



P.O. Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3A5 Canada

**Item No. 15.4.1**  
**Halifax Regional Council**  
**April 5, 2022**

**TO:** Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

Original Signed

**SUBMITTED BY:**

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Deputy Mayor Pam Lovelace, Vice Chair, Executive Standing Committee

**DATE:** March 28, 2022

**SUBJECT:** **2022 District Boundary Review – Phase One**

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**ORIGIN**

March 28, 2022 meeting of Executive Standing Committee, Item 12.1.1.

MOVED by Councillor Blackburn, seconded by Councillor Hendsbee

THAT the Executive Standing Committee:

1. Approve the proposed Phase One survey questions and revised public engagement timeline as outlined in the discussion section and attachments of the staff report dated March 1, 2022.
2. Recommend that Halifax Regional Council extend the time for the Executive Standing Committee to bring forward a recommendation to Regional Council regarding Phase I of the District Boundary Review to June 14, 2022

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

*Section S. 364 of the Halifax Regional Municipal Charter states:*

*Part XVI of the Municipal Government Act applies to the Municipality. 2008, c.39, s364*

**RECOMMENDATION ON PAGE 2**

*Part XVI at S. 369 of the Municipal Government Act provides:*

369(1) In the year 1999, and in the year 2006 and every eight years thereafter the council shall conduct a study of the number and boundaries of polling districts in the municipality, their fairness and reasonableness and the number of councillors.

(2) After the study is completed and before the end of the year in which the study was conducted the council shall apply to the Board to confirm or to alter the number and boundaries of polling districts and the number of councillors.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council extend the time for the Executive Standing Committee to bring forward a recommendation to Regional Council regarding Phase I of the District Boundary Review to June 14, 2022.

## **BACKGROUND**

A staff recommendation report dated March 1, 2022 pertaining to extended timelines for the Executive Standing Committee to forward a recommendation to Regional Council regarding Phase 1 of the District Boundary Review to June 14, 2022.

For further information refer to the attached staff report dated March 1, 2022.

## **DISCUSSION**

On December 14, 2021, Halifax Regional Council designated the Executive Standing Committee to undertake Phase I of the District Boundary Review and bring forward a recommendation to Regional Council on the size of Council and its governance structure or before May 31, 2022. Staff have identified the need to adjust the timeline for deliberation of the final report from the Executive Standing Committee on the required number of electoral districts and governance structure to the June 14, 2022 meeting of Regional Council from the May 31, 2022 meeting of Regional Council that was originally proposed. This timeline amendment is being proposed to allow for the promotion of a survey and public engagement meetings hosted by each Community Council.

The Executive Standing Committee considered the staff report dated March 1, 2022 and approved the recommendation to Halifax Regional Council as outlined in this report.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Financial implications are outlined in the attached staff report dated March 1, 2022.

## **RISK CONSIDERATION**

Risk consideration is outlined in the attached staff report dated March 1, 2022.

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Community engagement is outlined in the attached staff report dated March 1, 2022.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

Environmental implications are outlined in the staff report dated March 1, 2022.

**ALTERNATIVES**

Executive Standing Committee did not provide alternatives.

Alternatives are outlined in the attached staff report dated March 1, 2021.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1 - Staff recommendation report dated March 1, 2022.

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A copy of this report can be obtained online at [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca) or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210.

Report Prepared by: Jill McGillicuddy, Legislative Assistant, Municipal Clerk's Office 902.49=83.2810.

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P.O. Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3A5 Canada

**Item No. 12.1.1**  
**Executive Standing Committee**  
**March 28, 2022**

**TO:** Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

**SUBMITTED BY:**  (Original Signed)

Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer

**DATE:** March 1, 2022

**SUBJECT:** 2022 District Boundary Review – Phase One

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## **ORIGIN**

On December 14, 2021 Halifax Regional Council designated Executive Standing Committee (ESC) to undertake Phase One of the District Boundary Review and bring forward a recommendation to Regional Council on or before May 31, 2022, with regard to the number of Municipal Polling Districts appropriate to regional decision making, including a Community Council governance structure for the HRM.

On February 28, 2022 Executive Standing Committee approved in principle the 2022 District Boundary Review Public Engagement process and timeline for Phase One as described in the discussion section and attachment three of the January 18, 2022 staff report.

## **LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

Section S. 364 of the Halifax Regional Municipal Charter states:

Part XVI of the Municipal Government Act applies to the Municipality. 2008, c.39, s364

Part XVI at S. 369 of the Municipal Government Act provides:

369(1) In the year 1999, and in the year 2006 and every eight years thereafter the council shall conduct a study of the number and boundaries of polling districts in the municipality, their fairness and reasonableness and the number of councillors.

(2) After the study is completed and before the end of the year in which the study was conducted the council shall apply to the Board to confirm or to alter the number and boundaries of polling districts and the number of councillors.

**RECOMMENDATIONS ON PAGE 2**

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Executive Standing Committee:

1. Approve the proposed Phase One survey questions and revised public engagement timeline as outlined in the discussion section and attachments of this report.
2. Recommend that Halifax Regional Council extend the time for the Executive Standing Committee to bring forward a recommendation to Regional Council regarding Phase I of the District Boundary Review to June 14, 2022

## **BACKGROUND**

On February 28, 2022 Executive Standing Committee approved in principle the Phase One Study Public Engagement process and timeline for the 2022 District Boundary Review project. The public engagement process for Phase One includes the following:

- The development of a survey which seeks feedback from the public on the size of Council and governance structure of HRM;
- Individual interviews with members of Regional Council;
- Public Information meetings hosted by HRM's Community Councils;
- Corresponding and engaging with the Executive Standing Committee via public participation.

The role of Executive Standing Committee within this process is as follows:

- Advise on the strengths, challenges and opportunities of the existing governance model for Regional Council,
- Provide direction and confirmation on public engagement activities as well as required information for evaluation,
- Participate in the public engagement sessions,
- Receive "what we heard" reports from phase one of public engagement and provide feedback prior to a formal submission to Regional Council
- Provide a recommendation, based on public consultation, to Regional Council on the recommended number of polling districts and governance structure on or before May 31, 2022.

