

## **Review of Size of Council and Shortlisted Electoral Ward Boundary Plan Options**

### **Executive Summary:**

This report is provided to assist Council with a process for discussing the Size of Council and shortlisted Electoral Ward Boundary proposals.

### **Recommendations:**

**THAT the report of the Corporate Services and Finance Commission dated July 16, 2015 regarding the Review of Size of Council and Shortlisted Electoral Ward Boundary Plan Options be received;**

**THAT the following proposals (include proposal names) be confirmed as the preferred Electoral Ward Boundary Plan options for public consultation during September 2015;**

**THAT the public meeting scheduled for Ameliasburgh Ward at Kente School on Thursday, September 10, 2015 at 7:00 p.m., and the public meeting scheduled for Hillier Ward at the Hiller Town Hall on Tuesday, September 15, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. be confirmed; and**

**THAT the draft public survey as attached to this report be approved.**

### **Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to provide the strengths and weaknesses for each of the Electoral Ward Boundary Plan proposals selected at the June 25, 2015 Special Committee meeting with a view to further shortlist the preferred proposals for public consultation during September 2015.

### **Background:**

At the Special Committee of the Whole meeting on June 25, 2015, Committee passed Motion CW-213-2015, as follows:

**THAT the following proposals be explored in further detail at the July 16, 2015 Special Committee of the Whole meeting;**

**Status Quo**

**John Thompson- Plan 13**

**Angus Ross - Equality Plan**

**Gary Mooney -The N.E.W. Plan – all 3 options.**

## **Analysis/Comment:**

Electoral boundaries are created for election purposes only. New boundaries are created, with the goal of providing equitable representation by population in each ward created.

There are currently ten (10) electoral wards within the County of Prince Edward, with 15 members of Council being elected to represent the various electoral wards. Council representation varies from one (1) Councillor representing as few as 539 residents while another electoral ward the Councillor may represent as many as 1,883 residents.

At the special meeting on June 25, 2015, Committee selected the following three proposals, plus the Status Quo option, as the options to be explored in further detail at the July 16, 2015 meeting:

1. Gary Mooney – 3 options for the N.E.W. Plan
2. John Thompson – Plan 13
3. Angus Ross – Equality Plan.

The authors of each proposal have submitted their individual plan's strengths and weaknesses, which are included on Attachment # 5 to this report.

In preparing this report, staff contacted both the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and County Solicitors Templeman Menninga for their comments on the proposal submitted by Angus Ross – Equality Plan in relation to weighted voting and if this option is permitted. Staff received confirmation that, as a single-tier municipality, we are not permitted to use weighted voting as this method of voting is only permitted by upper-tier municipalities. In addition, their response indicated that the Restructuring Order, s. 11 6. (2) states that "Each member of Council of the new municipality shall have one vote."

Based on the opinions received by the Ministry and Solicitors, the proposal submitted by Angus Ross cannot be included as an option or investigated further.

### **Scoring the proposals**

As indicated in the June 25, 2015 Committee report, a more detailed scoring system would be brought forward to this meeting to assist Committee in evaluating the shortlisted proposals, and selecting the preferred plan options to be included in the public consultation process. Staff recommends that the criteria established on September 8, 2008 by the Composition of Council Committee supplement the criteria set out on the Comparison Chart of Electoral Ward Proposals, and further that the following point system be used to score the short listed proposals:

- |                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>1 Point</b>        | if the Plan provides for an odd number of Council Members (to solve tie vote issues)                                   |
| <b>1 Point</b>        | if the Plan provides all electors to cast the same number of votes   |
| <b>1 to 10 points</b> | for Representation by Population – 10 points if the representation by population provided is an equitable distribution |

- 1 to 10 points** for Effective Representation – high score if all 3 outlined below are met
- Preservation of community integrity and function and recognition of settlement patterns and community groupings-identifiable communities
  - Ease of communication and accessibility
  - Recognition of distinct geographical boundaries and special consideration including the scarcity, density or relative growth or loss of population

**1 to 5 points** Efficiency of decision making

**1 to 3 points** Work load for members of Council

The total maximum number of points a proposal could receive is 30 points.

Estimated population and elector information by current Ward is included below for comparison purposes. A map is also included showing the current 10 Wards providing the estimated population by percentages as Attachment #6 for information purposes.

	<b>Ward</b>	<b>Estimated Population</b>	<b>Resident Electors</b>	<b>Non-Resident Electors</b>
1	Picton	3,622	3,397	352
2	Bloomfield	539	464	63
3	Wellington	1,982	1,763	238
4	Ameliasburgh	5,651	4,815	1,049
5	Athol	1,533	1,072	651
6	Hallowell	3,506	3,239	803
7	Hillier	1,960	1,510	757
8	North Marysburgh	1,548	1,134	780
9	South Marysburgh	1,115	784	627
10	Sophiasburgh	2,301	1,832	795
	<b>Total</b>	<b>23,757</b>	<b>20,010</b>	<b>6,115</b>

#### Public Consultation Process

On May 12, 2015, Council adopted Committee of the Whole Motion CW-140-2015, confirming that at least one public meeting be held in each current ward as part of the public consultation process. All locations with the exception of the two listed below were reserved. Staff have tentatively booked the following locations and request Committee's confirmation to proceed with booking, advertising and posting the following public meetings:

<b>Hall</b>	<b>Date</b>
Ameliasburgh – Kente School	Thursday, September 10
Hillier Town Hall	Tuesday, September 15

As part of the Public Consultation process, and in addition to public meetings, the conducting of a survey was mentioned as an additional avenue to receive input from the owners and/or residents of the County. A draft copy of the survey is attached as Attachment #7 for review and comment. The proposed survey includes the requirement

of the name of the person completing the survey. This requirement is to validate the survey and ensure that respondents are residents of the municipality or owner/spouses of owners of property in the municipality but the name will not be disclosed.

