



# West Hants Regional Municipality Electoral District Boundary Review

## About this Survey

### REVISED MAP AND DATA

*This is the second version of this survey circulated to residents. We are issuing this revised questionnaire because an incorrect map of the current electoral districts was included in the previous questionnaire. A correct map labelled “**Current Electoral Districts**” has been substituted in this version. Stantec apologizes for the inconvenience and asks that you complete and submit this version of the survey after considering the correct representation of the Municipality’s current electoral boundaries.*

### SUBMITTING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE

Please mail or **drop your completed survey at West Hants Municipal Office**, 76 Morison Drive, PO Box 3000, Windsor, NS B0N 2T0. Surveys must be received no later than Wednesday, November 30, 2022.

For further information, please contact:

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The Nova Scotia *Municipal Government Act* specifies that all municipalities must review their governance arrangements in 2006 and every eight years thereafter. To comply with this requirement for 2022, West Hants Regional Municipality is reviewing the district boundaries adopted at the time of its creation on April 1, 2020.

The current arrangement of 11 districts was adopted following a study by Stantec Consulting Limited and consultation with the public undertaken as part of the process that consolidated the Town of Windsor with the Municipality of the District of West Hants in 2018. Because the current Council size and electoral boundaries were defined recently, the Municipality has chosen to focus on boundary adjustments necessary to ensure balance in the number of electors (i.e., eligible voters) in each district and has engaged Stantec to carry out the required study.

The following questionnaire presents the current electoral boundary arrangement and an alternative created by Stantec to improve the balance in the number of electors. Although the adjustments to numbers are moderate, the alterations to some electoral district boundaries are significant. Please look at the two enclosed maps carefully to see how changes may affect your district and the overall pattern of municipal representation in West Hants.

## Electoral District Boundaries

The maps included with this survey represent the boundaries of the current 11 electoral districts for West Hants Regional Municipality and an adjusted arrangement in which the boundaries have been revised to better meet Province of Nova Scotia criteria for assessing electoral districts. The key criteria for setting these boundaries are to create districts in which the number of electors is within or as close as possible to  $\pm 10\%$  of the average number of electors for all districts and to respect the integrity of existing communities. In the current 11-district arrangement, Districts 1, 2, 6, and 7 are outside the  $\pm 10\%$  criterion, Districts 1 and 6 with substantial variations. In the adjusted arrangement, which follows, District 7 is slightly above 10%.



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## Your Choice of Boundaries

1. Please indicate **which of the boundary arrangements illustrated in the maps on the following two pages you prefer**. You can express your reasons and any reservations concerning your choice in response to **Question 2** and you may suggest potential improvements to proposed boundaries in either scenario in response to **Question 3**.

- ☐ I prefer the **current 11-district** boundary arrangement
- ☐ I prefer the **adjusted 11-district** boundary arrangement
- ☐ **Neither** of the above choices reflects my preference
- ☐ **Don't know/not sure**

2. We would appreciate if you could provide your reasons and any reservations you may have for your response to **Question 1**.