## **DISCUSSION**

Phase One of the District Boundary Review is intended to review governance structure of the HRM and Regional Council Governance and provide a recommendation, with rationale, for the final number of Councillors and polling districts for the HRM. The Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board (NSUARB) has indicated that this should include an evaluation of what is required for effective political management, effective representation, and accountability. Staff on behalf of the Executive Standing Committee have retained Narrative Research to develop a survey and assist with the public engagement activities related to Phase One.

Phase Two, which is being initiated during Phase One, will look at specific polling district boundaries across the municipality. This phase focuses on the distribution of polling districts within the HRM in accordance with the provisions of section 368(4) of the MGA and considers the number of electors, relative parity of voting power, population density, communities of interest, and geographic size. On February 8, 2022, Halifax Regional Council approved Administrative Order 2022-001-GOV respecting the creation of the District Boundary Resident Review Panel. This panel will be responsible for recommending adjustments to the existing boundaries in accordance with the objectives set out in the MGA and the direction provided

by Regional Council from Phase One of the review as well as the feedback from public consultation. It is anticipated that the Panel will be operational by May 2022.

The NSUARB's jurisdiction to deal with the Municipality's application is limited to that which is set out in the legislation. The Board does not have jurisdiction to amend legislation or to consider proposals with respect to the number of councillors and polling districts, or the boundaries of the polling districts, that are not enabled under the current legislative framework.

On February 28, 2022 Executive Standing Committee approved in principle the 2022 Public Engagement process for Phase One. This report provides additional information relative to phase one for consideration by the Executive Standing Committee, items related to that process and presents a revised timeline for the public engagement activities and reporting activities.

**i. Draft Survey Questions:**

Narrative Research, in consultation with staff and members of the Executive Standing Committee have developed a list of questions for a public survey which seeks feedback on resident's experiences interacting with Council and the municipality. For further information, please refer to attachment one of this report. The proposed survey provides background information on the services provided by the municipality, Council's governance structure, the current number of Councillors and the number of residents represented in each electoral district. It is designed to gain measurable data with respect to the level of resident knowledge with municipal services and their experience interacting with Council, Community Councils and Committees. Additionally, the survey solicits specific feedback from the public on the appropriate size of Council and how many residents should be represented by an elected official within a given electoral district. The data collected from this survey will inform the "what we heard report" and will provide the Executive Standing Committee with insight from the public when considering its recommendation to Regional Council on the size and governance structure for Halifax Regional Council.

**ii. Jurisdictional Scan – Comparable Municipalities and Provincial/Federal Electoral Representation Comparison**

Staff have prepared additional demographic information relative to Phase One of the review. A jurisdictional scan of fourteen (14) comparable municipalities in Canada has been completed, of which the Halifax Regional Municipality ranks ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) with respect to overall population. This scan utilizes census data from 2021 and includes comparative information such as the population of each Canadian municipality, the number of Councillors and electoral districts which are represented, the change in population growth from 2016-2021, and percentage of overall population represented in each district. It should be noted that this information is being provided for comparative and contextual purposes. This jurisdictional scan does not include an overview of the number of electors per district or an overview of the legislative and administrative frameworks of each jurisdiction which differs from province to province. However, the municipalities that are presented are similar in that each jurisdiction elects one representative per electoral district. For the purposes of the District Boundary application, the NSUARB does not focus entirely on the population of each district, but rather the number of electors per district. In its 2011 decision, the NSUARB notes the appropriateness of including comparable jurisdictions within the study:

[163] One of the issues the Board must consider is the number of electors. The total number of electors is a consideration clearly related to the number of electors in each polling district. The Board considers it is appropriate to take into account what other comparable jurisdictions consider to be reasonable with respect to council size and the number of electors per polling district, especially when the comparator cities are used by HRM for other purposes<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> 2011 NSUARB 119, <https://www.canlii.org/en/ns/nsuarb/doc/2011/2011nsuarb119/2011nsuarb119.html>, paragraph 163.

In addition to comparative municipalities across Canada, staff have also included a breakdown of federal and provincial electoral representation within the Halifax Regional Municipality. This information includes electoral counts for the provincial electoral districts within the boundaries of HRM and both population and electoral counts for federal electoral districts within the boundaries of HRM. Elections Nova Scotia does not maintain population statistics for the 55 Electoral Districts in Nova Scotia; however, Elections Nova Scotia does maintain a record of active electors which has been included in attachment three (3) of this report. To determine the average population for Nova Scotia's 55 electoral districts, staff have provided an approximate number of 17,625 residents. This number was derived using the 2021 Census population for the province of Nova Scotia of 969,383 and calculating the average number of residents per district over the 55 electoral districts. This information is intended to provide additional context for other orders of government within the Halifax Regional Municipality. The data respecting the current and projected number of electors for HRM, included in attachment three (3), are projections based on 2016 Census Data. Due to the timing of the 2021 Census release, the data is still being assessed by staff to determine a district-by-district breakdown relative to the population and projected number of electors by 2024. It is anticipated that this information will be available by late April 2022 and will be available for Phase Two of the Boundary Review project.

### **iii. Revised timeline**

To achieve the desired outcomes for Phase One of the District Boundary Review study, it is necessary to adjust the timeline slightly from that which was presented by in the January 18, 2022 staff report at the February 28, 2022 Executive Standing Committee meeting. Staff are proposing that the survey, conducted by Narrative Research now run from April 4 to April 18, 2022. The proposed public engagement meetings hosted by Community Council will run from April 7 to April 27, 2022. Staff are also recommending that Halifax Regional Council adjust the timeline for deliberation of the final report from the Executive Standing Committee on the required number of electoral districts and governance structure to the June 14, 2022 meeting of Regional Council from the May 31, 2022 meeting. These timeline amendments are being proposed to allow for the development and promotion of the survey and public engagement meetings hosted by Community Council. Attachment four (4) of this report provides an overview of this revised timeline.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

No financial implications at this time.