The survey will be posted on the County's website during the month of September, and hard copies will be placed in the Public Libraries (subject to approval by the Library Board), and at municipal office locations.

#### Next steps following Public Consultation

A report providing the results of the public meetings and survey will be included on the Committee of the Whole agenda for the regular meeting on October 29, 2015. Depending on the results of the public meeting, Committee may wish to recommend the preferred option and Council Size at that time or defer a decision until the November 12, 2015 Committee of the Whole meeting.

The Committee of the Whole recommendation as it relates to Council Size and Ward Boundaries will then be considered at the following Council meeting.

If new electoral wards are created, the current ten (10) wards could remain as historic wards and Council could decide how signage would be revised to reflect this decision. This decision would take place following the public consultation process.

#### Key Dates and Timelines

July 16, 2015	Committee of the Whole to review proposals and recommend to Council the proposals selected for public consultation
July 28, 2015	Council to consider the motions put forward by Committee of the Whole from their special meetings held on June 25, 2015 and July 16, 2015
August 2015	Communications and advertising regarding Public Consultation process
September 2015	Public consultation session(s) and survey
October 29, 2015	Report summarizing public comments and recommending one or more options
November 2015	Council decision
December 15, 2015	Council passes By-law to enact New Ward Boundaries and 45 day appeal period commences on December 16, 2015 and ends on January 30, 2016 (this date is on the weekend so defaults to February 1, 2016)
No later than December 30, 2015	Municipality gives notice of the passing of the by-law to the public specifying the last date for filing a notice of appeal

February 1, 2016	Last day for notice(s) of appeal to be received.
No later than February 15, 2016	Notice(s) of appeal to be forwarded to the Ontario Municipal Board.

**Strategic Plan/Priority Implications:**

None identified for the recommendations of this report.

**Financial Implications:**

The 2015 budget will include approximately \$6,842.68 of unbudgeted expenses as it relates to the public consultation process. Attachment #8 provides the estimate for information.

**Notice/Consultation:**

Ministry of Municipal Affairs Advisor and County Solicitors were consulted on the weighted voting option put forward by Angus Ross.


**Other Options:**

None identified for the recommendations of this report.

**Attachments:**

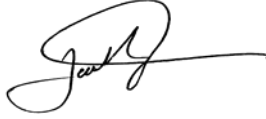
1. Comparison Chart of Proposals
2. N.E.W. Plan – Gary Mooney dated June 1, 2015
3. Plan 13 John Thompson
4. Plan for 10 Councillors – 10 Wards – Angus Ross
5. Proposals Strength and Weaknesses
6. Current Ward Configuration indicating the estimated population by Ward by percentage
7. Proposed on-line and hard copy Resident Survey
8. Unbudgeted costs associated with the Public Consultation process

Prepared by: Kim White, Clerk July 8, 2015

Commissioner Approval: 

M. Susan Turnbull, BSc, CPA, CGA  
Commissioner of Corporate  
Services and Finance

July 9, 2015

Acting CAO Approval: 

James Hepburn  
Acting Chief Administrative Officer

July 10, 2015

COMPARISON OF NEW ELECTORAL WARD PROPOSALS (Attachment #1)

PLAN NAME	Points	N.E.W. PLAN Option1 9 Councillors Gary Mooney	Meets criteria Points Awarded	N.E.W. PLAN Option 2 12 Councillors Gary Mooney	Meets criteria Points Awarded	N.E.W. PLAN Option 3 15 Councillors Gary Mooney	Meets Criteria Points Awarded	PLAN 13 John Thompson	Meets Criteria Points Awarded	STATUS QUO (Current structure)	Meets Criteria Points Awarded
Number of Electoral Wards		3		3		3		9		10	
a) Plan provides for an odd number of Council Members (to solve tie vote issue)	1 point	No		Yes		No		No		No	
b) Does the proposal allow all electors to cast the same number of votes? (voter parity)	1 point	Yes		Yes		Yes		No		No	
Number of Councillors Proposed (Excluding Mayor)  (Note all proposals can be amended as to the Councillor representation)		9  3 Councillors per Electoral Ward		12  4 Councillors per Electoral Ward		15  5 Councillors per Electoral Ward		13  Picton-2 Bloomfield/ Hallowell-2 Ameliasburgh-3  Balance of Wards to have 1 Councillor		15  Picton-2 Hallowell-2 Ameliasburgh-3 Sophiasburgh-2  Balance of Wards have 1 Councillor	
Configuration of new electoral wards (using current ward reference)		<u>North Electoral Ward</u> Ameliasbsurgh Sophiasburgh  <u>East Electoral Ward</u> Picton Athol North Marysburgh South Marsyburgh  <u>West Electoral Ward</u> Bloomfield Wellington Hallowell Hillier		<u>North Electoral Ward</u> Ameliasbsurgh Sophiasburgh  <u>East Electoral Ward</u> Picton Athol North Marysburgh South Marsyburgh  <u>West Electoral Ward</u> Bloomfield Wellington Hallowell Hillier		<u>North Electoral Ward</u> Ameliasbsurgh Sophiasburgh  <u>East Electoral Ward</u> Picton Athol North Marysburgh South Marsyburgh  <u>West Electoral Ward</u> Bloomfield Wellington Hallowell Hillier		1. Picton 2. Bloomfield and Hallowell 3. Wellington 4. Ameliasburgh 5. Athol 6. Hiller 7. North Marysburgh 8. South Marysburgh 9. Sophiasburgh		<u>STATUS QUO</u>  1. Picton 2. Bloomfield 3. Wellington 4. Ameliasburgh 5. Athol 6. Hallowell 7. Hillier 8. North Marysburgh 9. South Marysburgh 10. Sophiasburgh	
c) Representation by population Equitable distribution of population to provide for representation by population as nearly as possible	Up to 10 Points										

