

HALIFAX

2022 District Boundary Review – Phase One

March 28, 2022 Executive Standing Committee

Phase One - Scope

Phase One is to review:

- Council Governance structure;
- Provide rationale for the number of councillors and polling districts for HRM

NSUARB recommends the following:

- What is required for effective political management?
- Effective representation and;
- Accountability

Phase Two - Scope

Phase Two is to review:

- Distribution of polling districts within HRM in accordance with section 368 (4) of the MGA
- Considers the number of electors, relative parity of voting power, population density, communities of interest, and geographic size
- District Boundary Resident Review Panel to be operational by May 2022

Aspects of Review

- May only focus on matters within the jurisdiction of the NSUARB under current legislative framework;



Public Engagement Process

- Development of Survey – Narrative Research – March/April 2022
- Individual interviews with members of Council – April 2022
- Public Information Meetings hosted by Community Councils – April 2022
- Correspondence Executive Standing Committee - Ongoing
- Public Participation at Executive Standing Committee – April/May

Revised Timeline

District Boundary Review Timeline – Phase One (Revised)

March 28, 2022

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

April/May 2022

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

Apr. – Apr. 27, 2022

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT
Host public information meetings at Community Councils & Conduct Online Survey

Apr. 27 – May 18, 2022

ANALYSIS
Develop "what we heard report" based on data gathered from the public engagement

May 30, 2022

EXECUTIVE STANDING COMMITTEE
Debate report and forward recommendation on phase one to Regional Council

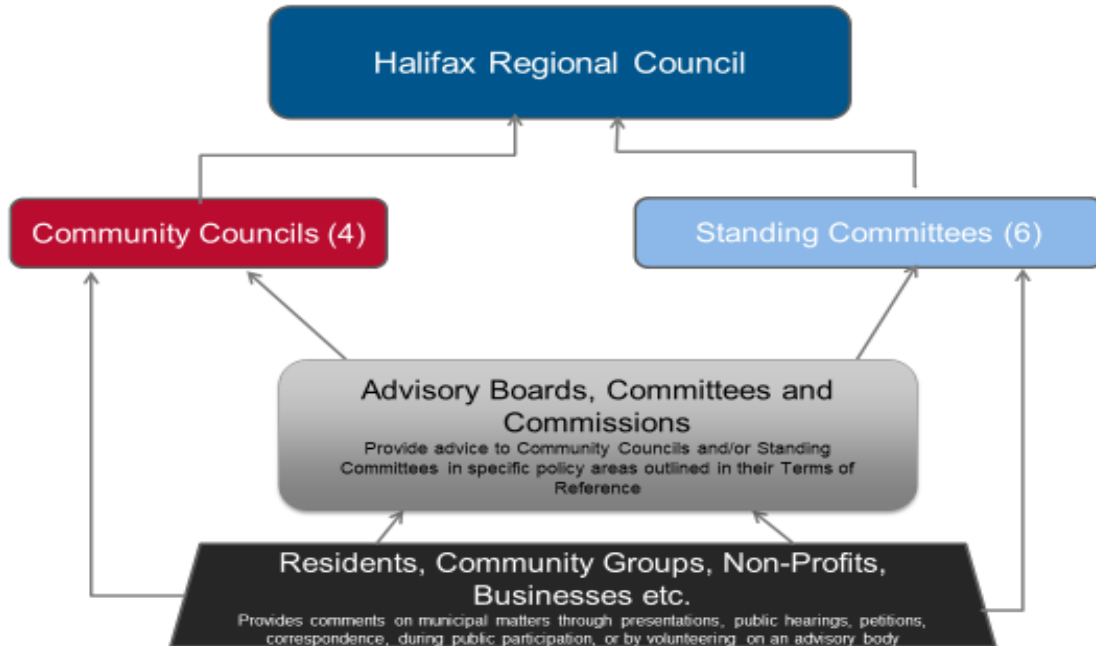
June 14, 2022

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

Population and Number of Electors

- Since the 2010 review, the HRM has grown by 70,410 residents to a total of 443,089.
- Projected number of electors by 2024 – 378,948
- The Halifax Regional Municipality is in the top six (6) of the 25 largest municipalities in Canada with a 9.1% population growth rate from 2016-2021.
- Population growth will influence the Boundary Review process now and in future reviews

Current Governance Structure



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; and
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.

Questions?