### **RISK CONSIDERATION**

The District Boundary Review is a legislatively required action. Staff are recommending that Phase One of the District Boundary review project be complete on or before June 14, 2022 to ensure that the project remains on track to meet the NSUARB application deadline of December 31, 2022.

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Phase One of the District Boundary Review includes a public engagement component which includes a survey developed by Narrative Research and four interactive public participation meetings hosted by each Community Council to gather public input on the size and governance model for Halifax Regional Council. The themes collected from this engagement will be captured in "what we heard" reports, analyzed and used to inform the recommendation report to Regional Council on Phase One.

A communications plan for Phase One of the District Boundary Review project has been developed in consultation with HRM Corporate Communications. This communications plan advises and informs the public on the purpose of the District Boundary Review and how they can engage in the process in simple

and accessible language. The Communications strategy will include print ads in media outlets across the municipality, graphic communications on HRM's digitalized screens, and a comprehensive social media campaign. Additionally, information on the District Boundary Review will be communicated through HRM's social media accounts and posted online at [www.halifax.ca/boundaryreview](http://www.halifax.ca/boundaryreview).

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

No environmental implications were identified.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

The Executive Standing Committee may choose to amend the proposed survey questions or to recommend to Regional Council a different the time for the Executive Standing Committee to bring forward a recommendation to Regional Council regarding Phase One of the District Boundary review. Depending on the nature of the proposed amendments, additional analysis from staff may be required.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Draft Survey Questions (Narrative Research)
2. Jurisdictional Scan of Comparable Canadian Municipalities, Electoral Districts and Representation
3. Provincial and Federal Electoral Districts Comparison
4. Revised Public Engagement Timeline

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A copy of this report can be obtained online at [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca) or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210.

Report Prepared by: Liam MacSween, Elections and Special Projects Manager, 902.233.5207



## Welcome & Introduction

Thank you for helping us shape our municipality by taking our survey!

The topic of this survey is regarding the **Halifax Municipal Council**. You do not need to be an expert on the subject to take part in the survey and we would like to hear from as many residents as possible!

Please note, you do not need to be a Canadian citizen or have voted in a past election to take part – all are welcome.

This survey should take you about 10 minutes to complete and all your responses will be kept strictly anonymous. No effort will be made to identify anyone who completes the survey.

**At this time, we are seeking the opinions of residents of Halifax Regional Municipality aged 14 and older.**

We appreciate your feedback! **All who complete the survey will be able to opt in to draw for a \$100 (delivered e-transfer).**

### Section S: Screener

S1. How old are you? **ALLOW ONE RESPONSE**

1. Under 14 **THANK AND TERMINATE**
2. 14 – 17 years old
2. 18 – 34 years old
3. 35 – 54 years old
4. 55 – 74 years old
5. 75 or older
9. Prefer not to say

### Section A: Baseline Knowledge Determination

A1. To the best of your knowledge, how many municipal councillors make up the Halifax Regional Council? **ALLOW NUMERIC RESPONSE ONLY, IN RANGE OF 1-999**

**RECORD ANSWER:** \_\_\_\_\_

A2. To the best of your knowledge, in which district of Halifax Regional Municipality do you currently live? **ALLOW ONE RESPONSE**

1. **District 1:** Waverly – Fall River – Musquodoboit Valley
2. **District 2:** Preston – Chezzetcook – Eastern Shore
3. **District 3:** Dartmouth South – Eastern Passage
4. **District 4:** Cole Harbour – Westphal – Lake Loon – Cherry Brook

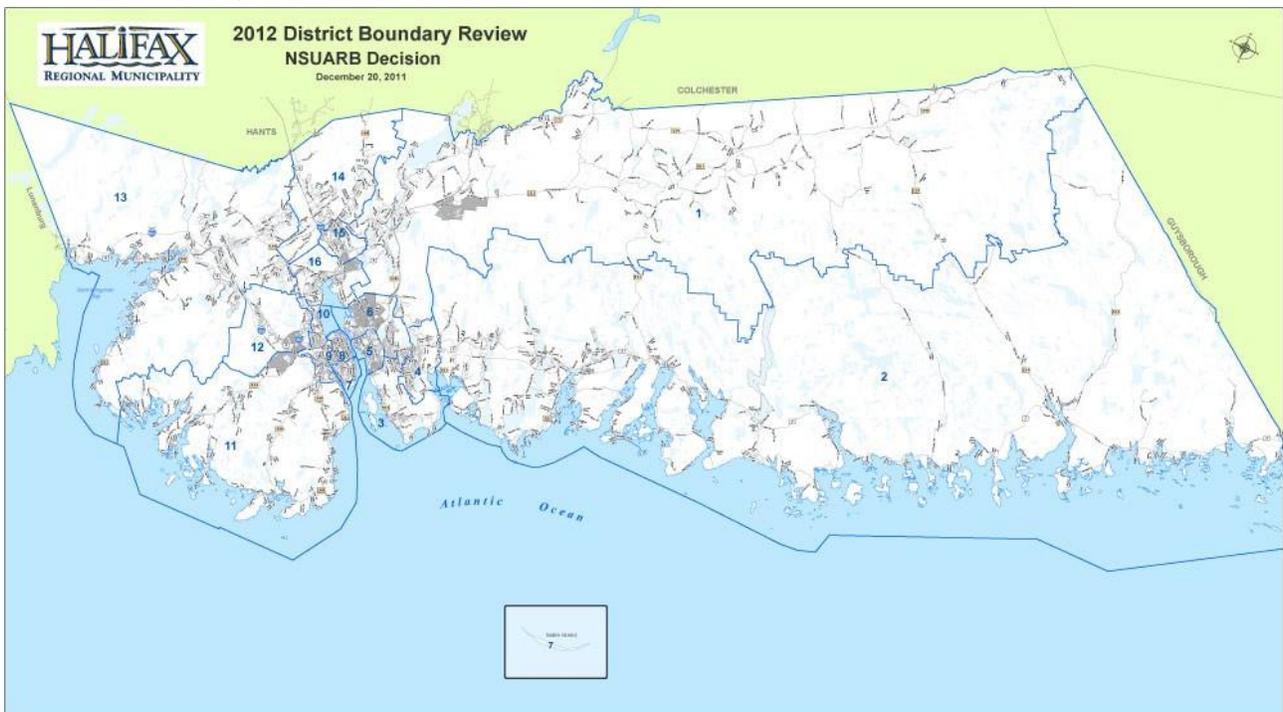
5. **District 5:** Dartmouth Centre
6. **District 6:** Harbourview – Burnside – Dartmouth East
7. **District 7:** Halifax South Downtown
8. **District 8:** Halifax Peninsula North
9. **District 9:** Halifax West Armdale
10. **District 10:** Halifax – Bedford Basin West
11. **District 11:** Spryfield – Sambro Loop – Prospect Road
12. **District 12:** Timberlea – Beechville – Clayton Park – Wedgewood
13. **District 13:** Hammonds Plains – St. Margaret’s
14. **District 14:** Middle/Upper Sackville – Beaver Bank - Lucasville
15. **District 15:** Lower Sackville
16. **District 16:** Bedford – Wentworth
17. I live in the Halifax Regional Municipality but I’m not sure which district I live in
18. I don’t live in the Halifax Regional Municipality **THANK AND TERMINATE**

