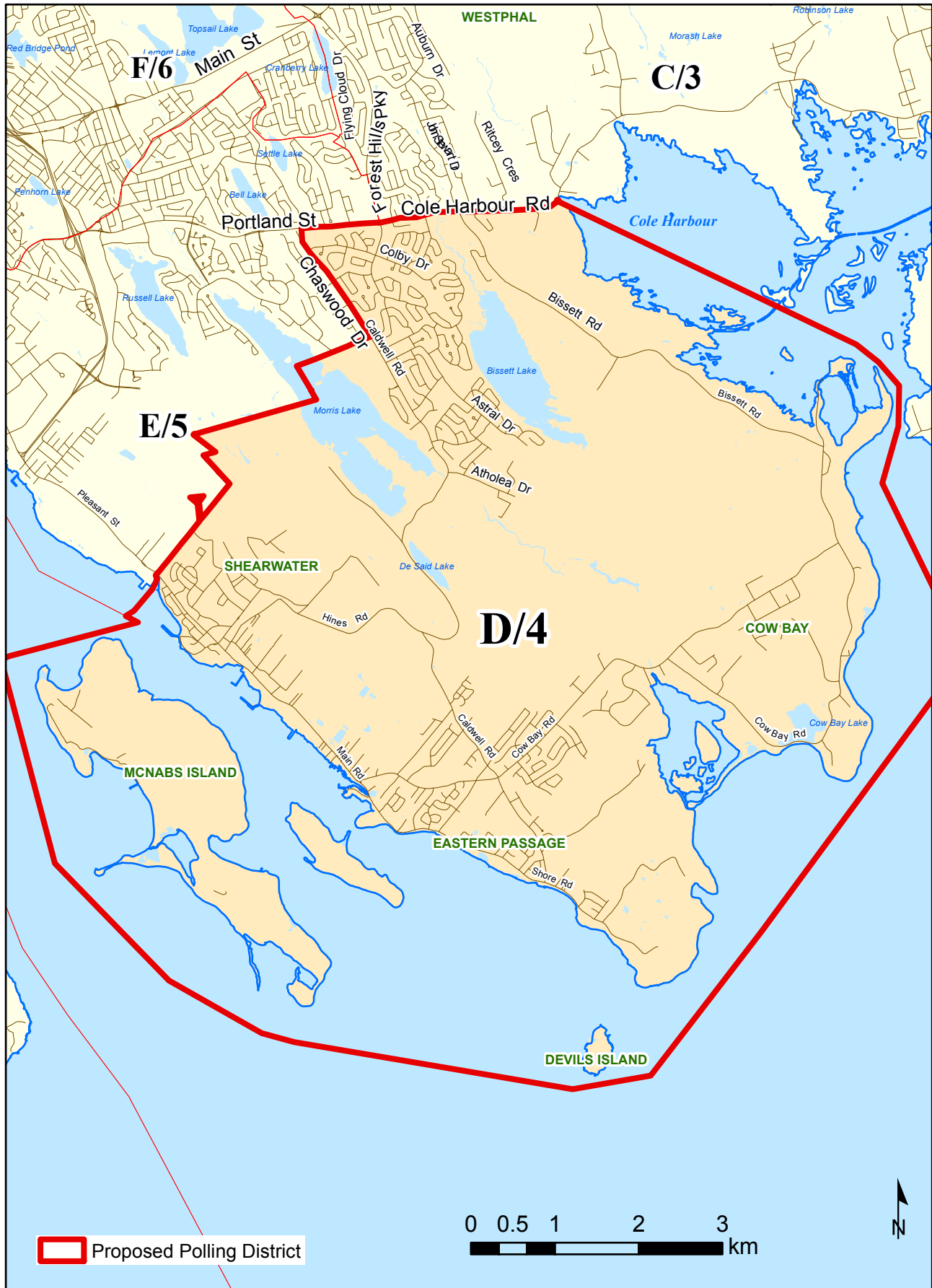


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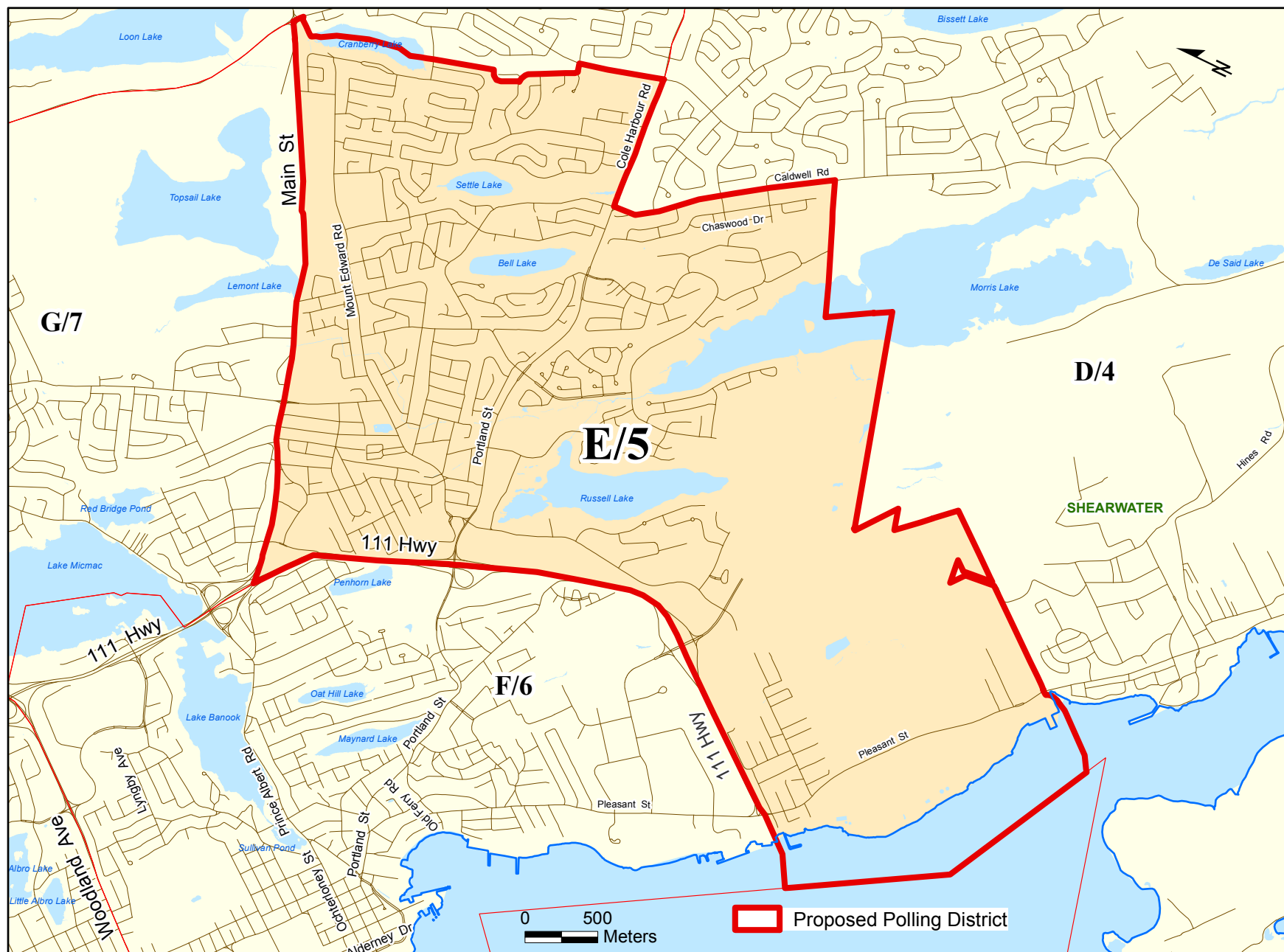


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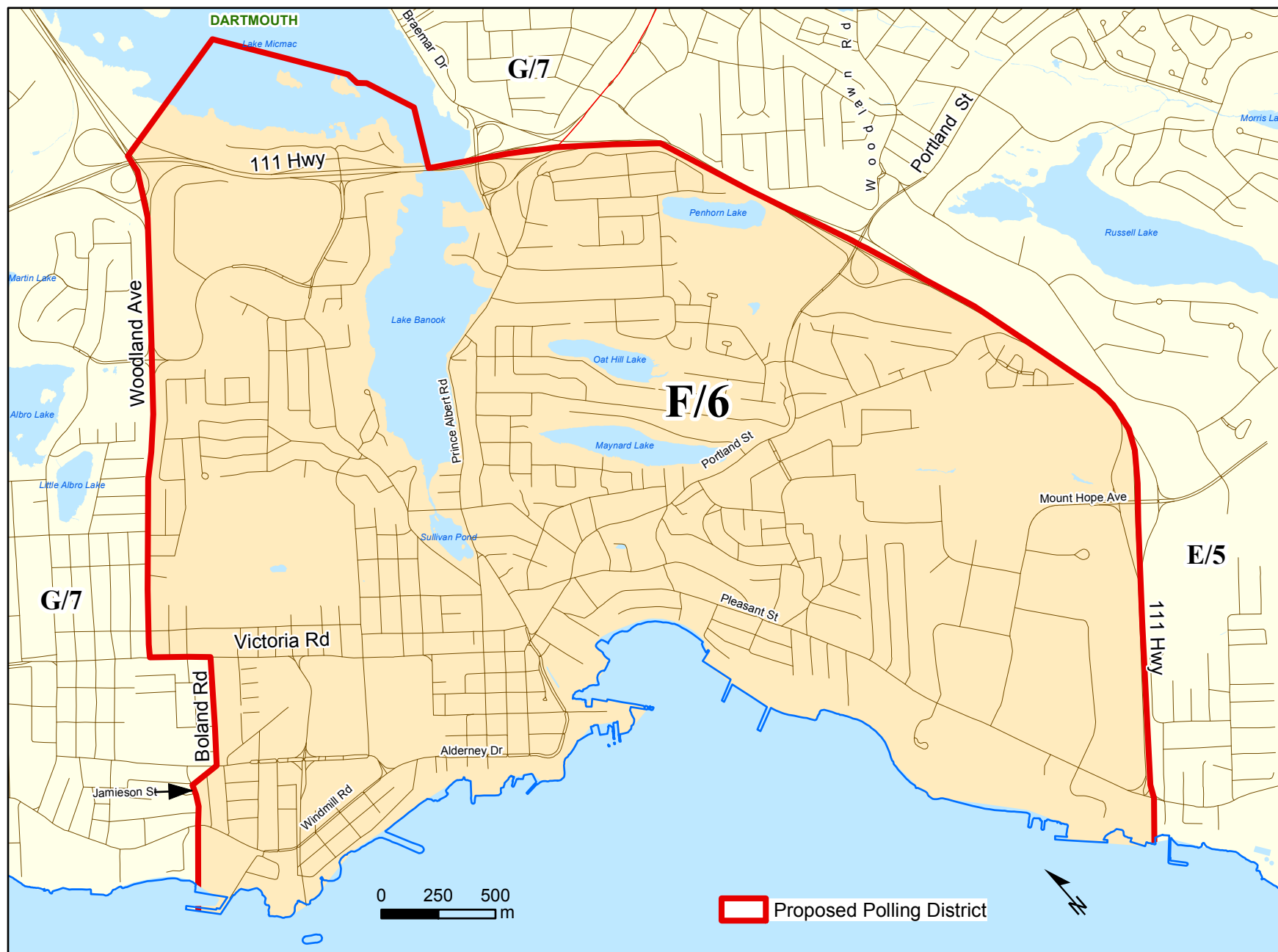