3. Would you like to **suggest any modifications** to either the current or the adjusted district boundary arrangement?

### Current 11 Districts

### Adjusted 11 Districts

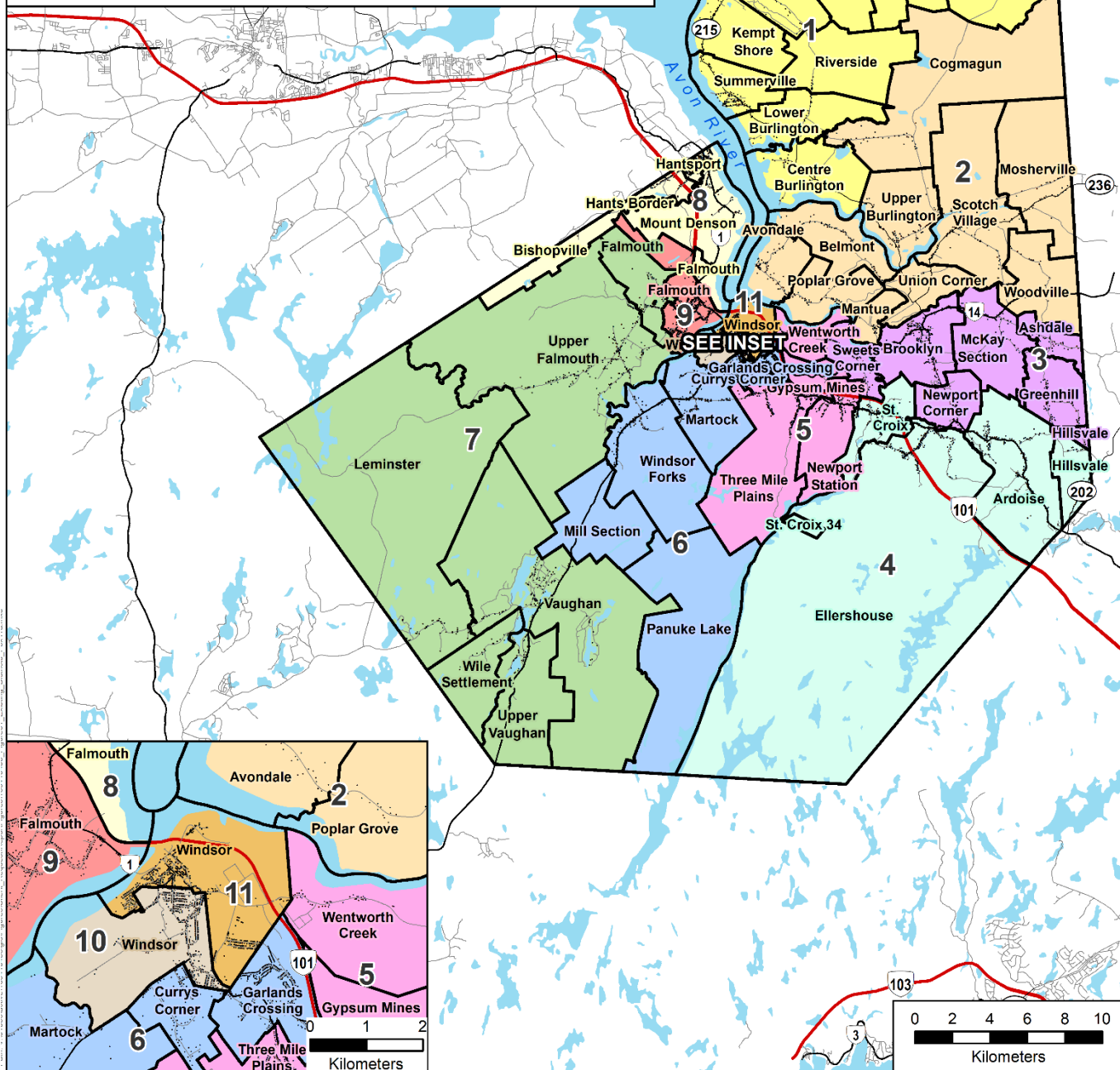
## Current 11 Districts

### Region of Windsor and West Hants Municipality - 11 Current Districts

#### Community Label

Community \_\_\_\_\_ Electors \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ellershouse: 452

District	Electors	Land Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Variation from Average	
			Number	%
1	1,167	216	-249	-17.6%
2	1,257	202	-159	-11.2%
3	1,363	66	-53	-3.8%
4	1,341	252	-75	-5.3%
5	1,407	59	-9	-0.7%
6	1,688	127	272	19.2%
7	1,566	354	150	10.6%
8	1,490	38	74	5.2%
9	1,411	13	-5	-0.4%
10	1,500	5	84	5.9%
11	1,305	5	-111	-7.9%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>15,495</b>	<b>1,336</b>		
<b>Average</b>	<b>1,409</b>	<b>121</b>		