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<b>d)</b> <u>Effective representation</u> Preservation of community integrity and function and recognition of settlement patterns and community groupings-identifiable communities  Means of communication accessibility  Distinct geographical boundaries that recognize special consideration including the scarcity, density or relative growth or loss of population	<b>Up to 10 points</b>										
<b>e)</b> Efficiency of decision making	<b>Up to 5 points</b>										
<b>f)</b> Work load	<b>Up to 3 points</b>										
<b>Total number of criteria points that the proposed and current plan achieves</b>	<b>30</b>										



## The N.E.W. Plan for restructuring Prince Edward County Council [June 1, 2015]

The County has been wrestling with Council size (15 Councillors plus the Mayor) for several years. Some citizens and Councillors want fewer Councillors; others favour the status quo. But many people are concerned that reducing Council size would require changes to the County's Historic Ward structure. Others want to improve Councillor representation – e.g. rep. by pop. – which could also affect the ten Historic Wards. Due to these interlinked factors, every discussion on Council size gets complicated quickly, and ends up going nowhere.

The N.E.W. Plan proposal achieves four key objectives: (1) Preserves the County's ten Historic Wards with NO boundary changes; (2) Improves Councillor representation; (3) Highlights three development areas and (4) Allows flexibility in Council size.

**Three Electoral Wards.** The N.E.W. plan creates 3 Electoral Wards which overlay the County's 10 Historic Wards and which have almost equal populations, (see map and population data on page 3):

- a. North Electoral Ward covers Ameliasburgh and Sophiasburgh.
- b. East Electoral Ward covers Picton, North Marysburgh, South Marysburgh and Athol.
- c. West Electoral Ward covers Hallowell, Bloomfield, Wellington and Hillier.

**With equal numbers of Councillors.** The three Electoral Wards, with almost equal populations, are allocated equal numbers of Councillors. Under the N.E.W. Plan, there can be as many as 5 Councillors for each Electoral Ward, or as few as 2 each. Each Councillor represents all electors and residents of his/her Electoral Ward.

**Achieves four key objectives.** Each is important for the future:

1. **Preserves the County's ten Historic Wards.** Three Electoral Wards overlay the County's ten Historic Wards for purposes of Councillor representation. The ten Historic Wards, which have their origins in United Empire Loyalist times, are preserved unchanged -- the same names, boundaries, town halls, libraries and road signage.
2. **Improves Councillor representation.** Here are benefits from having Electoral Wards with multiple Councillors:
  - a. **Excellent rep. by pop.** With Electoral Wards having almost equal populations and equal numbers of Councillors, excellent representation by population is achieved. Currently, one vote in Bloomfield is worth almost four votes in Wellington and one vote in South Marysburgh is worth more than 1.5 votes in Hillier.
  - b. **Choice of Councillor.** With more than one Councillor representing each Electoral Ward, citizens have a choice of Councillors to contact, which can be important for contentious issues or special needs. At present, four Wards have 2 or 3 Councillors each, while six Wards have only one Councillor each.
  - c. **Team of Councillors.** Each Electoral Ward has a team of Councillors representing the geographical area, allowing collaboration on area issues, sharing of the workload, and backup during absences. Currently, only four of the ten Wards have more than one Councillor.
  - d. **Mix of rural and urban.** Each Electoral Ward is mostly rural, but with an urban centre for access to facilities and services. North is near Belleville and Trenton (see #3 below re the future); East includes Picton; West includes Wellington and Bloomfield. Councillors have direct responsibility for both rural and urban issues whereas, currently, 11 Councillors represent all-rural areas and 4 Councillors represent all-urban areas.
  - e. **Manageable number per Councillor.** Assuming nine Councillors, and splitting the workload, each Councillor is responsible for about 2,600 residents / 2,900 electors or, with 15 Councillors, 60% of these numbers. For comparison, each Councillor in Belleville is responsible for about 6,000 residents.
3. **Highlights three development areas.** The N.E.W. Plan, with three Electoral Wards based on geography, highlights north County for future community and commercial development, with Rossmore as an urban centre, along with east County / Picton and west County / Wellington.
4. **Allows flexibility in Council size.** The number of Councillors per Electoral Ward may be 5, 4, 3 or 2 each, depending on Council's decision, resulting in as many as 15 Councillors (= 5 x 3) or as few as 6 (= 2 x 3). This number could be changed in the future without affecting the ten Historic Wards.

**Odd or even number?** With an odd number of Councillors (e.g. 15 or 9) plus the Mayor, there is potential for a tie vote on a motion when all are present. In this situation, there must be at least two more yes votes than no votes (e.g. 9-7 or 6-4) -- thereby requiring a greater consensus. If this is considered undesirable, Council voting rules can be changed so that the chair of the meeting votes only to break a tie, which also enhances the chair's neutrality.

## **The N.E.W. Plan for restructuring Prince Edward County Council [June 1, 2015]**

**Population growth.** If the population of one Electoral Ward grows much larger than the others (likely to take ten years), one Councillor can be added to that Electoral Ward only, to rebalance rep. by pop. and Councillor workload.

**At-Large system?** Some people favour conversion to an At-Large system, whereby each Councillor represents the entire County. This is essentially the N.E.W. Plan, but with only one Electoral Ward. The N.E.W. Plan, with three Electoral Wards, offers the simplicity of At-Large, while avoiding its major disadvantages:

- a. Each geographical area of the County, with its unique characteristics and challenges, has several Councillors specifically allocated to it. Under At-Large, no Councillor is specifically responsible for a given geographical area, so residents living in outlying areas of the County may not get sufficient attention.
- b. During election campaigns, each candidate's costs and required travel area are one-third those of an At-Large system. At-Large favours candidates with greater financial resources, or ready access to funding.
- c. During the Council term, each Councillor's required travel area is one-third that of an At-Large system.