# Proposed Polling District E/5:



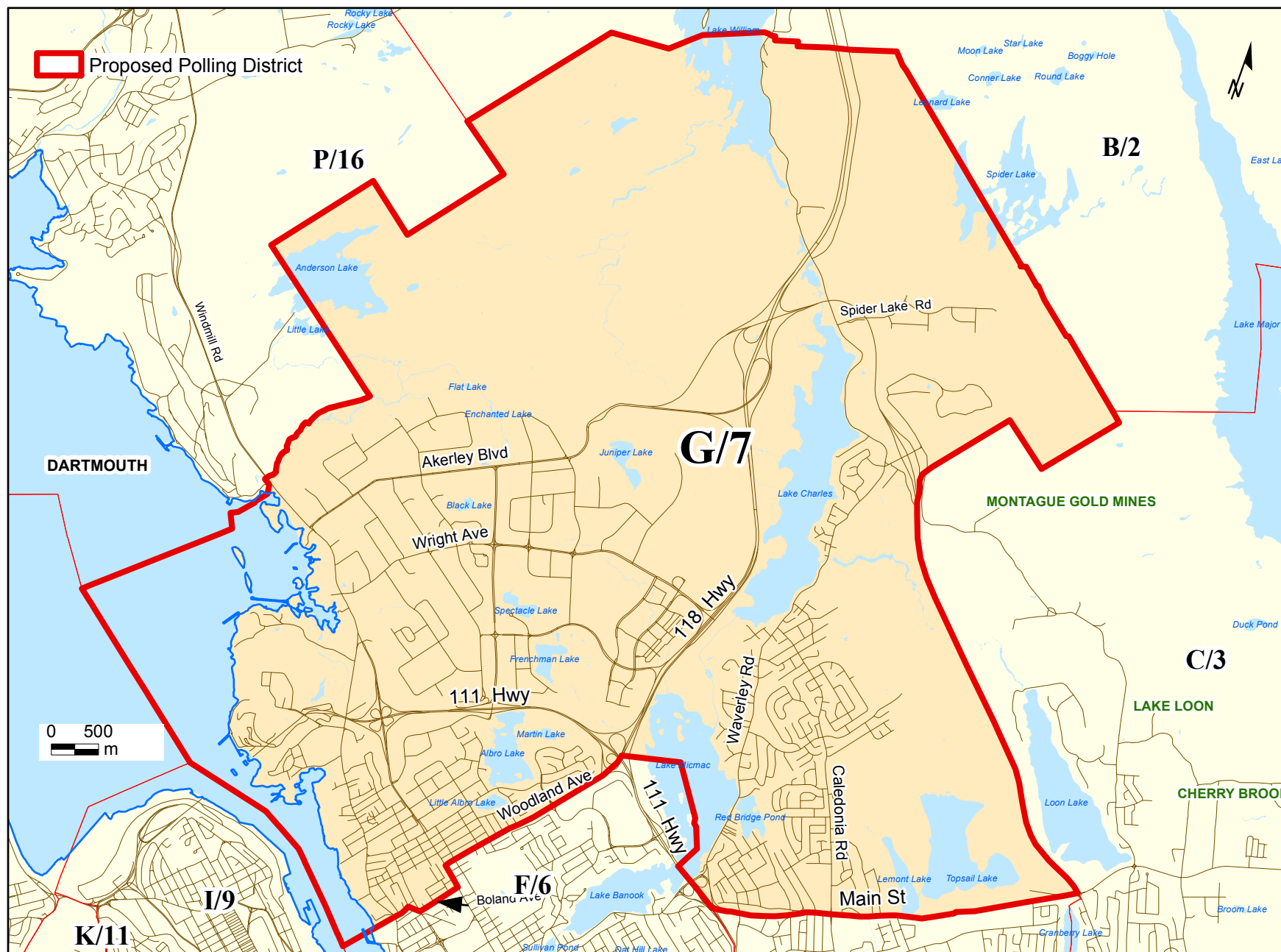


# Proposed Polling District F/6:





# Proposed Polling District G/7:



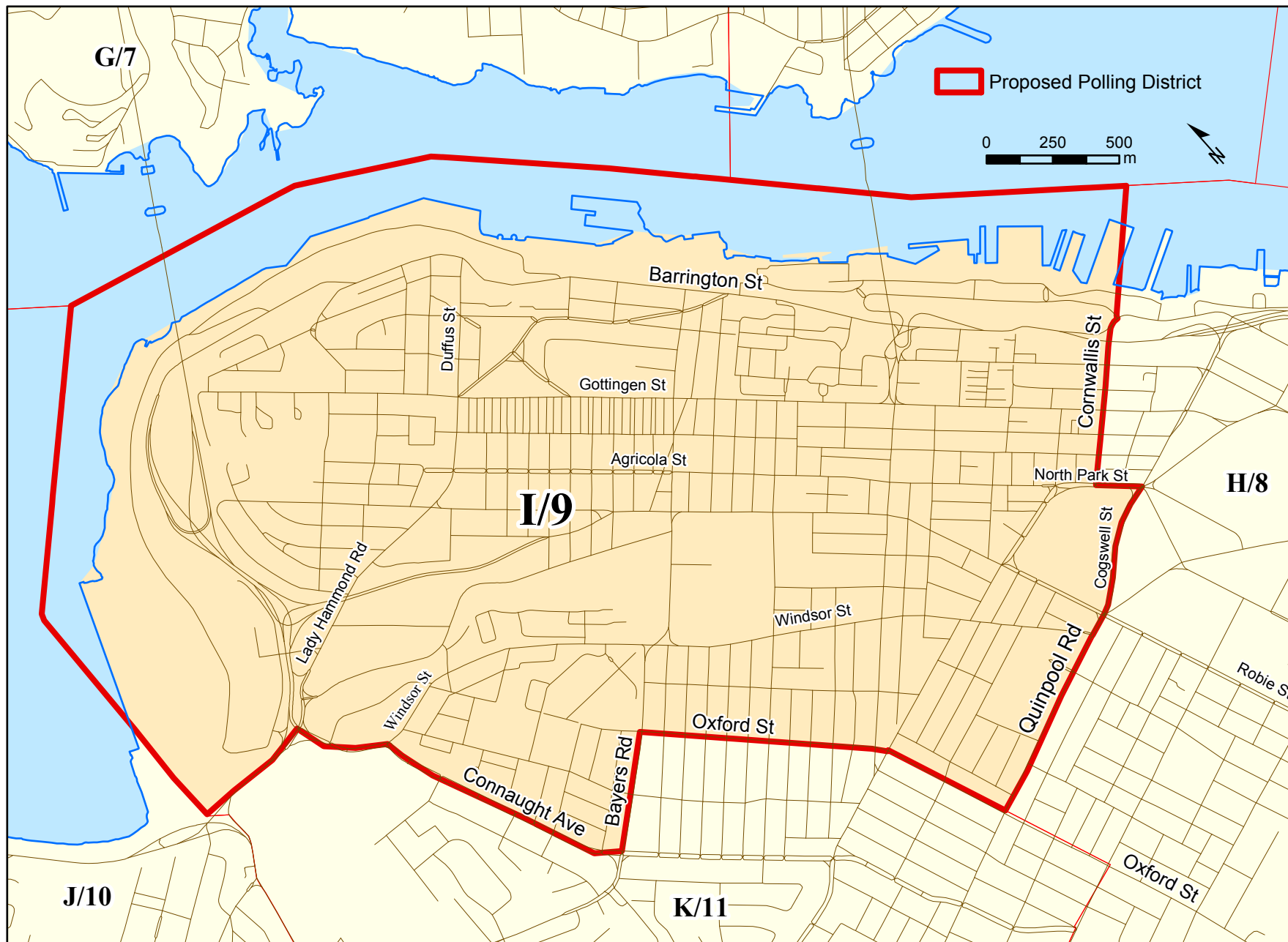


## Proposed Polling District H/8:



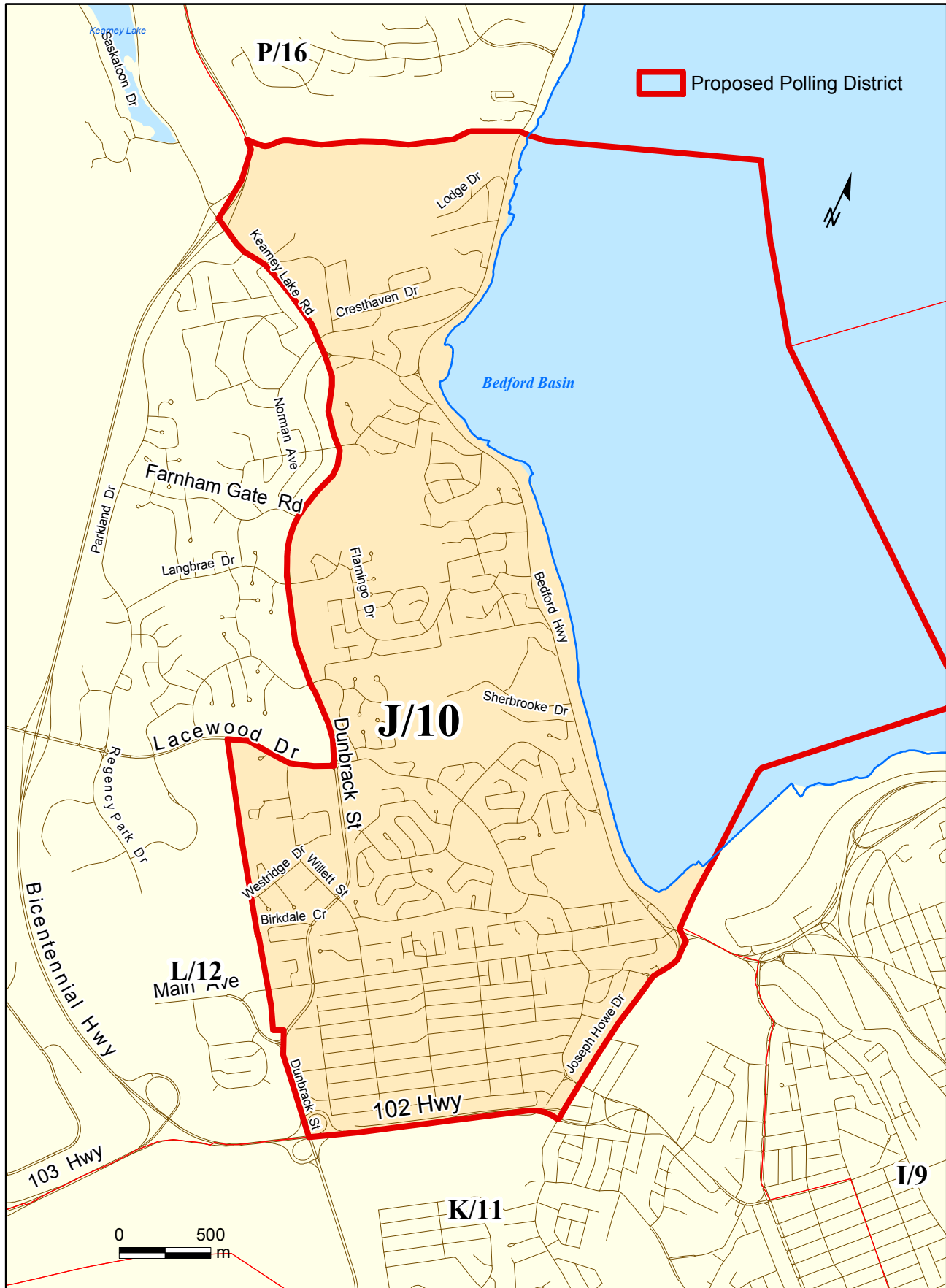


## Proposed Polling District I/9:





## Proposed Polling District J/10:



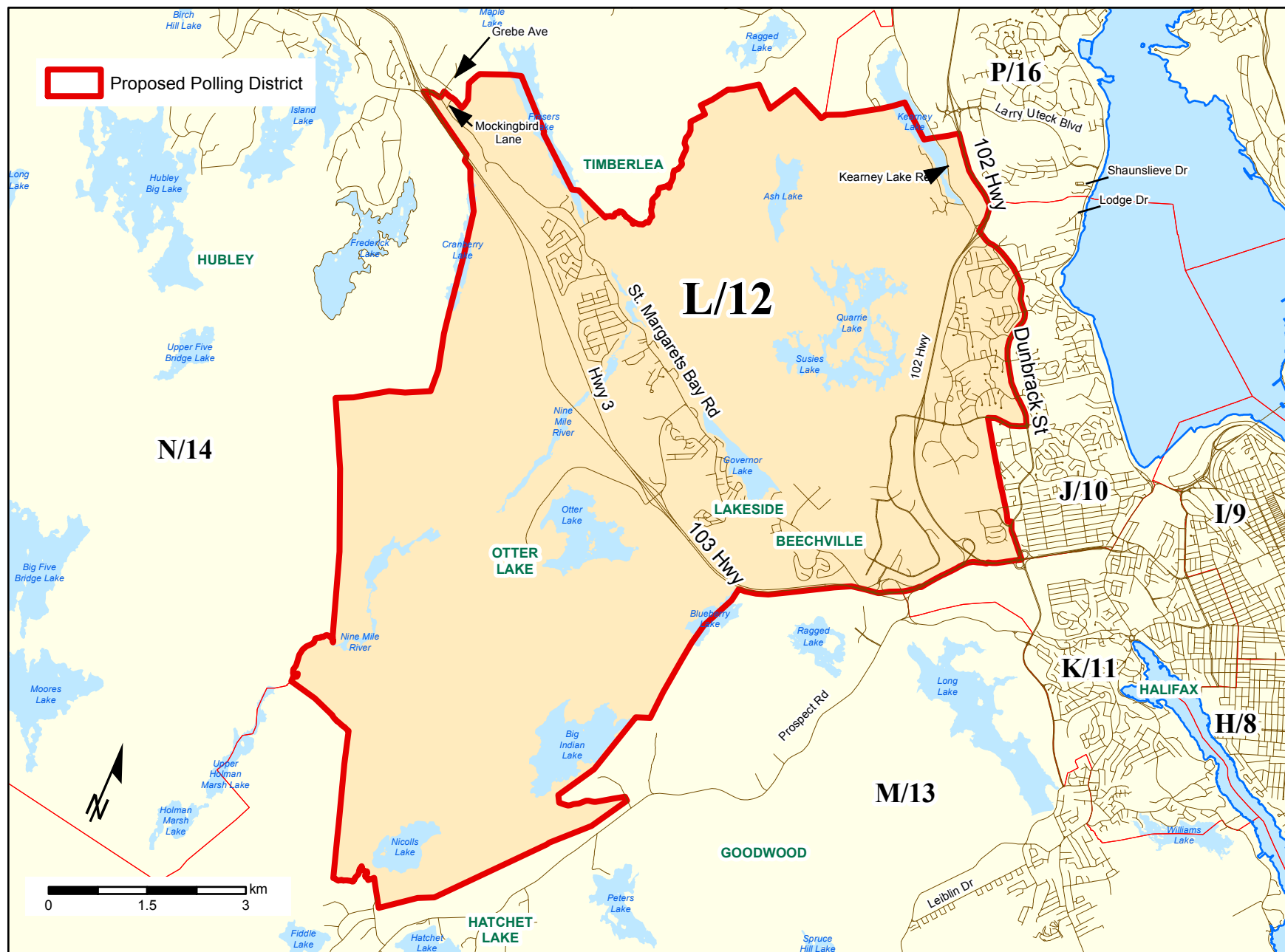


# Proposed Polling District K/11:





# Proposed Polling District L/12:



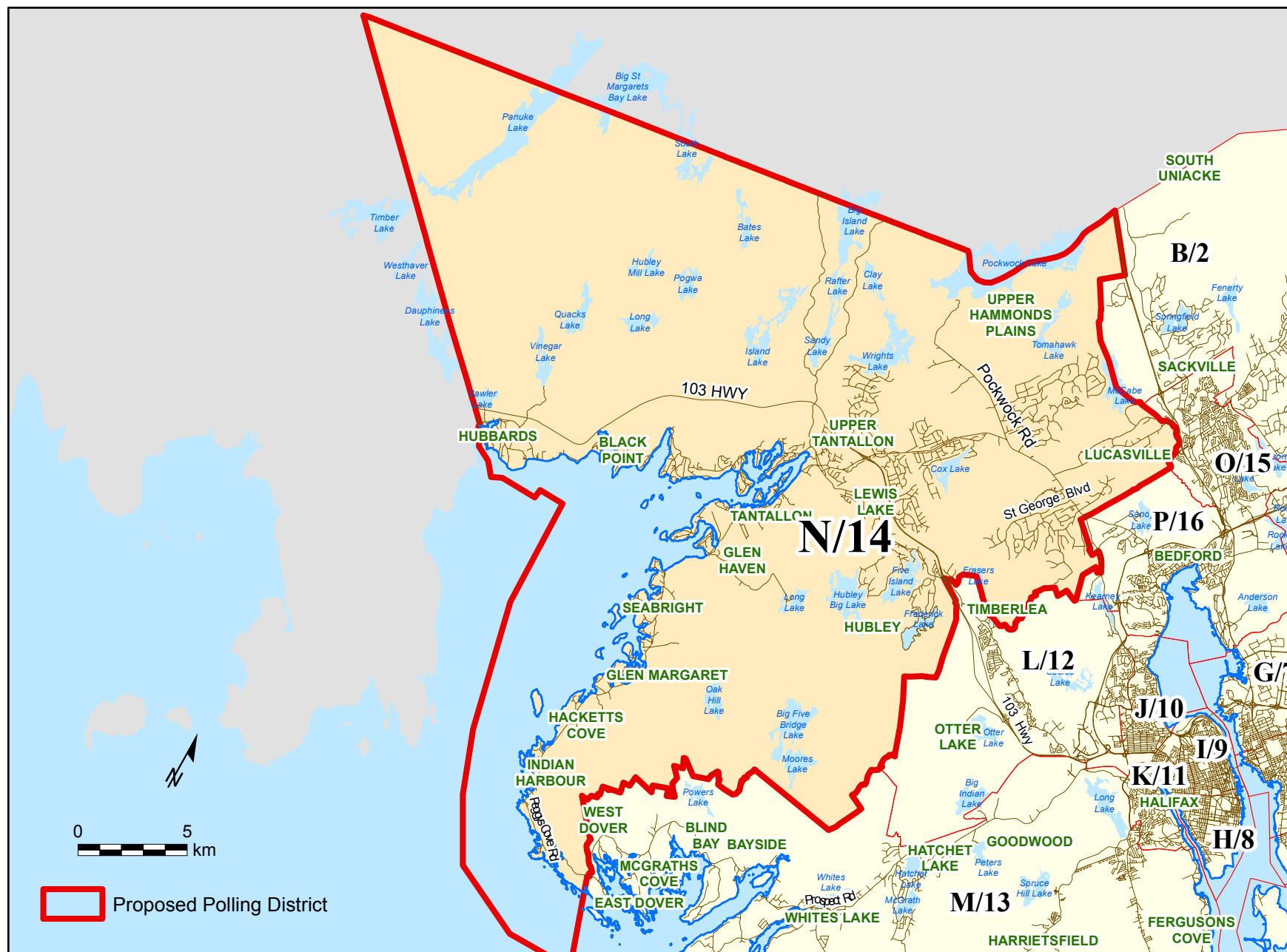


# Proposed Polling District M/13:



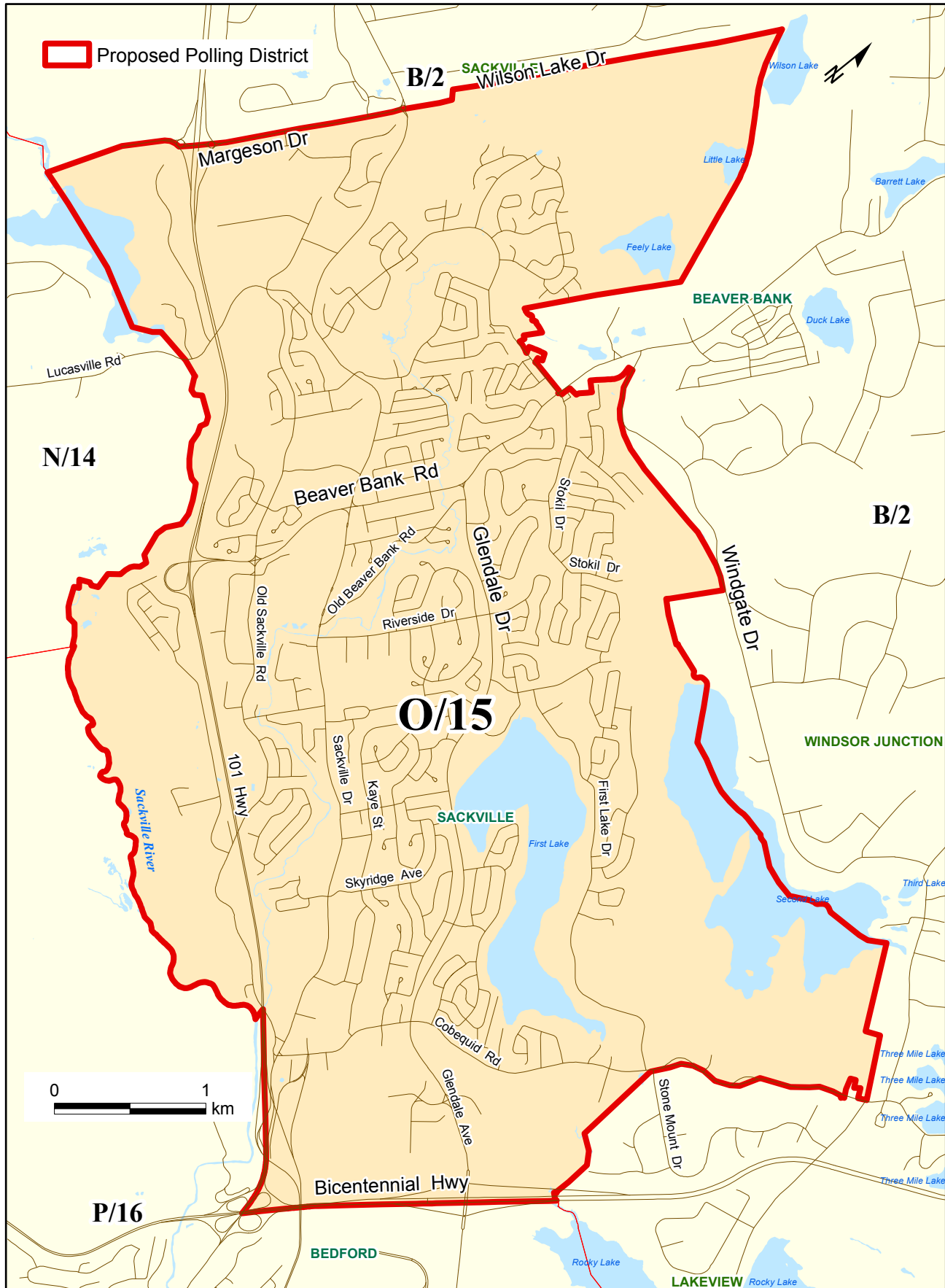


# Proposed Polling District N/14:



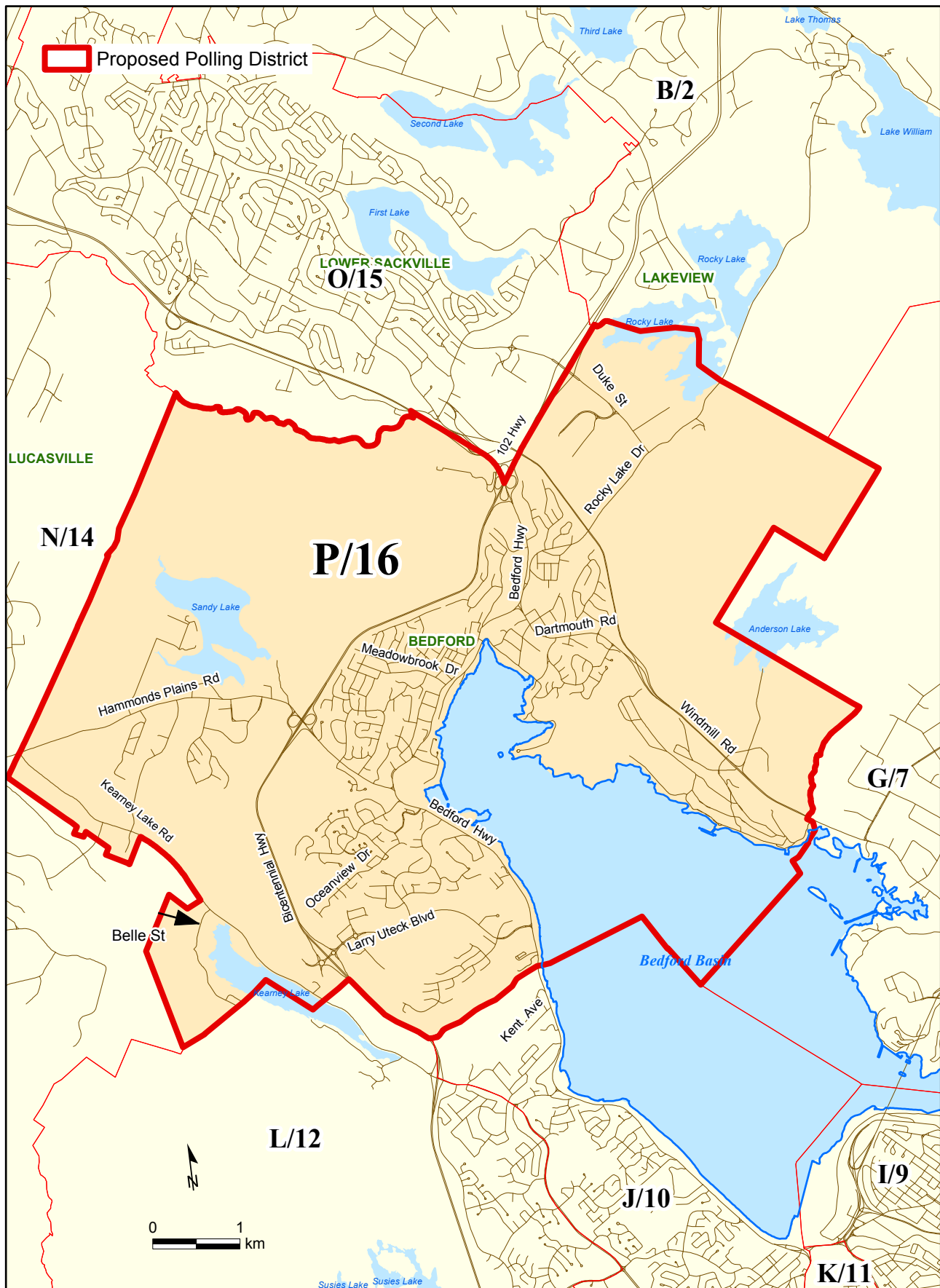


# Proposed Polling District O/15:





## Proposed Polling District P/16:





## Attachment 2 – Stantec Report



## **Memo**



**Stantec**

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To:	Cathy J. Mellett Municipal Clerk	From:	John Heseltine Dartmouth (Highfield Park Drive) NS Office
File:	121510841	Date:	October 14, 2011

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**Reference: HRM District Boundaries Review**

### **BACKGROUND**

Stantec Consulting was engaged by HRM staff in early August to provide consulting services to staff in regard to the setting of polling district boundaries in HRM as ordered by the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (NSUARB) in its decision of July 27, 2011. The terms of engagement were based on discussions between HRM staff and the consultant and a written proposal prepared by the consultant to outline potential approaches. Stantec's work with HRM on the assignment began formally on August 8.

Stantec has been involved in two other council size and boundary delineation exercises in Nova Scotia over the past year and a half. The first dealt with Cape Breton Regional Municipality (CBRM), which had to respond to a similar order from the NSUARB as HRM, and the second addressed the Municipality of the District of Guysborough (MODG), which required a new governance model in view of the anticipated dissolution of the Town of Canso.

### **WEB SURVEYS**

It was determined through discussions between the consultant and HRM that it would be beneficial to conduct a Web-based survey of HRM residents to determine public opinion concerning the best arrangement of polling district boundaries. Similar surveys were conducted by Stantec for the CBRM and MODG projects. A Web survey was adopted for HRM because it was the best available method to allow survey respondents to view maps of alternative boundary scenarios and to address the limited time available for public consultation.

HRM staff developed the required questionnaire based on the questionnaire created for CBRM by Stantec. Staff and the consultant agreed that there should be two surveys: one to gather a scientific random sample and another that would be open to all interested members of the public.



**Reference: HRM District Boundaries Review***Controlled Survey*

The Marketing Clinic (TMC) from Bedford was engaged as a sub-consultant to Stantec to assist with the random 'by invitation' survey. TMC was asked to randomly call residents 18 years of age and over from throughout HRM to inform them of the survey and ask them if they were interested in responding to it. Interested contacts were asked to provide an email address so that TMC could send them a URL to access the survey. TMC handled the equivalent task using the same method for CBRM and MODG. Response from HRM residents, according to TMC staff, was excellent with more than 92 per cent of the individuals contacted indicating an interest in participation.

Ultimately, TMC emailed the URL to approximately 1,300 households beginning calls on August 25 and sending the last emails on September 8. Of these, 950 responded to the survey before it closed on September 28. TMC called and emailed all participants twice each, to remind them to complete the online survey. Individuals who did not respond simply did not get around to the survey while it was open. Some who responded to the survey did not complete all questions, which is not unusual with a self-administered survey. Some expressed some frustration reading the scenario maps but, on the whole, the questions appeared to be comprehensible to respondents many of whom provided detailed opinions on the approaches reflected by the scenarios and the specifics of particular boundaries.

Most of the survey questions were close-ended meaning that they asked respondents to check off specific responses to questions such as "Are you 18 years of age or over?" or "Please select an option [between Boundary Scenario 1 and Boundary Scenario 2]?" The survey also included open-ended questions that allowed respondents to elaborate on responses and/or offer their own ideas such as "Please indicate why you made your choice [between the Boundary Scenarios] above" and a following question asking respondents to provide their own "thoughts about how [their] district or boundaries should be changed ..."

Conducting the survey using telephone solicitation through TMC obtained a balanced sample from a cross-section of HRM residents. A sample of this type can be expected to reliably represent the population of HRM as a whole. With 950 respondents, the survey can be considered accurate within  $\pm 3.2$  per cent 19 times in 20. A total of 613 responses were received to the question concerning the boundary scenario preferences, which was the most critical in the survey. A sample of 613 can be considered accurate within  $\pm 4.0$  per cent 19 times in 20.

Responses to the scenario preference question, which was the fifth of 11 questions in the questionnaire, were remarkably evenly divided. Scenario 1, which roughly reflected expansion and consolidation of existing district boundaries to make 16 districts from the current 23, was favoured by 286 respondents to the question, while 273 favoured



**Reference: HRM District Boundaries Review**

Scenario 2, which developed new districts around transportation corridors roughly radiating from Halifax Harbour. Another 54 indicated that they “didn’t like either of the options described.” Given the survey size, we cannot reliably say that one scenario is preferred over the other based on the very close results. Even if we could reliably say that Scenario 1 is favoured by more residents than Scenario 2, the margin is too close to dismiss the values reflected in Scenario 2.

*Open Survey*

As staff and the consultant were well aware that many citizens were interested in providing their opinions on the subject of polling district boundaries, the same survey was also made directly available to the public on the HRM Web site. A district Boundary Review icon has been on the main Web site page for some time (“Your Council, Your Say”) that is linked to the Web site’s District Boundary Review page. The page provides background on current council boundaries and presents the two proposed boundary scenarios on maps accessed through a table on the page (maps are provided showing all boundaries for HRM as a whole and for each proposed district in each scenario). It also includes a prominent button labeled “Survey” that provides access to the survey questionnaire. Individuals visiting the site accessed the questionnaire by clicking on the button. Responses were limited to two per computer to prevent an individual or small group to distort results by submitting multiple responses.

The Web survey was open from August 19 through October 14. In addition to being given prominence on the HRM Home Page, it was well advertised in the local print media, radio, and Eastlink TV from August 20 through September 8. It also drew the attention of media outlets and was well-reported through a variety of outlets. Respondents to the open survey answered the same questions as respondents to the controlled telephone survey.

In total, 1,967 responses were received to the open survey. Although the number of respondents is more than twice as many as collected by the controlled survey and the input was taken into account in refining boundary scenarios, these survey results should be interpreted with care. The respondents to the second survey were what pollsters call “self-selected”; that is, they chose to respond to the survey of their own volition, presumably because they have an interest in municipal affairs that is sufficient to bring them to the HRM Web site or were otherwise encouraged to visit the site based on a specific interest or concern. As such, they differ from the more than 300,000 residents who were not aware of the survey or did not have sufficient interest to access it. They do nevertheless represent nearly 2,000 voices from HRM, which is far more than can normally be engaged through public meetings.

Question 5 concerning preferences between boundary scenarios obtained 1,258 responses. Responses gave a clearer result than the telephone survey as 610 or 48.5



**Reference: HRM District Boundaries Review**

per cent of respondents stated that they preferred Scenario 2 versus 475 or 37.8 per cent who preferred Scenario 1. The favoured option was the opposite of the controlled survey and the margin was substantially larger. A larger proportion than in the controlled survey indicated that they did not like either scenario (173 respondents or 13.8 per cent versus 54 or 8.8 per cent of controlled survey respondents).

**PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS**

To obtain more detailed information directly from the public, HRM staff decided to hold eight Public Information Meetings distributed through HRM as follows:

- Wednesday, September 21st, 7:00 p.m., Sackville High School Cafeteria, Lower Sackville
- Wednesday, September 28th, 7:00 p.m., Lakeside Fire Hall, Timberlea
- Wednesday, September 28th, 7:00 p.m., Sheet Harbour Lions Centre, Sheet Harbour
- Thursday, September 29th, 7:00 p.m., Dartmouth Sportsplex, Nantucket Room, Dartmouth
- Wednesday, October 5th, 7:00 p.m., Eastern Shore Recreation Centre, Musquodoboit Harbour
- Wednesday, October 5th, 7:00 p.m., Canada Games Centre Community Boardroom, Halifax
- Thursday, October 6th, 7:00 p.m., Basinview Drive Community School Cafeteria, Bedford

Six sessions were facilitated by Cathy Mellett, the City Clerk. Two of the Wednesday night sessions that coincided with other sessions (Sheet Harbour and Musquodoboit Harbour) were handled by the consultant, John Heseltine of Stantec.

Sessions were moderately attended with numbers range from a dozen to roughly 30 individuals. In total, the combined attendance at the eight meetings was approximately 160. The facilitators in all cases presented a PowerPoint outlining the Boundary Review process and the boundary scenarios. Participants in each session were then given the opportunity to ask questions of the facilitator after which they were invited to make comments on any aspect of the process and the boundaries shown in each scenario. Comments, not surprisingly, tended to focus on the boundaries of districts most closely associated with each meeting location and many valuable ideas were provided that have been taken into consideration in developing the recommended boundary proposal.



Reference: HRM District Boundaries Review

## **RECOMMENDED BOUNDARIES**

Given that preferences between Scenarios 1 and 2 were close to evenly divided in the surveys and Public Information Meetings and input through all of the review and consultation added valuable ideas, the recommended boundary arrangement is neither of the two scenarios but a modified version of Scenario 1. Staff have indicated in response to questioning from the consultant that they considered incorporating elements of Scenario 2 but could not arrive at a workable approach.

The final boundary arrangement was determined by HRM staff who then reviewed the proposal with the consultant. The consultant agreed that the recommended arrangement was a substantial improvement over both of the previous scenarios because it significantly reduced variance in voter populations among the proposed districts and because the boundaries of many of the districts were much clearer than those used in the proposed scenarios.

Particularly worthwhile boundary improvements were made in Dartmouth, where good use has been made of the Circumferential Highway and arterial collector roads to define districts. On the western side of Halifax Harbour some boundaries were modified to incorporate the entirety of particular wilderness areas in one district. This responded to citizen input suggesting that wilderness areas not be divided. Consideration was given to which district likely contributed the most users of each wilderness area in the allocation process. A good example is proposed District L. The district incorporates Otter Lake, which is generally accessed from Timberlea within the district, as well as the Blue Mountain/Birch Cove Lakes Area, which is heavily used by residents of both Timberlea and the western portion of Mainland North, also within the district.

The improvement in voter parity is substantial (**Table 1**). Whereas both Scenario 1 and Scenario 2 had one district that deviated from the average district voter population by more than 25 per cent, the recommended scenario has none. Scenario 1 had four more districts outside  $\pm 10$  per cent and Scenario 2 had one. The recommended scenario has two such districts. These two deviations are relatively moderate (-17.6 for proposed District 1 and 12.4 for proposed District 15) and can be readily explained as required by the NSUARB. Overall, the sum of absolute deviations from the average number of voters was 28,847 for Scenario 1, 25,516 for Scenario 2, and just 22,725 with the recommended boundaries.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>

The sum of the absolute values of differences between district voter populations and the average district voter population in each case.



Reference: HRM District Boundaries Review

**Table 1: Voter Populations and Variance from District Average, Scenario 1, Scenario 2, and Recommended Boundaries**

District		Voters Scenario 1	% Variance	Voters Scenario 2	% Variance	Voters Recom- Mended	% Variance
A	1	15,679	-23.4%	22,435	9.6%	16,870	-17.6%
B	2	19,853	-3.0%	21,646	5.7%	20,852	1.8%
C	3	18,231	-11.0%	20,429	-0.2%	19,219	-6.1%
D	4	19,531	-4.6%	21,854	6.7%	18,564	-9.3%
E	5	19,203	-6.2%	22,008	7.5%	19,676	-3.9%
F	6	19,608	-4.2%	22,726	11.0%	18,450	-9.9%
G	7	19,191	-6.3%	21,419	4.6%	21,522	5.1%
H	8	22,281	8.8%	21,914	7.0%	21,124	3.2%
I	9	22,672	10.7%	18,710	-8.6%	22,064	7.8%
J	10	22,157	8.2%	20,307	-0.8%	22,266	8.7%
K	11	18,366	-10.3%	22,365	9.2%	22,392	9.4%
L	12	21,107	3.1%	20,321	-0.7%	21,928	7.1%
M	13	21,454	4.8%	14,809	-27.7%	20,116	-1.8%
N	14	21,183	3.5%	18,691	-8.7%	19,833	-3.1%
O	15	26,903	31.4%	18,613	-9.1%	23,021	12.4%
P	16	20,196	-1.4%	19,331	-5.6%	19,715	-3.7%
<b>Average Voters</b>		<b>20,474</b>		<b>20,474</b>		<b>20,476</b>	

District 1 covering the eastern portion of the municipality is the largest district by area in HRM and will be the largest municipal district in the province as is the case with the current District 1. The district encompasses areas that are clearly rural. Incorporating other areas would likely compromise the rural nature of the district for which residents expressed concern at Public Information Meetings held in Musquodoboit Harbour and Sheet Harbour. Adjustments made to the district boundary decreased the deviation of its voter population from -23.4 per cent in Scenario 1 to -17.6 per cent. The adjustment reflected input at Public Information Meetings in Musquodoboit Harbour and Sheet Harbour.



**Reference: HRM District Boundaries Review**

District 15, which encompasses Lower Sackville and the portion of Middle Sackville south of Margeson Drive, is considerably reduced from the District O proposed in Scenario 1, which exceeded the average district voter population by 31.4 per cent. The district now proposed surpasses the average by only 12.4 per cent. The area subtracted is largely comprised of Upper Sackville, which has been combined with Beavertown and related areas extending east to Enfield. Further reduction of the area would require removal of areas that are clearly part of the Lower Sackville community to abutting districts with which they have little affinity and which, in some cases, they are separated by substantial barriers (e.g., Bedford is separated by two numbered highways and the Department of National Defence Firing Range).

**SUMMARY**

Stantec's consultant and HRM staff have worked well together throughout this assignment. We have not agreed immediately on all issues. The consultant, for example, felt more strongly about need to reduce variance in voter populations among districts than staff. HRM staff and the consultant discussed the issue and worked together to find ways to reduce variation. The consultant also questioned the methods being used to estimate population by district where district cut across Dissemination Areas (DA), which are areas defined by Statistics Canada that have been used as the basic geographic units from which district population and voter numbers have been estimated. HRM staff developed two methods, one based strictly on the proportionate area of a DA within a proposed district and the other controlled for the number of dwelling units in the area of the DA in question. It has been agreed that the second method is more accurate and it has been used exclusively to calculate voter populations for the recommended boundary scenario.

Stantec did not participate in all aspects of the Boundary Review. The consultant did not, for example, participate in meetings with the School Board nor did he consult with the Volunteer Panel. HRM staff did however communicate the results of those consultations and we are satisfied that this input was taken into consideration in the recommended boundary delineation. In conducting the review of boundaries, HRM staff have made direct contact with more than 3,000 HRM residents and drawn the attention of many more. These opinions have been reviewed and carefully accounted for in developing the final boundary recommendation by Stantec and HRM staff and we are satisfied that the consultation has been thorough and technically sound.

In the opinion of the consultant, the recommended boundaries will provide appropriate and fair districts from which to elect HRM's next Regional Council. The voter populations of the 16 proposed districts are in reasonable balance. The two districts that have populations outside the range recommended by the NSUARB are readily explained. The districts also reasonably encompass communities of interest within boundaries that should, for the most part, be readily comprehended by voters. The



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**Reference: HRM District Boundaries Review**

boundaries also meet the requirements for contiguity and reasonably distribute the physical area of the municipality recognizing the challenge of developing districts with balanced populations in a very large municipality in which there are large variations in population between urban, suburban, and rural areas.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John Heseltine". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

**STANTEC CONSULTING LTD.**

John Heseltine, LPP MCIP

Senior Planner

john.heseltine@stantec.com



## Attachment 3 - Review of HRM On-line Survey Results

### Advertising

Ads were placed in the major newspapers (Coast, Metro, and Herald) and twelve (12) weekly or monthly local papers from August 20<sup>th</sup> - September 8<sup>th</sup>. Media ads were also placed with four (4) local radio stations, EastlinkTV, Voiceprint service and on-line with the Herald on-line and HRM web site in addition to three (3) media reminders/PSAs and general media pick up.

### Survey Uptake/Results

#### *"By invitation"*

*The Marketing Group* was engaged to solicit participation in a "control" survey through calling and inviting residents throughout HRM to participate in the on-line survey. Control survey results were kept in a separate data base so as to be able to provide the base-line control survey responses. The Marketing group obtained 950 responses of which 302 were incomplete and 332, with the remainder of the survey respondents specifying a preference for Scenario 1, Scenario 2 or neither option as presented.

Of the "by invitation" survey responses 47% stated a preference for Scenario 1, 45% for Scenario 2 and 9% for neither of the options. Stated preference varied according to the current electoral district in which the respondent lived – but not widely.

#### *"Open Survey"*

Originally the survey was intended to run only to September 11<sup>th</sup>. When the NSUARB granted an extension to the hearing dates the survey was extended to run to October 14<sup>th</sup>. The majority of survey responses (1,899) were received prior to September 11<sup>th</sup> with 587 of those responses being incomplete (comparable with the "by invitation control group) and the remainder of the survey respondents specifying a preference for Scenario 1, Scenario 2 or neither option as presented. Data from the survey to September 11<sup>th</sup> was extracted in order to begin analysis of the findings.

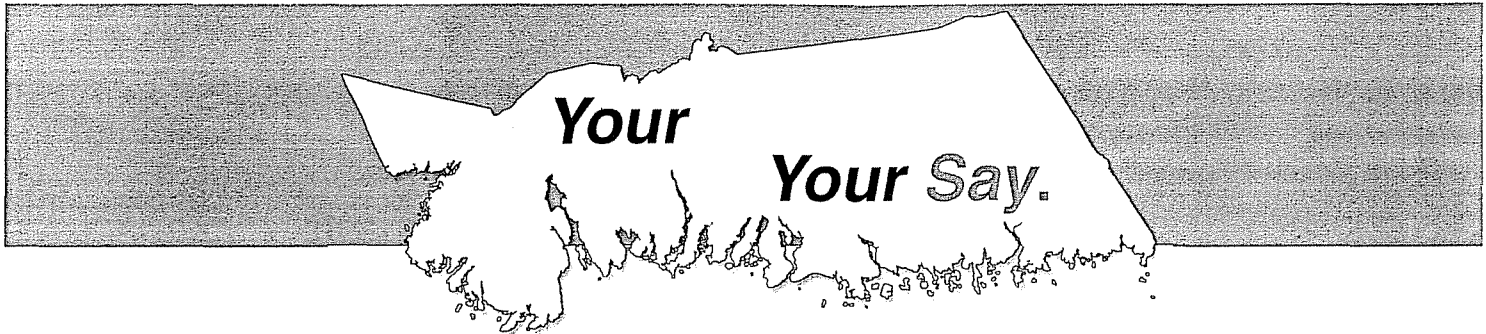
Of the initial (to September 11<sup>th</sup>) survey responses 36% preferred Scenario 1, 48% preferred Scenario 2 and 14% for neither of the options. Participation rates were fairly consistent across all current districts. However, patterns of preference appeared by current polling district as to which of the options was the stated preference. Residents in six (6) current polling district preferring Scenario 1 (Districts 2, 3, 8, 11, 17, and 19). Residents in nine (9) current polling districts preferring Scenario 2 (Districts 4, 5, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18, 22, and 23) and residents in eight (8) current polling districts had a relatively equal preference between the two scenarios (Districts 1, 6, 7, 9, 10, 15, 20, and 21).

A new version of the survey was opened immediately following September 11<sup>th</sup> and since that date an additional 271 surveys have been completed. Of those responses 73 were incomplete and of the remaining survey responses 37% favoured Scenario 1, 42% favoured Scenario 2 and 20% favoured neither. These final survey results are not as helpful in conducting an evaluation of the options as they are highly skewed by responses from primarily two (2) districts (District 14 and District 17). In the last two days of the survey an additional twenty-seven (27) responses were received. Those responses also were primarily from Districts 14 and 17. The submissions do indicate the preference of the participants who responded to the survey from those districts.

The raw data from the survey responses will be provided on-line on the HRM Boundary Review webpages as part of the submission to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board.

A detailed summary of the survey responses from the "by invitation" control survey, the survey up to September 11<sup>th</sup>, and the survey following September 11<sup>th</sup> is provided to follow.





## HRM's District Boundary Review

On July 27, 2011 the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (NSUARB) released their decision that there will be 16 Polling Districts and Councillors plus the Mayor to represent residents of HRM in the 2012 Municipal Election.

The change from 23 to 16 Districts will mean the new polling districts in HRM will be quite different from what they are today.

Starting Saturday, Aug 20th 2011, HRM residents will have an opportunity to participate in an online survey and provide input on several options for boundary changes. Your views are important, and will help HRM determine the 16 polling district boundaries. The survey is available on HRM's website [www.halifax.ca/boundaryreview](http://www.halifax.ca/boundaryreview)

The Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (NSUARB) will also be holding a public hearing to hear the views of the public on the proposed district boundaries.





