

2016 Ward Boundary Review

Request for Additional Information

Background

- 2003: Council approved Ward Boundary Objectives and Guiding Principles
- 2006: Bylaw 59-2006, a bylaw to establish municipal ward boundaries and to specify the number of Councillors, 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
- 2016: Priorities Committee referred the GOV-002-032: Ward Boundary Review Policy Request for Additional Information report to Council for discussion and debate.

Electoral System Options

- What type of electoral system would most effectively represent Strathcona County's urban/rural blend?
 - Ward-Based
 - At-Large
 - Mixed or Partial Ward-Based

If Ward-Based

- 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

If Ward-Based

- What criteria or principles should guide the Ward Boundary Review?
- Should we develop a Ward Boundary Review Policy to outline the timing, criteria and guiding principles and roles and responsibilities?

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



- Upon receiving direction from Council, Administration will proceed with the necessary steps to ensure that the chosen electoral system is implemented for the 2017 Municipal Election.