**Three Electoral Wards or two?** A two Electoral Ward plan has also been proposed. Which will be most effective? Three Electoral Wards will encourage cooperation / collegiality, while two will lead to competition / divisiveness:

- With 3 Councillor teams, any motion at Council requires Yes votes from at least 2 teams to pass. Example: Council size of 10, with 9 Councillors, 3 per Electoral Ward. Six votes are needed, requiring support from at least 2 of the 3 teams. The same holds true for a Council size of 16. Each Councillor team always needs support from another team for any initiative, not likely to be the same team every time. Therefore, it is in each team's best interests to maintain a cooperative / collegial working relationship with the other teams.
- A structure with 2 Councillor teams leads naturally to competition between the teams. Members of a given team are inclined to support each other, with each team seeing the other as competition from time to time. The result is repeated tie votes among Councillors, requiring the Mayor to break the tie. Over time, this continuing competition builds tensions between the two teams, leading to divisiveness.

**Consideration of Council size.** Proponents of a smaller Council cite cost savings and time efficiencies, while those who favour the status quo emphasize the value of a broad range of views. By unlinking Historic Wards, Councillor representation and Council size, the N.E.W. Plan allows consideration of Council size free of complicating factors.

**Decision by Council.** The Plan works equally well for a small or large Council. The decision on the number of Councillors is made by Council, with advice from the Citizen's Assembly, and input from the general public.

**Continuation with 15 Councillors?** If the decision is to continue with the current Council size, there are still benefits from implementing the N.E.W. Plan in 2018: improved Councillor representation, and Electoral Wards in place to preserve the County's 10 Historic Wards if a future Council decides to reduce the number of Councillors.

**Transition to fewer Councillors?** If it is decided to reduce Council size, this can be implemented fully in 2018, or phased in over time. Some examples of transition plans, assuming a decision to reduce to 9 Councillors:

- a. Reduce to 9 in 2018; or
- b. Reduce to 12 in 2018 and 9 in 2022; or
- c. Retain 15 in 2018 and reduce to 9 in 2022.

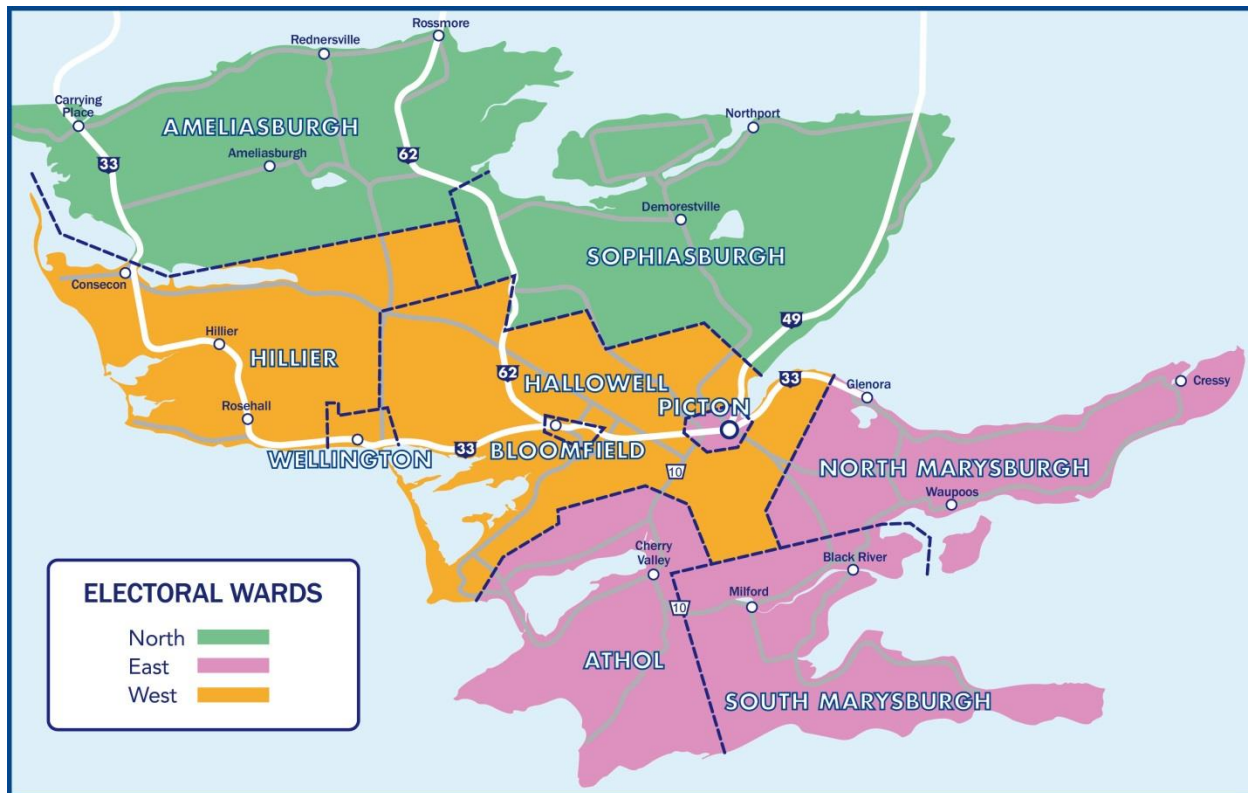
**Fair to all.** There are now 5 Councillors in each proposed Electoral Ward. Transition to a smaller Council will be fair to current Councillors, as each will have access to an equal number of seats – 4, 3 or 2 -- in the Electoral Ward.

**Feasibility of plan.** Any restructuring plan needs to be shown to be workable and, ideally, should not result in significant additional costs to taxpayers. The N.E.W. Plan, involving a simple overlay of Electoral Wards on Historic Wards, with no boundary changes, is clearly workable, with modest transition costs and minimal additional ongoing costs. The Plan requires only a one-time change to the election process, modest additions to internal recordkeeping and minor changes to external communications to support both Electoral and Historic Wards.

