



***THE FOLLOWING IS A
DRAFT PRELIMINARY
PRESENTATION***

HALIFAX

District Boundary Review



NARRATIVE
RESEARCH

AGENDA

- 6:00 – 6:15 Introduction and Background
- 6:15 – 6:45 Overview of New Proposed Districts
- 6:45 – 7:45 Your Feedback
- 7:45 – 8:00 Short Exercise and Closing

INTRODUCTION

- Narrative Research working closely with HRM to gather feedback.
- Team includes Margaret Chapman, Grace Wilson and Rob O'Brien, who are ensuring that those not able to be here in person can participate. We have a Zoom session taking place simultaneously, with CART captioning.
- We will also hear from the volunteer Resident Review panel who have been working to create options for districts going forward.

GROUND RULES

- **Respect** – *it's ok to have different opinions*
- **Focus** – *limit time of comments to 5 minutes per person maximum so we can hear from as many people as possible*
- **Other forms of feedback** – *survey available at: Halifax.ca/boundaryreview (along with a lot of additional background information)*
- **For specific questions or concerns about something in your district or neighbourhood, please call 311 or by email **INSERT****



BACKGROUND

BACKGROUND

THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT ACT (MGA) REQUIRES THAT ALL MUNICIPALITIES IN NOVA SCOTIA CONDUCT A REVIEW OF THE NUMBER AND BOUNDARIES OF POLLING DISTRICTS IN THE MUNICIPALITY ON A REGULAR BASIS.

THE FINAL DECISION ON MUNICIPAL POLLING DISTRICTS AND BOUNDARIES IS MADE BY THE NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD (NSUARB) AND IS BINDING ON THE MUNICIPALITY. THE MOST RECENT REVIEW WAS CONDUCTED IN 2014 AND THE RESULTING DISTRICT BOUNDARIES ARE CURRENTLY IN EFFECT.

A DISTRICT BOUNDARY REVIEW IS REQUIRED IN 2022; **CHANGES COMING FROM THIS REVIEW WILL NOT COME INTO EFFECT UNTIL THE 2024 MUNICIPAL ELECTION.**

BACKGROUND (CONTINUED)

THE REVIEW HAS TWO PHASES:

PHASE 1

IN THE SPRING OF 2022, THE FIRST PHASE OF A DISTRICT BOUNDARY REVIEW STUDY WAS UNDERTAKEN IN HRM WITH THE **AIM OF DETERMINING THE NUMBER OF MUNICIPAL POLLING DISTRICTS APPROPRIATE TO THE MUNICIPALITY, AS WELL AS TO REVIEW THE GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE OF HRM.**

RESULTS OF THAT INITIAL PHASE RECOMMENDED THAT THE NUMBER OF POLLING DISTRICTS AND COUNCILLORS FOR THE MUNICIPALITY SHOULD REMAIN AT 16.

BACKGROUND (CONTINUED)

THE REVIEW HAS TWO PHASES:

PHASE 2

- **AIMS TO GATHER OPINIONS FROM RESIDENTS OF HRM ABOUT PROPOSED NEW DISTRICT BOUNDARIES FOR THOSE 16 DISTRICTS.**
 - COUNCILLORS ON HALIFAX REGIONAL COUNCIL EACH REPRESENT AN AVERAGE OF APPROXIMATELY 23,000 ELECTORS

 - **THERE ARE DIFFERENT WAYS THAT BOUNDARIES OF DISTRICTS CAN BE DETERMINED WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY, AND THERE ARE FIVE DIFFERENT CRITERIA THAT MUST BE CONSIDERED WHEN DETERMINING THE DISTRICTS.**
MORE INFORMATION FOR THESE BOUNDARIES IS AVAILABLE THROUGH THE NSUARB WEBSITE:
[HTTPS://NSUARB.NOVASCOTIA.CA/MANDATES/MUNICIPAL-BOUNDARIES](https://nsuarb.novascotia.ca/mandates/municipal-boundaries)

BACKGROUND (CONTINUED)

THE REVIEW HAS TWO PHASES:

PHASE 2

THE FIVE CRITERIA ARE :

1. **NUMBER OF ELECTORS** (THAT IS, HOW MANY ELECTORS EACH COUNCILLOR REPRESENTS)
2. **RELATIVE PARITY OF VOTING POWER** (THAT IS, ALL DISTRICTS HAVE ROUGHLY THE SAME NUMBER OF ELECTORS SO THAT EACH VOTE CARRIES THE SAME WEIGHT)
3. **POPULATION DENSITY** (THAT IS, THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE PER SQUARE KILOMETRE LIVING IN A DISTRICT)
4. **COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST** (INCLUDES: EXISTING COMMUNITIES, HISTORICAL CONNECTIONS, RECREATIONAL ISSUES, TAX AND AREA RATES, WATER AND SEWER BOUNDARIES, TRAFFIC INFRASTRUCTURE AND PATTERNS, PLANNING BOUNDARIES, SCHOOL DISTRICTS, SHOPPING PATTERNS AND BUSINESS CENTRES, LANGUAGE, AND ETHNIC ORIGIN)
5. **GEOGRAPHIC SIZE** (THAT IS, GEOGRAPHIC SIZE OF EACH DISTRICT)

BACKGROUND (CONTINUED)

THE REVIEW HAS TWO PHASES:

PHASE 2

The District Boundary Resident Review Panel has created options for new polling district boundaries for HRM going forward. Before a recommendation is submitted to Council, the panel is seeking input from residents about these new district ideas.

These draft proposed districts were created with much consideration of the five criteria (number of electors, relative parity of voting power, population density, community of interest, and geographic size). The committee also considered things such as where growth is planned in the coming years.




**COMMITTEE MEMBER
PRESENTATION OF NEW
PROPOSED DISTRICTS**

YOUR FEEDBACK

- We want to hear your feedback on the new proposed districts
- *Please go to one of the microphones to comment (or I'll come to you!) If you're online – type your question or comment into the chat and Grace will ensure it's addressed.*

**PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR
CURRENT DISTRICT IN
YOUR COMMENTS.
GIVE US A SENSE OF
WHICH OF THE CRITERIA
YOUR COMMENT MAY
FALL INTO.**



**EXERCISE:
USE THE STICKY PAPER
NOTE TO PROVIDE ANY
ADDITIONAL FEEDBACK,
AND PLACE IT ON THE
MAPS ON THE WALL.**

THANK YOU

Survey to provide more
feedback:
[Halifax.ca/boundaryreview](https://halifax.ca/boundaryreview)

Other ways to provide
feedback:
902-490-4210
or clerks@halifax.ca.