## Surveys completed by Invitees

### Scenario Selection by District Column Labels

Row Labels	Neither Option	Null	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Grand Total
<b>Complete</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>618</b>
1	4	1	5	13	23
2	10	3	26	11	50
3	3	1	19	12	35
4	3	1	17	19	40
5	3	1	4	8	16
6	1	1	17	9	28
7	2	2	20	16	40
8	1	2	8	7	18
9	2		9	7	18
10	2		10	13	25
11			10	4	14
12	1		3	3	7
13			5	9	14
14	1		7	13	21
15			6	9	15
16	1	1	7	4	13
17	1		9	14	24
18	1	2	7	9	19
19	3	1	17	6	27
20	1	1	13	8	23
21	2	4	10	11	27
22	3	4	5	16	28
23	4		18	30	52
No District	1	10	16	14	41
<b>Incomplete</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>332</b>
2		1			1
10				1	1
17			1		1
21		2			2
No District	4	299	17	7	327
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>950</b>



HRM District Boundary Survey - By Invitation					
Respondents:	979 displayed. 979 total	Status:	Open		
Launched Date:	N/A	Closed Date:	10/14/2011		
1 Are you 18 years of age or over?					
		Response Total	Response Percent	Points	Avg
Yes		938	100%	n/a	n/a
No		1	0%	n/a	n/a
		Total Respondents	939		
		(skipped this question)	40		
2 How did you hear about the survey?					
		Response Total	Response Percent	Points	Avg
In response to a telephone call asking if I was interested in participating		779	86%	n/a	n/a
Through a newspaper advertisement.		11	1%	n/a	n/a
Through a radio or TV advertisement.		20	2%	n/a	n/a
Through the HRM Web site.		7	1%	n/a	n/a
Through information provided to me by another person		67	7%	n/a	n/a
Through a Web search		3	0%	n/a	n/a
Other, please specify <a href="#">view</a>		22	2%	n/a	n/a
		Total Respondents	907	100%	
		(skipped this question)	72		
3 Did you participate in any of the previous surveys or meetings regarding HRM's Governance & Boundary Review?					
Please check those that apply.					
		Response Total	Response Percent	Points	Avg
Attended a meeting		10	1%	n/a	n/a
Made a written submission		3	0%	n/a	n/a
Filled out a survey		7	1%	n/a	n/a
Did not participate previously		880	95%	n/a	n/a
		Total Respondents	927		
		(skipped this question)	52		
4 If there are any other factors you feel should be considered by the Utility and Review Board, Please add them here.					
View responses to this question					<a href="#">view</a>
Total Respondents				185	



(skipped this question)				794
5 Please select an option:				
	Response Total	Response Percent	Points	Avg
Scenario 1 - Follows the general outline of current district boundaries but expands the size and voters in each district	286	47%	n/a	n/a
Scenario 2 - Builds district boundaries out from Halifax Harbour moving out in an easterly and westerly pattern taking into account the required number of voters per district and community patterns.	273	45%	n/a	n/a
I don't like either of the options described above	54	9%	n/a	n/a
Total Respondents		613	100%	
(skipped this question)		366		
6 Please indicate why you made your choice above				
View responses to this question				<a href="#">view</a>
Total Respondents			467	
(skipped this question)			512	
7 If you have thoughts about how your own district or boundaries should be changed please outline, in as much detail as possible, the changes you would like to see. You may wish to propose a refinement to one or more of the two (2) scenarios presented or you may have a completely different approach you would like to propose				
Please describe below:				
View responses to this question				<a href="#">view</a>
Total Respondents			123	
(skipped this question)			856	
8 Is your primary place of residence in HRM?				
	Response Total	Response Percent	Points	Avg
Yes	624	99%	n/a	n/a
No	4	1%	n/a	n/a
Total Respondents		628		
(skipped this question)		351		
9 If you live in HRM, in which of the current electoral districts do you live in?				
If you are not sure which district you live in, please visit: <a href="#">HRM District Lookup</a>				
	Response Total	Response Percent	Points	Avg
1	23	4%	n/a	n/a
2	51	9%	n/a	n/a
3	35	6%	n/a	n/a
4	40	7%	n/a	n/a
5	16	3%	n/a	n/a
6	28	5%	n/a	n/a
7	40	7%	n/a	n/a
8	18	3%	n/a	n/a
9	18	3%	n/a	n/a
10	26	4%	n/a	n/a



11	14	2%	n/a	n/a
12	7	1%	n/a	n/a
13	14	2%	n/a	n/a
14	21	4%	n/a	n/a
15	15	3%	n/a	n/a
16	13	2%	n/a	n/a
17	25	4%	n/a	n/a
18	19	3%	n/a	n/a
19	27	5%	n/a	n/a
20	23	4%	n/a	n/a
21	29	5%	n/a	n/a
22	28	5%	n/a	n/a
23	52	9%	n/a	n/a
Total Respondents		582	100%	
(skipped this question)			397	
10 How long have you lived in HRM?				
	Response Total	Response Percent	Points	Avg
Less than 1 year	9	1%	n/a	n/a
1-5 years	55	9%	n/a	n/a
6-10 years	62	10%	n/a	n/a
11-20 years	120	19%	n/a	n/a
21-50 years	291	47%	n/a	n/a
More than 50 years	81	13%	n/a	n/a
Total Respondents		618	100%	
(skipped this question)			361	
11 How long have you lived in your present community or neighbourhood?				
	Response Total	Response Percent	Points	Avg
Less than 1 year	24	4%	n/a	n/a
1-5 years	148	24%	n/a	n/a
6-10 years	103	17%	n/a	n/a
11-20 years	160	26%	n/a	n/a
21-50 years	166	27%	n/a	n/a
More than 50 years	16	3%	n/a	n/a
Total Respondents		617	100%	
(skipped this question)			362	



# Closed Surveys to September 11

## Scenario Selection by District    Column Labels

Row Labels		Neither Option	Null	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Grand Total
<b>Complete</b>		<b>165</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>457</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>1261</b>
1		10	5	24	24	63
2		12	1	27	11	51
3		8	1	29	20	58
4		3	1	16	62	82
5		6		7	24	37
6		5	1	15	17	38
7		7		24	24	55
8		10	6	27	19	62
9		3		12	16	31
10		7	1	14	16	38
11		5	1	24	20	50
12		7	1	12	19	39
13		9	2	9	12	32
14		10		15	37	62
15		7	1	11	11	30
16		5	2	12	37	56
17		7		22	13	42
18		4	3	13	51	71
19		4		39	18	61
20		2		14	17	33
21		7	1	19	18	45
22		8		14	33	55
23		10	3	41	58	112
No District		9	22	17	10	58
<b>Incomplete</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>638</b>
3			1			1
4					1	1
9				1		1
11					1	1
17					1	1
23				1		1
No District	1	8	586	16	21	632
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>611</b>	<b>1899</b>



District Boundary Survey				
Respondents	1967 displayed. 1967 total	Status:	Open	
Launched Date:	08/16/2011	Closed Date:	09/15/2011	
1. Are you 18 years of age or over?				
		Response Total	Response Percent	Points Avg
Yes		1870	100%	n/a n/a
No		4	0%	n/a n/a
		Total Respondents	1874	
		(skipped this question)	93	
2. How did you hear about the survey?				
		Response Total	Response Percent	Points Avg
In response to a telephone call asking if I was interested in participating		24	1%	n/a n/a
Through a newspaper advertisement.		358	21%	n/a n/a
Through a radio or TV advertisement.		301	17%	n/a n/a
Through the HRM Web site.		317	18%	n/a n/a
Through information provided to me by another person.		318	18%	n/a n/a
Through a Web search		90	5%	n/a n/a
Other, please specify <a href="#">view</a>		335	19%	n/a n/a
		Total Respondents	1740 100%	
		(skipped this question)	227	
3. Did you participate in any of the previous surveys or meetings regarding HRM's Governance & Boundary Review?				
Please check those that apply.				
		Response Total	Response Percent	Points Avg
Attended a meeting		106	6%	n/a n/a
Made a written submission		20	1%	n/a n/a
Filled out a survey		61	3%	n/a n/a
Did not participate previously		1602	88%	n/a n/a
		Total Respondents	1811	
		(skipped this question)	156	
4. If there are any other factors you feel should be considered by the Utility and Review Board, Please add them here:				
View responses to this question				<a href="#">view</a>
Total Respondents			458	
(skipped this question)			1509	
5. Please select an option:				
		Response Total	Response Percent	Points Avg



Scenario 1 - Follows the general outline of current district boundaries but expands the size and voters in each district.	475	38%	n/a	n/a
Scenario 2 - Builds district boundaries out from Halifax Harbour moving out in an easterly and westerly pattern taking into account the required number of voters per district and community patterns.	610	48%	n/a	n/a
I don't like either of the options described above	173	14%	n/a	n/a
Total Respondents		1258	100%	
(skipped this question)		709		
6 Please indicate why you made your choice above.				
View responses to this question			<a href="#">view</a>	
Total Respondents		968		
(skipped this question)		999		
7. If you have thoughts about how your own district or boundaries should be changed please outline, in as much detail as possible, the changes you would like to see. You may wish to propose a refinement to one or more of the two (2) scenarios presented or you may have a completely different approach you would like to propose.				
Please describe below:				
View responses to this question			<a href="#">view</a>	
Total Respondents		349		
(skipped this question)		1618		
8 Is your primary place of residence in HRM?				
	Response Total	Response Percent	Points	Avg
Yes	1264	99%	n/a	n/a
No	11	1%	n/a	n/a
Total Respondents		1275		
(skipped this question)		692		
9 If you live in HRM, in which of the current electoral districts do you live in?				
If you are not sure which district you live in, please visit: <a href="#">HRM District Lookup</a>				
	Response Total	Response Percent	Points	Avg
1	63	5%	n/a	n/a
2	51	4%	n/a	n/a
3	59	5%	n/a	n/a
4	83	7%	n/a	n/a
5	36	3%	n/a	n/a
6	38	3%	n/a	n/a
7	55	5%	n/a	n/a
8	62	5%	n/a	n/a
9	32	3%	n/a	n/a
10	38	3%	n/a	n/a
11	51	4%	n/a	n/a
12	39	3%	n/a	n/a
13	32	3%	n/a	n/a
14	62	5%	n/a	n/a
15	30	2%	n/a	n/a
16	56	5%	n/a	n/a



17	43	4%	n/a	n/a
18	71	6%	n/a	n/a
19	61	5%	n/a	n/a
20	33	3%	n/a	n/a
21	45	4%	n/a	n/a
22	55	5%	n/a	n/a
23	113	9%	n/a	n/a
Total Respondents		1208	100%	
(skipped this question)		759		
10 How long have you lived in HRM?				
	Response Total	Response Percent	Points	Avg
Less than 1 year	12	1%	n/a	n/a
1-5 years	83	7%	n/a	n/a
6-10 years	111	9%	n/a	n/a
11-20 years	222	18%	n/a	n/a
21-50 years	664	53%	n/a	n/a
More than 50 years	157	13%	n/a	n/a
Total Respondents		1249	100%	
(skipped this question)		718		
11 How long have you lived in your present community or neighbourhood?				
	Response Total	Response Percent	Points	Avg
Less than 1 year	61	5%	n/a	n/a
1-5 years	272	22%	n/a	n/a
6-10 years	202	16%	n/a	n/a
11-20 years	264	21%	n/a	n/a
21-50 years	417	33%	n/a	n/a
More than 50 years	33	3%	n/a	n/a
Total Respondents		1249	100%	
(skipped this question)		718		



# Open Surveys from September 12 - October 12, 2011

Scenario Selection by District		Column Labels				
Row Labels		Neither Option	Null	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Grand Total
	Complete	37	8	68	80	193
	1	3	1	6	4	14
	2	1		7	2	10
	3	1	3	3	3	10
	4			2	5	7
	5	1		2	1	4
	6	1		1		2
	7	1		2	3	6
	8	2		1	1	4
	9			1		1
	10	1			1	2
	11	4		3	3	10
	12	3		2	3	8
	13			1	2	3
	14	6	1	3	26	36
	15	1		2	1	4
	16			2	2	4
	17	2		15	2	19
	18	1		1	3	5
	19	2		3	1	6
	20			1	1	2
	21		1	1	1	3
	22	5		1	7	13
	23	1		5	6	12
	No District		2			2
	Null	1		3	2	6
	Incomplete	2	73	2	1	78
	11	1				1
	22			1		1
	No District		73			73
	Null	1		1	1	3
	Grand Total	39	81	70	81	271



HRM District Boundary Survey				
Respondents	290 displayed, 290 total	Status:	Open	
Launched Date:	N/A	Closed Date:	10/31/2011	
1 Are you 18 years of age or over?				
		Response Total	Response Percent	Points Avg
Yes		270	100%	n/a n/a
No		0	0%	n/a n/a
		Total Respondents	270	
		(skipped this question)	20	
2 How did you hear about the survey?				
		Response Total	Response Percent	Points Avg
In response to a telephone call asking if I was interested in participating.		2	1%	n/a n/a
Through a newspaper advertisement.		25	10%	n/a n/a
Through a radio or TV advertisement		15	6%	n/a n/a
Through the HRM Web site.		61	24%	n/a n/a
Through information provided to me by another person.		93	36%	n/a n/a
Through a Web search		7	3%	n/a n/a
Other, please specify <a href="#">view</a>		55	22%	n/a n/a
		Total Respondents	255	100%
		(skipped this question)	35	
3 Did you participate in any of the previous surveys or meetings regarding HRM's Governance & Boundary Review? Please check those that apply.				
		Response Total	Response Percent	Points Avg
Attended a meeting		29	11%	n/a n/a
Made a written submission		2	1%	n/a n/a
Filled out a survey		9	3%	n/a n/a
Did not participate previously		219	83%	n/a n/a
		Total Respondents	263	
		(skipped this question)	27	
4 If there are any other factors you feel should be considered by the Utility and Review Board, Please add them here.				
View responses to this question				<a href="#">view</a>
		Total Respondents	84	
		(skipped this question)	206	
5 Please select an option:				
		Response Total	Response Percent	Points Avg
Scenario 1 - Follows the				



general outline of current district boundaries but expands the size and voters in each district.	71	37%	n/a	n/a
Scenario 2 - Builds district boundaries out from Halifax Harbour moving out in an easterly and westerly pattern taking into account the required number of voters per district and community patterns.	81	42%	n/a	n/a
I don't like either of the options described above	39	20%	n/a	n/a
Total Respondents		191	100%	
(skipped this question)		99		
6 Please indicate why you made your choice above				
View responses to this question				<a href="#">view</a>
Total Respondents		161		
(skipped this question)		129		
7 If you have thoughts about how your own district or boundaries should be changed please outline, in as much detail as possible, the changes you would like to see. You may wish to propose a refinement to one or more of the two (2) scenarios presented or you may have a completely different approach you would like to propose. Please describe below				
View responses to this question				<a href="#">view</a>
Total Respondents		74		
(skipped this question)		216		
8. Is your primary place of residence in HRM?				
	Response Total	Response Percent	Points	Avg
Yes	193	98%	n/a	n/a
No	4	2%	n/a	n/a
Total Respondents		197		
(skipped this question)		93		
9 If you live in HRM, in which of the current electoral districts do you live in? If you are not sure which district you live in, please visit: HRM District Lookup				
	Response Total	Response Percent	Points	Avg
1	14	7%	n/a	n/a
2	10	5%	n/a	n/a
3	10	5%	n/a	n/a
4	7	4%	n/a	n/a
5	4	2%	n/a	n/a
6	2	1%	n/a	n/a
7	6	3%	n/a	n/a
8	4	2%	n/a	n/a
9	1	1%	n/a	n/a
10	2	1%	n/a	n/a
11	11	6%	n/a	n/a
12	8	4%	n/a	n/a
13	3	2%	n/a	n/a
14	37	20%	n/a	n/a
15	4	2%	n/a	n/a
16	4	2%	n/a	n/a
17	19	10%	n/a	n/a
18	5	3%	n/a	n/a



19	6	3%	n/a	n/a
20	2	1%	n/a	n/a
21	3	2%	n/a	n/a
22	14	7%	n/a	n/a
23	12	6%	n/a	n/a
Total Respondents		188	100%	
(skipped this question)			102	
10 How long have you lived in HRM?				
	Response Total	Response Percent	Points	Avg
Less than 1 year	3	2%	n/a	n/a
1-5 years	12	6%	n/a	n/a
6-10 years	16	8%	n/a	n/a
11-20 years	33	17%	n/a	n/a
21-50 years	98	51%	n/a	n/a
More than 50 years	31	16%	n/a	n/a
Total Respondents		193	100%	
(skipped this question)			97	
11 How long have you lived in your present community or neighbourhood?				
	Response Total	Response Percent	Points	Avg
Less than 1 year	5	3%	n/a	n/a
1-5 years	33	17%	n/a	n/a
6-10 years	31	16%	n/a	n/a
11-20 years	50	26%	n/a	n/a
21-50 years	66	34%	n/a	n/a
More than 50 years	8	4%	n/a	n/a
Total Respondents		193	100%	
(skipped this question)			97	



## Attachment 4 - Review of Public Information Meetings

During the initial consultation process HRM requested an extension from the NSUARB in order to allow more time for consultation. That extension was granted on August 31, 2011 and eight (8) public information meetings were scheduled and advertised – one in each community council areas and an additional meeting on the Eastern Shore.

### Advertising

Ads were placed in the major newspapers (Coast, Metro, and Herald) – ad copy follows. Due to publication deadlines ads were only able to be placed in two (2) community papers as well as the four (4) Transcon weeklies. In order to ensure as wide as possible coverage ads were also placed with four (4) local radio stations, EastlinkTV, Voiceprint service and on-line with the Herald on-line and HRM web site in addition to three (3) media reminders/PSAs and general media pick up.

### Attendance/Format

Approximately 160 people attended the eight (8) Public Information Meetings (PIMs) and provided their views and opinions through that means.

The format for each of the eight (8) public meetings was:

- Greeting/Introduction
- Standard presentation outlining the Boundary Review Process & proposed scenarios (to follow)
- Questions/clarifications
- Comments from the public

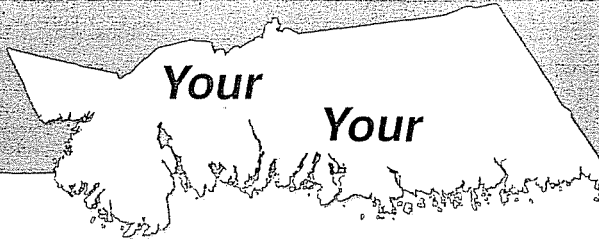
### Comments

General comments included:

- That the district changes due to the reduced number of districts have had a significant impact on the communities of interest as residents understand them.
- That communities of interest rather than voter counts should be more strongly considered in setting Polling District Boundaries
- Other governance concerns and considerations (i.e. role of Mayor/Councillors, electing at large, urban/rural representation etc.) continue to be of concern to residents

More detailed and specific comments are provided in the minutes of the meetings (to follow).





## HRM's District Boundary Review

On July 27th the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (NSUARB) released their decision that there will be 16 Polling Districts and Councillors plus the Mayor to represent residents of HRM in the 2012 Municipal Election.

The change from 23 to 16 districts will mean the new polling districts in HRM will be quite different from what they are today.

HRM will be holding a series of public information meetings to review the proposed polling district boundaries. These evening sessions, scheduled to run from **September 19th to October 6th**, will provide further detail on the boundary review process as well as gather feedback from residents. Meeting dates, locations and times are listed below:

Date & Time	Location
Monday September 19th – 7pm	Halifax Hall - 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax
Wednesday September 21st – 7pm	Sackville High School, Cafeteria - 1 Kingfisher Way, Lower Sackville
Wednesday September 28th – 7pm	Lakeside Fire Hall - 26 Myra Road, Timberlea
Wednesday September 28th – 7pm	Sheet Harbour Lions Centre - 183 Pool Rd, Sheet Harbour
Thursday September 29th – 7pm	Dartmouth Sportsplex, Nantucket Room - 110 Wyse Road, Dartmouth
Wednesday October 5th – 7pm	Eastern Shore Recreation Centre (Arena), Bingo Hall - 67 Park Road, Musquodoboit Harbour
Wednesday October 5th – 7pm	Canada Games Centre, Community Board Room - 26 Thomas Raddall Drive, Halifax
Thursday October 6th – 7pm	Basinview Drive Community School, Cafeteria - 273 Basinview Drive, Bedford

HRM residents also have the opportunity to provide their views through an online survey, available on HRM's website: [www.halifax.ca/boundaryreview](http://www.halifax.ca/boundaryreview). Residents can participate from now until October 14th, 2011.





PROPOSED POLLING STRICT BOUNDARIES  
16 DISTRICTS

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

MINUTES

September 19, 2011

STAFF:

Ms. Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk  
Ms. Sheilagh Edmonds, Legislative Assistant



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## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in Halifax Hall, City Hall. There were approximately 30 members of the public in attendance. Also in attendance were Mr. Richard Butts, HRM CAO; and Councillors: Dawn Sloane, Jerry Blumenthal, Reg Rankin, and Jennifer Watts.

## **2. PRESENTATION**

Using a Power Point Presentation, Ms. Mellett explained that as a result of the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board's (NSURB) decision to reduce HRM Council to 16 districts, a review of the 23 polling district boundaries and redrafting them into 16 was required. She added that staff have put forward two options for consideration, with each having between 18,430 and 22,425 voters per district,  $\pm$  10 percent, and based on a voter projection of October 2012. Ms. Mellett noted that HRM is required to submit their recommendation to the NSURB by October 21, 2011, and the NSURB will be holding its hearing November 7, 2011.

Ms. Mellett provided an overview of the two scenarios.

Ms. Mellett advised that she would respond to any questions of clarification the public may have, and would then open the floor to comments with regard to the proposed boundary scenarios.

### SPEAKERS:

Bruce Smith  
John Stanten  
Theresa Horwell  
Anne Moynehan  
Dolly Williams, Chair, East Preston Rate Payers' Association  
Andrew Murphy  
Bernard Smith  
David Goth  
Barbara Nehiley  
Blair Beed

### CORRESPONDENCE:

- Correspondence was submitted from Jonathan Hannam, Halifax.

### COMMENTS:

- Concerned that in Scenario 1 the boundary excludes Clayton Park West from Clayton Park. In Scenario 2 the Peninsula North End is included in the Clayton Park area, and it was suggested that a councillor could not effectively serve the district that included the North End; the boundaries should not divide established communities; and, the boundaries should be easily identified.



- In reference to proposed District 'M', it was suggested that Otter Lake should be put in District 'L' as there is no one living within the area of Otter Lake, and there would be no change to the number of voters in the district.
- District 11 has no room for growth – it was noted that there are six senior residences and public housing.
- Residents of East Preston would feel it more appropriate to be connected to the rest of Dartmouth, not the Eastern Shore, as it would serve their interest better; prefer Scenario 1
- A reduction in the number of councillors in the urban core is fundamentally unfair.
- The reduction in districts will create a further loss of a sense of community which started with amalgamation; concerned that suburban sprawl will continue and it will become more expensive to service the suburban areas.
- Have not succeeded in knitting the community together since amalgamation, and this proposal for less districts will make things worse.
- The proposed Peninsula districts would include almost all of the public and cooperative housing areas within one district in the Peninsula, whether Scenario 1 or 2 is chosen.
- The Province needs to get involved in order for the Municipality to succeed.
- Would like to see each of the new districts include a mix of urban, suburban, and rural.
- With regard to the Peninsula, would support Scenario 2 but feel it is incredibly flawed.

### **3. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Mellett thanked everyone for coming out and providing their feedback. She advised that following the information sessions, this matter will be going to Regional Council. She also noted that there was further opportunity for public input when the Utility and Review Board deals with this matter.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Sheilagh Edmonds  
Legislative Assistant



HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

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16 DISTRICTS IN HRM  
POLLING DISTRICT BOUNDARY REVIEW  
PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING  
MINUTES

September 21, 2011

PRESENT: Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk  
Chris Newson, Legislative Assistant



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## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria, Sackville High School, 1 Kingfisher Way, Sackville. Approximately 27 persons were in attendance including Councillors Barry Dalrymple, Brad Johns and Mr. Richard Butts, CAO.

## **2. PRESENTATION**

Ms. Mellett provided an overview of the District Boundary Review process noting that this was the final round of public consultation prior to Regional Council's submission to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (NSUARB), an independent decision making body, by October 21, 2011. The review of municipal polling district boundaries is required under the provincial Municipal government Act and is to be undertaken every eight (8) years by the municipality.

In July 2011, the NSUARB ruled that the number of polling districts/councillors in HRM for the 2012 Municipal Election was to be reduced to sixteen (16) from the current twenty-three (23). HRM must now redraft the polling districts based on sixteen (16) districts with the range of voters to be +/-10% to a maximum of 25% which would result in 18,430 to 22,425 voters per district. The primary consideration in the final decision by the NSUARB will be ensuring voter equity so that each district would have approximately the same number of voters. Other considerations will be community of interest, school catchment areas, transportation boundaries, community boundaries and recreation facilities as well as growth.

Ms. Mellett then reviewed the proposed changes for all of HRM noting that Option 1 for the Sackville area results in 31% which is beyond the maximum 25% permitted by the NSUARB. For discussion purposes, she noted that a possible option, Scenario 1B, may be presented if the 31% is not approved by the NSUARB which would be to consider the Halifax Regional School Board representative boundaries for this area.

Ms. Mellett noted that an online survey is available at [www.halifax.ca](http://www.halifax.ca). The final draft of the boundary review for sixteen (16) municipal districts will be submitted to Regional Council on October 18<sup>th</sup> then forwarded to the NSUARB without debate. The NSUARB will commence their public hearing on November 7, 2011.

## **3. PUBLIC INPUT**

The following persons provided comment on the proposed Scenario 1 and 2: Councillor Barry Dalrymple, Councillor Brad Johns, Allan Robertson, Ron Moakler, Steve Craig, Wayne Marchand, Ron Lowerison, Miquel Salquero, Jim Simon, Dave Merrigan, Nick Antoft and Bob Riser.



Councillor Dalrymple submitted a letter dated September 22, 2010 from the Lakeview Homeowners Association outlining the Association's unanimous motion that the community of Lakeview remain within the same district boundaries as Waverley, Windsor Junction and Fall River.

Comments expressed by the public are as follows:

- in regard to the 31% noted for Scenario 1, the suggested alternative to consider the Halifax Regional School Board catchment area boundaries is not relevant for the same reason provincial boundaries would not be considered
- Sackville and Kinsac have been communities of interest and should remain so
- it is time to right a wrong and place Beaver Bank back with Sackville not Fall River.; there is a geographic division between Beaver Bank and Fall River
- Sackville and Beaver Bank have an historical tie and are communities of interest; Beaver Bank helped pay for/support recreation facilities in Sackville/Beaver Bank. The main trunk getting in and out of Sackville is now the Beaver Bank Road. It is time to stop using Beaver Bank as a kicking stone to get the population right.
- the Sackville area should come toward Beaver Bank not Hammonds Plains; take 5000 voters from Beaver Bank for the Sackville area and adjust District 2 by taking 2000 from the eastern area and the other ends
- Alternatively, a revised Option 1 that divided the Sackville's would be appropriate as Sackville's interests have always been well represented by having more than one Councillor for the area – even back to the Halifax County days.
- in regard to Scenario 2, a recent community boundary review exercise was just done identifying the historic lines between Upper and Middle Sackville which the proposed Scenario 2 cuts in half and cuts the trailer park in half. It would be in the best interest for Upper and Middle Sackville to be in one district with the boundary line moved down to Connolly Road
- Lucasville and Waterstone areas have traditionally been communities of interest; the north west side of McCabe's Lake has a lot of undeveloped area, one side has Glen Arbour and on the other side is Waterstone, Whitehills, Margesson Drive; these communities of interest, such as around McCabe's Lake which is becoming a focal point., should remain inclusive as provided for in Scenario 1.
- the geographic boundary of lakes should also be considered in regard to re-alignment of districts as they are a recognized boundary
- the re-alignment is based on voters rather than population: representation should be based on a population basis not voters, for example, the additional 20,000 students that populate the peninsula each year are not considered as most are not eligible voters

Ms. Mellett clarified that student voters have always been over counted in areas of large student population (included in the voter count) due to the use of census data. Based on work done by Environics Analytics for this boundary review in regard to



student voters, the number of additional student voters, should the voter rules be changes – would be about 2,100.

- concern was expressed with the geographic size of both scenarios presented as the district would encompass a horrendous distance for one representative to cover and be able to say to their residents that they would give fair and equal representation
- there is room to tweak at the top and bottom portions of the map as the coastal areas are also a large geographic area to cover
- Beaver Bank, Kinsac and Sackville have been moved around enough and considering that they are communities of interest they should remain together
- area rates are a concern when district boundaries are re-aligned; the existing District 2 has more area rates than any other district; would the residents who have been paying those area rates still be able to access the facilities/services they have paid into

Ms. Mellett clarified that area rates were not necessarily linked to polling district boundaries as there was a separate process for determining the catchment areas.