**A3. ONLY ASK IF CODE 17 IN PREVIOUS. SHOW MAP AS IMAGE THAT CAN BE ZOOMED IN ON:**

By looking at this map, are you able to indicate which district do you live in?

*Note: if you are unable to see the map, please type the name of your community here: \_\_\_\_\_*

**Image ID:** A white, yellow and blue map of the Halifax Regional Municipality with the title: “2012 District Boundary Review, NSUARB Decision, December 20, 2011”. The map shows the 16 districts within HRM, each with a blue outside border and a blue district number.



1. **District 1:** Waverly – Fall River – Musquodoboit Valley
2. **District 2:** Preston – Chezzetcook – Eastern Shore



3. **District 3:** Dartmouth South – Eastern Passage
4. **District 4:** Cole Harbour – Westphal – Lake Loon – Cherry Brook
5. **District 5:** Dartmouth Centre
6. **District 6:** Harbourview – Burnside – Dartmouth East
7. **District 7:** Halifax South Downtown
8. **District 8:** Halifax Peninsula North
9. **District 9:** Halifax West Armdale
10. **District 10:** Halifax – Bedford Basin West
11. **District 11:** Spryfield – Sambro Loop – Prospect Road
12. **District 12:** Timberlea – Beechville – Clayton Park – Wedgewood
13. **District 13:** Hammonds Plains – St. Margaret’s
14. **District 14:** Middle/Upper Sackville – Beaver Bank - Lucasville
15. **District 15:** Lower Sackville
16. **District 16:** Bedford – Wentworth
17. I’m still not sure

A4. Without looking it up, who is your councillor? **RANDOMIZE ORDER. KEEP 17 LAST – ALLOW ONE RESPONSE**

1. Councillor Cathy Deagle Gammon
2. Councillor David Hendsbee
3. Councillor Becky Kent
4. Councillor Trish Purdy
5. Councillor Sam Austin
6. Councillor Tony Mancini
7. Councillor Waye Mason
8. Councillor Lindell Smith
9. Councillor Shawn Cleary
10. Councillor Kathryn Morse
11. Councillor Patty Cuttell
12. Councillor Iona Stoddard
13. Councillor Pam Lovelace
14. Councillor Lisa Blackburn
15. Councillor Paul Russell
16. Councillor Tim Outhit
17. Not sure

A5. Please respond to each of the following statements with a ‘yes’ or a ‘no’. **RANDOMIZE STATEMENTS - ALLOW ONE RESPONSE PER STATEMENT.**

- a. I am currently eligible to vote in municipal elections
- b. I voted in the last municipal election, held on October 17, 2020
- c. I plan to vote in the next municipal election, which will be held on October 19, 2024
- d. At any point in the past, I have contacted my councillor



- e. At any point in the past, I have attended at least one Council meeting or HRM Committee meeting
  - f. I am aware that information about Council and Committee meetings can be accessed online
  - g. I am aware that I can use 311 to access to municipal services and information
- 
- 1. Yes
  - 2. No
  - 3. Not sure

**A6. ASK IF YES IN A5e:**

Did you attend a Council or HRM Committee meeting in-person, online, or have you attended in both ways?

- 1. In person
- 2. Online
- 3. I’ve attended both in person and online

**A7. ASK IF NO IN A5e. RANDOMIZE ORDER. KEEP OTHER LAST MULTI SELECT:**

Why have you not attended a Council or Committee meeting? Select all that apply

- 1. I’m not interested in these types of meetings
- 2. I didn’t know that I could attend Council or Committee meetings
- 3. I didn’t know where to look up information about attending Council or Committee meetings
- 4. I don’t believe Council or Committee meetings are relevant to me personally
- 5. Council and/ or Committee meetings are not scheduled at a time that I could attend
- 6. I’m not able to attend meetings in person
- 7. Another reason (Please specify:

**A8. ASK IF CODE 6 – NOT ABLE TO ATTEND IN PERSION IN A7.**

If Council and / or Committee meetings could be attended virtually or remotely, meaning that you could not only view, but also participate in meetings remotely, would you attend online?

- 1. Yes
- 2. No
- 3. Not sure
- 4. Depends (Please specify why it depends:\_\_\_\_\_)

**A9. ASK ALL. ALLOW ONE RESPONSE.** How knowledgeable do you personally feel about the role and responsibilities of the Halifax Regional Council?

- 1. Extremely knowledgeable
- 2. Somewhat knowledgeable



- 3. Not very knowledgeable
- 4. Not at all knowledgeable

A10. **ASK ALL. RANDOMIZE ORDER, ALLOW ONE RESPONSE PER ITEM.** Prior to today, were you aware that Halifax Regional Council is responsible for the following?