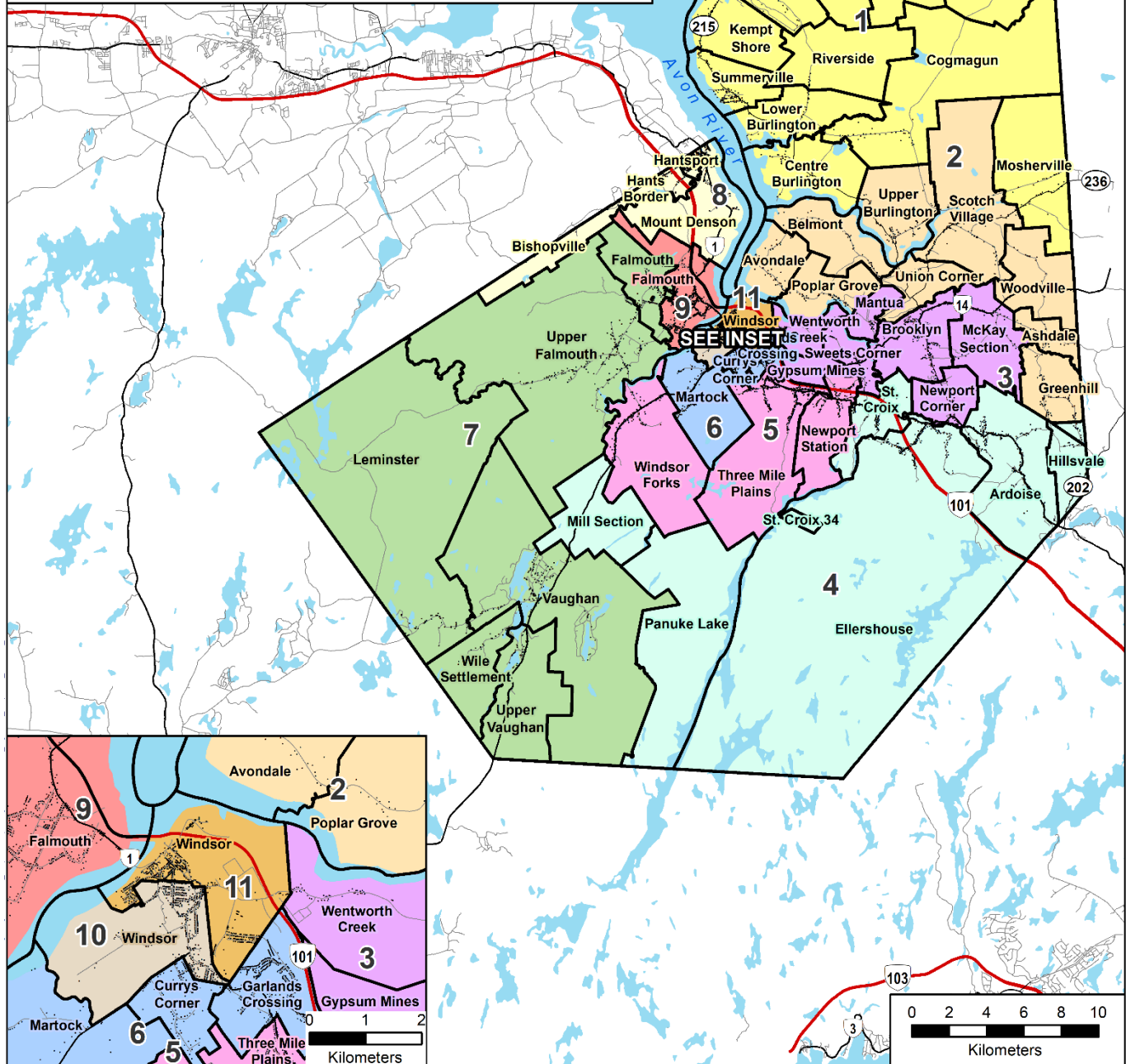
## Adjusted 11 Districts

### Region of Windsor and West Hants Municipality - 11 Adjusted Districts

#### Community Label

Community  
Electors  
Ellershouse: 452

District	Electors	Land Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Variation from Average	
			Number	%
1	1,296	298	-113	-8.0%
2	1,349	132	-60	-4.2%
3	1,269	63	-140	-9.9%
4	1,421	326	12	0.9%
5	1,528	80	119	8.5%
6	1,360	22	-49	-3.5%
7	1,566	354	157	11.2%
8	1,448	35	39	2.8%
9	1,453	16	44	3.1%
10	1,500	5	91	6.5%
11	1,305	5	-104	-7.4%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>15,495</b>	<b>1,336</b>		
<b>Average</b>	<b>1,409</b>	<b>121</b>		