**It's time to move forward.** Seventeen years after municipal amalgamation is an opportune time to resolve the issue of Council size, while preserving the County's Historic Ward structure and improving Councillor representation. The N.E.W. Plan offers a simple, inexpensive and permanent means to achieve these objectives.

## The N.E.W. Plan for restructuring Prince Edward County Council [June 1, 2015]

Map of 3 Electoral Wards overlaid on 10 Historic Wards



Many thanks to Sacha Warunkiw for the map of Electoral and Historic Wards.

Permanent resident and electoral populations by Electoral and Historic Wards

		Permanent residents	Electors				Current Councillors	Number per Councillor	
			Resident	Non-Resident	Total	Ratio N-R / T		Perm res	Electors
North E.W.	Ameliasburgh	5651	4815	1049	5864	18	3	1884	1955
	Sophiasburgh	2301	1832	795	2627	30	2	1151	1314
	<b>Total</b>	<b>7952</b>	6647	1844	<b>8491</b>	22	5		
East E.W.	Picton	3622	3397	352	3749	9	2	1811	1875
	N. Marysburgh	1548	1134	780	1914	41	1	1548	1914
	S. Marysburgh	1115	784	627	1411	44	1	1115	1411
	Athol	1533	1072	651	1723	38	1	1533	1723
	<b>Total</b>	<b>7818</b>	6387	2410	<b>8797</b>	27	5		
West E.W.	Bloomfield	539	464	63	527	12	1	539	527
	Hallowell	3506	3239	803	4042	20	2	1753	2021
	Wellington	1982	1763	238	2001	12	1	1982	2001
	Hillier	1960	1510	757	2267	33	1	1960	2267
	<b>Total</b>	<b>7987</b>	6976	1861	<b>8837</b>	21	5		
All E.W.	Total	23757	20010	6115	26125	23	15	1584	1742
	<b>Average</b>	<b>7919</b>			<b>8708</b>				

### Notes:

- Population numbers are taken from the staff report to the Committee of the Whole dated May 6, 2015.
- "Permanent residents" include both adults and children (under age 18).
- "Electors" are adult Canadian citizens, both (a) full-time residents and their spouses, and (b) non-residents (absentee and part-time resident property owners and part-time tenants) and their spouses.

Gary Mooney  
 Prince Edward County  
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 613-919-8765

## Kim White

**From:** John @ Jane Thompson [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** May-06-15 7:45 AM  
**To:** Kim White  
**Subject:** Update to reflect resident/non resident electors

Kim,

These are the charts with the bottom one also updated to reflect the newly reported numbers of resident/non resident Electors.

WARD PROPOSAL MAY 6/2015	EST POPULATION	COUNCILLORS	POP PER COUNCILLOR	PERCENT OF AVG
AMEILIASBURGH	5651	3	1884	105%
PICTON	3622	2	1811	101%
WELLINGTON	1982	1	1982	110%
HILLIER	1960	1	1960	109%
NORTH MARYSBURGH	1548	1	1548	86%
SOUTH MARYSBURGH	1115	1	1115	62%
ATHOL	1533	1	1533	85%
BLOOMFIELD/HALLOW	4045	2	2023	113%
SOPHIASBURGH	2301	1	2301	128%
TOTALS	23757	13	1795	AVERAGE

WARD PROPOSAL	ELECTORS RESIDENT AND NON	COUNCILLORS	ELECTORS PER COUNCILLOR	PERCENT OF AVERAGE
AMEILIASBURGH	5864	3	1955	97%
PICTON	3749	2	1875	93%
WELLINGTON	2001	1	2001	100%
HILLIER	2267	1	2267	113%
NORTH MARYSBURGH	1914	1	1914	95%
SOUTH MARYSBURGH	1411	1	1411	70%
ATHOL	1723	1	1723	86%
BLOOMFIELD/HALLOW	4569	2	2285	114%
SOPHIASBURGH	2627	1	2627	131%
TOTALS	26125	13	2006	AVERAGE



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## PROPOSAL FOR A REDUCTION OF THE SIZE OF COUNCIL IN PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY

### EQUALITY PLAN

Residents of Prince Edward County have expressed a strong desire to see a reduction in the size of council. At the same time, however, there is a wish to see the historic ward boundaries respected and yet bring about a more equitable representation by population than is currently the case. The three proposals that have been put forward to Council only partially cover these points, although the N.E.W. plan by Gary Mooney comes closest to meeting these needs.

The proposal that I am putting forward takes a radically different approach to the issue yet fully respects the existing ward boundary and individual councillor wants while at the same time completely addresses the representation by population and inequality of vote that has been a bone of contention in the past where the value of an individual's vote can vary widely from ward to ward with particular imbalance in Bloomfield.

#### Proposal

1. That council be composed of 10 (ten) councillors plus the Mayor;
2. That current ward boundaries remain unchanged;
3. That each ward elect 1 (one) councillor;
4. That the value of each councillor's vote at council meetings be directly linked to the number of permanent residents in the ward and is expressed as the percentage that the ward represents of the overall total of permanent residents in the County;
5. That councillors' salaries be adjusted to a base amount of \$17,000 plus \$3 per capita for each permanent resident in their ward.

#### Benefits:

1. The population wish for a reduction in the size of council is met.
2. The desire to retain historic wards is met.
3. Representation by population is fully met.
4. Value of vote is fully equalised.
5. Any vote at council would only pass if councillors representing more than 50% of the population voted in favour, which would bring about real democracy in the County. Currently a vote representing less than 50% of residents could pass at council.
6. The likelihood of a tie vote at council becomes remote as the determining factor is percentage of population rather than count of hands.