- a. Municipal infrastructure (roads/sidewalks/traffic lights)
  - b. Community & recreation centres
  - c. Garbage collection
  - d. Public library funding
  - e. Public transit
  - f. Land use planning
  - g. Traffic signals
  - h. Police
  - i. Fire services
  - j. Diversity & Inclusion Services
- 
- 1. Yes, I was aware
  - 2. No, I was unaware
  - 3. Not sure

**Section B: Unaided Views on Halifax Regional Council Structure**

B1. As you may be aware, the Halifax Regional Council currently includes 16 councillors and the mayor, who collectively serve approximately 440,000 residents.

Based on what you know or have heard, which best represents your view on the current number of councillors? **ALLOW ONE RESPONSE**

- 1. Too many
- 2. The right amount
- 3. Too few
- 4. Not sure

B2. **[POSE IF CODES 1 OR 3 IN B1]** How many councillors do you think there should be to represent the Halifax Regional Municipality’s population of approximately 440,000? **ALLOW NUMERIC RESPONSE ONLY, IN RANGE OF 1-999**

**RECORD ANSWER:** \_\_\_\_\_

B3. To what extent do you agree or disagree that Halifax Regional Council – with its 16 councillors who each represent a specific geographic area – adequately represents residents? **ALLOW ONE RESPONSE**

- 1. Completely agree

- 2. Mostly agree
- 3. Mostly disagree
- 4. Completely disagree
- 8. Not sure

B4. **SKIP IF CODE 8 IN PREVIOUS.** Why do you **[AGREE / DISAGREE]** that Halifax Regional Council – with its 16 councillors who each represent a specific geographic area – adequately represents residents?

- 1. Specify: \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. Not sure

**SECTION C: Aided Views on Halifax Regional Council Structure**

- C1. Here is a broad overview of how Halifax Regional Municipality is governed, which includes not only the Halifax Regional Council with its 16 councillors and the Mayor, but also:
- **Four community councils**, that include existing councillors (Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council, Halifax and West Community Council, North West Community Council, Regional Centre Community Council),
  - **Six standing committees**, that include existing councillors (Appeals, Audit & Finance, Community Planning and Economic Development, Environment & Sustainability, Executive and Transportation), and
  - Various Advisory Boards, Committees and Commissions, which include both members of Council and residents.

**Image ID:** A chart showing five blue boxes, with the words “Halifax Regional Council” in the uppermost box, with 4 community councils and 6 standing committees shown in boxes below, with red arrows up to Halifax Regional Council. Below those two boxes is another box that reads: Advisory Boards, Committees, and Commissions: provide advice to community councils and/or standing committees on specific policy areas outlined in their terms of reference. Below that is a final box that reads: Residents, Community Groups, Non-profits, Businesses, etc.: Provide input on municipal matters through presentations, public hearings, petitions, correspondence, during public participation, or by volunteering on an advisory body.



With this additional information, to what extent do you agree or disagree that this structure of governance can adequately represent residents? **ALLOW ONE RESPONSE**

1. Completely agree
2. Mostly agree
3. Mostly disagree
4. Completely disagree
8. Not sure

C2a. [SHOW ON SAME SCREEN AS C1. POSE IF CODE 1 OR 2 IN C1] Why do you agree that this structure of governance can adequately represent residents?

**RECORD ANSWER:** \_\_\_\_\_

C2b. [SHOW ON SAME SCREEN AS C1. POSE IF CODE 3 OR 4 IN C1] Why do you disagree that this structure of governance can adequately represent residents?

**RECORD ANSWER:** \_\_\_\_\_



- C3. Halifax Regional Municipality has approximately 440,000 residents and 16 councillors / districts. Here are some comparably sized municipalities and cities in Canada along with the number of districts they currently have.

Municipality	Population (2021)	Number of Districts	Number of Residents per District
Winnipeg	749,607	15	49,974
Hamilton	568,353	15	37,890
Quebec City	549,459	21	26,165
<b>Halifax</b>	<b>439,819</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>27,489</b>
Laval	438,366	21	20,874
London	422,324	14	30,166
Gatineau	291,041	19	15,318
Saskatoon	266,141	10	26,614

Seeing these comparisons, which best represents your view on ratio, or the number of councillors relative to residents in HRM? **ALLOW ONE RESPONSE**

1. HRM has too many councillors
2. HRM has the right number of councillors
3. HRM has too few councillors
8. Not sure

- C4. **[POSE IF CODES 1 OR 3 IN C3. SHOW ON SAME SCREEN AS C3]** How many councillors do you think there should be in HRM? **ALLOW NUMERIC RESPONSE ONLY, IN RANGE OF 1-999**

**RECORD ANSWER:** \_\_\_\_\_

- C5a. Currently, councillors on Halifax Regional Council each represent a range of 20,000 to 31,000 residents.

Which one of the following statements best represents your thoughts about the proportion of councillors to residents in Halifax Regional Municipality? Should each councillor represent more or fewer residents? **ALLOW ONE RESPONSE**

1. Councillors should represent *more* residents
2. Councillors currently represent the right number of residents
3. Councillors should represent *fewer* residents
4. Not sure



C5b. Councillors on Halifax Regional Council each represent an average of 22,406 electors. By comparison, Members of the Legislative Assembly of Nova Scotia (the Provincial Government) represent approximately 14,716 electors on average.

Based on the information about the responsibilities of the Municipality above, and your knowledge of the role of the Provincial government....Knowing this, which one of the following statements best represents your thoughts about the proportion of councillors to residents in Halifax Regional Municipality? Should each councillor represent more or fewer residents? **ALLOW ONE RESPONSE**

1. Councillors should represent *more* residents
2. Councillors currently represent the right number of residents
3. Councillors should represent *fewer* residents
4. Not sure

C6. There are different ways that boundaries of districts can be determined within the Municipality. There are five different criteria that the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board has indicated must be considered when determining the districts.