- the distribution of local newspapers such as the LAKER is also a concern when considering boundaries and communities of interest
- there could be 5000 to 25,000 people added to the McCabe Lake developing area as it is a northern growth centre between Highway 101 and McCabe Lake
- Scenario 1 has a large geographic area for District A as does Scenario 2 with challenges such as coastal communities and more suburban/rural area
- support was expressed for Scenario 2 by one individual with some tweaking of the boundary lines
- move the boundary around Second Lake in Scenario 2 to the Atlantic Dominion Railway in the Sackville plan area; place the Barrett Lumber Mill back in the Sackville area; if the new mill is put in near Margesson Drive will it be in Sackville
- Scenario 2 is one individual's preferred option as modifications of Middle, Upper Sackville, Beaver Bank and Lucasville areas would bring the community back to where they had been in the past; Highway 101 and Lucasville Road are the common transportation line
- Sackville was developed in the early 1960's and Lucasville was considered part of the community with students from both areas attending the same schools
- concern was expressed with a comment that provincial boundaries be considered as the railroad tracks would bump the communities of interest, Fall River, Waverley, Windsor Junction and area, into Sackville.

In conclusion, Ms. Mellett thanked those in attendance for their comments and reminded the public of the online survey at [www.halifax.ca](http://www.halifax.ca). She reviewed the process in regard to the next steps and deadlines for submissions to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board.



**4.     ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Chris Newson  
Legislative Assistant



**POLLING DISTRICT BOUNDARY REVIEW  
PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING  
September 28, 2011**

PRESENT:

Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk  
Sherryl Murphy, Deputy Clerk



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## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk called the meeting order at 7:05 p.m. at the Lakeside Fire Hall, 26 Myra Road, Timberlea with seven (7) members of the public attending. Councillors Rankin and Lund were also in attendance.

## **2. STAFF PRESENTATION**

Ms. Mellett delivered a brief presentation entitled *Public Information Meetings, 16 Districts in HRM, Polling District Boundary Review*. The presentation provided background to the boundary review, identified the principles used in the review of boundaries, outlined the process and gave an overview of Polling District Boundaries as proposed in Scenarios 1 and 2 developed by HRM staff. A copy of the presentation is on file.

Ms. Mellett responded to questions and conversed with members of the public regarding the two Scenarios.

In response to concern regarding the few people attending the meeting, Ms. Mellett noted that any member of the public could go online and complete the survey. The survey can be found at <http://www.halifax.ca/BoundaryReview>.

Ms. Mellett further explained that following the public meetings, staff's review of the input and potential further changes to the boundaries, staff will report to Council with a recommendation. Council has approved a motion to move the recommendation to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board without debate.

## **3. SPEAKERS**

A resident of Goodwood  
Catherine Pelrine, Timberlea  
Councillor Reg Rankin  
Councillor Peter Lund  
A resident of Clayton Park

## **4. PUBLIC INPUT**

Speakers commented as follows:

- Timberlea is considered to be all the lands/homes up to and including Bishop Lane. It was suggested that the proposed boundary as set out in Scenario 1 be moved up to Exit 4 and it was noted that this would involve approximately 30 voters.



- Referring to the maximum 25% range of voters, note was made that the existing District 23 is already at 20%. Consideration should be given to a sub-region, not unlike the situation with the present District 1, which would combine Districts 22 and 23. This would ensure that the broad spectrum of like communities is grouped regardless of the external boundary. There is concern regarding who will have responsibility for the Western Common and the landfill.
- With regard to Scenario 1, residents consider that Goodwood has been cut off given the transportation patterns. There is no direct transportation route to Harrietsfield from Goodwood.
- If Scenario 1 was the recommended scenario, the boundary should be moved to include the Dovers.
- Peggy's Cove is the divide in terms of where people eat, work and play. In terms of transportation, people from Peggy's Cove come to Tantallon and then use the highway into town while residents of West Dover area come from Prospect. Similarly, in the Hammonds Plains Road the divide is in the Pockwock Road and Lucasville Road area with one group of people utilizing Tantallon and the other group tending to gravitate toward Bedford/Sackville.
- The public does not really understand the concepts and a public education process is required prior to any changes to the boundaries. Additional information, kitchen table or gathering in communities, would also be helpful.
- The raw data from the surveys should be available to view online.
- Watersheds drive community. Lines that do not follow watersheds divide communities.

## **5. ADJOURNMENT**

In closing, Ms. Mellett thanked everyone for attending and providing their input. She urged those present to complete the online survey.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Sherryll Murphy  
Deputy Clerk



HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

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DISTRICT BOUNDARY REVIEW  
PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 29, 2011

PRESENT: Ms. Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk  
Ms. Jennifer Weagle, Legislative Assistant



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## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk, called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. in the Nantucket Room, Dartmouth Sportsplex, 110 Wyse Road, Dartmouth, with approximately 18 members of the public in attendance. Deputy Mayor Jim Smith, Councillor Lorelei Nicoll, Councillor Bill Karsten, and Mr. Richard Butts, CAO, were also in attendance.

## **2. STAFF PRESENTATION**

Ms. Mellett welcomed all present to this public information session on this phase of HRM's Polling District Review. Ms. Mellett delivered a presentation entitled *Public Information Meetings, 16 Districts in HRM, Polling District Boundary Review*. The presentation provided background to the district boundary review, including the following key areas:

- Purpose of the boundary review
- HRM submission & NSUARB decision
- What is required from the NSUARB decision
- What the NSUARB will and will not be considering
- The principles used in the review of the boundaries
- An overview of the boundary review process
- An overview of the polling district boundaries, as proposed by HRM staff in Scenarios 1 and 2
- Voters per proposed District, as set out in Scenarios 1 and 2

A copy of Ms. Mellett's presentation is on file.

Ms. Mellett responded to questions from those in attendance at this time.

## **3. SPEAKERS**

A letter was submitted at the meeting from Mr. John Harlow, Dartmouth, dated September 29, 2011.

Tim Olive, Downtown Dartmouth Business Commission  
Alan Ruffman, Ferguson's Cove  
Sam Austin, Dartmouth  
Bill Zebedee, Dartmouth  
John Harlow, Dartmouth  
Jason Pelly, Dartmouth  
Gerrie Irwin, Dartmouth  
John Hurst, Dartmouth  
Bev Doman, Office of Darrell Dexter, MLA



#### 4. PUBLIC INPUT

- The Dartmouth portion of the Regional Core, as identified in the Regional Plan, includes downtown Dartmouth inside the Circumferential Highway, and is a specific community of interest which should not be split up. There is a highly functioning Business Improvement District within this area (the Downtown Dartmouth Business Commission) that should remain within one district. Business competition for this area is with Burnside, and it would not be good for business to have the two areas in the same district.
- With regard to the proposed district including the Sambro, Harrietsfield, Terrance Bay area, keep in mind that communities in this area run along roads near the water, with no roads running through the inland area in between. If these communities were all in one district it would cover a great driving area for a member of Council to cover. The proposed District K would be preferred over the proposed District M.
- The proposed districts for Peninsular Halifax as set out in Scenario 2 do not make a good representation of these communities of interest, and do not follow the area set out in the Capital District plan.
- With regard to the Eastern Shore, the proposed separation of the valley from the shore makes sense as these are very distinct communities, as well as the proposed separation of districts on Peninsular Halifax, in terms of North End and South End.
- A concern with the boundary lines separating the "Five Corners" area of Dartmouth into 3 districts. Old Dartmouth is a distinct community that needs a united voice on Council to best represent and preserve the community.
- The demographics of the Penhorn/Woodlawn area are very different than the demographics of Portland Estates. There are no associations between these communities.
- Communities to the north of Highway #7 are not in favour of using the highway as a boundary. The Montague Road/Humber Park area has close ties with the community of Cole Harbour, and should remain in the same district as Cole Harbour. Scenario 2 is preferred for this area.
- Scenario 2 would be preferred for the Cole Harbour area for a number of reasons: there would be no variance of the percentage of voters in the district, and from a historical aspect, Scenario 2 would keep the Cole Harbour Heritage Farm, the Bell House, and the Meeting House in the same district. Scenario 1 is not preferred for the Cole Harbour area as it would divide the community into 3 districts, with a voter variance percentage of 6.2% – 10.8%, and would divide the Main Street Business Improvement District into 2 districts.
- There should be two Councils – one for Halifax and one for Dartmouth. A plebiscite should be held to determine the districts.
- Determination of the names given to these districts will be important to the communities within them.



- With the provincial boundary review under way next year, consideration could be given by the UARB to amalgamate the municipal and provincial boundary lines. There are 19 provincial ridings fully within HRM and 3 partially within HRM.

## **5. ADJOURNMENT**

In closing, Ms. Mellett thanked everyone for attending and providing their input. She reminded that submissions on this topic will be collected until October 12, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Jennifer Weagle  
Legislative Assistant



# HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

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## Polling District Boundary Review Minutes

Sheet Harbour Lions Centre  
September 28, 2011

STAFF: John Heseltine, Sr. Planner, Stantec  
Krista Vining, Legislative Assistant, Municipal Clerks Office



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## 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:18 p.m. at the Sheet Harbour Lions Centre, 183 Pool Road, Sheet Harbour with twenty-five (25) members of the public in attendance. Councillors Streach, Hendsbee and Dalrymple were also in attendance at the meeting.

## 2. PRESENTATION

Mr. John Heseltine, Sr. Planner, Stantec, delivered a presentation entitled *Public Information Meetings, 16 Districts in HRM, Polling District Boundary Review*. The presentation provided background to the boundary review, identified the principles used in the review of boundaries, outlined the process and gave an overview of Polling District Boundaries as proposed in Scenarios 1 and 2 developed by HRM staff. A copy of the presentation is on file.

Mr. Heseltine responded to questions raised by members of public respecting the two scenarios.

In response to concern raised respecting some residents not have access to the online survey, the following options were provided:

- Members in attendance could provide their contact information to the Clerk following the meeting and a survey, with enclosed self address stamped return envelop, would be mailed to them
- Residents can go to the local cap site, Bluewater Building for computer access; staff is available to provide assistance
- The Chamber of Commerce has a tourist information centre with a computer for public use
- The Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board is accepting written submission until October 31, 2011

## 3. SPEAKERS

Sid Prest, MLA Eastern Shore  
Bernie Daye  
Councillor Steve Streach, District 1  
Ruby Gammon  
Marianne Marshall  
Randolph Kinghorne  
Art MacKenzie  
Councillor Barry Dalrymple, District 3  
Councillor David Hendsbee, District 2



#### 4. PUBLIC INPUT

Speakers comments were as follows:

- There should be some focus on the number of voters compared to the geographical size. It would be difficult for one Councillor to service the entire Western/Eastern area in Scenario 2.
- There has never been a focus on the value of properties. The Eastern end of the Municipality has the same By-laws as the Western end but the property values are lower. There is a lack of balance for the Eastern end, which needs to be able to catch up to be at par with the rest of the Municipality.
- Many senior residents are not able to travel to access a computer, as well many residents along the Eastern Shore are on dial up and internet access limited. Surveys should be mailed out to residents' homes to make it more convenient for people, especially seniors, to respond to the survey from the comfort of their own homes. Concerned with the lack of advertising; many Eastern Shore residents may not have been aware of the Public Information Meeting or the Community Council meeting held earlier in the evening.
- Scenario 1 is more of a community based approach where Scenario 2 is designed from Halifax Harbour outwards and does not capture the essence of what is happening in the community. There are certain communities of interest that have always shared many values, roadways, recreational facilities and family of schools. There are three (3) schools in the Catchment area: Sheet Harbour, Musquodoboit Harbour and Middle Musquodoboit; however, the Dutch Settlement corridor has been removed from Scenario 1. Choosing Scenario 1 would leave the communities of rural interest intact but the northern line should be moved to the left to include the Dutch Settlement area, which feeds into Middle Musquodoboit. Including the Dutch Settlement area would also assist with increasing the number of voters in the District.
- During a previous boundary realignment the Dutch Settlement area was included in the Catchment area.
- It could take days for a Councillor to address residents' concerns as they are spread over a rural area; whereas it would only take less time in the urban and suburban areas. Using Scenario 2, if a Councillor needs to be eliminated for the Halifax area, then there should be a Councillor for each side of the Eastern Shore area.
- Combine some of the urban Districts to represent more constituents in a smaller area.
- HRM has a number of Land Use By-laws that are defined by planning areas. The realignment of boundaries does not seem to take this into account and would result in multiple joint Community Council meetings to make amendments to a by-law.
- The line drawn down the middle of District 1 in Scenario 2 does not make sense. The rural areas could be a bit smaller but why is the number of constituents a Councillor represents necessary to take into consideration. Leave District 1 as it



is in Scenario 1 and if necessary, extend the District to include a few more residents (ie. Dutch Settlement area).

- District 1 seems to be the size of all of the Districts on the west side of the Municipality.
- Support Scenario 1 with the inclusion of Dutch Settlement.
- Scenario 2 would mean that 75-80% of the population will be in the west. Depending on where the Councillor lived, Scenario 2 could mean that a certain percentage of residents further east may not receive fare and equal representation.
- The Eastern Shore needs more representation to allow for growth (ie. building houses, businesses, community centres, etc.). Areas of Halifax and Dartmouth are already well established and representation is not as needed as it is along the Eastern Shore.
- Option of having the first candidate voted in as the Councillor and the second candidate could provide assistance.

It was noted that there will be a Public Information Meeting on the Polling District Boundary Review on October 5, 2011 at the Eastern Shore District High School Cafeteria, Musquodoboit Harbour.

## **5. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Krista Vining  
Legislative Assistant



**POLLING DISTRICT BOUNDARY REVIEW  
PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING  
OCTOBER 5, 2011**

**PRESENT:** John Heseltine, Senior Planner, Stantec  
Sherryl Murphy, Deputy Clerk, HRM



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## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Sherryll Murphy, Deputy Clerk called the meeting order at 7:07 p.m. at the Eastern Shore Recreation Centre, 67 Park Road, Musquodoboit Harbour with 12 members of the public attending. Councillors Streach and Hendsbee were also in attendance.

## **2. STAFF PRESENTATION**

Mr. Heseltine welcomed residents and outlined what would be covered in the meeting.

Mr. Heseltine went on to deliver a brief presentation entitled *Public Information Meetings, 16 Districts in HRM, Polling District Boundary Review*. The presentation provided background to the boundary review, identified the principles used in the review of boundaries, outlined the process and gave an overview of Polling District Boundaries as proposed in Scenarios 1 and 2 developed by HRM staff. A copy of the presentation is on file.

Mr. Heseltine noted that the public consultation included eight public meetings and an online survey which can be found at <http://www.halifax.ca/BoundaryReview>.

Mr. Heseltine further explained that following the public meetings, staff's review of the input and potential further changes to the boundaries, staff will report to Council with a recommendation. Council has approved a motion to move the recommendation to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board without debate. The Board will begin hearings on November 7, 2011 and will reach a decision thereafter.

Mr. Heseltine responded to questions from members of the public.

## **3. SPEAKERS**

Pat Barrington, Cooks Brook  
Ross Sliming, Mineville  
Steve Brine, HRSB Representative, District 1 (Municipal Districts 1 and 3)  
Donald Parker, Middle Musquodoboit  
Darryl Faulkner, Jeddore  
Councillor Hendsbee, District 3  
Councillor Streach, District 1  
Two (2) residents spoke without giving their name or community

## **4. PUBLIC INPUT**

Speakers provided the following comments:



- In Scenario 1, if Enfield were added back to District 1 this would positively impact the 23% voter population variance
- Concern that rural residents will not be well represented given that both scenarios, particularly Scenario 2, would have both rural and urban communities represented by the same Councillor. Given that the bulk of the population would be located in the more urban area, the Councillor would probably reside in the urban area.
- Scenario 1 removes existing District 3 residents from the group of communities they have lived in for a great number of years.
- Scenario 2 is not good for rural areas; the population centres in the urban area would create a situation where the Councillor would be elected from the more urban area due to population density. In Scenario 1, Dutch Settlement should be included in District A and the boundary should back off on Porters Lake. 40% of the population in Nova Scotia lives in HRM and over 80% of HRM is rural. Although, most of the population of HRM lives in 20% of the area, HRM is still a rural municipality. Existing Districts 1 and 3 should not be altered as they are rural for the most part.
- Representation by population only is not really fair. Councillors may not be serving the same number of people, but travel time should be considered.
- Enjoy living in a rural area and does not want to be considered suburban. The boundary should not be moved any further west than absolutely necessary and the District should remain rural.
- The boundaries for the rural areas should not be changed. There is a need for rural representation.
- Mineville, although not urban, is certainly not a rural community either. Mineville is very close to the city and over the next few years the area will likely see 400 more homes developed. The Mineville area should remain with the more urban area.
- Voter population numbers are not as important as communities.
- Concern was expressed with Scenario 1 in that communities which have had a relationship for many years are being broken apart. Scenario 2 follows the old Provincial boundaries and has some merit in terms of transportation corridors, coastal communities and rural areas. However, the communities of Mineville and Lawrencetown should be included with Forest Hills. Additionally this scenario



separates the black communities which are together in both Federal and Provincial ridings.

- Communities of interest are very important. Concern expressed that the dissatisfaction felt in the rural areas at the time of amalgamation will be revived. There was real concern regarding the lack of rural representation. The present review needs to be alert so as not to marginalize the rural voice and way of life. Note was made that Dutch Settlement should be included in the rural district. The airport should also be included in the rural district with a view to levelling assessment across the municipality.

Councillor Streach provided a written submission from Vida Mackenzie of Elderbank to the Clerk.

## **5. ADJOURNMENT**

In closing, Mr. Heseltine thanked everyone for attending and providing their input.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Sherrill Murphy  
Deputy Clerk



# HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

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## PROPOSED POLLING DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

### PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING MINUTES

October 5, 2011

#### STAFF:

Ms. Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk  
Ms. Shawnee Gregory, Legislative Assistant



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## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. in the Canada Games Centre Community Boardroom, Halifax. There were approximately 30 members of the public in attendance. Also in attendance was Mr. Richard Butts, Chief Administrative Officer, Ms. Lori McKinnon, Election Coordinator, and Councillors Wile, Walker, Hum, Rankin, Lund, and Mosher.

## **2. PRESENTATION**

Ms. Mellett provided a presentation titled *Public Information Meetings, 16 Districts in HRM, Polling District Boundary Review*. The presentation provided background to the boundary review, identified the principles used in the review of boundaries, outlined the process and gave an overview of Polling District Boundaries as proposed in Scenarios 1 and 2 developed by HRM staff. A copy of the presentation is on file.

Ms. Mellett provided an overview of the two scenarios for the proposed polling district boundaries in HRM. She advised that, upon compiling the public feedback generated at these meetings, staff would return to Council on October 18, 2011 with a recommendation for Council to vote on without debate and forwarded to the Utility and Review Board (UARB). She noted that the UARB would then hold a series of public meetings commencing on November 7, 2011 and that the public could make a submission or sign up to speak by contacting the UARB by October 31, 2011.

Ms. Mellett responded to questions of clarification from the public and then opened the floor for comments.

## **3. SPEAKERS**

Tony Atuanya, Preston, Executive Director of W.A.D.E.  
Maureen Menuge, Westridge Drive  
Jed Lannigan, Wilson Street  
Mary Ann McGrath, Kearney Lake (written submission also provided)  
Jim Hoskins, Spryfield  
Kristen Dick, East Dover  
Bruce Smith, Halifax  
A Resident of Purcell's Cove  
Jerry Walsh, Halifax  
Adam Conter, South End Halifax  
Tom Lavers, Prospect  
Bob McDonald, Warwick Lane  
Carl Zinck, Prospect  
Wendy McDonald, Warwick Lane



#### **4. PUBLIC INPUT**

Comments from the public were as follows:

- The communities of Preston prefer Scenario One as it retains the cohesiveness between the communities of Cherry Brook, Lake Loon and the Prestons as these areas have the largest indigenous African community in HRM. The communities would like to continue working together rather than being split between two districts and councillors
- It was preferred that Westridge Drive be included in the same district as its neighbouring streets in Clayton Park in order to keep communities together
- It was suggested that the new 2012 Council have councillors sit at large rather than by district
- Scenario One is difficult for the Kearney Lake community as it removes 60 properties and places them in a district thousands of acres away with potentially conflicting views. This would create a difficult job for the district councillor. As this may be able to be adjusted as it does not impact many voters, please consider this adjustment.
- Scenario One separates the traditionally connected communities of Kearney Lake, Birch Cove, Princess Lodge and Rockingham
- Scenario Two is a somewhat better option as Kearney Lake remains with the Birch Cove area; however, Princess Lodge is separated and attached to Bedford despite being separated from that community by a large wilderness area.
- Concern was expressed that boundary lines may have been drawn through wilderness and uninhabited areas when it could be drawn otherwise to include the entire wilderness area in one district.
- Concern was expressed regarding watershed areas being separated by boundary lines
- Concern was expressed regarding the separation of coastal communities (no scenario referenced)
- Scenario Two is preferred by some members of the western coastal community as it would incorporate Goodwood, maintain existing school districts and keep transportation corridors together



- In Scenario Two the proposal to have Fairview connected with North End Halifax would split the needs of the communities as there was no historical connection between the two
- Clayton Park should not be divided as proposed in Scenario One
- Scenario One was preferred as it keeps the urban core more integrated and separates the community of Purcell's Cove from the peninsula by attaching it to the district which includes the Sambro Loop.
- Scenario Two was preferred as the community of Prospect has more in common with St. Margaret's Bay than it does with Timberlea
- Both scenarios have somewhat separated the communities of Prospect and they should be kept together, if possible
- Scenario Two was preferred as it keeps historically similar communities together
- The old Clayton Park, Clayton Park West and Glenbourne area should be left as a contiguous geographic area
- There is more flexibility for boundary lines within the Bayers Lake Business Park as there is currently no residential development there
- Commercial zones and transportation should be taken into consideration.

## **5. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Mellett thanked those in attendance for their feedback.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Shawnee Gregory  
Legislative Assistant



# HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

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## Polling District Boundary Review Minutes

Bedford  
October 6, 2011

STAFF: Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk  
Krista Vining, Legislative Assistant, Municipal Clerks Office



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## **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. at the Basinview Drive Community School Cafeteria, 273 Basinview Drive, Bedford with ten (10) members of the public in attendance. Councillors Outhit and Lund were also in attendance at the meeting.

## **2. PRESENTATION**

Ms. Cathy Mellett, Municipal Clerk, delivered a brief presentation entitled *Public Information Meetings, 16 Districts in HRM, Polling District Boundary Review*. The presentation provided background to the boundary review, identified the principles used in the review of boundaries, outlined the process and gave an overview of Polling District Boundaries as proposed in Scenarios 1 and 2 developed by HRM staff. A copy of the presentation is on file.

Ms. Mellett provided an overview and responded to questions raised by members of the public on the differences between the two scenarios for the Bedford and Hammonds Plains areas, as well as for Area J.

The Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board will be accepting written submissions until October 31, 2011.

## **3. SPEAKERS**

Chris Lowe, resident of Bedford and Vice President of Annapolis Group  
Ross Evans, Pockwock Road  
Pat Portman, Bedford Highway  
Joyce Evans, Pockwock Road  
Bill Grace, Bedford

## **4. PUBLIC INPUT**

Speakers comments were as follows:

- Area J is quite densely populated.
- Consideration should be given to the communities of interest and future growth areas for business communities. Ensuring that the business parks and voter alignments are included in the Districts.
- Hammonds Plains' community of interested is more relatable to the Sackville area than the Saint Margaret's Bay area. Suggestion was made to moving the line down by Westwood Hills a little towards Hammonds Plain as residents largely do their business around the Bay. Allow for growth in Hammonds Plains.
- From the voter point of view, business districts should not be included in residential areas.
- Inclined to go with Scenario 2 for the Hammonds Plains area, as there has been historically a closer connection with the Sackville community.




- A large number of Hammonds Plains residents attend the North West Community Council meetings to address their concerns rather going to the Western Region Community Council's meeting.
- Divide the Districts so there are eight (8) Councillors for the urban areas and eight (8) Councillors for everywhere else; people would be represented more effectively.

## **5. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Krista Vining  
Legislative Assistant





***Your Council.  
Your Say.***

**HRM's District Boundary Review**

**Public Information Meetings**  
**16 District in HRM**  
**Polling District Boundary Review**


**HALIFAX**  
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

**What is boundary review? Why do it?**

Required by legislation  
(Municipal Government Act)

Required to be undertaken by  
the Municipality with a decision  
by Regional Council

Review and final decision by the  
NSUARB



**HALIFAX**  
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

SENIOR POLITICAL BOUNDARY REVIEW



## HRM Submission & NSUARB decision:

The recommendation of Regional Council to the NSUARB was to retain 23 districts/councillors and adjust polling district boundaries for growth only.

After hearing all the evidence before them, in July 2011 the NSUARB ruled that the number of polling districts/councillors in HRM for the 2012 Municipal Elections was to be reduced to 16 districts.



HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

## What is required from that decision

HRM needs to redraft the proposed polling district boundaries in HRM based  
16 polling districts/councillors

Based on projected voters by October 2012

Range of voters per district (+/- 10%) to be maximum of 25% with substantive reasons

Between 18,430- 22,425 voter per district

Submit those revised boundaries and arguments for those boundaries to the NSUARB by October 21, 2011



HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY



## What NSUARB will consider:

### Voter equity primary consideration:

Ensuring that voting districts have about the same number of voters  
NSUARB direction +/- 10% of the average voters in each district or to be argued otherwise

### Community of Interest is an additional consideration:

Community boundaries, school catchment areas, transportation corridors, recreation facilities etc.



HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

## What NSUARB won't consider:

The number – that part of the decision has been taken by the Board  
Matters that outside of their jurisdiction, and are generally the mandate of the Provincial Government through legislation such as MGA, Halifax Charter, Municipal Elections Act

Such as the overall HRM boundaries, change to powers of Council/Community Councils or changes in approach to electoral process (ex. "at large vs. district councillors)



HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY



## Principles:

- Take growth into account
- Ensure parity between districts
- Use identifiable boundaries where possible
- Take a Regional approach (best good for the most)
- Meet the NSUARB requirement of voter equity (+/- 10% of average) or strongly defend other- wise
- Consider communities of interest as much as possible given the significance of the change required in polling district boundaries



OFFICE OF POLLING DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

## Process

Propose new boundaries for 16 districts in HRM

\*\*Consultation on those proposals

Adjustments if appropriate

Recommendation to Council to be forwarded to the NSUARB "without debate" (motion of Council) – October 18th

Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (NSUARB) for their final review/decision

(hearings on Nov 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011)





## Overview of Proposed Polling District Boundaries 16 Districts in HRM



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

### Scenario 1.



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT



### Scenario 1 - Voters per proposed District

#### Acceptable Range of Voters/District

18,425 (-10%)

20,475 (average)

22,525 (+10%)

+/- 25% maximum may be allowed under special circumstances

District	Voters	% variance	District	Voters	% variance
A	15,579	-24%	I	22,672	+10.7%
B	19,853	-3%	J	22,157	+8.2%
C	18,231	-10.9%	K	18,366	-10.3%
D	19,531	-4.6%	L	21,107	+3%
E	19,203	-6.2%	M	21,454	+4.8%
F	19,608	-4.2%	N	21,183	+3.5%
G	19,191	-6.2%	O	26,903	+31%
H	22,281	+8.8%	P	20,196	+1.4%

**HALIFAX**  
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

2011 ELECTORAL DISTRICT REFORM

### Scenario 2.

**HALIFAX**  
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

2011 ELECTORAL DISTRICT REFORM



## Scenario 2 - Voters per proposed District

### Acceptable Range of Voters/District

18,425 (-10%)

20,475 (average)

22,525 (+10%)

*+/- 25% maximum may be allowed under special circumstances*

District	Voters	% variance	District	Voters	% variance
A	22,435	+9.5%	I	18,710	-8.6%
B	21,646	+5.7%	J	20,307	average
C	20,429	average	K	22,365	+9.2%
D	21,854	+6.7%	L	20,321	average
E	22,008	+7.5%	M	14,809	-27%
F	22,726	+10.9%	N	18,691	-8.7%
G	21,419	+4.9%	O	18,613	-9%
H	21,914	+7%	P	19,331	-5.5%

**HALIFAX**  
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK, HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

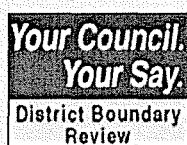
**Questions on specific areas? – streets?  
Comments?**

**HALIFAX**  
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CLERK, HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY



Thank you



OFFICE OF DISTRICT BOUNDARY REVIEW



## Attachment 5 – Written Submissions received by the Clerk's Office

Thirty-four (34) written submissions and/or requests for additional information were received by the Clerk's office as well as five (5) hard copy responses to the survey, which were tallied with the other survey results.

The submissions follow:



Sept-21/11  
Seckville  
P/M

---

LAKEVIEW HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

---

195 THIRD AVENUE  
LAKEVIEW, NOVA SCOTIA  
B4C-4C9

---

September 22, 2010

Councilor Barry Dalrymple  
10 Pine Oak Drive  
Wellington, NS B2T 1J4

HRM District Boundary Review Committee,

During our last annual general meeting held on March 28, 2010 a motion was passed to inform HRM's boundary review committee of the desire of our community to remain within the district boundaries of Lakeview, Waverley, Windsor Junction and Fall River. The motion was supported unanimously. Now that HRM has entered phase 2 of the District Boundary Review we the board of Lakeview Homeowners Association feel it is appropriate to express the strong desire of our community to remain within the district boundaries of our communities of interest. These interests include not only a long inter-community history but also, education, sport and recreation, volunteer organizations, social events, and politics.