7. The cost of councillors is reduced overall by about \$48,000.
8. Councillors' salaries would reflect the population they represent and the lowest would be approximately the same as today.
9. Any change in population would be fully reflected in the vote weighting at council and in councillors' adjusted salaries.
10. Prince Edward County would become the standard-bearer for true representation by population.

Drawbacks:

1. It is true "outside the box" thinking and perhaps might be seen as too radical a change
2. The percentages would have to be tallied at the end of each council vote rather than just counting hands.

A table showing the impacts of this proposal is attached at Appendix 1

Angus Ross

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## APPENDIX 1

### Detailed data

Ward	Permanent residents	Percentage of vote & residents	Current percentage of council	Base salary	Adjustment	Total
Ameliasburgh	5,651	23.8%	20.00%	\$17,000	\$16,953	\$33,953
Sophiasburgh	2,301	9.7%	13.33%	\$17,000	\$6,903	\$23,903
Picton	3,622	15.3%	13.33%	\$17,000	\$10,866	\$27,866
N. Marysburgh	1,548	6.5%	6.67%	\$17,000	\$4,644	\$21,644
S. Marysburgh	1,115	4.7%	6.67%	\$17,000	\$3,345	20,345
Athol	1,533	6.5%	6.67%	\$17,000	\$4,599	\$21,599
Bloomfield	539	2.3%	6.67%	\$17,000	\$1,617	\$18,617
Hallowell	3,506	14.8%	13.33%	\$17,000	\$10,518	\$27,518
Wellington	1,982	8.3%	6.67%	\$17,000	\$5,946	\$22,946
Hillier	1,960	8.3%	6.67%	\$17,000	\$5,880	\$22,880
Total	23,757	100.0%	100.0%	\$170,000	\$71,271	\$241,271

