



REPORT TO

## CORPORATE AFFAIRS, STRATEGIC PLANNING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

# CITY OF TORONTO WARD BOUNDARY REVIEW -- IMPACT ON TCDSB TRUSTEE BOUNDARIES

*According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Each builder must choose with care how to build on it.  
1 Corinthians 3:10*

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<b>INFORMATION REPORT</b>		

**Vision:**

*At Toronto Catholic we transform the world through witness, faith, innovation and action.*

**Mission:**

*The Toronto Catholic District School Board is an inclusive learning community rooted in the love of Christ. We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge and to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.*



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## **A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The City of Toronto has undertaken a formal review of its existing 44 ward boundaries in an effort to better understand the number of people who live in each boundary and how those numbers are expected to change in the future.

Due to population growth, some of Toronto's ward boundaries are 30% to 40% above the population of an average City ward. Therefore, not every Toronto citizen is being equally represented at City Council.

The population of Toronto's current 44 wards have already been challenged at the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB). This is the reason why the City has embarked upon a formal review of its boundaries. If Toronto does not review the current size and shape of its wards, a new ward structure could be imposed by the OMB without the public's involvement and without City Council approval.

Five (5) different City ward boundary options were developed by a City appointed consultant team after extensive background research. Each option will impact upon the current alignment of TCDSB Trustee ward boundaries—IF the onus is on maintaining alignment with City ward boundaries. The City is now collecting public input on the various boundary options. A final report will be drafted in April or May of 2016 to Executive Committee and City Council for final vote.

Staff have provided a proposed realignment of TCDSB Trustee ward boundaries based on each of the five proposed City ward boundary options, with an emphasis on maintaining, as much as possible, a more equal distribution of schools per Trustee ward.

## **B. PURPOSE**

To bring to the attention of the Board the resulting potential impacts to TCDSB ward boundaries due to possible changes to City of Toronto ward boundaries. Five potential Toronto ward boundary options were carefully assessed for impact to the Board.

## **C. BACKGROUND**

1. The City of Toronto has undertaken a comprehensive review of its current 44 ward boundaries in an effort to better understand the number of people that live in each boundary and how those numbers are expected to change in the future. Natural population growth and decline, new housing development, and immigration are all influencing a growing population imbalance in Toronto's City wards.
2. The current City of Toronto ward boundaries have been in place since 2000 and are generally based on federal electoral districts (ridings) that cover Toronto. Each riding was split to create the current system of 44 wards.
3. A ward boundary review must ensure that boundaries are commonsensical and based on geographic communities of interest (e.g. specific ethno-cultural communities or business communities that reside in the same area), neighbourhoods, physical and natural boundaries (e.g. major roads, ravines, rail lines, etc.), the ward's history, and other relevant considerations.
4. The City of Toronto has indicated that the ward boundaries will not reflect political ambitions of Councillors, how people vote and who votes, the performance of the local Counsellors, or how various City departments operate.
5. "Effective representation" is the main goal in all ward boundary reviews, or in other words: representation-by-population. This is the fundamental principal that all votes should have equal weight, and therefore, the number of people living in each ward should be similar.
6. The City appointed a consultant team ("TWBR") to undertake the research and development of the five ward boundary options under consideration, collect community feedback and listen to concerns, and ultimately produce a final report with recommendations to Executive Committee and City Council for final vote by May of 2016.
7. The consultant team consists of members from the Canadian Urban Institute, Beate Bowron Etcetera, The Davidson Group, and Thomas Ostler. The team was selected in March 2014, following a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process.