Children living in Lakeview, Windsor Junction, Waverley and Fall River attend school together at Waverley Memorial (English elementary), Ash Lee Jefferson (French elementary), Georges P. Vanier Junior High and Lockview Senior High.

The Gordon R. Snow Community Center has enhanced the recreational opportunities available to Lakeview, Waverley, Windsor Junction and Fall River. Most programs available at the community center include residents from each of these areas.

Lakeview residents pay an area rate to the LWF ratepayers association. The funding provided by the LWF ratepayers association allows us to provide a summer children's program at our community park. The area rate also provides people in our community with access to programs such as day camp and swim lessons at the Windsor Junction Community Center.

Lakeview is home to the Halifax Regional Search and Rescue (HRSR). Many active volunteers of the HRSR as well as the Lakeview-Windsor Junction-Fall River (LWF) Fire Department (Station 45) and the Waverley Fire Department (Station 41) reside in Lakeview.

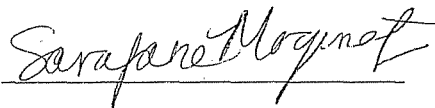
Socially our communities are well connected through events and festivals such as Keloose, Waverley Gold Rush Days, and most recently Shubenacadie Canal Days.



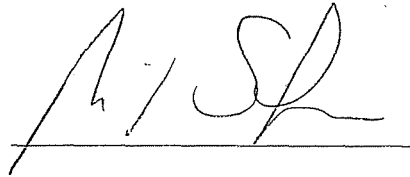
Politically HRM District 2 currently shares the same electoral boundaries as our provincial MLA constituency office.

In closing, the residents of Lakeview wish to remain within the same district boundaries as Waverley, Windsor Junction and Fall River.

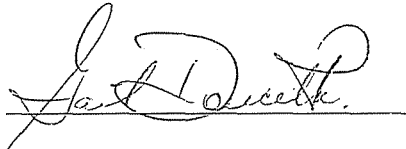
Lakeview Homeowners Association



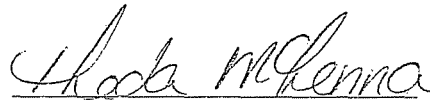
Sara Moginot, Chair



Miguel Salgueiro, Vice Chair



Gail Doucette, Treasurer



Theda McKenna, Secretary

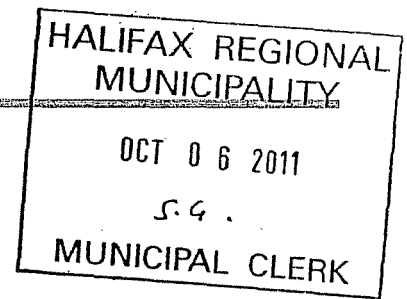
Catherine Marchand  
Rec. Committee

Phyllis MacKay  
Past President



**Clerks Office - Comment on The Municipal Boundaries**

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**From:** Adam Conter  
**To:** Clerks <clerks@halifax.ca>, Richard Butts <buttsr@halifax.ca>  
**Date:** 10/6/2011 7:17 AM  
**Subject:** Comment on The Municipal Boundaries

---

Hello.

Thank you to all of the staff who are working so hard to facilitate the public meetings and ensure that there are opportunities for the public to have their input.

I attended the meeting at the Canada Games Center last evening and only after the meeting realized two comments I wish to make.

1) Urban Core VS Suburban division of councilors. Though I appreciate each jurisdiction is designed to have approximately 21,000 people, I realize that the division of Urban and Suburban councilors is gravely out of proportion. In the new 16 councilor plan, only 3-4 councilors represent the urban center of this city, meaning that the general division of the city is heavily suburban weighted. Though I support the need for representation, the needs, growth, drive of this city exists in our core, as our new HRM by Design is itself attempting to create. It is where 30,000 plus students live 8 months a year and where a dominate part of the suburban populations commute for employment. If our planning is to reflect our potential growth, I think we need more urban representatives so that the "general representation" within the council is not rural/urban by a ratio of 3 to 1. Further to this idea, should the 3 urban districts grow and we attempt to maintain the same mean number of residents per councilor, we will be struck shortly with the problem of "too many" residents in a particular downtown district, which will create disproportionate representation sooner than we may think. I would suggest potentially looking at dividing the Urban area into 4 or 5 districts containing less than the 21,000 each which I will offer will not offend those residents, knowing that the needs of the center are being weighed equally than those in the periphery.

2) The role of the Mayor. We have spent a great deal of time (and for this I again thank all staff) analyzing the city and its potential new divisions, however, while we are inevitably changing the area of operation for each and every councilor, and removing 7 representatives, we have not had any comment or analysis on the role and responsibilities of the Mayor. Though the Mayor is to be the leader of the city as we all know, the definitions of this role could use a review to ensure that during this dust-up we have ensured we have defined a position which helps move this city forward. The basis of this comment is this: Our Mayor is also our Speaker of Council, preventing his/her participation in meetings, his/her ability to "lead from the floor" and the allowance for him/her to vote after determining the general feel in the room, preventing particular stances on issues, and participation in debate. I would like to suggest as part of this process that we investigate the idea of appointing a speaker of the house to administer meetings, moving the Mayor to a vacated chair on the floor to participate rather than administer the meetings.

Again, staff, thank you for your daily work administering this city, too often people fail to realize the work you do to keep this city running. Thank you for reading my comments.

Adam Conter



## **Clerks Office - Re: Comment on The Municipal Boundaries**

---

**From:** Cathy Mellett  
**To:** Adam Conter; Clerks Office  
**Date:** 10/6/2011 1:11 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Comment on The Municipal Boundaries

---

Mr. Conter- thank you for your comments/suggestions. They will become part of the public record in regard to HRM's submission to the NSUARB.

In regard to the issue of representation in the Urban Core. In the previous submission to the NSUARB HRM legal counsel presented to the Board and Interveners the implication of reducing the size of Council as it pertained to the future urban/suburban council based on voter counts and where voters live. That evidence was in front of the Board when they made the decision to reduce to 16 districts in HRM. Given the constraints of the legislation it is unlikely that the issue of urban/suburban representation on Council will be addressed through the setting of Polling District boundaries. However, there is a further opportunity for Council to focus and address the importance of the Urban Center through the which districts are formed into new Community Councils. It is administration's intention to recommend strongly that the new community council alignment take the interests of the urban center into consideration.

Re: Student voters. There has been a general misunderstanding about how student voters are considered in our work around voter counts. We did some work with Environics Analytics around the student vote in HRM in preparation for the Boundary Review. Because census data is the base data that we start with the majority of student voters are already accounted for in the voter estimates which we are using and have been used for a number of years. That is because there is no way to break out from the census date the count based on the Nova Scotia requirement for eligibility as an elector. Everyone living in an area over 18 years of age is included as a voter in our voter counts.

The only students not included in our current voter counts are those living in residence - which is about 4,200 residents beds in HRM - most in the South end of Halifax, some at Mt. St. Vincent. Of those students Environics estimated about 50% could be eligible to vote (by citizenship and age) if the municipal voting regulations were to change (which HRM supports). That would be approximately be an additional 2,100 voters of which about 1,600 would be in peninsula south. I hope that assists.

Your comments on the role of Mayor will be forwarded on.

Again thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Cathy Mellett  
Municipal Clerk  
Office of the Municipal Clerk  
melletc@halifax.ca  
(902) 490-6456

>>> Adam Conter

Can you also pass on an additional thank you to Cathy for the meeting last night in Clayton Park

Sent from my iPhone

On Oct 6, 2011, at 8:32 AM, "Clerks Office" <clerks@halifax.ca> wrote:



Good Morning Mr. Conter,

Thank you for your email regarding District Boundary Review. Your comments will be distributed to appropriate staff.

April Stewart  
Administrator, Records & Access

Office of the Municipal Clerk  
1841 Argyle Street  
PO Box 1749, Halifax  
Nova Scotia B3J 3A5  
490-4210 (phone)  
490-4208 (fax)  
E-mail: [clerks@halifax.ca](mailto:clerks@halifax.ca)

>>> Adam Conter

10/6/2011 7:17 am >>>

Hello.

Thank you to all of the staff who are working so hard to facilitate the public meetings and ensure that there are opportunities for the public to have their input.

I attended the meeting at the Canada Games Center last evening and only after the meeting realized two comments I wish to make.

1) Urban Core VS Suburban division of councilors. Though I appreciate each jurisdiction is designed to have approximately 21,000 people, I realize that the division of Urban and Suburban councilors is gravely out of proportion. In the new 16 councilor plan, only 3-4 councilors represent the urban center of this city, meaning that the general division of the city is heavily suburban weighted. Though I support the need for representation, the needs, growth, drive of this city exists in our core, as our new HRM by Design is itself attempting to create. It is where 30,000 plus students live 8 months a year and where a dominate part of the suburban populations commute for employment. If our planning is to reflect our potential growth, I think we need more urban representatives so that the "general representation" within the council is not rural/urban by a ratio of 3 to 1. Further to this idea, should the 3 urban districts grow and we attempt to maintain the same mean number of residents per councilor, we will be struck shortly with the problem of "too many" residents in a particular downtown district, which will create disproportionate representation sooner than we may think. I would suggest potentially looking at dividing the Urban area into 4 or 5 districts containing less than the 21,000 each which I will offer will not offend those residents, knowing that the needs of the center are being weighed equally than those in the periphery.

2) The role of the Mayor. We have spent a great deal of time (and for this I again thank all staff) analyzing the city and its potential new divisions, however, while we are inevitably changing the area of operation for each and every councilor, and removing 7 representatives, we have not had any comment or analysis on the role and responsibilities of the Mayor. Though the Mayor is to be the leader of the city as we all know, the definitions of this role could use a review to ensure that during this dust-up we have ensured we have defined a position which helps move this city forward. The basis of this comment is this: Our Mayor is also our Speaker of Council, preventing his/her participation in meetings, his/her ability to "lead from the floor" and the allowance for him/her to vote after determining the general feel in the room, preventing particular stances on issues, and participation in debate. I would like to suggest as part of this process that we investigate the idea of appointing a speaker of the house to administer meetings, moving the Mayor to a vacated chair on the floor to participate rather than administer the meetings.

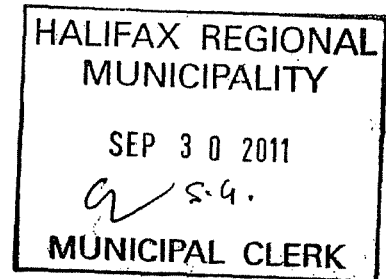
Again, staff, thank you for your daily work administering this city, too often people fail to realize the work you do to keep this city running. Thank you for reading my comments.

Adam Conter



29 September 2011

Municipal Clerk, City Hall,  
PO Box 1749  
Halifax, NS  
B3J 3A5



Dear ~~Sir~~ or Madam,

**Re: HRM's District Boundary Review >> DISTRICT # 4 >> Scenario # 1 vs # 2**

This letter is to advise The District Boundary Review Committee that the facts, both written and verbal, have not changed since the decision date of November 22, 2007 by the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board hearings of the past years, including the Hearing Date of June 13, 2007.

The decision of the board approved the amendment to the boundary between Polling Districts #3 and #4. The Board transferred the Montague Road / Humber Park area and a portion of Lake Loon to the Cole Harbour district, but the Cherry Brook area was initially retained in Polling District # 3 (Preston-Lawrencetown-Chezzetcook) but later amended to District 4 – thanks to the communities Boundry Action Reversal Committee's efforts.

I would, once again , draw to the current HRM District Boundry Review Committee, that our communities to the north of Highway # 7 Highway are still NOT in favor of using the highway as a boundry separating us from our neighbors to the south of the #7 HWY – namely, Cole Harbour.

Our residents have contributed significantly to the growth of Cole Harbour as volunteers providing countless hours in the development of the Fire Service and the Recreation facilites for ALL of its residents of all ages. One only has to look at the two Fire Stations and Cole Harbour Place that are the historic gems of the community and the residents volunteer time vested at large.

Under the proposed DRAFT of HRM's new Districts our community is now projected to be one of the two (2) Scenarios as outlined at the meeting here tonight. We, as residents, do **NOT accept Scenario I.**

**Scenerio II** – is still our choice as the community has always had a strong community of interst / involvement and association with our neighbors and remains to the South (**Cole Harbour**) not to the East/West.

.../2

Submitted Sept. 29/11 District Boundary Review PIM  
Dartmouth Sportsplex 11/1



- 2 -

The question arises once again – now seven years later since the process began - when something works, why is HRM determined to change and destroy what we the residents- present and past- have spent decades in building for our residents.

As a ratepayer and a past dedicated volunteer of the greater Cole Harbour area - for the past 42 years, I strongly oppose the placement of our community within the proposed Scenerio 1 boundaries. District 4 is our home and HRM must adjust the District 4 voters ratios / variances to insure that we remain in the community of Cole Harbour.

Respectfullv submitted

John & Marie Harlow,

**cc >> Mayor Peter J. Kelly**

**cc >> Lorelei Nicoll, Councillor, Cole Harbour**



**From:** Chris Newson  
**To:** Cathy Mellett  
**Date:** 9/28/2011 1:04 PM  
**Subject:** E-mail address for Alan Robertson re: District Boundary review

Good morning Cathy,

At the Sept. 21st District Boundary Public Information meeting in Sackville, Mr. Robertson gave you his e-mail address and I believe it was so our office could forward him information on the population in the Sackville area as well as information on the statistical data Environics provided us re: students eligible to vote in municipal elections.

Here is the e-mail address:

A. Chris Newson



## **Cathy Mellett - RE: Your inquiry regarding Students Voter Counts at the Boundary Meeting in Sackville**

---

**From:** Cathy Mellett  
**To:**  
**Date:** 9/28/2011 14:40  
**Subject:** RE: Your inquiry regarding Students Voter Counts at the Boundary Meeting in Sackville  
**CC:** Clerks Office  
**Attachments:** \_0928143409\_001.pdf

---

Good afternoon Mr. Robertson;

Attached please find the information you request in regard to Environics work in projecting student voter counts in HRM.

The extract is from HRM's submission to the NSUARB so is public record. Section 4.4 speaks to the methodology used for projections by Age Group (over 18). The second last paragraph confirms that the majority of student voters are already accounted for in the voter estimates which we are using and have been used for a number of years. As I stated at the meeting, that is because there is no way to break out from the census data the count based on the Nova Scotia requirement for eligibility as an elector - only voters 18 years of age and over. Section 5.1 speaks to the work conducted by Environics to project additional student voter should the province change the legislation. The detailed table and map indicate the assumptions, numbers, and specific data that count resides in.

I trust that answers your inquiry.  
Sincerely

Cathy Mellett  
Municipal Clerk  
Office of the Municipal Clerk  
melletc@halifax.ca  
(902) 490-6456



# Overview of Estimates and Projections of Population and Potential Voters in Halifax Regional Municipality The Halifax Regional Municipality provided Environics Analytics with data on occupancy permits and CMHC building starts. The EA analysis of these data along with other census and related data suggest net new dwellings for 2006-2009 in the range of 7700-8000. Based on 2001 and 2006 census data showing the relationship between population growth and dwelling growth, this suggests a population increase of between 10,000-10,500. This indirect estimate of population growth is very approximate, but it is lower than the adjusted estimate of 2006-2009 HRM population implied by the EA adjusted population numbers (11,093). This provides additional evidence that the downward adjustments that EA made in the Statistics Canada estimates are likely in the right direction. Over the last two years 2007-2009 population growth averaged close to 4000 annually or 1% a year. This follows slower growth over the period 2002-2007 but is similar to the growth in the late 1990s. Looking ahead to 2012, it is assumed growth will continue at a relatively high rate of about 1.0% a year. EAG's population projection for 2012 end-of-year is 410,032. The details relating to the expected trends and our assumptions are set out in Table 3 below. Table 3: | Summary of Trends to HRM Population to December 31, 2012 | | | |--|---|--------------------------| | Theme | Trend | EA Estimate / Projection | | Population July 2009 | | 395,994 | | Number of births (relative to recent past ) | Constant | | | Ageing (relative to recent past ) | increase slightly | | | Natural Increase (relative to recent past ) | approx 1400 annually | | | Migration (relative to recent past ) | strong at 1400 annually | | | Net Migration (relative to recent past ) | increase slightly to approx 1800 annually | | | Approx growth rate July 1, 2009 – December 31, 2012 | 3.6% or 1.0% annually | | | Approx annual growth | 4010 | | | Growth July 1, 2009 –December 31, 2012 | | 14,038 | | Population December 31, 2012 | | 410,032 | Since populations by age and estimates of the electorate were not addressed in our high level report entitled "A Note on Population Growth in the Halifax Regional Municipality" and have not yet been addressed in this report, some notes will be made here. The key age class in the electorate was age 18 plus. The only other requirement is that electorate members must be Canadian citizens. So if we are able to estimate counts of age 18 plus persons then this Environics Analytics 9



is a very helpful step. The age groups that demographers usually work with in this context are 5 year age cohorts up to age 84 and then 85 plus as the top group. In order to deal with the electorate the age group 15 to 19 had to be split into 2 groups; 18 and 19 in the electorate and 15-17 not in the electorate. We believe that our age distribution estimates are of relatively high quality and they are consistent over all relevant levels of geography. Then we had to estimate the number or % of persons who were (or were not) Canadian citizens taking age into account. This required estimates of external immigration that end up in the HRM and other non-recent immigrants that are non-citizens that moved into the HRM. There was reasonable data from the past to assist in this process.

For purpose of comparison with the statistics below we repeat our overall population estimates and projections. The increase in population in HRM over the 3 and half year period from July 1, 2009 to December 31, 2012 is 14,038. This period has a rate of growth of 3.55%, or an annual rate of growth of 1.00%. Interestingly the rate of growth of the 18 years plus group and the projected electorate grew a little faster. This is largely because the HRM is gaining population of migrants, largely from inside Canada and especially Atlantic Canada.

For July 1, 2009 we estimated that the number of persons 18 years plus in the HRM was 322,007. These persons are distributed over the CTs and DA of the HRM in a typical manner for a medium sized city. Halifax has nothing that is particularly distinct in this regard. They are not concentrated in particular areas – although most apartment blocks have large percentages of adults in them. The number of age 18 plus persons has been projected to increase by 14,795 to 336,802 by December 31, 2012. The rate of increase is 4.59% or at an annual rate of 1.29%.

We have estimated that the number of members of the electorate were 313,151 on July 1, 2009. We have projected this number to be 327,615 in December 31, 2012. This increase is 14,464 or 4.62% for the three and a half years (annual rate of increase will be 1.29% - the same as population 18 plus). The overall rate of increase in potential voters is slightly larger than the rate of increase in the population 18 years plus:

## 5. Additional Support from EAG

Environics Analytics Group will accept an invitation to come to HRM in January or February 2010 to do a presentation on our estimation and projection methods and findings to the city council or a committee thereof. We prefer to defend the methods ourselves rather than permit others to defend them on our behalf.

In addition we would be happy to provide assistance to any HRM technical, development or planning staffs should they need additional understanding of what data we used and what methods we used and did not use.

### 5.1 Students

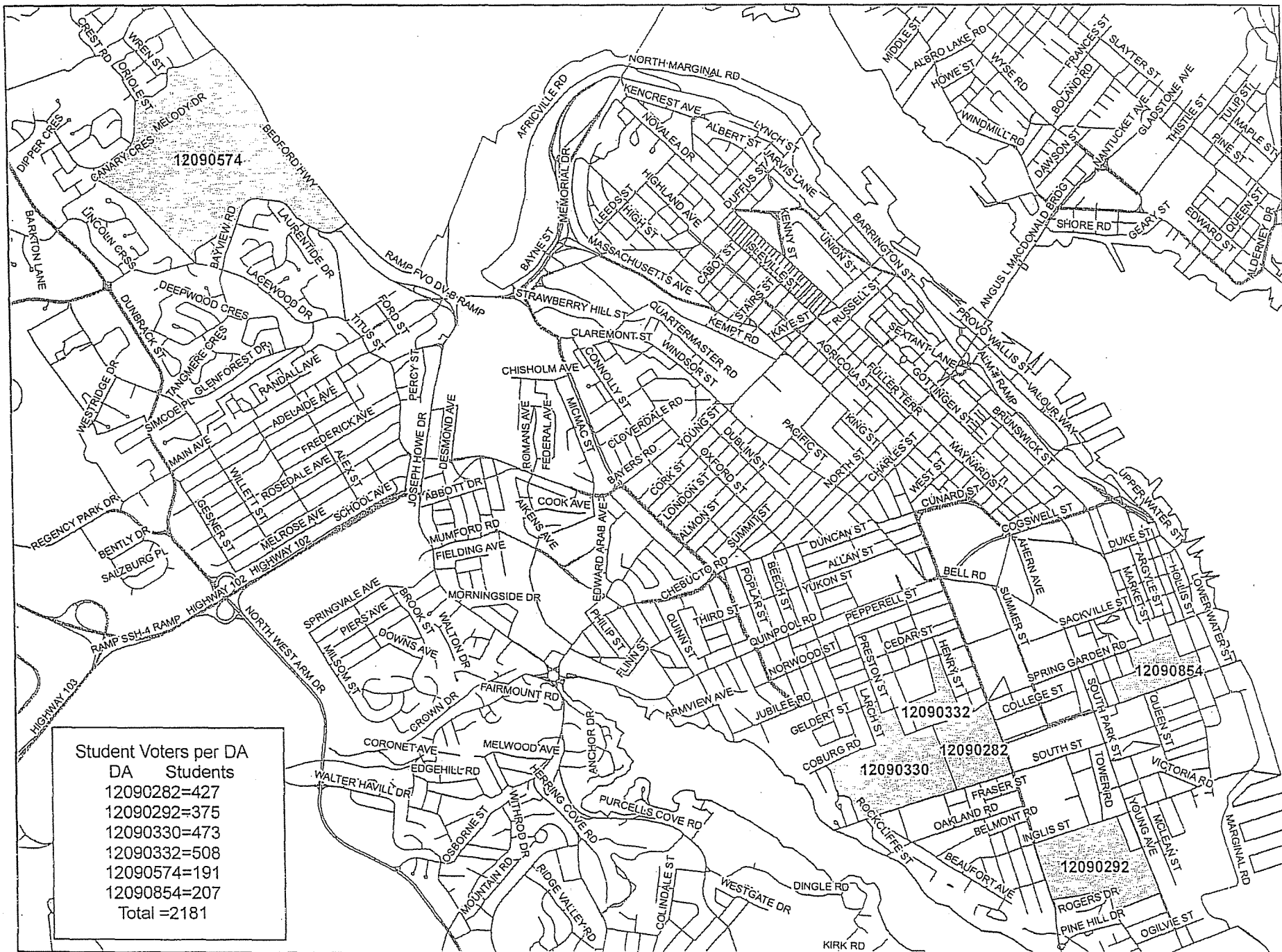
If the Nova Scotia legislation changes in the future with respect to the ability of students in residence at universities to vote in the residence jurisdictions we would be happy to revise our estimates of students based on better assumptions than we were able to use in the project to date. We made the assumption that 50% of the non-Canadian students lived in university residences and proceeded to make our student count estimates and projections on that assumption. But if the legislation changes, and it becomes necessary to do a better job, we would be happy to change the assumptions in the spreadsheet that we have provided and rework the results. Alternatively, HRM technical staff can undertake the revisions easily.



da	school	residence	visa	visa/2	can in res
	12090282 Dalhousie	490	1219	609	350
	12090282 Dalhousie	40	1219	609	28
	12090282 Dalhousie	21	1219	609	15
	12090282 Dalhousie	32	1219	609	22
	12090282 Dalhousie	17	1219	609	12
	12090332 Dalhousie	711	1219	609	508
	12090330 Dalhousie	92	1219	609	65
	12090330 Dalhousie	442	1219	609	315
	12090854 Dalhousie	46	1219	609	32
	12090854 Dalhousie	231	1219	609	165
	12090854 Dalhousie	14	1219	609	10
		<b>2136</b>			
	12090330 Kings College	112	38	19	93
		<b>112</b>			
	12090574 Mount St. Vincent	142	256	128	85
	12090574 Mount St. Vincent	21	256	128	12
	12090574 Mount St. Vincent	158	256	128	94
		<b>321</b>			
	12090292 Saint Mary's	434	1325	662	157
	12090292 Saint Mary's	224	1325	662	81
	12090292 Saint Mary's	380	1325	662	137
		<b>1038</b>			<b>2181</b>

Note that the formulae in columns E F and I help explain the process.





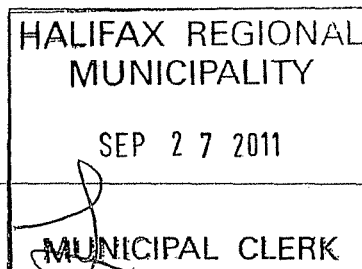


## Clerks Office - Councillor Fisher and Lakeshore Park Terrace

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**From:** curtis horne  
**To:**  
**Date:** 9/26/2011 9:43 PM  
**Subject:** Councillor Fisher and Lakeshore Park Terrace

---



Good Morning,

I am writing in regard to the zoning issue involving Lakeshore Park Terrace and Lakemist Court in Dartmouth.

Lakeshore Park Terrace/ Lakemist Court should remain within District 6 East Dartmouth The Lakes. The residents surrounding lake Mic Mac share many of the same interests and concerns, after all we share the same back yard. The water quality of lake Mic Mac as well as pesticide by-laws, recreational concerns and policing are just a few of the issues. Our commonalities are too great to be ignored, remaining in District 6 will unify the lake residents and support our efforts to conserve the quality of the lake and the surrounding park.

We are very pleased with Councillor Fisher's progress to date and hope that he continues to represent the residents of Lakeshore Park Terrace and Lakemist Court. A unified neighbourhood along with Councillor Fisher's commitment to our community will prove to be effective regarding municipal affairs.

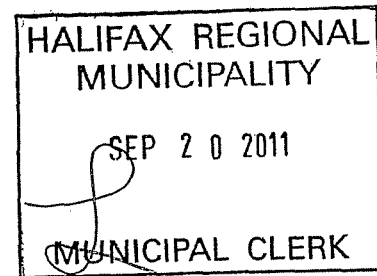
I ask that residents in the neighbourhood be informed and be given the opportunity to express their opinions regarding a potential change.

Thank you for your time,

Yolanda Horne and Dr. Curtis Horne



**From:** Grant Jarvis  
**To:** <accessandprivacy@halifax.ca>  
**Date:** 9/21/2011 8:56 am  
**Subject:** Boundary Review for HRM districts



I am not certain either of the 2 proposed suggestions proposed by staff will address one of the principle issues impairing decision making at H.R.M. council, namely the urban / rural divide.

The nature of the problems confronting the urban homeowner and the rural one are quite different, observing the dialogue among council members reveals that there seems to be a poor appreciation by some Councillors of what the respective needs are between these 2 groups and the differing level of municipal services that are particularly important to the Urban and Rural taxpayer.

One possible solution to help develop an greater appreciation of the different issues would be to require each member of Council to represent a portion of both urban & rural H,R,M, (the 2 areas do not have to be joined.) This approach could be easily addressed and would help relive the electorates concern that the Councillor always favor a particular part of HRM. Some politicians may resist this idea as it would require them to travel a little more, but their mileage costs would be minimal and we would all benefit from helping to reduce the grid lock.

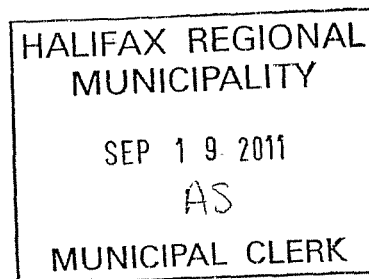
Another approach would be to have two separate Councils within H.R.M. one serving just rural areas the other Council just urban. As it stands now Rural taxpayers feel they are not getting an adequate share of municipal services revenues for the level of taxation they pay. The allocation of municipal revenues could be partially based on the taxes collected from each district. This concept would eliminate the divide issue but would involve resolving some administrative issues

There is a growing concern and frustration among many taxpayers that our Municipality has to a large extent lost its ability to deliver basic services, it clearly has an edifice complex with a rush to approve major public buildings, while at the very time Councillors struggle to try and balance the budget and can only do so by increasing user fees ,this Council appears to many to have abandoned any serious effort or interest to conserve, streamline, be smart and spend tax dollars wisely, the bureaucracy ,the duplication, the waste is in evidence everywhere..... Hopefully, the election next year may bring wholesale changes.. but at this time we need a boundary structure to address the Urban/Rural divide.

Yours truly



**From:** Carol Dobson  
**To:** <clerks@halifax.ca>  
**Date:** 9/17/2011 5:47 pm  
**Subject:** Boundary meetings



I was upset to see that the only meeting vis a vis the changes in boundaries was announced late Friday afternoon for Monday night. As a concerned citizen, I don't think the suggested scenarios are viable and would love to have the opportunity to say so. However, having three days notice was just too short and I already have a prior commitment which precludes me from attending.

My first impression is that this is once again a scenario of the decision is already made and the public hearings are window dressing for appearances only. This is most disagreeable.

The main concern I have is that, using either scenario, I will lose the only effective councillor I have had in the 36 years I have lived in this burb. That bothers me immensely.