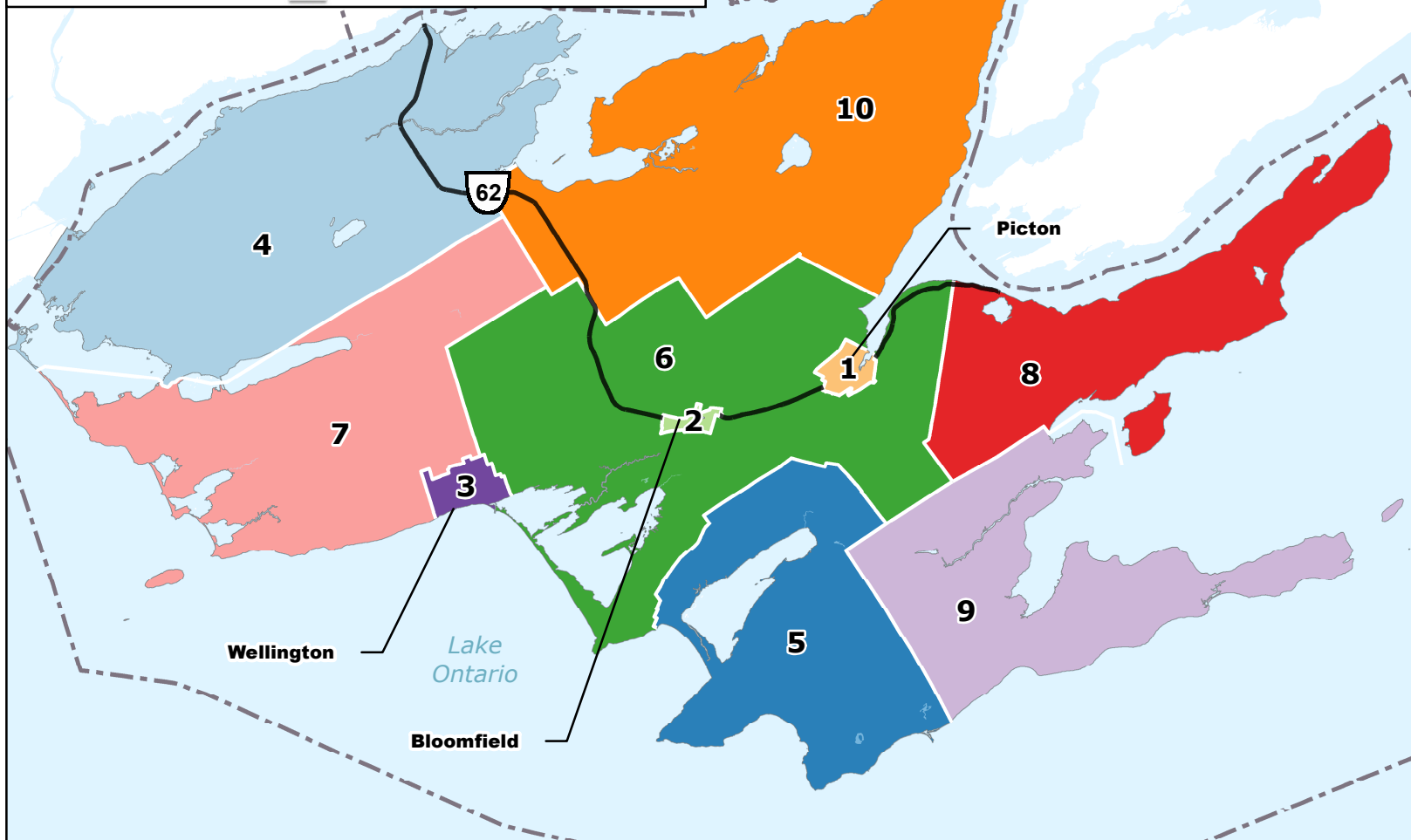
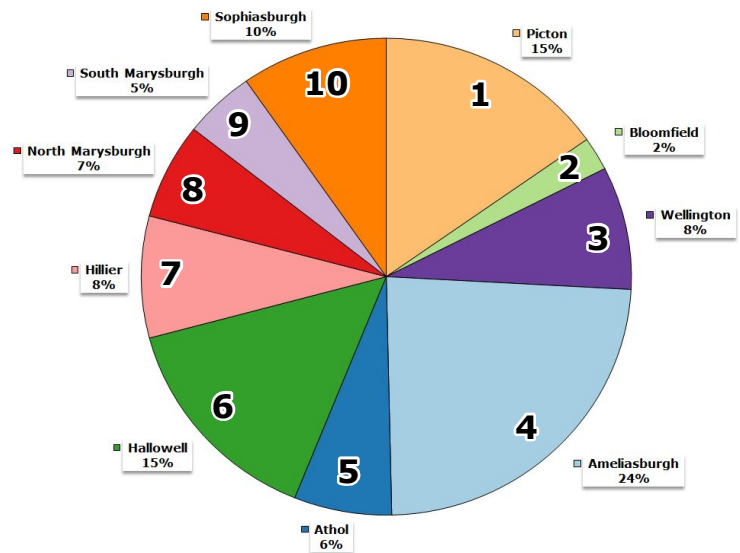
PLAN NAME	STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
<p>N.E.W. Plan – Option 1- 9 Councillors and N.E.W. Plan Option 3 15 Councillors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offers flexibility re number of Councillors now, and allows changes in the future, including adding one more in an Electoral Ward that grows much faster than the others.</li> <li>• Preserves forever the 10 Historic Wards with no boundary changes, thanks to overlaying Electoral Wards on Historic Wards.</li> <li>• Achieves excellent representation by population, due to almost equal populations in the three Electoral Wards.</li> <li>• All County residents have access to more than one Councillor in their Electoral Ward (as now in 4 of 10 Wards).</li> <li>• Each Councillor has equal voting power &amp; influence at Council.</li> <li>• All Councillors have equal workloads, including equal numbers of constituents.</li> <li>• The risk of a successful OMB appeal or court challenge is very low.</li> <li>• Each Electoral Ward has a Councillor team to share workload, opinions, and ideas (as now in 4 of 10 Wards).</li> <li>• Each geographical area (North, East and West) has a Councillor team to encourage local community and commercial development.</li> <li>• Mixed rural/urban Electoral Wards allow some local rural/urban issues to be resolved locally, with broader issues still being addressed at full Council.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some are concerned that mixed rural/urban Electoral Wards could be controlled by the urban vote; others are not, because each Electoral Ward has a majority rural population.</li> <li>• [9- and 15-Councillor versions only, not 12]. Some are concerned about tie votes; others are not, seeing it only as a failure to obtain a majority.</li> </ul>
<p>N.E.W. Plan Option 2 12 Councillors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offers flexibility re number of Councillors now, and allows changes in the future, including adding one more in an Electoral Ward that grows much faster than the others.</li> <li>• Preserves forever the 10 Historic Wards with no boundary changes, thanks to overlaying Electoral Wards on Historic Wards.</li> <li>• Achieves excellent representation. by population, due to almost equal populations in the three Electoral Wards.</li> <li>• All County residents have access to more than one Councillor in their Electoral Ward (as now in 4 of 10 Wards).</li> <li>• Each Councillor has equal voting power and influence at Council.</li> <li>• All Councillors have equal workloads, including equal numbers of constituents.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some are concerned that mixed rural/urban Electoral Wards could be controlled by the urban vote; others are not, because each Electoral Ward has a majority rural population.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The risk of a successful OMB appeal or court challenge is very low.</li> <li>• Each Electoral Ward has a Councillor team to share workload, opinions, and ideas (as now in 4 of 10 Wards).</li> <li>• Each geographical area (North, East and West) has a Councillor team to encourage local community and commercial development.</li> <li>• Mixed rural/urban Electoral Wards allow some local rural/urban issues to be resolved locally, with broader issues still being addressed at full Council.</li> </ul>		
Equality Plan –	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Achieves a reduction in the size of Council to 10 councillors plus a Mayor</li> <li>• Maintains the historic wards</li> <li>• Brings true representation by population and voter equality</li> <li>• Means that a vote of council would only pass if more than 50% of the represented population were in favour</li> <li>• The likelihood of a tied vote is remote</li> <li>• By reducing the size of council and achieving true vote equality it would almost certainly forestall any future OMB action on the size and ward composition of Council</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is a new and untested system; other municipalities in Ontario are looking at weighted voting</li> <li>• It would require tallying of percentages after each vote rather than tallying of votes (all votes would be recorded)</li> <li>• Possible for three Councillors, (Ameliasburgh, Picton and Hallowell) to control the votes with slightly over 50% of the population</li> <li>• <b><i>Single-Tier municipalities are not permitted to use weighted voting</i></b></li> <li>• <b><i>1998 Municipal Restructuring Order states “Each member of Council of the new municipality <u>shall</u> have one vote.</i></b></li> </ul>	
Plan 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preservation of ward boundaries as all remain fully intact except Bloomfield which can naturally be blended with Hallowell Ward</li> <li>• Representation by population is a strength of this proposal as the current wide disparity in representation is eliminated</li> <li>• The strength of a relatively large Council would be maintained</li> <li>• This plan would result in 14 votes at the Council table. The advantage here is that a tie vote means that the motion is defeated as it should be unless it has majority support as is the case currently.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The weakness in this plan is the one of voter parity as the voters in one ward can elect 3 Councillor with their vote and in two wards they can elect two Councillors</li> </ul>	
Existing Ward Structure and Council Size (excerpt from the Composition of Council Minutes Sept. 8, 2008)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ample representation</li> <li>• Residents know representative</li> <li>• Good attention to individual issues</li> <li>• Familiar/historical identification</li> <li>• Lots of Councillors available to sit on Advisory-committees</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decision making cumbersome</li> <li>• Numbers create extended debate</li> <li>• Too much ‘ward-ism’ and not enough broad issue</li> <li>• Expensive compared to a smaller council?</li> <li>• Residents contact multiple councillors and mayor – results in duplication of effort</li> </ul>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heavy demand on staff resources re inquiries/support</li> <li>• Unequal representation among wards</li> <li>• Unequal geographic area among wards</li> </ul>
Reduced Council Size/No. of Wards <i>(excerpt from the Composition of Council Minutes Sept. 8, 2008)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More consideration of County issues as a whole (larger wards/areas)</li> <li>• Broader identification with County as a whole</li> <li>• Potential for rural/urban combination within wards</li> <li>• Council/Committee meetings more efficient</li> <li>• More effective use of time</li> <li>• Realignment of ward boundaries could give equal representation to all residents</li> <li>• Potential reduction of costs?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Loss of identification with original townships</li> <li>• Less Councillors available for Advisory Committees</li> </ul>

