

Bylaw 31-2023, Municipal Ward Boundaries and Council Composition (Repeals Bylaw 22-2016)

Report Purpose

To give first reading to a bylaw that proposes to change the municipal ward boundaries

Recommendation

THAT Bylaw 31-2023, a bylaw to establish the municipal ward boundaries and Council composition, be given first reading.

Our Strategic Goals

Governance Requirement

Goal 4 Priority - Optimal use of resources that meets the community's needs

Report

At the June 20, 2023 Council Meeting, Council directed Administration to prepare a new Ward Boundary Bylaw for Council's consideration to establish ward boundaries as set out in Option B in Enclosure 4 of the February 28, 2023 Council report.

Bylaw 31-2023 Municipal Ward Boundaries and Council Composition has been prepared and is attached as Enclosure 1.

Council and Committee History

| Date | Council/Committee approval |
|-------------------|---|
| June 20, 2023 | Council passed a motion "THAT Administration prepare a new Ward Boundary Bylaw for Council's consideration on October 3, 2023 to establish ward boundaries as set out in Option B in enclosure 4 to the February 28, 2023 Legislative and Legal Services report." |
| February 28, 2023 | Council passed a motion "THAT item 8.2 2023 Ward Boundary Review be postponed to the June 20, 2023 Council meeting." |
| June 25, 2019 | Council passed a motion "THAT, despite the provisions of section 2 of Policy GOV-002-032 Ward Boundary Review, Administration conduct a ward boundary review after the next general municipal election and report to Council by the end of Q1 2023." |
| June 18, 2019 | Priorities Committee received a presentation on ward boundary options from Administration. The Committee considered several options and referred the report to the June 25, 2019 Council meeting for debate and decision. |
| Sept. 13, 2016 | Council gave second and third reading to Bylaw 22-2016: Municipal and Boundaries and Council Composition bylaw which made minor changes to the municipal boundaries for the 2017 election. |
| June 21, 2016 | Council gave first reading to Bylaw 22-2016: Municipal Ward Boundaries and Council Composition. |
| April 5, 2016 | Council approved GOV-002-032: Ward Boundary Review Policy. |

Other Impacts

Policy: GOV-002-032: Ward Boundary Review Policy

Legislative/Legal: The *Municipal Government Act (MGA)* and the *Local Authorities Election Act (LAEA)* govern processes associated with municipal elections.

Section 143 of the MGA allows Council to pass a bylaw specifying the number of councillors. Section 148(1), (2), and (4) of the MGA allows Council to pass a bylaw dividing the municipality into wards and establish their boundaries.

Section 150 of the MGA allows Council to pass a bylaw providing that the chief elected official is elected at large.

Section 151(1) of the MGA states that a bylaw must be passed by December 31 of the year before the general election at which it is to take effect.

Section 151(3) and (4) of the MGA states that a bylaw must be advertised and must not be given third reading until after the 60-day petition period has expired.

Section 155 of the MGA allows Council to pass a bylaw to give the title of "Mayor" to the chief elected official.

Section 231(4) of the MGA states a petition for a vote on a bylaw must be filed with the chief administrative officer within 60 days after the last date on which the proposed bylaw is advertised.

Financial/Budget: N/A

Interdepartmental: GIS Branch of Information Technology Services, Planning & Development Services, Communications

Master Plan/Framework: N/A

Communication Plan

Should Council pass Bylaw 31-2023 Municipal Ward Boundaries and Council Composition, Administration will communicate with our election partners, Elk Island Catholic School Division and Elk Island Public Schools. Historically, the school boards have aligned their electoral district boundaries with our urban ward boundaries.

All residents who are impacted by the changes will receive written notification of the change prior to the 2025 general municipal election.

Enclosure(s)

- 1 Bylaw 31-2023 Municipal Ward Boundaries and Council Composition
- 2 PowerPoint Bylaw 31-2023 Municipal Ward Boundaries and Council Composition