My suggestion - instad of using an east-west axis for the north and south ends of the peninsula, change it to a north-south axis with either Robie or Oxford as the boundary. It makes more sense and, hopefully, would enable myself and the other residents of the downtown district represented by Councillor Sloane to continue to have a representative who cares about the district, who is responsive, and who is available when her residents are in need.

Carol Dobson

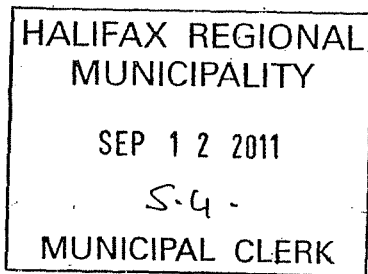
--  
If it can't be fixed with duct tape or a martini, it's not worth fixing.

**From:** Carol Dobson  
**To:** <clerks@halifax.ca>  
**Date:** 9/17/2011 5:54 pm  
**Subject:** slight correction

In my message, I meant to say 'the only meeting FOR THE DOWNTOWN CORE'

--  
If it can't be fixed with duct tape or a martini, it's not worth fixing.





C.A. Smith BA, BSc, MES

HRM Boundary Review Response

September 9, 2011

Dear HRM Municipal Clerks,

The objective of this note is to kindly provide my observations and recommendations on changes to HRM district boundaries. I have lived in the HRM for over 45 years. There have been a lot of changes ... some good and some not so good. Overall and compared to other cities in Canada, it is a very good place to live. We are very fortunate. People from away wish they could live here too. The following paragraphs provide some of my observations and recommendations related to the reorganization of district boundaries and impacts to the effectiveness of Councilors to govern, as well as community integrity and environmental sustainability.

#### **Councilor Limits and Abilities: Are we asking the right question?**

It is my observation that Councilors dealing with large populations and/or multiple issues and concerns will be less effective in addressing the needs of the community. Also given the fact that academic and professional credentials are not considered when selecting candidates for council the question should be: Is it better to have more unqualified councilors per person or less?

Managing human and environmental resources and concerns should require at least an undergraduate degree or some kind of college certification for managing natural and/or human resources. What we really need are people with appropriate academic and professional qualifications to run for council.

#### **District Boundaries Scenarios**

In the survey, the map provided for the first scenario does not appear to respect community cohesiveness. Therefore the first scenario would be a poor choice for redrawing district boundaries. The second scenario provided in the survey appears to be more respectful of geographic features and communities. Therefore the second scenario is a better choice for the "New Halifax". However, both scenarios lack a sense of place.



### **My Recommendations**

There should be at least four more districts for a total of twenty districts to accommodate for growing populations in HRM. Location of my four proposed additional districts should be based on growth projections for a particular area or community, and should respect geographic features such as lakes, bays, rivers, ravines... I have not drawn this on a map as I would require additional information to assess best possible locations.

Boundaries for all districts should be revisited to ensure that they respect the cohesiveness of existing communities and that none of the boundaries divide or split communities. This should include revisiting any development proposals to make sure that they do not span districts or disrupt existing community patterns. Respecting geographic or environmental features can assist this.

### **Closing Remarks**

These are just some of my observations and suggestions based on the information provided on the HRM internet site and my experience in environmental management and policy analysis. I appreciate the opportunity to provide my comments, and I am happy to discuss them in more detail. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Christine Anne Smith BA, BSc, MES



**Clerks Office - Governance & District Boundary Review**

**From:** christina parker  
**To:** Clerks Office  
**Date:** 9/7/2011 1:26 PM  
**Subject:** Governance & District Boundary Review

HALIFAX REGIONAL  
MUNICIPALITY

SEP 07 2011

S. G.

MUNICIPAL CLERK

In the case that I am unable to make it to a public hearing, I wish my input to go on record via this email that I support Scenario 2 of the boundary change. I reside in district 23 and am in the Hammonds Plains portion of that district. My sentiments are that my community shares more characteristics with the Sackville Beaver Bank area rather than the St. Margarets Bay/Tantallon area and feel that we would be better served by any future councillor who represents the unified interests of our particular area. Traditionally, Beaver Bank, Sackville and Hammonds Plains has been united in the Municipal Planning strategies and we should continue to align ourselves to that area of HRM rather than st Margarets Bay/Tantallon/Peggys Cove, which are of different physical geographical areas and thus has different community concerns.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

--

Christina Parker





RESOURCE  
OPPORTUNITIES  
CENTRE



HALIFAX REGIONAL  
MUNICIPALITY Centre

SEP 06 2011

S.G.

MUNICIPAL CLERK

Sept. 6th 2011

Municipal Clerks Office - Halifax Regional Municipality  
PO Box 1749, Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

To whom it may concern,

As an active community-based non-profit organization in the Prospect Road area, the Resource Opportunities Centre (ROC) asks that you accept this letter as input into the boundary review process for HRM's electoral districts presently being undertaken.

As residents of a rural area of HRM there are long and strong historic and geographic ties between the communities from Goodwood to West Dover, that have allowed for numerous community initiatives to come to fruition both as neighbouring communities, and as part of a larger electoral district.

We do not support fully either of the two scenarios being proposed for the district boundaries - as presented on <http://www.halifax.ca/BoundaryReview/index.html> - as both would divide communities that are tied together by geography, infrastructure, community health, economics, and many long-standing community initiatives and shared goals.

However, scenario 2 with minor adjustments would work well for the Prospect Road area. By including Goodwood (an increase of 146 voters) and extending the boundary from Old Coach Road to the St Margaret's Bay Road the community would stay intact as one polling district.

Prior to amalgamation in 1996 the communities from Goodwood to West Dover were collectively identified as District 4 in Halifax County. With amalgamation the old Halifax County District 4 communities joined with other rural communities along the coastline as a part of District 23 - St. Margaret's Bay / Prospect.

In 2004 our electoral district underwent an additional review, which resulted in the communities from Goodwood to West Dover being removed from District 23 and added to District 22 as part of the Timberlea / Prospect area.

Irrespective of which electoral district our communities have been a part of, we work together within the boundary of Goodwood to West Dover. Examples of these collaborations are the local recreation association, service and faith groups, volunteer Fire Department, community web site, planning, design and financial commitment toward the Prospect Road Community Centre. This same catchment area (Goodwood to West Dover) was confirmed through the needs assessment conducted for the Prospect Road Community Centre in 2005 and residents from these communities voluntarily accepted to pay an additional recreational area rate tax for the next 20 years (until approximately 2030) toward the cost of the facility.

These communities are physically connected via the provincial highway 333, the Prospect Road. All residents of Prospect area (Goodwood to West Dover) commute into the city along the Prospect Road, it is our only option. Residents along the Prospect Road support local businesses use local services and strengthen connections between the different villages. As residents of the larger area we have been vigilant and supportive of issues

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PROSPECT ROAD COMMUNITY CENTRE -2141 PROSPECT ROAD HATCHET LAKE NS B3T 1S1  
(t) 902 852 2711 (f) 902 852 2867 (e) [admin@prospectcommunities.com](mailto:admin@prospectcommunities.com) (w) [centre.prospectcommunities.com](http://centre.prospectcommunities.com)

RESOURCE OPPORTUNITY CENTRE 1714 LOWER PROSPECT ROAD TERENCE BAY NS B3T 1Y6  
(t) 902 852 2622 (f) 902 852 3267 (e) [mail@prospectcommunities.com](mailto:mail@prospectcommunities.com) (w) [roc.prospectcommunities.com](http://roc.prospectcommunities.com)





RESOURCE  
OPPORTUNITIES  
CENTRE



raised by residents of Goodwood, and have joined them in addressing environmental concerns with regard to development of the industrial lands and the potential impact on our water systems, which serves the greater Prospect area and is a backup water supply for the city core. If Goodwood is separated from the rest of the Prospect area, residents from the Timberlea area would not have such a vested interest in being actively engaged as stewards of the land in regards to industrial development of the area. Goodwood is part of our community, but we fear for Timberlea, this area would be out of sight and out of mind.

In reading the report of the Nova Scotia Utilities And Review Board decision, we note that it is recommended that given HRM's large geographic area, the rural areas be defined initially, in order to maintain effective representation and cause minimal disruption.

In fact both Districts 22 and 23 (both rural) are presently within a 10% variance of the NSUARB recommendation. So why mess with what is already working? Status quo for 22 and 23 makes a lot of sense and needs to be considered.

We would suggest that through this review process electoral districts connect rural communities along the Prospect Road and feed them into the city core and HRM services, which has been the case when we have been a part of both District 23 St.Margarets Bay/ Prospect and District 22 Timberlea / Prospect.

If the rural electoral districts were to be designed like spokes on a wheel with the city core as the centre, polling districts would connect logically to feed into core area and services, while at the same time maintaining the bonds that cluster sets of communities mentioned above.

It does not make sense to divide the Prospect area either by cutting off Goodwood with the sensitive balance between industrial lands, the Western Commons and environmental stewardship of the Drysdale Bog. Neither does it make sense to cut off Shad Bay through to West Dover, which is proven to be the natural cut off for where residents choose to come to the city, or access services via the Prospect Road. From Peggy's Cove and beyond around the loop most residents access the city via Tantallon.

Given the history and successes of the communities from Goodwood to West Dover working collaboratively as a cohesive larger community, we strongly recommend that whatever the new configuration of electoral districts looks like, that the communities from Goodwood up to and including West Dover, along the Prospect Road be kept intact as one polling district. Therefore we support scenario 2 with a minor change to include the community of Goodwood from Old Coach Road up to the St Margaret's Bay Road in district 22 for an increase of 146 voters.

Sincerely  
Barb Allen  
ROC Chair

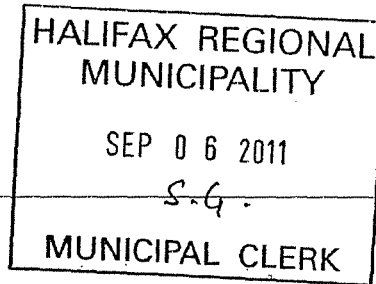


## Clerks Office - Fwd: HRM Boundary Review

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**From:** Cathy Mellett  
**To:** Clerks Office  
**Date:** 9/6/2011 8:27 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: HRM Boundary Review

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Please log in the boundary review file. thanks

Cathy Mellett  
Municipal Clerk  
Office of the Municipal Clerk  
melletc@halifax.ca  
(902) 490-6456

>>> Gloria McCluskey 8/30/2011 7:36 PM >>>

Gloria McCluskey  
Councillor  
District 5 - Dartmouth Centre  
Tel: (902) 490-7033  
Cell: (902) 476-1667  
Fax: (902) 490-4871  
Email: mcclusg@halifax.ca

Gloria McCluskey  
Councillor  
District 5 - Dartmouth Centre  
Tel: (902) 490-7033  
Cell: (902) 476-1667  
Fax: (902) 490-4871  
Email: mcclusg@halifax.ca

>>> "Tim Rissesco"  
Hi Gloria,

8/30/2011 6:58 pm >>>

I am disappointed that the community of Dartmouth is not identified on either of the proposed map scenerios presented on the website. It is hard to believe that the process is respecting communities when it does not even identify Dartmouth. Can these scenerios be revised to identify the community of Dartmouth?

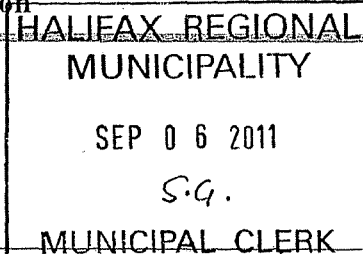
Thanks

Tim Rissesco



**Clerks Office - Boundary Review// Future candidates - job description**

**From:** Wendy McDonald  
**To:** Clerks Office  
**Date:** 9/5/2011 4:03 PM  
**Subject:** Boundary Review// Future candidates - job description



Hello,

I am responding to the call for input to the boundary changes projected for 2012. Please forward to the team.

There have been 2 suggestions as to mapping. I wonder which stats are being used for this allocation? Why would Stats Can data not be used?

I also note that there are many different communities on the list of communities in the HRM. However, as the urban area is considered, there was no consideration for communities. I live in Clayton Park West. Traditionally, this has been combined with other small neighbourhoods such as Fairview, Rockingham, Glenbourne, Clayton Park and so on. These are all a part of the Family of Schools that feed in to the local High School - Halifax West and the feeder schools. This combo has not been adequately considered for the allocation of lines of boundaries for this region.

If I had to decide on one or other of the maps presented, I would choose #2. However, changes may be needed to tweak the numbers. I will wait until the public hearings/information events to discuss any further boundary line details as I found the maps too small (even when blown up on a small screen) to make sense of the lines.

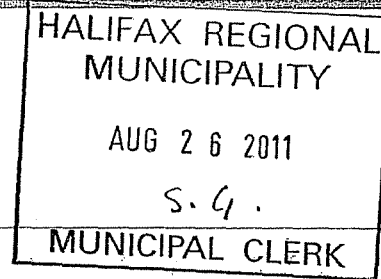
W. McDonald  
current District 10 resident

PS When all is settled, please insure that a job description for 'Councillor' is posted up front that ensures that the successful candidates understand and are able to function in an open and transparent manner, in the age of technology and are willing to discuss district capital expenditures that have a sense of community for all residents and groups whether large or small and finally that they are participating in the newly defined community district for a healthy environment for all residents.



## Clerks Office - District Boundaries

**From:** donna stretch  
**To:**  
**Date:** 8/27/2011 11:13 AM  
**Subject:** District Boundaries



Municipal Clerks Office,

I wish to offer for your consideration my views and observations regarding district boundaries for our area of HRM.

First and foremost I am a strong advocate of Municipal Govt. I have lived my entire life of over 65 yrs. in the Musquodoboit Valley. I had the privilege to serve as a Municipal Councillor for the Halifax County over 30 yrs. ago.

The recent decision by the Prov. Review Board to decrease the number of Councillors in the HRM thereby resulting in a re-alignment of district boundaries causes me some concern. I do support the idea of a smaller number of Councillors, however it is very important that the boundary issue be carefully analysed.

May I suggest that the eastern end of HRM stay intact and that we extend outward toward the airport from the Musq. valley and on the Eastern shore extend outward toward Chezzetcook. This seems to me to be a workable district with common interests.

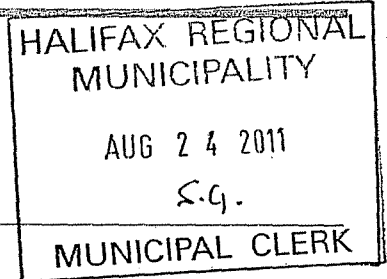
I do not support nor do I feel it would be wise to separate the Eastern shore from the Musq. Valley area.

Ken Stretch



**Clerks Office - Governance and District Boundary Review**

**From:** "Joelle & Darren"  
**To:** <clerks@halifax.ca>  
**Date:** 8/24/2011 11:47 AM  
**Subject:** Governance and District Boundary Review



To the Municipal Clerks Office,

My submission on the matter of the District Boundary Review is quite short and to the point. Given the URB's decision, I think there should be four districts - electing four councillors in each. Those could be Halifax/Dartmouth core, Harbour West (suburban Halifax to Hubbards), Bedford/Sackville area, and Harbour East (suburban Dartmouth to Ecum Secum). In this way, sitting Councillors would not be smeared by the perception that they are making the new boundaries to fit their personal ends. As well, it would require Councillors to adopt a broader view on issues (representing the HRM as a whole) while still providing constituents with local representation.

On the matter of specific boundaries, the current Community Council structure could provide some guidance, though I do think it would be important to have a district representing the combined urban core of Halifax and Dartmouth - with a view to meta issues in the capital region.

Respectfully submitted,

Darren Watts



## Clerks Office - Suggestion for District 1 / 2 Boundary Revision

**From:** colin castle  
**To:** <clerks@halifax.ca>  
**Date:** 8/23/2011 5:12 PM  
**Subject:** Suggestion for District 1 / 2 Boundary Revision  
**Attachments:** Distric 1.JPG

<p>HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY</p> <p>AUG 24 2011</p> <p>S-G.</p> <p>MUNICIPAL CLERK</p>
--

Hello,

I have taken the survey on halifax.ca and expressed my opinion on the revision of boundaries. As part of the survey, it mentioned residents can suggest their own ideas for consideration. Attached, I have an image of the edge of District 1 and District 2 for my suggestion as to where the boundary should be.

As a resident of District 1, I understand that right now, we are an agricultural / fishing district. The proposed change to the boundary through the middle of the district in Scenario 2 is an excellent idea. If you've ever travelled through Highway 357, you can see even a distinct difference between the Musquodoboit Valley and the Eastern Shore. It would be better to include the shore in with other shore communities closer to the city. I did not exactly like the idea of grouping in the suburbs with our valley. In my image attached, I have highlighted my suggestion for the boundary in blue.

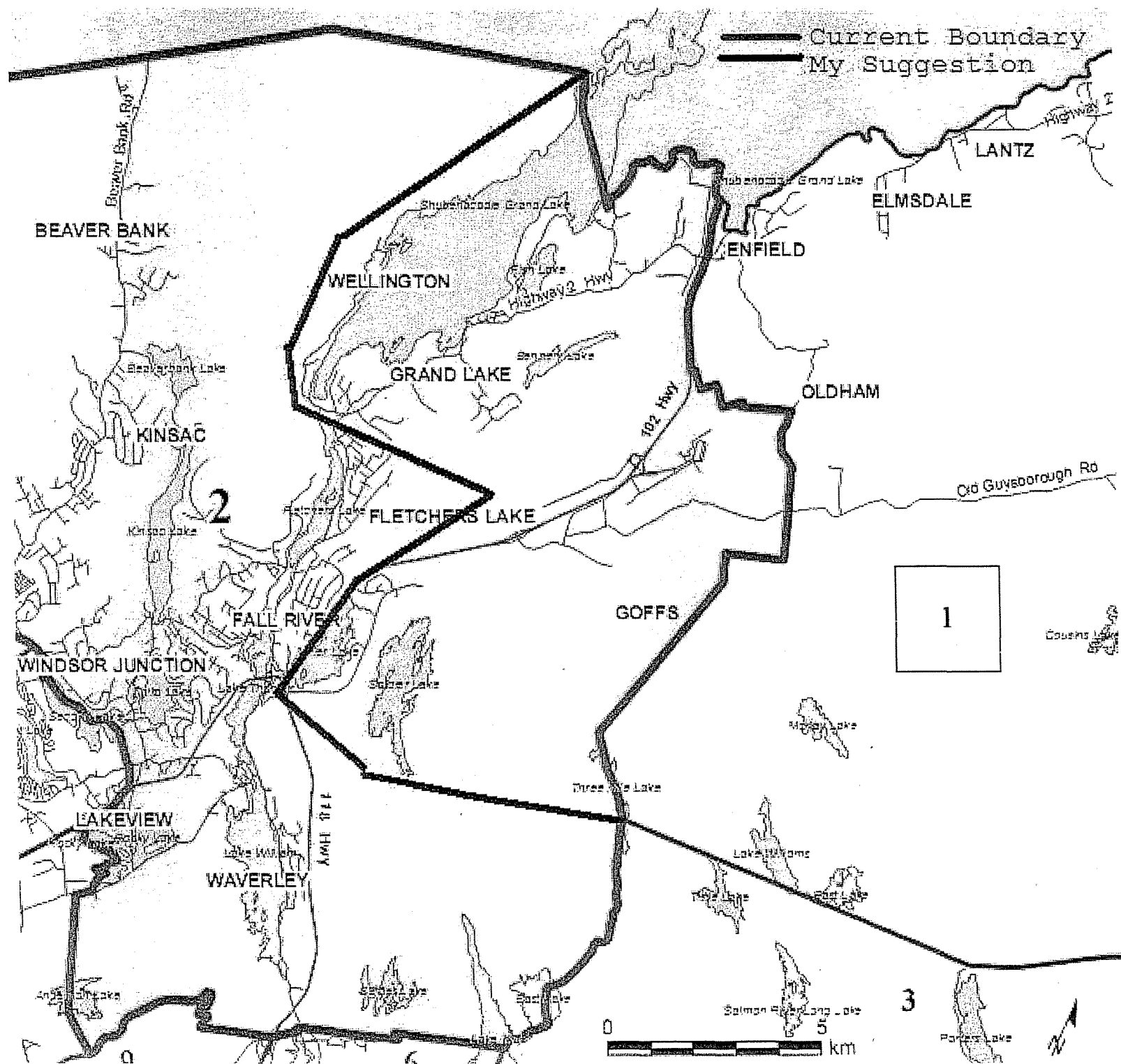
As you can see it shows it includes Wellington, Grand Lake, passes down Fletcher's Lake, then it follows South bound on Highway 102 to take in Miller Lake then connects back to the existing boundary for District 1 south of Three Mile Lake. I feel this would better reflect our riding if we were to lose the Eastern Shore from our District. There are distinct differences between the suburbanites and rural agricultural citizens. It would be difficult for a councillor to focus on the important issues for all citizens because they are such radical extremes in lifestyle just in one district.

I'd like to thank you for taking the time to hear my input on this important issue concerning our communities, districts and greater HRM.

Sincerely,

Colin Castle







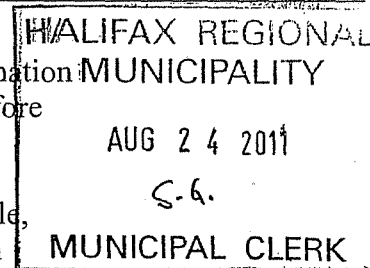
**Clerks Office - HRM electoral boundaries**

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**From:** Martin Willison  
**To:** <Clerks@halifax.ca>  
**Date:** 8/23/2011 10:38 PM  
**Subject:** HRM electoral boundaries

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I completed the survey, but when I used the 'back' button, some of my information had disappeared. I therefore don't know whether it was received. I will therefore repeat it here.



While it is clear to me that of the two options presented, Option 2 is preferable, I think there are far better options that have not been presented. As I stated in my comment, I think that the options are unimaginative and disappointing. It seems that despite decades of scholarly work on electoral processes and systems, HRM is still stuck in the 19th Century, more than 100 years behind where we should be.

HRM was established by amalgamating several pre-existing municipal units. While there were clear benefits with respect to efficiency in amalgamating these units, they retain characteristics that can (and I think should) be used in creating a representative Council. Furthermore, I think that the diversity of viewpoints of HRM residents can be better represented by using a richer process than is offered by the single-member first-past-the-post process that has been assumed in the scenarios presented. I propose:

Either 5 or 6 multi-member districts, and a preferential-balloting electoral process. The 5 or 6 districts would correspond approximately with:

1. Halifax (or 1a. Peninsula Halifax, and 1b. Mainland Halifax)
2. Dartmouth
3. Bedford-Sackville
4. West rural region
5. East rural region.

The 16 Councillors would be divided among these districts according to population and the precise boundaries would be adjusted to ensure equality of representation. Preferential balloting would be by means of ranking candidates, and those elected would have to exceed the 50% threshold of support (this is a widely used electoral process in modern democracies and works well in situations where candidates do not have party affiliations).

I feel baffled as to why this contemporary option was not offered to HRM voters.

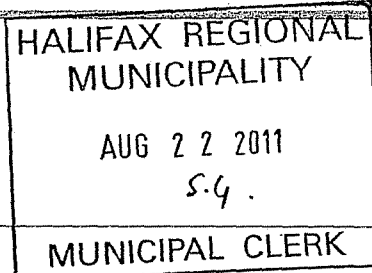
Sincerely,

Martin Willison



**Clerks Office - proposed scenarios (2 much better than 1)**

**From:** Jollimore Family  
**To:** <clerks@halifax.ca>,  
**Date:** 8/19/2011 7:29 PM  
**Subject:** proposed scenarios (2 much better than 1)



Hello Clerks,

I have a couple of opinions of some communities that have been cut into pieces that may not need to be. I work for HRM Community Development in Districts 22 and 23 if you would like my opinions.

Peter Jollimore



**From:** Timothy Pratt  
**To:** <clerks@halifax.ca>  
**Date:** 8/19/2011 4:21 pm  
**Subject:** Redistribution

HALIFAX REGIONAL  
MUNICIPALITY

AUG 22 2011

S.C.

MUNICIPAL CLERK

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input into how the districts will be layer out. For me scenario 2 is a much better option. Living in a subdivision in Hammonds Plains I believe that scenario 2 will give better representation for suburban subdivisions. In scenario 1 we would have a mix of suburban and rural populations and that could lead to watered down representation. I believe that the second scenario will allow our representative (both rural and suburban) to focus on the specific community needs leading to more informed and balanced representation.

Sincerely,

Tim Pratt



## **Cathy Mellett - Citizen Comment Re: Boundary Review**

---

**From:** Cathy Mellett  
**To:** Clerks Office; John Wesley Chisholm  
**Date:** 9/19/2011 10:56  
**Subject:** Citizen Comment Re: Boundary Review  
**CC:** Dawn Hatfield; Debbie Hum; Jennifer Watts; Jerry Blumenthal; Linda Mosher; Sue Uteck; Tim Outhit

---

Thanks you for your comments Mr. Chisholm they will be part of the public record on the boundary review consultations.

I would like to provide some background information on two of the items related to demographic data and the NSUARB process for clarification only.

1) Variance from the 2006 Census data

The boundary review is being undertaken between census periods the only census data currently available in the 2006 data. It is now substantially out of date. The 2011 census data will not be available until later this year. HRM undertook, at the beginning of the process to engage Environics Analytics to undertake to update the 2006 census data. That work was based on data and projections available to Environics and their demographers, their expertise in working with census data (which is the base data), along with HRM permit and application approval information. The result is an up to date for both 2009 (when the process started) and projected to 2012 in a reliable and statistically verifiable form.

2) In regard to students, HRM also undertook to have Environics look at the numbers/impact of potential student voters should there be changes to the Municipal Elections Act in that area.

Because of the way the census is conducted students living in rental apartments, households etc are already accounted for in the base census data. Voter counts in areas of HRM with a large number of students have traditionally been over counted. For the purpose of the voter counts used for this review the base census data continues to use the census count as the basis for projecting voters and, in addition, Environics has provided an projection of additional students voters that need to be considered should the legislation change.

Any other questions in regard to the data or process please free to contact the Clerks office at [clerks@halifax.ca](mailto:clerks@halifax.ca)

Sincerely

Cathy Mellett  
Municipal Clerk  
Office of the Municipal Clerk  
[melletc@halifax.ca](mailto:melletc@halifax.ca)  
(902) 490-6456

>>> John Wesley Chisholm

9/19/2011 12:25 AM >>>

### **Citizen Comment Re: Boundary Review**

My name is John Wesley Chisholm. I grew up in Waverley. I now live in South End Halifax and Musquodoboit Harbour. I have lived in the community for about 50 years.

I am writing in response to the call for citizen input regarding the boundary review consultation. My greatest



criticism here is that I am not sure who exactly I am writing to or why or if this information will ever be used or even read. But I am writing because I think it's the right thing to do..

I tried to do the online survey but I did not feel it captured anything more than a little demographic information. The site did not seem to work properly.

I am contributing brief comments on each aspect of the issue that is important to me.

To summarize, I don't like the process or the result and I don't support either boundary model presented because neither recognize the important position of the Halifax peninsula and harbour in the life and commerce of our region, province and country.

### **UARB**

As a citizen I feel my rights are being undermined by the increasing power of the UARB. My understanding is the UARB is an unelected, unaccountable, unfirable, quasi-judicial body made up of well-connected Halifax elites. Each time they arbitrarily exert their power I believe something of democracy in our community is lost. It seems an ultimate bureaucratic triumph in the worst way. I do not like that they are deciding the boundary issue or moreover setting the agenda of the discussion about the future of HRM as one of electoral boundaries.

### **Not Enough Information, Poorly Presented**

Though I work hard to be informed on the issues and I've spent a great deal of time with the boundary review information available on line I believe it is presented in such a way as to make it very difficult to understand or compare options. Informed citizen input requires useful information.

### **Natural Local Communities**

I believe in Localism and I can see strong local communities in our area that have not changed substantially in a generation regardless of government's various attempts to regionalize and amalgamate these natural communities. I believe these natural communities should be looked at as a strength and an asset, not something that should be combined, undermined, manipulated made fiscally disempowered.

### **Too Many Layers of Government**

I believe adding community councils on top of the regional and provincial government will create a fourth level of government and still not achieve the real local government model that our small natural communities want and deserve.

### **Too Much Government**

I believe there is too much government in HRM. I believe that there are so many interests under the HRM banner it's impossible to govern evenly. Some areas like District 1 need less government; some like the peninsula need different government and power to decide its own style. I believe the bureaucracy has become too large and too powerful to fit our small communities and our way of life to the point where government itself is holding back our economy and distracting us from pursuits that might create and conserve wealth in our communities.

### **One Vision – Not My Vision**



I believe that government, the bureaucracy, the HRM model and therefore this boundary review process are all built on a single vision – a 1960's image of vast auto commuter suburbs and a single downtown business district.

I reject this vision for our various communities and therefore any modeling or planning that keeps pushing 1970's solutions to the 1960's problems created by this vision. From shopping parks to highway widening plans I believe we are going in the wrong direction. We are taking amazing natural opportunities and turning them in to bland wastelands of cities.

My vision is to free and fiscally empower each of the natural communities to pursue their own visions in their own way: working together and competing to create the best possible communities according to each unique vision, assets and opportunities.

### **Voter counts (not reconciled with Statscan census)**

I've tried to do the math and reconcile the area voter counts with statscan census info on voters in our region and can't come within a 15% margin of error. It makes me very uneasy about the information provided and any conclusions that might be drawn particularly about population trends.