## D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

1. Background research was performed by the consultant team to examine the legal context for ward boundary reviews, as well as the experience in other Ontario cities and other larger Canadian cities.
2. Major ward boundary reviews were undertaken in a number of large Ontario cities since 2005: Ottawa, Markham, Brampton, and Oakville.
3. Population projections were taken into consideration for future elections in 2018, 2022, 2026, and 2030.
4. Between July 2014 and July 2015, the consultant team gathered input on the current ward characteristics and boundaries. Based on public input, expected population growth and decline (depending on the area), and background research, a series of options for new ward boundaries were developed.
5. As of July 2015, five separate boundary options have been presented to the public that meet the fundamental principal of “effective representation”. Feedback is currently being gathered from the public, various stakeholders, and elected officials.
6. The website: *www.drawthelines.ca* provides useful links to residents interested in specific details around the consultants’ information gathering process, as well as how the five options were ultimately developed.
7. There are literally hundreds of possibilities when developing options for a realigned ward system. To limit the number of options, however, the consultant team focused on “effective representation”, average population size of the current wards projected for 2026, the plus or minus 10% range that the average ward population size allows, and the specific number, or range in number, of wards permitted – as per feedback received from public and stakeholder consultation to date.
8. The five City ward boundary options being considered by the public are:
  - Option 1: “Minimal Change” – 47 proposed wards
  - Option 2: “44 Wards” – 44 proposed **realigned** wards
  - Option 3: “Small Wards” – 58 proposed wards
  - Option 4: “Large Wards” – 38 proposed wards
  - Option 5: “Natural/Physical Boundaries” – 41 proposed wards

9. Under each of the five options identified in detail below, Staff carefully aggregated/combined the proposed City ward boundaries into 12 Trustee ward boundaries with a common focus on trying to maintain an equitable balance of schools per ward, as much as possible and wherever possible. There are cases where an optimum balance is not always possible.

*Appendix 'A'* provides a map that shows the current Trustee ward boundaries in thick black lines superimposed over the current City ward boundaries in solid pastel colours, as well as a subsequent table outlining the total number of schools and total enrolment (as of October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014), by panel, within each existing Trustee ward.

*Appendices 'B' to 'F'* provide two clearly labelled maps per scenario as well as a subsequent table for a total of 10 maps and 5 tables. The first map for each scenario shows the proposed 12 realigned Trustee ward boundaries in thick black lines superimposed over the proposed City ward boundaries in solid pastel colours. The second map for each scenario provides a colour comparison of the proposed realigned Trustee ward boundaries in thick black lines superimposed over the current Trustee ward boundaries. The second map is intended to show, visually, the proposed changes to each Trustee ward boundary. The table for each scenario outlines the total number schools and total enrolment (as of October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014), by panel, within each Trustee ward **before** and **after** realignment.

All maps and other appendices will be distributed in the Board room.

### **Option 1: “Minimal Change”** (*see Appendix 'B'*)

Under City Option 1, Staff carefully aggregated/combined the proposed 47 City ward boundaries into 12 Trustee wards. The following table compares the number of elementary and secondary schools per Trustee currently and after a possible boundary change to reflect 47 new City ward boundaries. *Appendix 'B'* provides a clear map with all schools identified as well as a table outlining the total elementary and secondary enrolment per Trustee ward before and after a possible boundary change.

Trustee Ward	Number of Elementary Schools		Number of Secondary Schools		Total Schools	
	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After
Ward 1	15	18	3	3	18	21
Ward 2	16	13	3	3	19	16
Ward 3	11	14	2	3	13	17
Ward 4	11	14	2	3	13	17
Ward 5	16	11	5	4	21	15
Ward 6	9	12	2	2	11	14
Ward 7	13	15	4	3	17	18
Ward 8	20	17	2	2	22	19
Ward 9	13	11	2	2	15	13
Ward 10	11	12	2	2	13	14
Ward 11	17	15	3	3	20	18
Ward 12	17	17	3	3	20	20

**Option 2: “44 Wards”** (*see Appendix ‘C’*)

Under City Option 2, Staff carefully aggregated/combined the proposed realigned 44 City ward boundaries into 12 Trustee wards. The following table compares the number of elementary and secondary schools per Trustee currently and after a possible boundary change to reflect 44 new City ward boundaries. *Appendix ‘C’* provides a clear map with all schools identified as well as a table outlining the total elementary and secondary enrolment per Trustee ward before and after a possible boundary change.