# West Hants Regional Municipality Electoral District Boundary Review

4. Do you think the size of West Hants Regional Council (i.e., eleven Councillors plus the Mayor) is suitable?

- ☐ I think 11 districts is **working well**
- ☐ I would prefer **fewer than 11** districts (i.e., 3 to 10 Councillors)  
Please specify the number you would prefer \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ I would prefer **more than 11** districts (i.e., 12 or more Councillors)  
Please specify the number you would prefer \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ **Don't know/not sure**

## Some Information About You

5. What **community** do you live in (see preceding maps for community locations)?

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Ardoise           | <input type="radio"/> Hantsport        | <input type="radio"/> St. Croix         |
| <input type="radio"/> Ashdale           | <input type="radio"/> Hillsvale        | <input type="radio"/> St. Croix 34      |
| <input type="radio"/> Avondale          | <input type="radio"/> Kempt Shore      | <input type="radio"/> Summerville       |
| <input type="radio"/> Belmont           | <input type="radio"/> Leminster        | <input type="radio"/> Sweets Corner     |
| <input type="radio"/> Bishopville       | <input type="radio"/> Lower Burlington | <input type="radio"/> Three Mile Plains |
| <input type="radio"/> Bramber           | <input type="radio"/> Mantua           | <input type="radio"/> Union Corner      |
| <input type="radio"/> Brooklyn          | <input type="radio"/> Martock          | <input type="radio"/> Upper Burlington  |
| <input type="radio"/> Cambridge         | <input type="radio"/> McKay Section    | <input type="radio"/> Upper Falmouth    |
| <input type="radio"/> Centre Burlington | <input type="radio"/> Mill Section     | <input type="radio"/> Upper Vaughan     |
| <input type="radio"/> Cheverie          | <input type="radio"/> Mosherville      | <input type="radio"/> Vaughan           |
| <input type="radio"/> Cogmagun          | <input type="radio"/> Mount Denson     | <input type="radio"/> Walton            |
| <input type="radio"/> Currys Corner     | <input type="radio"/> Newport Corner   | <input type="radio"/> Wentworth Creek   |
| <input type="radio"/> Ellershous        | <input type="radio"/> Newport Station  | <input type="radio"/> Wile Settlement   |
| <input type="radio"/> Falmouth          | <input type="radio"/> Panuke Lake      | <input type="radio"/> Windsor           |
| <input type="radio"/> Garlands Crossing | <input type="radio"/> Pembroke         | <input type="radio"/> Windsor Forks     |
| <input type="radio"/> Greenhill         | <input type="radio"/> Poplar Grove     | <input type="radio"/> Woodville         |
| <input type="radio"/> Gypsum Mines      | <input type="radio"/> Riverside        |   |
| <input type="radio"/> Hants Border      | <input type="radio"/> Scotch Village   |   |

Other community (please specify)



# West Hants Regional Municipality Electoral Boundary Review

6. What is your **gender**?

☐

Female

☐

Male

☐

Prefer not to answer

7. Which category below includes your **age**?

☐

14 years or less

☐

25 to 34 years

☐

65 to 74 years

☐

15 to 17 years

☐

35 to 44 years

☐

75 to 84 years

☐

18 to 19 years

☐

45 to 54 years

☐

85 years or more

☐

20 to 24 years

☐

55 to 64 years

☐

Prefer not to answer

8. If you have any further thoughts about the size of the council for West Hants Regional Municipality, the districts from which councillors will be elected, or any related issue, please share them with us here.

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**Thank you for your help**