In your view, how important are each of the following criteria in determining how the boundaries of districts are determined within the Halifax Regional Municipality? **ONE RESPONSE PER ITEM. ROTATE A-E, KEEP NOT SURE LAST IN SCALE.**

- a. By **geography**
  - b. By **number of electors** in each district
  - c. **Communities of Interest** (an area’s history, ethnic origin, language, or other factors such as recreational issues, planning boundaries, tax rates, services or other specific needs)
  - d. **Population Density**
  - e. **Relative parity of voting power**
1. Extremely important
  2. Somewhat important
  3. Not very important
  4. Not important at all
  5. Not sure

C7. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? **ALLOW ONE RESPONSE PER, POSE AS GRID**

- a. My councillor is responsive to the needs of my community
  - b. I know how to reach my councillor if I have a question or issue
1. Completely agree
  2. Somewhat agree
  3. Somewhat disagree
  4. Completely disagree
  5. Not sure

**C8. ALLOW ONE RESPONSE**

Since the pandemic began, do you feel more engaged, less engaged, or neither more nor less engaged than prior to the pandemic?

1. More engaged
2. As engaged
3. Less engaged

**C9. ALLOW ONE RESPONSE**

Since the pandemic began, would you rate your municipal councillor as doing a better job, a worse job, or neither better nor worse job representing you on Halifax Regional Council?

1. Better job
2. Neither better nor worse
3. Worse job
4. Not sure

**Section E: Classification Questions and Closing**

We now have a few questions that will help us to better understand results, and to ensure we are hearing from a diverse group. However, please note that none of these questions are mandatory, so please select 'prefer not to answer' if you would like, for any of the following questions.

**E1. Do you own or rent your home? SELECT ONE ONLY**

1. Own
2. Rent
3. Prefer not to answer

**E2. What is your gender identity? MULTI SELECT**

1. Cis Woman
2. Cis Man
3. Trans Woman - Trans Feminine
4. Trans Man - Trans Masculine
5. Two-spirit
6. Non-Binary, Gender-fluid, Gender Non-Conforming, or Genderqueer
7. Another gender not listed above. Please specify \_\_\_\_\_
8. Prefer not to answer

**E3. Are you eligible to vote in the upcoming municipal election on October 19, 2024? Note that to vote in municipal elections, you must be a Canadian Citizen, you must have been a resident of HRM for the 6 months prior to the election and must be at least 18 years old.**

1. Yes, I will be eligible to vote in the municipal election on October 19, 2024



2. No, I will not be eligible to vote in the municipal election on October 19, 2024
3. I'm not sure
4. Prefer not to answer

So that we can ensure our results reflect a diverse group of residents, we have a few questions about racial identity and ethnic origins. As background, the term *race* is understood today as primarily a sociological designation that identifies a group sharing some outward physical characteristics and some commonalities of culture and history, while *ethnicity* is a word for something you acquire based on where your family is from and the group which you share cultural, traditional, and familial bonds and experiences with. The end result: people may have racial similarity but ethnic dissimilarity.

**E4. ASK ALL. RANDOMIZE ORDER. KEEP OTHER AND PREFER NOT TO SAY LAST.** Which racial identity best describes you? Please check all that apply.

1. Caucasian/White
2. Black
3. First Nations/Inuit/Métis
4. Asian (including South Asian)
5. Hispanic/Latino
6. Middle Eastern
7. Mixed Race/Multiracial
8. Other. Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_
9. Prefer not to answer

**E5. ASK ALL. RANDOMIZE ORDER. KEEP OTHER AND PREFER NOT TO SAY LAST.** What is your ethnic identity? Please check all that apply. Please note that this is a non-exhaustive list of ethnic identities

1. African Nova Scotian
2. African Canadian
3. Afro-Caribbean
4. African Descent
5. European Descent
6. South Asian (e.g. East Indian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, etc.)
7. Latinx (e.g. Latin American, Hispanic)
8. Middle Eastern (Egyptian, Iraqi, Syrian, etc)
9. Acadian
10. Southeast Asian (e.g. Vietnamese, Cambodian, Laotian, Thai, etc.)
11. West Asian (e.g. Iranian, Afghani, etc.)
12. East Asian (Chinese, Japanese, Korean, etc.)
13. Polynesian (Hawaiian, Samoan, etc.)
14. Prefer not to answer
15. My ethnic identity is not listed above Please specify:  
\_\_\_\_\_

**E6.** Do you identify as someone with a disability?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Prefer not to answer



E7. How long have you personally lived in the Halifax Regional Municipality? **ALLOW ONE RESPONSE**

1. Less than two years
2. At least 2 years, but less than 5 years
3. At least 5 years, but less than 10 years
4. At least 10 years, but less than 15 years
5. 15 years or more
6. Prefer not to answer

E8. Do you have any other comments about the topics in this survey?

1. Yes: (Please specify:
2. No

PD. Thank you for completing our survey! Would you like to be entered into a draw for a \$100 (prize to be distributed via e-transfer)?

1. Yes [collect name, email, phone]
2. No

IF YES:

*Thank you for participating in our survey!  
You will be entered into a draw for a chance to win a \$100!*

IF NO:

*That concludes the survey.  
Thank you for your time and input, it is greatly appreciated.*

Attachment 2

**HALIFAX**

# **Municipal Jurisdictional Review**

2021 Census

# Comparable Canadian Municipalities and Electoral Districts

	Municipality	Population 2021 Census	% of Growth from 2016 to 2021	# of Districts
1	Toronto	2,794,356	2.3%	25
2	Calgary	1,306,784	5.5%	14
3	Ottawa	1,017,449	8.9%	23
4	Edmonton	1,010,899	8.3%	11
5	Winnipeg	749,607	6.3%	15
6	Mississauga	717,961	-0.5%	11
7	Hamilton	569,353	6.0%	15
8	Quebec City	549,459	3.3%	21
9	<b>Halifax Regional Municipality</b>	<b>438,819</b>	<b>9.1%</b>	<b>16</b>