Trustee Ward	Number of Elementary Schools		Number of Secondary Schools		Total Schools	
	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After
Ward 1	15	12	3	3	18	15
Ward 2	16	19	3	3	19	22
Ward 3	11	13	2	4	13	17
Ward 4	11	13	2	3	13	16
Ward 5	16	11	5	4	21	15
Ward 6	9	19	2	2	11	21
Ward 7	13	18	4	2	17	20
Ward 8	20	14	2	2	22	16
Ward 9	13	11	2	3	15	14
Ward 10	11	11	2	2	13	13
Ward 11	17	12	3	3	20	15
Ward 12	17	16	3	2	20	18

### **Option 3: “Small Wards”** (*see Appendix ‘D’*)

Under City Option 3, Staff carefully aggregated/combined the proposed 58 City ward boundaries into 12 Trustee wards. The following table compares the number of elementary and secondary schools per Trustee currently and after a possible boundary change to reflect 58 new City ward boundaries. *Appendix ‘D’* provides a clear map with all schools identified as well as a table outlining the total elementary and secondary enrolment per Trustee ward before and after a possible boundary change.

Trustee Ward	Number of Elementary Schools		Number of Secondary Schools		Total Schools	
	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After
Ward 1	15	14	3	4	18	18
Ward 2	16	18	3	3	19	21
Ward 3	11	10	2	2	13	12
Ward 4	11	14	2	2	13	16
Ward 5	16	11	5	4	21	15
Ward 6	9	14	2	2	11	16
Ward 7	13	15	4	3	17	18
Ward 8	20	20	2	2	22	22
Ward 9	13	12	2	2	15	14
Ward 10	11	11	2	2	13	13
Ward 11	17	15	3	3	20	18
Ward 12	17	15	3	4	20	19

#### **Option 4: “Large Wards”** (*see Appendix ‘E’*)

Under City Option 4, Staff carefully aggregated/combined the proposed 38 City ward boundaries into 12 Trustee wards. The following table compares the number of elementary and secondary schools per Trustee currently and after a possible boundary change to reflect 38 new City ward boundaries. *Appendix ‘E’* provides a clear map with all schools identified as well as a table outlining the total elementary and secondary enrolment per Trustee ward before and after a possible boundary change.



Trustee Ward	Number of Elementary Schools		Number of Secondary Schools		Total Schools	
	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After
Ward 1	15	15	3	3	18	18
Ward 2	16	16	3	3	19	19
Ward 3	11	13	2	4	13	17
Ward 4	11	13	2	3	13	16
Ward 5	16	15	5	5	21	20
Ward 6	9	15	2	1	11	16
Ward 7	13	13	4	1	17	14
Ward 8	20	16	2	2	22	18
Ward 9	13	13	2	3	15	16
Ward 10	11	17	2	3	13	20
Ward 11	17	13	3	3	20	16
Ward 12	17	10	3	2	20	12

**Option 5: “Natural/Physical Boundaries”** (*see Appendix ‘F’*)

Under City Option 5, Staff carefully aggregated/combined the proposed 41 City ward boundaries into 12 Trustee wards. The following table compares the number of elementary and secondary schools per Trustee currently and after a possible boundary change to reflect 41 new City ward boundaries. *Appendix ‘F’* provides a clear map with all schools identified as well as a table outlining the total elementary and secondary enrolment per Trustee ward before and after a possible boundary change.

Trustee Ward	Number of Elementary Schools		Number of Secondary Schools		Total Schools	
	Before	After	Before	After	Before	After
Ward 1	15	19	3	4	18	23
Ward 2	16	16	3	3	19	19
Ward 3	11	14	2	2	13	16
Ward 4	11	13	2	4	13	17
Ward 5	16	14	5	3	21	17
Ward 6	9	13	2	2	11	15
Ward 7	13	11	4	3	17	14
Ward 8	20	13	2	2	22	15
Ward 9	13	13	2	4	15	17
Ward 10	11	16	2	2	13	18
Ward 11	17	11	3	2	20	13
Ward 12	17	16	3	2	20	18

10. *Appendix 'G'* provides additional tables that break down the population of Toronto by current Trustee wards and proposed Trustee wards. This information was sourced from the 2011 Census. Staff will endeavour to provide the number of Catholic rate payers using the latest Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) database, which will be the subject of a further report to Board.

## **E. STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

For information of the Board.