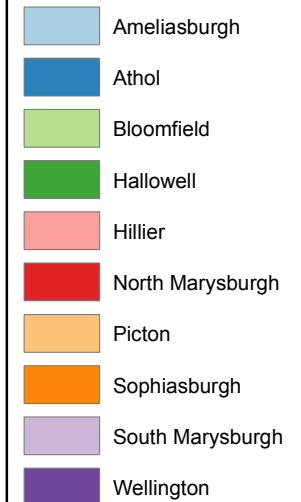
### Estimated Population Percentage



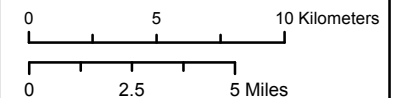
## Current Ward Configuration in Prince Edward County

### Estimated Population Percentages

#### Legend



#### Scale:



Produced by The Corporation of the County of Prince Edward (PEC) Information Technology/GIS Department July 9, 2015. PEC makes no warranty, representation or guaranty as to the content, sequence, accuracy, or completeness of any of the data provided on this map. Includes material © 2015 of the Queen's Printer for Ontario. All Rights Reserved.

Projection and Coordinate System: Universal Transverse Mercator UTM Zone 18 N



## ON-LINE AND HARD COPY SURVEY

### SIZE OF COUNCIL REVIEW AND NEW ELECTORAL BOUNDARY OPTIONS

County Council has identified the need to address the size of Council as one of its goals for 2015. As part of their Review of the Size of Council, a public consultation is being conducted to evaluate public opinion and preferred direction on this issue.

Through an extensive review process, County Council has identified \_\_\_\_\_ potential options to resolve the issue of the Size of Council. Feedback from this survey will help inform Council's decision on this issue, to be made at the \_\_\_\_\_ meeting of Council.

**Please note: This survey is only for residents of the County of Prince Edward, and/or the owners and/or spouses of owners of property in the County of Prince Edward.**

### HOW DO YOU WANT COUNCIL TO PROCEED WITH THE REVIEW OF THE SIZE OF COUNCIL?

Please select your preferred option below:

- ☐ **Plan name and description to be included**
- ☐ **Plan name and description to be included**
- ☐ **Status Quo** - No Change – comprised of 10 Electoral Wards, Maintain Status Quo of 15 Councillors plus Mayor

Please use the space below to provide any additional comments relevant to your selection and/or this issue:

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### RESPONDANT VALIDATION

**By checking the box/signing my name below, I recognize and certify that this response has been completed by the undersigned, and that I acknowledge and understand that in order to maintain the accuracy and integrity of this public consultation process that only one response will be provided on behalf of the undersigned.**

**First Name:**

**Last Name:**

**Contact Information:**

Please note: Please provide your name as it would appear on your Voter's Card, your Municipal Tax Bill, or your Water Bill. Your name is required to validate the survey and ensure that respondents are residents of the Municipality, or owners/spouses of owners of property in the Municipality. This information is being collected under the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Privacy Act* and will not be used for any other purpose.

## Additional Budget Costs related to Public Consultation Size of Council Review

### Advertising Costs

County FM 99.3 Invoice 333-1	187.13
County FM 99.3 Invoice 333-2	48.82
Wellington Times Invoice 1501960	101.7
Wellington Times Invoice 1501957	84.75
Picton Gazette Invoice 138434	94.38
Picton Gazette Invoice -still to come in - approx.	85
Wellington Times - ad re: Town Hall Meetings - 1/2 page ad - approx.	300
Picton Gazette - ad re: Town Hall Meetings - run once -1/2 page ad - approx.	300
County Weekly - ad re: Town Hall Meetings - run once -1/2 page ad - approx..	300
Advertising in all papers Notice of Passing By-law - approx. for all three papers	350
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1,851.78</b>

### Hall Rental Costs

Bloomfield Town Hall - Sept. 1, 2015	118.65
Wellington Town Hall - Sept. 3, 2015	118.65
Athol Town Hall - Sept. 9, 2015	118.65
Ameliasburgh - Kente School - Sept. 10, 2015 - est.	100
Sophiasburgh Town Hall - Sept. 21, 2015	118.65
North Marysburgh Town Hall - Sept. 23, 2015	118.65
Picton Community Centre - Sept. 24, 2015	169.5
Hillier Town Hall - Sept. 15, 2015	118.65
South Marysburgh Town Hall - Sept. 30, 2015	34.5
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1,015.90</b>

### Wages

Overtime wages and benefits for 2 staff to attend 9 Public Meetings approx. 3 hrs each meeting	<b>3,250.00</b>
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### Mileage

Staff Mileage to attend all public meetings - 2 staff members to attend each session	275
Councillors mileage to attend public meetings	100
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>375</b>

### Supplies

Paper and photocopying costs to print surveys and copies of proposals for circulation - approx.	250
Prepare large scale maps of proposals of new Electoral Ward Boundaries approx.	100
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>350</b>

<b>Estimated unbudgeted expenses including H.S.T.</b>	<b>\$6,842.68</b>
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