City Council comprised of 1 councilor elected per district

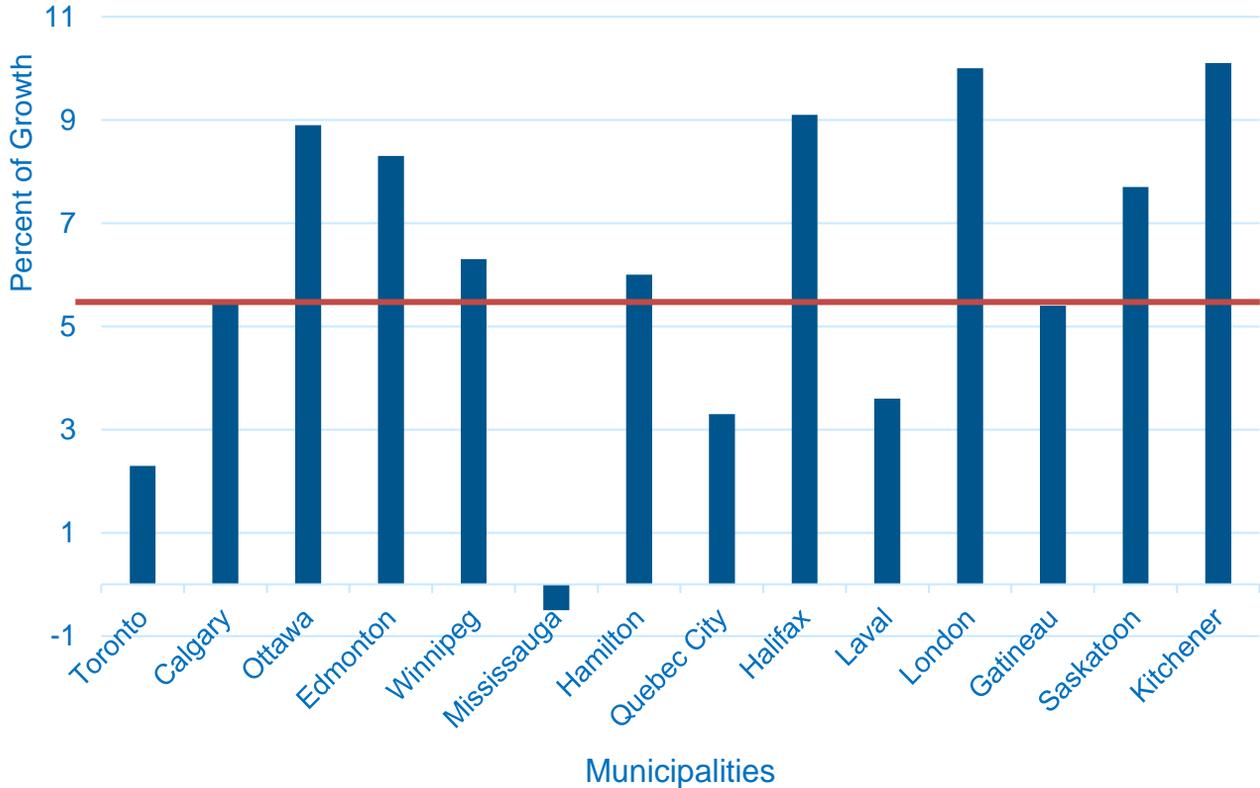
# Comparable Canadian Municipalities and Electoral Districts (Continued)

	Municipality	Population 2021 Census	% of Growth from 2016 to 2021	# of Districts
10	Laval	438,366	3.6%	21
11	London	422,324	10.0%	14
12	Gatineau	291,041	5.4%	19
13	Saskatoon	266,141	7.7%	10
14	Kitchener	256,885	10.1%	10



City Council comprised of 1 councilor elected per district

## Percent of Population Growth from 2016 to 2021



# Canadian Municipalities' Population by Electoral District

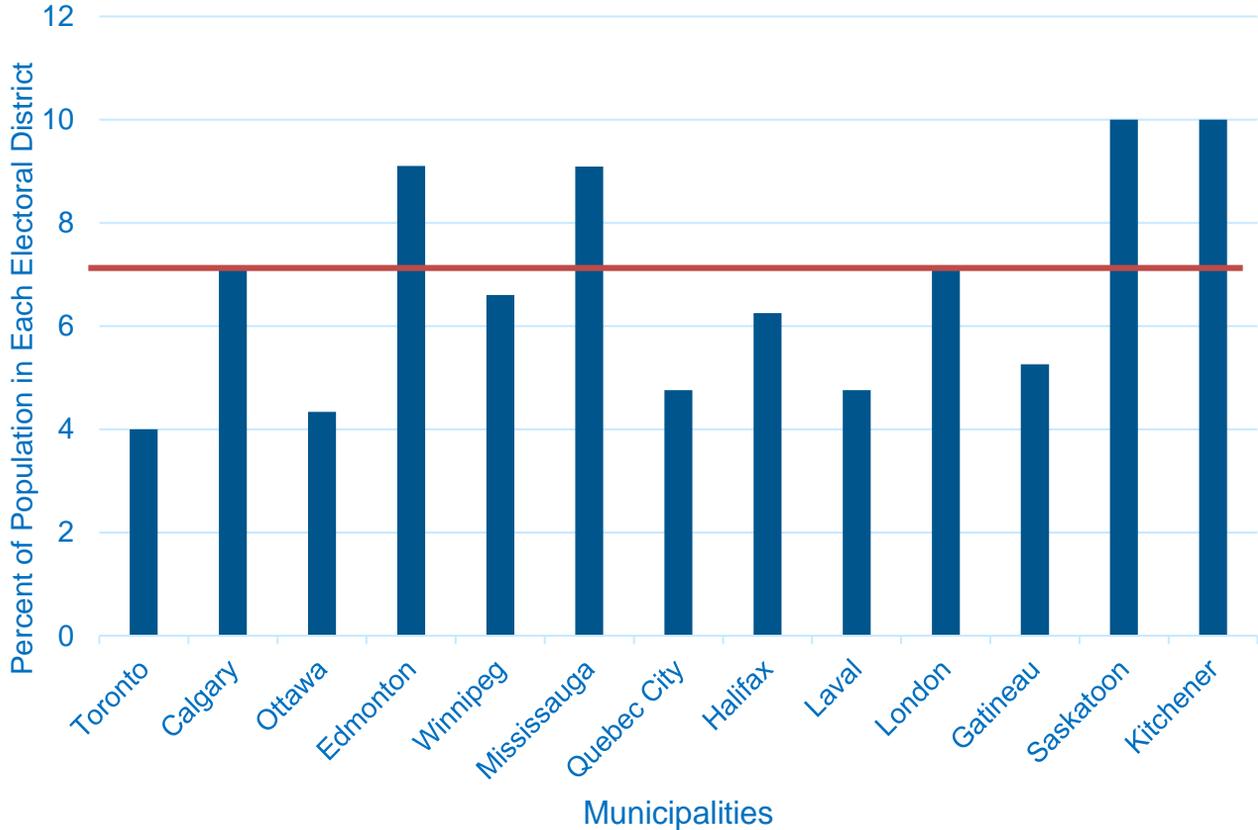
	Municipality	Population	ED	Average Population per ED	% of Pop per ED
1	Toronto	2,794,356	25	111,775	4.0%
2	Calgary	1,306,784	14	93,342	7.14%
3	Ottawa	1,017,449	23	44,237	4.34%
4	Edmonton	1,010,899	11	91,900	9.1%
5	Winnipeg	749,607	15	49,974	6.6%
6	Mississauga	717,961	11	65,269n	9.09%
7	Hamilton	569,353	15	37,890	5.7%