### **The Peninsula: Workers, Students, Harbour**

I don't see where the unique position of the peninsula is taken in to account with any of the boundary review plans. Each day the peninsula adds a substantial population of people from away – business people, visitors, people at work and leisure. Each year the peninsula adds a substantial population of students across the various university campuses. Even the harbour ebbs and flows with thousands of people and commerce each week.

It seems to me that the unique position of the peninsula in the life and commerce of the region and its unique demographics are not captured in any of the current boundary thinking.

### **I Support Localism, Not Regionalist Government and Bureaucracy**

Localism describes a range of political philosophies, which prioritize the local. Generally, localism supports local production and consumption of goods, local control of government, and promotion of local history, local culture and local identity. Localism can be contrasted with regionalism and centralized government.

Localists assert that throughout the world's history, most social and economic institutions have been scaled at the local level, as opposed to regional, inter-regional, or global.

Localists believe that society should be organized politically along community lines, with each community being free to conduct its own business in whatever fashion its people see fit. The size of these communities is defined such that their members are both familiar and dependent on each other — a size something along the lines of a small town or village.

People who stand against globalization, people who support local food, people charmed by local culture wherever they go should stand up for Localism and empowered, human sized local government. There are natural sized human groups. It was ever thus. There is no logical reason to fight this notion – only corporate and bureaucratic reasons.

Until regular people in real natural communities find the voices to stand up, be proud and speak for those natural communities, Regionalist powers will continue to download problems and bills, continue to defer maintenance and development while continuing to suck up and destroy local wealth in every form it takes.



Localism can free taxpayers from crushing bureaucracies and enable independent informed and caring day-to-day decision making. But it cannot work without true fiscal autonomy.

## **Reject Amalgamation**

I believe Amalgamation has hurt and continues to hurt our natural communities.

We will not see prosperity again until Amalgamation is rejected.

After 15 years of stealth centralism and bureaucratic growth every community is being broken. From the beginning, debts and problems were downloaded on to communities while rights and freedoms were taken away. Memories are being forgotten: of Bedford's heady growth days, Sackville's coming of age as an independent community, Halifax and Dartmouth's pride and "Athens Sparta style" competition for ideas, people and businesses, the independent charm and personalities of the smaller towns and villages – everything we had is being lost. The worst is that it's the potential for the future and the opportunity to co-operate that is lost through the reductionism of Amalgamation.

Where would we be now if not for Amalgamation? If history is a gauge many of the smaller communities would have been lucky and smart enough to find a way forward – Elmsdale, Musquodoboit Harbour, Chester, Hubbards, each in it's own special way had potential to grow independently. Now locked in to the HRM machine these communities can't even set their own sign policies let alone define and promote their own special communities. The City of Halifax is in the unbelievable position of only having a 4/23ths vote on its own development policy (soon to be 3/16ths!) and it has been made abundantly clear that the local citizens do not get to decide how their own roads, sidewalks and transportation infrastructure works.

In fact, the keys to our economic future are held in stasis by reductionist amalgamated bureaucracy always looking for the one single quick fix to every problem while tacitly supporting cancerous growth – and in the end going nowhere.



HALIFAX REGIONAL  
MUNICIPALITY  
SEP 19 2011  
AS  
MUNICIPAL CLERK

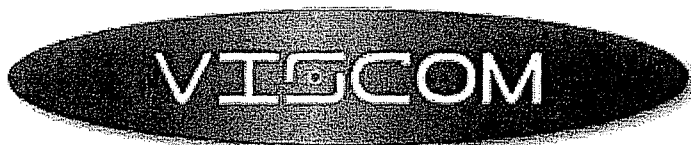
Good Morning,

Please confirm receipt.

Beginning at the Northwest point, west of Highway 102, the boundary travels East to the intersection of Parkland Drive and Langbrae Drive. Langbrae Drive to Dunbrack Street. South on Dunbrack to Lincoln Cross. East to the Mount Saint Vincent northern property line, then South along that property line, then East along the Mount Saint Vincent property line, South of Sherbrooke Drive to the Bedford Highway. South along the Bedford Highway to the Fairview Overpass, along Joseph Howe Drive to the Armdale Rotary. West along the St. Margaret's Bay Road to beyond the Bayers Lake Business Park southern entrance, at the Park Western boundary. Northwest to the starting point.

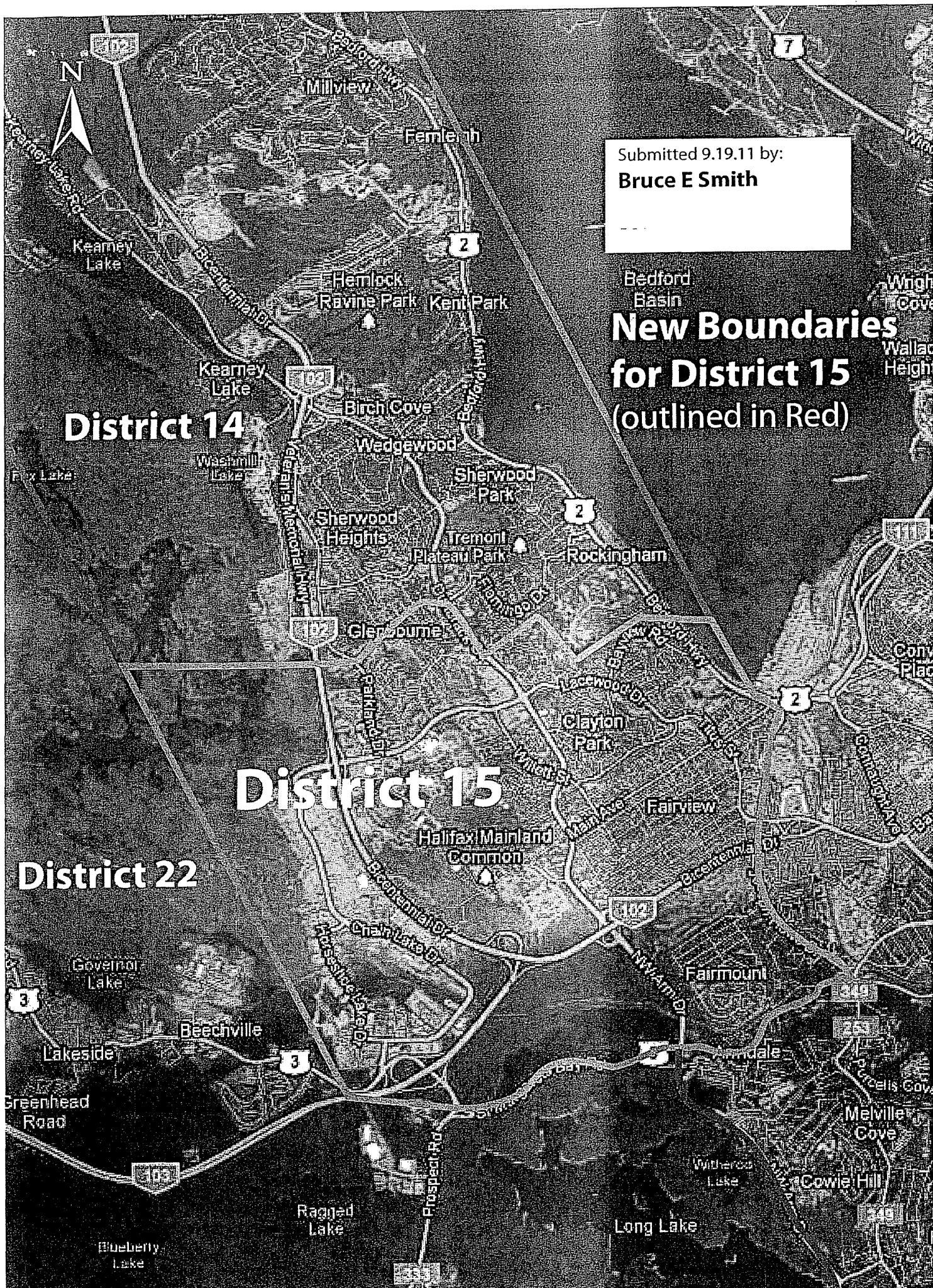
- Should not divide established communities.
- Should not extend beyond traditional boundaries, such as combining the Mainland Communities and Peninsula Communities where tradition and priorities will conflict.
- Should not create boundaries that includes community with opposing priorities and/or development objectives.
- Should contain easily defined and recognized boundaries.
- Should provide the opportunity for the elected Councilor to represent a district in which they are familiar and/or have experience.
- District physical size should be consolidated to ensure effective and efficient use of HRM resources.
- Communities and Neighbours are More Important than Numbers!

*Bruce E Smith*



*Bruce E Smith*





Submitted 9.19.11 by:  
**Bruce E Smith**

**District 14**

**New Boundaries  
for District 15**  
(outlined in Red)

**District 15**

**District 22**





## Councillors' Office

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## Councillor Bill Karsten

District 7  
Portland - East Woodlawn

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Dartmouth, Nova Scotia  
B2W 5X6

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www.halifax.ca

September 23, 2011

Attention: Governance & Boundary Review Committee,

I have stated many times over the past several weeks, that I have been extremely proud of my Council colleagues in how they have conducted themselves since the UARB made it's decision to reduce Council to 16 members for the 2012 election. The majority have stayed out of the process and allowed our staff to do their job and I commend my colleagues. We recognize it is a challenging task and take pride of the unanimous motion of Council that the recommendation will come back to Council and approved without debate.

### **My own personal preference is Option 1.**

Should Option 2 even be a consideration, I trust that somehow it can be adjusted, leaving Portland Estates and Portland Hills with more of the Dartmouth Urban core and thus within it's former Municipal Unit. I recognize that so much of this process is about numbers and having them fall within the guidelines. However, these two well defined neighbourhoods have under of the provision of previous boundary review criteria no "Community of Interest" with the distinctly unique communities of Eastern Passage and Cow Bay.

Currently, Pleasant St is the only roadway that geographically connects the two communities. As a result they do not naturally flow into each other and rather the area between has the appearance of being a perfect and natural District boundary as indicated in Option 1.

Councillor Bill Karsten



## **Cathy Mellett - Re: Cathy**

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**From:** Cathy Mellett  
**To:** Gloria McCluskey  
**Date:** 9/7/2011 08:24  
**Subject:** Re: Cathy

---

Thanks you for your comments Councillor McCluskey.

We had originally used Prince Albert Road as the boundary but adjusted it to associate the neighbourhood around Hume/Lakeview point road with their neighbours. Both outcomes can be achieved quite readily with a small adjustment to the boundary and, as you mentioned, no impact on voters.

Sincerely

Cathy Mellett  
Municipal Clerk  
Office of the Municipal Clerk  
melletc@halifax.ca  
(902) 490-6456

>>> Gloria McCluskey 9/6/2011 8:38 PM >>>  
Cathy

In both Scenario 1 and 2 the boundary line is down the middle of lake Banook which separates the paddling clubs. This is the paddling community and should not be separated. It has been in the same district forever. I propose that the boundary line be down the middle of Prince Albert Road. This boundary change would not substantially increase the numbers.

My choice, if I may give one, is scenario 2, because Scenario 1 separates the Capital District from the community of interest.

Gloria

Gloria McCluskey  
Councillor  
District 5 - Dartmouth Centre  
Tel: (902) 490-7033  
Cell: (902) 476-1667  
Fax: (902) 490-4871  
Email: mcclusg@halifax.ca



## Cathy Mellett - Boundary Review

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**From:** Jim Smith (Councillor)  
**To:** Cathy Mellett  
**Date:** 9/29/2011 09:26  
**Subject:** Boundary Review  
**CC:** Richard Butts

---

Good day Ms. Mellett,

Here are my comments regarding the proposed boundaries scenario 1 and 2. My focus is mainly on the local area although I have a few general comments about the larger picture. It certainly appears to be a difficult decision as to make as the feedback I am receiving is that not many like either scenario in totality. I will say right off that if I was forced to make a decision on either my choice would be scenario #1. It appears to be least disruptive of communities of interest for the Dartmouth North and downtown areas and more respective of future growth . I am adding the following inputs :

1. The criteria used to evaluate the number of voters per district should also include , along with those already noted I.e. geographical size, such criteria as inclusion of business parks and large commercial areas such as downtown and Capital Districts. While these have minimal residents they pose considerable pressures on Councillor time and resources. For example District 9 is expected to be expanded to include not only all of Burnside Park but all of downtown Dartmouth. This is not the norm with other such Districts except Halifax downtown ( no business park ) and Bayers Lake Business Park ( no downtown ) for example. I see no real difference in the reasoning to reduce voter numbers for Rural areas due to distance . Its all about work load and availability. Both the Business Parks and Down Towns have their own organizations that expect to have direct contact with their representative for monthly meetings and other meetings as required regarding strategic planning and outreach. This is complemented by personal calls from people who use the Business parks ( 18,000 workers per day ) and down towns who call that area representative most often and not their home Councillor.

2. Given the concerns of # 1 , I think it is appropriate to go with scenario 1 where the downtown is shared more between 2 Councillors. I for one do not have a problem with the downtown areas being represented by more than one Councillor...I think it enhances the representation.

3. I therefore recommend the boundary line in scenario #1 continue down Ochterloney St or turn at the end of Prince Albert St right onto Portland Street to the Harbour.

4. I do think we need to go with the lower # of voters boundary scenario for this area of north Dartmouth as there are considerable possible increases in the residential component coming along in the near future...Dartmouth Crossing along is planning to add more than a 1000 units and there will be multi unit housing in Shannon Park with or without the possible stadium. I expect these future developments have been considered but I note them to be sure. A large 12 storey building was approved for Windmill Road , 27 story MicMac area , as well as three multi units on Nadia Drive to come. Then we also have Harbour Isle half dozen resident high rises and the 6 storey Basinview apartment underway at this time.

5. The line being drawn down the Lakes is a good idea. This keeps communities of interest together.

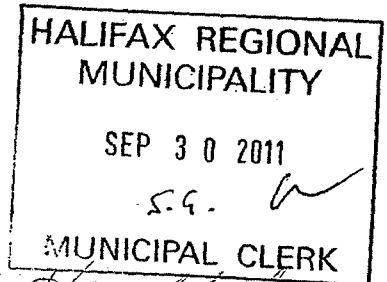
While I am prepared to accept whatever the UARB finally decides these points would address my concerns to the process.

Regards  
Jim



September 24, 2011.

City Clerk, H.R.M.  
Halifax, N.S.



Dear Sir;

I saw the notice in the Chronicle Herald about the Boundary Review meetings, all being held in the evenings and some distance away. I note that residents have the opportunity to express their views through an online survey on HRM's website. How do those of us who cannot travel that distance and also do not have web contact express their views?

I hear that one proposal is to place the Musquodoboit Valley portion of District 1 with the Fackville area — a very bad idea, in my view.

We are a very rural area and Fackville almost a city, we would never have contact with our Councillor.

I hear the second proposal is to leave District 1 intact, adding the area around the Airport. This would make a very large geographical District, but the best of the two proposals in my view.

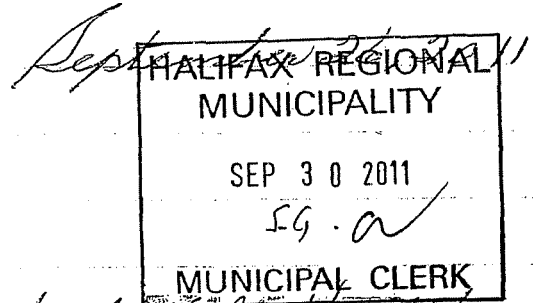
Sincerely,

Mary C. Cook



Musquodoboit Valley Memorial Healthcare Auxiliary  
Musquodoboit Valley, N.S.

City Clerk, HRM.  
Halifax N.S.



We, the members of the M.V.M. Healthcare Auxiliary, wish to express our view on the change of Councillor areas.

We feel that dividing District 1 in half, and connecting the Musquodoboit Valley with Sackville would <sup>not</sup> be suitable at all.

We feel that leaving District 1 intact and adding the area around the Airport would be the most suitable. We are a rural area and would have more in common with those people near the Airport.

Sincerely,

Biencla Hughes.

Jane Parker

Gailie Dickie

Jean Kellen

Freda Kiddy

Ella Rhind

Collyn Lutwick

Jean Dares

Mary Cook



*Boundary Review  
Public Mtg.*

*Submitted  
Oct 5/2011*  
September 30, 2011

To Whom It May Concern;

After close review of the two options put forward by HRM Staff I would like to suggest that a third option be considered. I would like to see District 1 remain intact, as it is, a completely rural and unique District. I realize that there is a need to increase the population of all Districts in order to reduce the number of Districts from 23 to 16. In order to increase the population of District 1, I would suggest moving the entire western border further west to include the communities of Gaetz Brook, Conrod Settlement, Head of Chezzetcook, Lower East Chezzetcook, West Chezzetcook, Fletcher's Lake, Wellington, Oakfield and possibly Fall River. All of these communities are similar in nature to those already within the boundaries of District 1; they enjoy, understand and appreciate a similar rural lifestyle. I feel it is critical to maintain a portion of this Municipality that is completely rural and I would like to offer the following points to be considered through this realignment process and when the final lines are drawn.

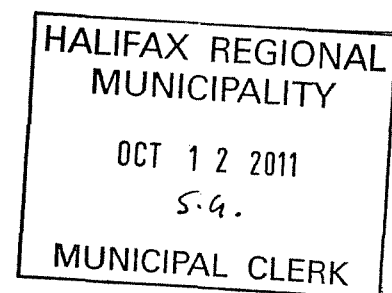
HRM's 25 year Regional Plan was developed to grow very specific areas of our Municipality with particular care and consideration given to the future planning for communities and areas of similar interests, needs and visions. The importance of this was identified as a key factor in the success of this Plan as it depends on the unity and sense of family that being within the same district boundaries and under the same representation allows.

To further emphasize the need and practicality of keeping like communities within the same district boundaries one only has to look at the structure of most of our services and their coverage areas. Keeping to the rural theme, you will see that Fire and Emergency Services Zoning areas are designed to keep rural communities together, sharing resources, training together and most often responding together when their service is called upon. The same can be said for the Capital Health districts, Halifax Regional School Board districts and its families of schools, Police/RCMP detachment areas and community recreational programs. All of these organizations work closely together within the same rural communities. HRM's extensive Bylaws, Planning and Development regulations and Land-Use Bylaws all have very specific and finely crafted regulations designed to address the unique needs of the rural areas and have grouped these rural communities accordingly. These same regulations and bylaws are not suited to the suburban and urban areas of the Municipality, and most likely not understood or considered important by the residents or the elected representatives of the non-rural areas. This very distinct rural identity has all come about as the result of our residents coming together, becoming involved and working very closely with their elected Councillor, a representative who is proudly and deeply rooted in our rural area and, therefore, equally determined to ensure that our lifestyle, rural identity and way of life are recognized and protected and strongly represented at Regional Council. This could not be guaranteed if our representative on Regional Council was a candidate from a suburban or urban community.

We have the absolute right to be represented by a person who clearly and passionately understands and is willing to fight for our lifestyle and identity. To include suburban and/or urban communities within the boundaries of our rural district would begin the slow and methodical demise to our identity and our voice as we will become slowly overrun, forgotten and silenced to the more dense population closer to the urban core. I ask everyone to consider these points and when the lines are drawn please respect us and allow us to remain united as the unique District we are now.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Vida MacKenzie  
Elderbank





*Submitted at 8:11 PM  
Sept. 19/11*

Hello, my name is Jonathan Hannam and I \_\_\_\_\_ in Halifax. I  
proudly live in the old north suburb of downtown. I am here to speak against the  
proposed boundary changes for the peninsula and to propose ~~suggest a couple of~~ a  
different scenario~~s~~.

There are many things to consider to the changes in boundaries for the peninsula  
– only one of which is population. The changes, as prosed in scenario 1 and  
scenario 2 do not take anything else into consideration besides population.

Something to consider is that both the North and South suburbs of downtown are  
very similar and have very similar needs as they relate to the downtown core.

These suburbs were established far before Halifax was founded as a city, and I  
would hate to see them separated within the changes to the boundaries.

*Both scenarios do not consider like minded communities.*  
The proposed boundary changes would see the downtown core and the old South  
suburb being part of the south end of Halifax – which has much less in common  
than with the North Suburb of downtown. The North suburb would therefore be  
alienated from the downtown core by these changes.

Further, something that is not taken into account is the tens of thousands people  
and business owners that come onto the peninsula on a daily basis. These people  
call upon the councilors of the area for service. This service should be considered  
in the population numbers.

In the prosed changes (both scenario 1 and scenario 2) you would see the  
majority of social housing lumped into one district. I do not believe that this was  
taken into consideration in either scenario. Scenario 1 would see 77% of all  
housing co-operatives on the peninsula as well as all three provincial housing  
projects in one district. Scenario 2 would contain 84% of all housing co-operatives  
on the peninsula as well as all three provincial housing projects. These social  
housing units, while mostly falling under the jurisdiction of the province, all have  
unique issues that relate to the municipality. I do not speak about this tongue in  
cheek, I speak from experience as I am the president of the board of directors of  
Nova Scotia's largest housing co-operative (North End United Housing Co-  
Operative) which is located in the North Suburb of downtown Halifax. Since all



~~social housing is proposed to be within one district, this will create a further~~  
divide amongst the districts on social housing issues as they relate to municipal issues.

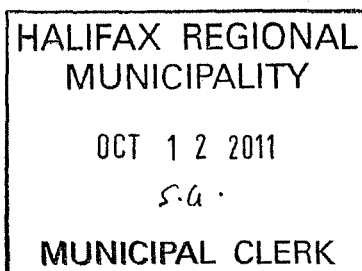
Both scenarios see the majority of universities and hospitals grouped into one district. These entities have unique needs and again there will be a divide amongst districts on decisions unique to these entities.

Both scenarios see the majority of businesses on the peninsula grouped into one district – how are the voices of the business owners going to be heard on council when only one councilor will be representing them?

Additionally, while all of these scenarios are built from population numbers, has the most recent census been taken into consideration? I would assume not as the population base estimates in both scenarios do not line up with what I know from living on the peninsula: the population is growing and growing substantially!

There needs to be a better way to divide the peninsula. I would propose consideration of an east west divide using Robie Street; or ~~even consider three divides north south with inclusion of areas west of the peninsula (example: North end peninsula could include areas of Fairview/Rockingham; South end could include areas across the arm).~~ The second idea would encompass both urban and suburban issues.

I believe it is important to consider all issues: urban, suburban and rural and I would like to see further consideration to try to encompass more cross sectioning of these issues – this would provide better insight to councilors on issues that are unique to these living areas and would make decisions and support of policy development fair to the entire municipality.





## Changes to Scenario 1

Submitted by Councillor Walker – Tuesday September 6, 2011

The following changes can be done to make all districts between -11 and +11 %.

Move approximately 4775 from District B to District A. Move approximately 4700 from District O to District B.

In District B, move the following to A:

Crooks Corner	203
Lake Egmont	65
Wyses Corner	63
Antrim	105
Carroll's Corner	375
Dutch Settlement	551
Devon	24
Conrod Settlement	238
Lantz	136
Elmsdale	270
Enfield	646
Oldham	106
Goffs	87
Oakfield	349
Grand Lake	412
Wellington	1145
<b>Total:</b>	<b>4775</b>

In District O (You did not give numbers) move the area from Cobequid to Glendale up to the Beaver Bank Road to District B. Approximately 4700.

Scenario 1		
District	Voters 2012	Percentage
A	20,454	0
B	20,078	-2
C	18,231	-11
D	19,531	-5
E	19,203	-6
F	19,608	-4
G	19,191	-6
H	22,281	9
I	22,672	11
J	22,157	8
K	18,366	-10
L	21,107	3
M	21,454	5
N	21,183	3
O	21,903	7
P	20,196	-1



OCT 11 2011

S.G.

**Submission to the HRM Boundary Review from the Kearney Lake Residents Association** MUNICIPAL CLERK

This submission is written specifically about the affects of the 2 scenarios on the Kearney Lake community, but also makes comments on some issues that affect the wider community, of which Kearney Lake is an historic component and for which there are common interests.

Kearney Lake is a community of 60 homes at the south end -- inside the Halifax City boundary and planning district, and perhaps 20 more at the north end (currently split between Bedford and Hammonds Plains districts) We are all affected by specific issues: the traffic along the Kearney Lake Road, coming from Hammonds Plains, the water quality of the Lake systems (at the south end we are all on wells and septics -- and septics at the north end) and we are all affected by the rate of land development around us and the future plans for the Blue Mountain Wilderness Park.

### **Scenario 1**

This scenario is the least attractive of the two and causes great concern for the Kearney Lake community.

In this scenario the community of Kearney Lake and the lake itself are split between 3 districts, some of which will not provide our community with any voting power and may put us in conflict with other portions of the proposed districts to which we are being added. In particular, we are sometimes at odds with neighbouring communities in relation to solutions for traffic flow (Hammonds Plains traffic has had a serious affect on the Kearney Lake Rd) and conflicts in the effects of development in the Bedford West area and the Hammonds Plains area. Attaching portions of community to these areas does not give us a voice, or enable our councillor to represent our wishes -- we would be too small an area in a much larger area.

The bulk of our community would be in the district with Beechville, Lakeside, etc. We have absolutely no common ground, or attachment to that community -- it is many miles away, separated by thousands of acres of the Wilderness Park. This particular arrangement is ridiculous on its face. We would have zero representation with that arrangement -- there would be no incentive for a councillor representing thousands of families in Beechville etc. to pay any attention to 60 homes so far away.

Our community of interest is the Birch Cove, Rockingham, Prince's Lodge area. There is a long history of association and representation with these neighbouring communities. We share schools, churches, services, and history. We have no conflicts with representation of interests that affect us.

In addition, this scenario severs the watershed and the wilderness area (Blue Mountain Wilderness Park) among several proposed districts. This serves no useful purpose in terms of representation -- since the watershed and the wilderness area have no people. However, the management of both the watershed (because we are on wells and septics) and the management of the wilderness park have a significant effect on our community, likely more so than any other community. Currently the only active access to the wilderness area is at the end



of Saskatoon Dr. This street is undersized (only 50 feet wide on paper, but less on the ground) and the traffic is becoming an issue for residents. It will also have a detrimental effect on the park itself, which is a huge potential asset to life in this part of HRM. To have the wilderness area under one councillor will provide focus to the issues and separate the park from potential conflicts with development along its southern boundary (Bayers Lake Commercial Park) where the principal access should be eventually located – but the creation of said access may conflict with certain business interests in the Bayers Lake area.

Possible Changes to Scenario 1: All of the Kearney Lake community should be either attached to the Birch Cove / Rockingham area, or at least the southern portion, from the old city boundary south. The northern portion could be attached to the Bedford community. That would preserve the community of interest with these neighbourhoods and provide the best representation with out too much conflict with other areas in the same districts. There is too much developmental conflict with Hammonds Plains and no relationship with Beechville etc to make any sense of the currently proposed boundaries. This would result in about 80 homes added to Birch Cove /Rockingham area, or 60 homes added to Birch Cove /Rockingham and about 20 added to Bedford, depending on the location of the boundary (to the north of Kearney Lake & Belle St homes, or following the original city line across the middle of the lake)

But in all honesty – so much of the historic neighbourhoods of Kearney Lake, Birch Cove, Prince's Lodge & Rockingham are split apart by this scenario, it is hard to save it. Wedgewood Park & Prince's Lodge, together with Kearney Lake and Birch Cove –Rockingham are a long-standing, connected community.

## Scenario 2:

This scenario is the easiest to fix and makes the most sense, since it preserves the historic relationship and community of interest that exists between Birch Cove (including Wedgewood Park) and Rockingham. ~~The only change would be to add the 60 homes at the south end of Kearney Lake (old city boundary) and the 50 or so homes in Prince's Lodge (Kent & Duke Streets) and the entire community would be connected.~~

*Already  
included  
-Thankyou*

If the 20 or so homes along the side of Kearney Lake Rd and along Belle St area were added, it would make more sense from a management perspective, since the entire Lake community would be together. In conversations with the residents along Belles St area, they would be fine with being included in the district with the residents at the south end of the lake, or added to the Bedford area. But they are adamant about not being included with Hammonds Plains (which is currently the case for some of them). It is foolish to have the first two homes on Belle St in the current or future Bedford district, but the remaining homes be in Hammonds Plains. The street doesn't even connect to the rest of Hammonds Plains area streets, without first driving in to the Bedford district and back out again. – No community of interest there!

The arguments made in discussing the issues in scenario 1 all apply here as well. Also, the above boundary suggestions would result in a district that would not have too much additional



population expansion resulting from on-going development. Most of the continued development would remain in the Bedford, Hammonds Plains and Timberlea /Lakeside areas. This would make future boundary adjustments in this area largely unnecessary. The edges of the area on the west would be protected from development by the Wilderness Park, and the other areas are already largely developed.

### **Wider area issues**

In terms of the wider area on the west side of Bedford Basin and as a 50 + year resident of the area who pays very close attention to development issues, I would make a few observations/suggestions.

