

# 2016 Ward Boundary Review

Request for Additional Information

# Background

- 2003: Council approved Ward Boundary Objectives and Guiding Principles
- 2006: Bylaw 59-2006 was passed which increased the total number of wards to eight: five urban wards and three rural wards
- 2015: Priorities Committee directed Administration to provide additional information on electoral system options to assist the Committee in providing direction on GOV-002-032: Ward Boundary Review Policy

# Electoral System Options

- Ward-Based
  - Single and dual-based representation
  - 21/37 of the municipalities surveyed are governed by ward-based system
- At-Large
  - 14/37 of the municipalities surveyed are governed by at-large system
- Mixed or Partial Ward-Based
  - 2/37 of the municipalities surveyed are governed by a mixed system

# If Ward-Based

- Based on length of time since the last review, and projected near-future growth areas, the current ward boundaries will need to be reviewed
- How will Strathcona County complete the review?
  - Returning officer and internal resources
  - External consultant
  - Ward Boundary Commission or Committee
    - with Council making the final decision
    - with the Commission or Committee making the final decision
- What criteria or guiding principles should be included in the Ward Boundary Policy?

# Timing Considerations

- Next municipal election is October 16, 2017
- In order to meet MGA requirements, first reading of the bylaw should be passed on or before December 13, 2016
- To assist with timely election planning, it would be preferable to pass first reading of the bylaw on or before June 21, 2016

# Next Steps



- Refer back to Administration with further direction
- or
- Refer to Council for debate