## Canadian Municipalities' Population by Electoral District (Continued)

	Municipality	Population	ED	Population per ED	% of Pop per ED
8	Quebec City	549,459	21	26,165	4.76%
<b>9</b>	<b>Halifax</b>	<b>439,819</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>27,489</b>	<b>6.25%</b>
10	Laval	438,366	21	20,874	4.76%
11	London	422,324	14	30,166	7.14%
12	Gatineau	291,041	19	15,318	5.26%
13	Saskatoon	266,141	10	26,614	10.0%
14	Kitchener	256,885	10	25,689	10.0%

5

## Percent of Population Per Electoral District (2021 Census)



**Provincial and Federal Electoral Districts Comparison**

<b>Provincial Electoral District with the Halifax Regional Municipality</b>	<b>Number of Active Electors</b>
Bedford Basin	12,991
Bedford South	14,586
Clayton Park West	14,331
Cole Harbour	10,034
Cole Harbour-Dartmouth	16,057
Dartmouth East	14,526
Dartmouth North	16,116
Dartmouth South	13,754
Eastern Passage	10,506
Eastern Shore	16,814
Fairview-Clayton Park	15,774
Halifax Armdale	14,185
Halifax Atlantic	16,184
Halifax Chebucto	12,965
Halifax Citadel-Sable Island	18,237
Halifax Needham	17,172
Hammonds Plains-Lucasville	14,410
Preston	11,110
Sackville-Cobequid	15,248
Sackville-Uniacke	13,859
Timberlea-Prospect	17,339
Waverly-Fall River-Beaver Bank	17,558
<b>Total</b>	<b>323,756</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>14,716</b>

\*Source Elections Nova Scotia – Number of Active Electors as of March 2022

<b>Federal Electoral Districts within the Halifax Regional Municipality</b>	<b>Number of Electors</b>	<b>Population (2016 census)</b>
Central Nova	57,495	71,962
Dartmouth-Cole Harbour	78,000	92,301
Halifax	61,551	94,610
Halifax West	77,487	96,255
Sackville – Preston - Chezzetcook	71,781	86,498
South Shore St. Margaret's	77,709	91,830
<b>Total</b>	<b>424,023</b>	<b>533,456</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>70,671</b>	<b>88,909</b>

Source: Elections Canada – Federal Electoral District

<https://www.elections.ca/content.aspx?section=res&dir=cir/list&document=index338&lang=e#list>

Number of Electors provided by Elections Canada – Federal Electoral Count as of March 2022

<b>HRM Electoral Districts – Projected number of electors</b>	<b>Current Population</b>	<b>Current Number of Electors</b>	<b>Projected Number of Electors by 2024</b>
01-Waverley-Fall River-Musquodoboit Valley	23685	18,772	19,740
02-Preston-Chezzetcook-Eastern Shore	27185	22,297	23,315
03-Dartmouth South-Eastern Passage	31384	24,475	26,238
04-Cole Harbour-Westphal-Lake Loon-Cherry Brook	25963	20,909	21,911
05-Dartmouth Centre	29587	25,167	26,195
06-Harbourview-Burnside-East Dartmouth	26403	21,651	22,667
07-Halifax South Downtown	26997	23,432	25,287
08-Halifax Peninsula North	29002	23,942	26,123
09-Halifax West Armdale	29651	24,121	25,444
10-Halifax Bedford Basin-West	27048	22,462	23,420
11-Spryfield-Sambro Loop-Prospect Road	27605	22,243	23,243
12-Timberlea-Beechville-Clayton Park-Wedgewood	30562	24,239	25,844
13-Hammonds Plains – St. Margarets	28532	21,689	23,128
14-Middle/Upper Sackville – Beaver Bank - Lucasville	25242	19,499	20,534
15-Lower Sackville	22480	18,323	19,159
16-Bedford-Wentworth	31763	25,276	26,700
<b>Total</b>	<b>443089</b>	<b>358,497</b>	<b>378,948</b>
<b>Average</b>	<b>27,693</b>	<b>22,406</b>	<b>23,648</b>

Source: Environics 2020 enriched demographic data uses the 2016 Statistics Canada Census data as its base data. Demographic projections are based on comprehensive methodologies to determine current and future demographic populations.

## District Boundary Review Timeline – Phase One (Revised)



March 28, 2022

April/May 2022

Apr. – Apr. 27, 2022

Apr. 27 – May 18, 2022

May 30, 2022

June 14, 2022

**STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

Return to the Executive Standing Committee with draft survey and interview questions

**STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

Conduct individual interviews with members of Council on size of Council and Governance

**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**

Host public information meetings at Community Councils & Conduct Online Survey

**ANALYSIS**

Develop “what we heard report” based on data gathered from the public engagement

**EXECUTIVE STANDING COMMITTEE**

Debate report and forward recommendation on phase one to Regional Council

**REGIONAL COUNCIL**

Debate on ESC recommendation on phase one (Size of Council and Governance Structure)