Bayers Lake Business Park has no residents, so it would make sense that it be attached to the area which it creates the largest impact on – which would be Clayton Park West & to a lesser degree, Clayton Park. The conflict with traffic between Bayers Lake and Clayton Park West is extreme. The councillor for Clayton Park West would be in the best position to understand the relationship between Bayers Lake Business Park and the adjacent residential communities. The traffic impacts at other exits/entrances to the park flow directly to 100 series highways, but the traffic from Halifax/Dartmouth to the Park has an immense impact on those Clayton Park neighbourhoods.

At the Prince's Lodge end of the area, the natural boundary would be the north boundary of Hemlock Ravine Park, which creates a natural separation between Prince's Lodge and the communities farther along the Bedford Highway, which are more naturally associated with Bedford – sharing schools etc.

Mary Ann McGrath





**Councillor  
Peter Lund  
District 23  
Hammonds Plains  
St. Margaret's**

Cell: (902) 497-7508  
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E-mail: peter.lund@halifax.ca

1841 Argyle Street  
PO Box 1749  
Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

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Phone: (902) 490-4050  
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October 11, 2011

Ms. Cathy Mellett  
Municipal Clerk  
Halifax Regional Municipality  
PO Box 1749  
Halifax, NS B3P 2L1

Re: District Boundary Review

Dear Ms. Mellett,

As Councillor representing District 23 -Hammonds Plains - St. Margaret's, I offer my observations on the proposed changes to the existing electoral boundaries.

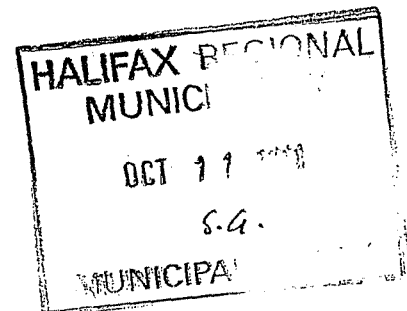
The current area of coverage is the second (or third) largest District within HRM, representing two distinct demographic regions within HRM, being Hammonds Plains and St. Margaret's Bay. I hear from residents often that I represent two ridings with distinct and different interests, concerns, and issues.

My comments reflect my own observations and those expressed by constituents in passing and at the recent Open Houses. These are in regards to the following criteria:

- Population
- Communities of Interest
- Geographic coverage

Upon review of these criteria and opinions, there is an overwhelming preference for Option 2, with adjustments of the boundaries. Of note is that the persons who have expressed opinions are from the western region, including Districts 10, 16, 21, 22 and 23. Common themes emerge:

- Boundaries should reflect the coastal communities
- Need to reflect the common interests of Chebucto Peninsula
- Keep the Dover to Prospect loop intact





In consideration of the low relative population represented by Area M under Option 2, the following should be considered to increase the voter population to better represent the communities of interest:

- Include Goodwood to as far north as HWY 102.
- Include the Stillwater Lake area and as far east to the Reserve Lands (which would encompass Highland Park and Yankeetown Road). These residents tend to travel to Upper Tantallon to shop and to attend functions and recreational activities at the St. Margaret's Centre, and they access HWY 103 to travel to Halifax. Over 300 people take Metro-X at Exit 5.
- Keep the Dover – Prospect common area of interest separate from the Sambro loop. As one resident said, residents would have to travel north and through another District to access the Prospect Road.

Observations that make Option 1 less desirable than Option 2 include:

- Hammonds Plains residents beyond the Reserve Lands tend to travel primarily eastward towards Sackville, Bedford and Halifax to shop, work and to be involved in recreational activities. The intersection of Glen Arbour and Hammonds Plains Road appears to be the half-way point for those travelling to Regional Centres.
- The area of coverage encompasses a much higher diversity of communities and population base over a larger area, making effective representation more difficult and time consuming.
- The community of Kingswood South appears to have more of an affiliation with Bedford and Clayton Park than Hammonds Plains.
- Area L would reflect two distinct demographic areas under Option 1, Clayton Park and Timberlea- Beechville, whereas Option 2 would keep the Hubley-Timberlea-Beechville communities of interest intact. Although, it is noted that residents in Hubley travel to Upper Tantallon and to Halifax so they have affiliation with both Timberlea-Beechville and Upper Tantallon.
- Option 1 splits Clayton Park compared to Option 2 which keeps the District better intact.

As I have stated numerous times, districts should reflect routes people travel along to get to places they need to go to shop, work and be involved in recreational activities (spokes of a wheel concept).

There was expressed interest in keeping watersheds and large areas of parkland / wilderness under one District where possible, such as the Birch Cove - Blue Mountain and Kearney Lake watershed and Prospect River watershed. While this makes sense for the right reasons and should be accommodated where possible, this may be difficult to achieve. However, this



scenario could be considered when establishing Community Council boundaries.

While it may appear on the outside that Option 1 is preferable for Peninsula Halifax and possibly Sackville, Option 2 appears to better represent the western region of HRM encompassing Clayton Park, Hammonds Plains, St. Margaret's Bay and Chebucto Peninsula, with minor adjustments to the boundaries. Option 2 also appears to be more effective for Sackville and Hammonds Plains by creating two Districts, namely Hammonds Plains - Upper Sackville and Lower Sackville.

The task of creating new boundaries is surely a difficult and challenging endeavour. The efforts of the review committee are commendable.

Respectively submitted,

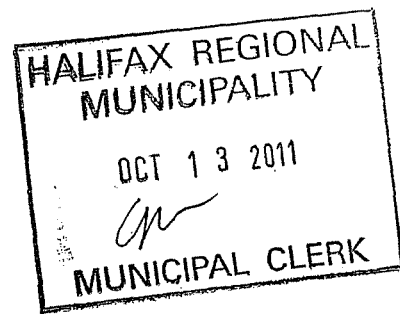
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Lund', with a stylized, cursive script.

Peter Lund  
Councillor District 23  
Hammonds Plains - St. Margaret's



October 12, 2011

Clerk's Office  
Halifax Regional Municipality  
PO Box 1749  
Halifax, NS



Madame Clerk:

***Re: The Halifax Regional Municipality Boundary Review***

As Councillor for District 10, Clayton Park West, I am submitting my preference for **Scenario 1** for the following reasons:

1. District 10, Clayton Park West, was a new district initiated by the URAB in 2004 and developed into the fastest growing district in HRM with a 34 percent growth rate and will continue to grow.
2. SCENARIO 1 will keep the majority of District 10 together with the exception of Willett Street which was originally part of older Clayton Park and Mandaville Court which was part of Fairview.
2. District 10 has the distinction of being one of most ethnically and culturally diverse communities in all of HRM representing many nations and faiths.
3. It has two of the largest schools in HRM and Atlantic Canada that of:
  - a. **Park West School** - a P1-P9 with approximately **800 students** and is very ethnically diverse.
  - b. **Halifax West High School**, which is the largest populated high school in all of HRM, if not Atlantic Canada, with around **1500 students** who represent over 90 countries and over 60 languages.
4. District 10 has one of the largest number of Seniors in HRM as well as a large number of disabled residents who chose this district for its accessible features.



**SCENARIO 1**-will join with the **Wedgewood Subdivision** on the Kearney Lake Road which in turn will keep that subdivision together.

- a. The portion of Kearney Lake (West-on the lake) is separated by Highway 102 from the rest of lower Kearney Lake toward the Bedford Highway. There will be **no change** -the small community living on Kearney Lake will remain as it is.
- b. Beechville, Lakeside, Timberlea, and Hubley **will also remain the same**.

SCENARIO 2 -cuts up District 10. Placing one portion in “J” and the other portion in “L” and would mean that Clayton Park West will be represented by two Councillors. This will create confusion for the residents as to who represents them. One of the major goals of the Boundary Review is to try and keep a district/community together.

+++++

Another opinion is that of Fairview of which I chose **Scenario 1**.

Being a previous resident of Fairview for three years, and my husband was born there, I am concerned that **Scenario 2** will literally cut Fairview into **three** pieces. This scenario ignores the fact that Fairview is a recognized, thriving, and long existing community since 1894 (115 yrs old). Its residents have lived there for generations and are very proud of it.

I am curious who decided ,when putting the **HRM Communities Map** together, that Fairview, Rockingham, Armdale, and Spryfield as were not recognized as “communities”. These are very old and long standing communities that have existed for over a 100 years. They should not have been included with the peninsula as they were never part of the peninsula.



b. With Scenario 2, Fairview will cease to be a recognized community and will simply be an “appendage” of three other districts.

- the residents of Fairview will not be “equally” served;

- the residents will be confused as to who represents them; which Councillor will they call if they live on a street “bordering” two districts?

- their community associations, police, fire, HRM staff such as Public Works i.e. snow removal, road repairs, as some examples, would have to deal with three councillors rather than one.

More importantly, does the name Fairview stay? It will be very disturbing to the residents of Fairview if they are now viewed as being residents of , (District 14) and (District 16) and (District 10). Fairview in essence could no longer exist.

**For these reasons alone, SCENARIO 1 would be the best choice.**

Rather than cutting up the historical districts of Fairview, Rockingham, etc. I suggest that the central peninsula be divided into two zones as recommended in **Scenario 1**.

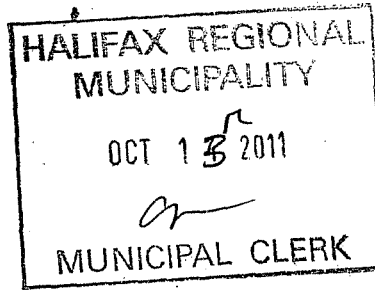
Continued growth on the peninsula, will be through density. Therefore, the square kms. of the peninsula will never change. An example is the City of Vancouver which is a mere 114 sq. kms., yet has a population of over 500,000. Why - because of density.

**Scenario 1** would turn the peninsula into two major districts ; and will maintain the peninsula borders determined by HRM by Design being that of the Fairview Overpass and the Armdale Rotary.

Yours truly,

Mary Wile, Councillor  
District 10, Clayton Park West





October 13/2011

Richard Butts, Chief Administrative Officer

Cathy Mellet, Municipal Clerk

Halifax Regional Municipality  
PO Box 1749  
Halifax, NS  
B3J 3A5

**RE: HRM's Governance and District Boundary Review  
Bayers Lake Business Park & Highway 102 West Corridor Area**

The purpose of this letter is to provide HRM with additional information to my presentation at the Public Meeting on Thursday, October 6, 2011 at Basinview Drive Community School in Bedford.

Annapolis Group owns 682 acres of land north of the Bayers Lake Business Park and west of Highway 102. This area is defined in the Regional Municipal Planning Strategy as the Highway 102 West Corridor Area and is designated for urban serviced development. The other major land owners in this area are Armco Capital (275 acres) and Gateway Materials (180 acres). Gateway Materials has an active quarry that will be decommissioned as future development occurs. Under Scenario 1, this area is included in District L that also includes the Bayers Lake Business Park. Under Scenario 2, this area is separated from the Bayers Lake Business Park and included in District J that extends across Highway 102 into Clayton Park / Rockingham and onto the Bedford Basin.

In determining the district that will include the Highway 102 West Corridor Area, it is important to consider communities of interest. The Highway 102 West Corridor Area is separated from Clayton Park and Rockingham by Highway 102, and there are no historic linkages between District J in Scenario 2 and areas to the west of Highway 102. In contrast, the Bayers Lake Business Park is located west of Highway 102 and the future development of the Highway 102 West Corridor Area will be a natural extension of the Bayers Lake Business Park. The HRM Business Parks Functional Plan (Colliers International, May 2009) states the following:

*"The Future Land Use Plan suggests a road layout in Bayers Lake Park that supports development of large scale retail uses, access to the designated Blue Mountain/Birch Cove Lake Wilderness Park, and access to future development adjacent to Highway 102 on lands held by Birchdale Holdings."*

Birchdale is a company set up by the major property owners in the Highway 102 West Corridor Area for regulatory approval and master planning.

165 Hammonds Plains Road  
Bedford, Nova Scotia  
Canada B4A 4C7  
tel 902 835 9525  
fax 902 832 2922



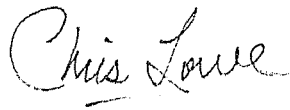
Richard Butts and Cathy Mellet

October 13/2011

Page 2

Since the Highway 102 West Corridor Area is a natural extension of the Bayers Lake Business Park; therefore, the major property owners in this area request that both areas be included in the same district as reflected in Scenario 1. The result will be a community of interest (expanding business park) that deals with one councillor with the resulting efficiencies to HRM's operations and more effective governance.

Yours Truly

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chris Lowe".

Chris Lowe, MBA, MCIP  
Vice President – Planning & Development  
Annapolis Group

Distribution:

Rob MacPherson, P.Eng., President, Armco Capital Inc.  
Scott Stevens, P.Eng., President, Gateway Materials Ltd.



**Cathy Mellett - Submission re: boundary review**

**From:** Linda Mosher  
**To:** Cathy Mellett  
**Date:** 10/13/2011 22:18  
**Subject:** Submission re: boundary review  
**CC:** Linda Mosher  
**Attachments:** Submissionboundaryreview.doc

**Attention: Boundary Review**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on the new HRM Council boundaries. The mandated reduction in Councillors necessitates a change in boundaries, and it is understandable that any scenario will impact our communities. However, **scenario one is most closely aligned with not only existing boundaries but also traditional communities, urban patterns and concerns.**

Scenario one aligns with our communities of interest and school catchment areas. Scenario two disregards communities of interest and divides the long established community of Armdale, as well as the school boundary. Scenario two has no rationale behind the lines; it is merely a way to obtain the desired voter population.

The historic Armdale boundaries have been maintained over the years and this long standing area is still comprised of many smaller but connected communities. Prior to annexation Armdale was the former County area and when it was annexed to the city in 1969 Armdale became its own district. Scenario one maintains these communities of Armdale including Fairmount, Chocolate Lake, Kline Heights, Herring Cove Road, Rockwood and Stoneridge together, as well as keeping our school catchment area intact. As well this proposal adds a small portion of the traditional Armdale boundary (Armview area) back to the Armdale community.

Attached please find information from HRM's Archivist and a Historian that was previously obtained to appropriately place Armdale community signage. It is interesting to note that when I placed a Welcome to Kline Heights sign in Kline Heights I had many irate calls stating it was "Armdale". Thus, we added to a community of Armdale to the sign and everyone was very pleased. It is important for residents to maintain our traditional communities within the broader HRM.

Scenario two splits Armdale and combines part of it with the West End through part of downtown to the harbour/Barrington Street. Essentially this not only fractures the Armdale community but also communities in the West End and downtown. It does not consider continuity, communities or interests; it is merely a formula to determine final numbers. Armdale, the West End and downtown Halifax are very distinct and traditional communities with divergent priorities and interests.

We have established communities and interests for not only schools, but also sports and recreation, parks and trails and community groups. There are Mainland community groups; Chebucto sports teams, mainland amenities such as Sir Sandford Fleming Park, and Chocolate Lake Recreation Centre that we utilize instead of the Forum or Point Pleasant Park. These activities and amenities can be accessed by foot or local buses. To access the proposed scenario two all residents from the former District 17 portion would need to take at least two buses and almost all areas would not be accessible by foot. The issues of interest within the Armdale and surrounding areas are much more aligned than further West and downtown Halifax. Not only does scenario two split Armdale as a community it also would comprise only a small percentage of the new district (H in scenario two). This area would need to compete against much larger communities, groups and school districts for funding and attention. Essentially our voice would be lost at Council. The proposed district K in scenario one is the better of these two scenarios. It is important to note that the maps on [www.halifax.ca](http://www.halifax.ca) were not clear, especially for scenario 2, district H. It only showed a portion of the district and thus most people would not know that the district extended all the way to the harbour.

Submitted by: Linda Mosher, 242 Milsom Street, Armdale, Halifax, N.S. B3N 2B9

Linda



Linda Mosher  
Councillor - District 17  
(H) 477-8618  
(C) 476-4117  
[linda.mosher@halifax.ca](mailto:linda.mosher@halifax.ca)  
[www.lindamosher.ca](http://www.lindamosher.ca)

Call Centre- 490-4000

Open 7 days per week, 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.

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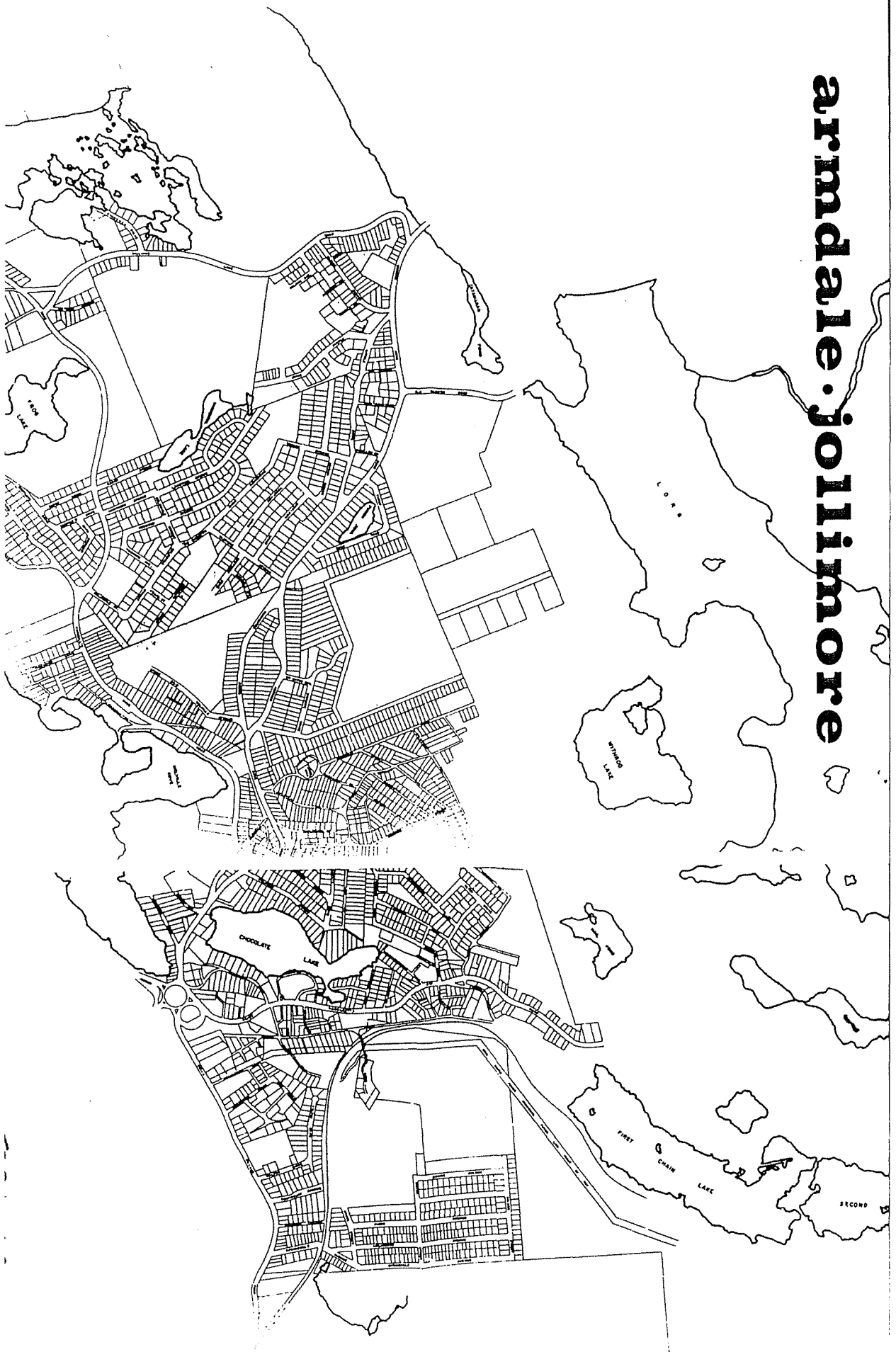
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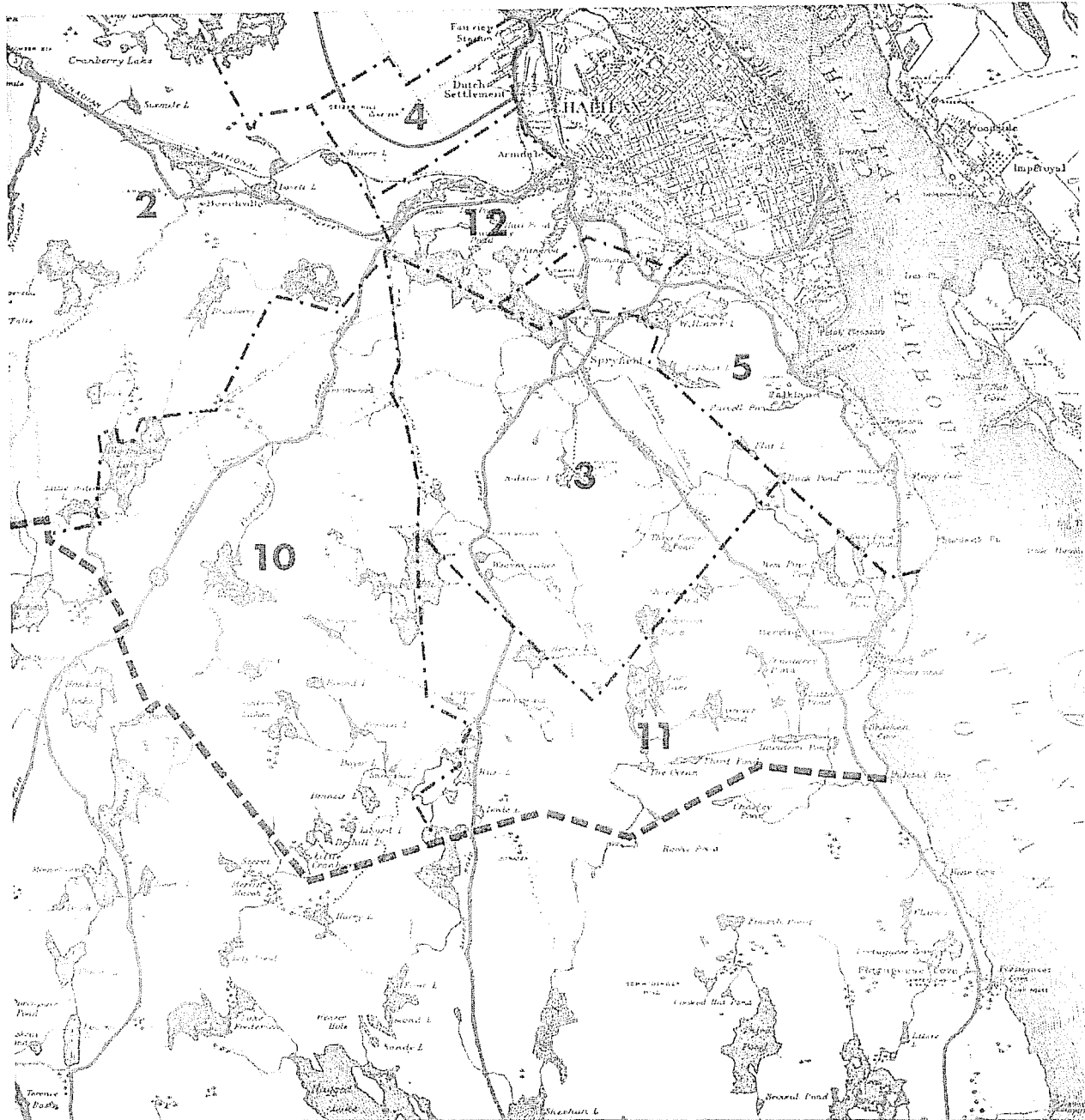
Submitted by: Linda Mosher, 242 Milsom Street, Armdale, Halifax, N.S. B3N 2B9





# armdale·jollimore







### LEGEND

AREA BOUNDARY  ELECTORAL DISTRICT BOUNDARY  5 ELECTORAL DISTRICT NUMBER

# PRELIMINARY HALIFAX ANNEXATION STUDY

## STUDY AREA AND ELECTORAL DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

PROCTOR, REDFERN BOUSFIELD & BACON  
CONSULTING ENGINEERS & TOWN PLANNERS  
15 EDMOND AVENUE EAST TORONTO, ONT. M5C 1A1

DATE: R.B. APPROVED: A.B. DATE: FEB 16, 66 DRAWN BY: C. 65571 - 1

PLATE NO.

SCALE IN M  
0 1/4



## Attachment 6 – List of Revisions Reviewed and Adopted During Consultation



HRM

# Changes to Recommended Boundary Scenario

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From input received during Consultations

HRM

10/7/2011

This document outlines the changes proposed to Scenarios 1 & 2 (as posted) during the Consultation Period and the sources of input for the proposed changes.



#### Definitions:

*Consultant* – suggestion made by Stantec Consulting, John Heseltine, Sr. Planner

*HRSB* – suggestion made by the Halifax Regional School Board

*Panel* – suggestion made or review/affirmed by the HRM Citizen Review Panel

*Written* – recommendation/suggestion made in a written submission to HRM

*PIMs* – recommendation/suggestion made at at least one of HRM's Public Information Meetings

*Staff* – change made based on suggestion by HRM staff

*Voter Counts* – adjustment made to accommodate more equitable voter counts

### Changes to Scenario 1 coming out of Consultation

Based on feedback from the Halifax Regional School Board, Stantec Consulting, public information meetings, written submissions and the suggestions of the Independent Review Panel, the following changes have been incorporated into Scenario 1.

#### Changes:

- Peninsula Halifax: Area around the Halifax Shopping Centre, Bayers Road office/retail area and the Westwood Park Public housing community have been added into District K (*Consultant, voter counts*)
- Change to Quinpool Rd. as a portion of the boundary line between Districts I & H (*Consultant, voter counts*)
- The Goodwood Community has been added back in with the other Prospect Communities in District M (*PIMs, written*)
- Boundary for District A to move closer into the Airport and include Dutch Settlement (community of interest) (*Consultant, PIM, written, HRSB, panel, voter counts*)
- This change created capacity in District B to move Upper Sackville & Middle Sackville into District B. This change directly follows the line suggested by the HRSB and consultant and to bring voter counts in District O to an acceptable deviation (*Consultant, HRSB, panel, voter counts*) There was no expressed desire in the PIM held in Sackville to retain the proposed District O which was over the + 25% voter count. The view expressed was that "Sackville has always been represented by more than one councillor and that has served their interests well."
- Ensure that Lakeside, Wellington and Fall River remain in one District – responding to written and verbal presentations by the community (*agreed by panel & staff*)
- Take the Spider Lake Area out of B and move into F – community of interest, alignment with provincial electoral approach – (*PIM, written*)
- Extend boundary of District L further along to Exit 4 – capturing about 30 households associated with BLT back into District L (*PIM – no significant impact to voter counts*)



- Place coastal communities from Shad Bay through to West Dover into M (from N) making the Peggy's Cove preservation area the dividing line between M & N- as that is the way people in the area relate/shop/move (*PIM, written, panel*)
- Ensure the Otter Lake facility and related downstream watershed and communities are in one District- (*PIM, written*)
- Ensure that Watershed/Wilderness areas – (Western Common Wilderness Area and Birch Cove/Susie Lake Wilderness) are each contained as much as possible within a distinct district– able to accomplish as this with no change to voter counts. (*PIMs, written*)
- It was strongly recommended that, should Scenario 1 be the proposed option, that the boundaries in downtown Dartmouth be more consistent with Dartmouth inside the Circumferential Highway to better align with the HRSB family of schools and the Urban Centre Plan being proposed as part of the five (5) year review of the Regional Plan. The interest of the downtown community/business area is for all neighbourhoods of the expanded Dartmouth "Regional Centre" to be within one district – (*HRSB, Planning staff, Consultant, Panel, written submissions, PIM*) –*accomplished in the revised Scenario 1 while retaining voter equity in the districts.*
- Move the line back to Shaunslieve Drive from Kent Avenue between District J and P. (*staff -allow for growth to occur in P*)
- Put all of Belle St, Colins Rd and Paladin Lane in P. (*staff -better aligns with the community boundary*)
- The area between the Circumferential Highway and Shearwater was put into District E from D (*voter counts*)
- Portion of Caldwell Rd., Southhampton Dr., and Westfield Cres. in Cole Harbour was put in D from E (*Consultant*)
- Sable Island to be included with the District that has Point Pleasant Park (H) – traditional alignment (*Staff, PIM*)



## Changes to Scenario 2 coming out of Consultation

Based on feedback from the Halifax Regional School Board, Stantec Consulting, Public Information Meetings (PIM), written submissions and the Independent Review Panel the following changes have been incorporated into Scenario 2.

Changes:

- Keep all the Sambro Loop within one district – Community of interest (*PIM, written, Panel, HRSB, HRM staff*)
- Move Haliburton Hills – Stillwater subdivision into District M from District N (*consultant, panel, HRSB, HRM staff, voter counts*) to increase the voter count in District M to an acceptable level.
- That move creates capacity in District N to follow the newly created community boundary between Middle and Lower Sackville for the boundary between District N and District O (*consultant, panel, HRSB, HRM staff*).
- Ensure Goodwood stays in the same District as other Prospect Communities – moving Goodwood from L to District M (*PIM, written, panel*)
- Ensure that Lakeside, Wellington and Fall River remain in one District – responding to written and verbal presentations by the community - (*agreed by panel & staff*)
- Include all of the Western Common Wilderness area – including Otter Lake landfill and related watersheds in one District - the Coastal Communities District M (*PIM, written, panel*)
- Sable Island to be included with District that has Point Pleasant Park – traditional – (*Staff, PIM*)