



REPORT TO

REGULAR BOARD

CITY OF TORONTO WARD BOUNDARY CHANGES AND IMPACTS TO TRUSTEE WARDS CONSULTANT PROPOSAL

*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*

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
June 13, 2017	August 24, 2017	

J. Volek, Acting Comptroller of Planning and Development Services

RECOMMENDATION REPORT

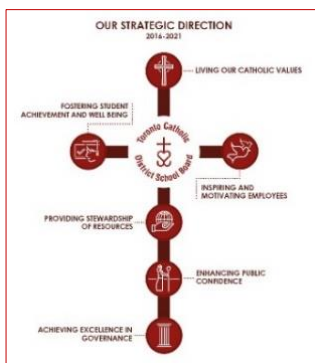
Vision:

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 uniting home, parish and school and rooted in the love of Christ.

We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.



Rory McGuckin
Director of Education

D. Koenig
Associate Director
of Academic Affairs

A. Sangiorgio
Associate Director
of Planning and Facilities

T.B.D.
Executive Superintendent
of Business Services and
Chief Financial Officer

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Toronto has completed a 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 populations 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.

At its meeting of March 28-30th, 2017, City Council enacted a by-law to re-divide the ward boundaries of the City.

Barring any delays caused by current appeals to Ontario Municipal Board (OMB), the City ward boundaries are anticipated to come into effect on December 31, 2017.

TCDSB Legal staff have confirmed that there must be 100% Trustee ward boundary alignment with City of Toronto ward boundaries.

The process of realigned Trustee ward boundaries is governed by the Education Act (Sec 58.1) and Ontario Regulation 412.

The purpose of this report is to provide Director's Council with a proposal from the Consultant team "TWBR", as attached in *Appendix 'A'*, to undertake the research and development of Trustee ward boundary options and to undertake the required stakeholder consultation.

The Consultant team consists of members from the Canadian Urban Institute, Beate Bowron Etcetera, The Davidson Group, and Thomas Ostler—the same group retained by the City of Toronto for the development of new City ward boundaries.

Most recently, the TDSB undertook an RFP and retained TWBR for their own Trustee ward boundary review. Given that TWBR would be studying the same population base as TDSB, it is logical to retain the same Consultant for our own Trustee ward boundary review.

B. PURPOSE

To provide Director's Council with a proposal from the Consultant team "TWBR", as attached in *Appendix 'A'*, to undertake the required research and development of Trustee ward boundary options and to undertake the required stakeholder consultation.

C. BACKGROUND

1. The City of Toronto has completed 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 the year 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. **March 2014**—a City appointed Consultant team was selected ("TWBR") to undertake the research and development of ward boundary options. The team consisted of members from the Canadian Urban Institute, Beate Bowron Etcetera, The Davidson Group, and Thomas Ostler.
4. **July 2014 to July 2015**—the Consultant team gathered input on current ward characteristics and boundaries. Based on public input, expected population growth or decline, and extensive background research, five (5) different ward boundary options were initially developed:
 - 1) Option 1: "Minimal Change" – **47** wards
 - 2) Option 2: "44 Wards" – **44** realigned wards
 - 3) Option 3: "Small Wards" – **58** wards
 - 4) Option 4: "Large Wards" – **38** wards
 - 5) Option 5: "Natural/Physical Boundaries" – **41** wards

Refer to the City's website: <http://www.drawthelines.ca> for all maps and related information from the Consultant study.

5. **October 15th, 2015**—in a report to Corporate Services, Strategic Planning and Property Committee, staff carefully aggregated the proposed City ward boundaries into 12 Trustee ward boundaries with a common focus on trying to maintain, where possible, an equitable balance of schools and enrolment per Trustee ward and minimize significant boundary changes—a necessary first step in the required analytics. The idea of the exercise was to help Trustees assess the potential impacts of City ward boundary changes.
6. **May 24th, 2016**—the Consultant team provided their final report to the City, which was considered at Executive Committee. The Consultant report recommended a ward structure of 47 wards (“Option 1”) with an average population of 61,000 per ward to ensure effective representation given population growth in Toronto over the past fifteen (15) years.
7. **August 25th, 2016**—in a report to Regular Board, staff provided a status update on the City of Toronto ward boundary review process and provided Trustees and members of the public with detailed information on how to get involved and provide feedback to the Consultant team.
8. **November 9th, 2016**—after a lengthy public consultation process, City Council considered a final report on new ward boundary options and selected a 47-ward boundary option (“Option 1”).
9. **March 28-30th, 2017**—City Council enacted a by-law to re-divide the ward boundaries of the City. The by-law reflects the City Council decision and there will be no further debate on the options.
10. **Third week of May, 2017**—a required 45-day public appeal period after the by-law is passed has now expired. The Minister or any other person can appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB). The Consultant team had indicated to staff that upwards of six (6) appeals have been submitted to OMB.
11. **December 31st, 2017**—the anticipated date for the new City ward boundaries to come into effect in preparation for 2018 elections, barring any OMB delays.
12. **April 3rd, 2018**—the last day for school boards to provide the City Clerk with approved re-aligned TCDSB Trustee ward boundaries

13. Most **recently**, the TDSB undertook an RFP and retained TWBR for their own Trustee ward boundary review. Given that the Consultant team, TWBR, are studying the same population base as TDSB, it is logical to retain the same Consultant for our own Trustee ward boundary review.
14. The Consultant team has been involved in two major ward boundary reviews: the City of Toronto (as described above) and the City of Vaughan. Other major clients of the firm in recent years include the City of Ottawa, York Region DSB, Natural Resources Canada, Ontario Growth Secretariat, Canadian Institute of Planners, Canadian Urban Institute and the Government of Guyana—it is clear they have the staff and resources to effectively conduct a highly consultative ward boundary review.
15. The Consultant team proposes a 4-step process for a proposed review of TCDSB ward boundaries:

Step 1—Background Research, including the determination of stakeholders and careful assembly of pertinent data sources from the TCDSB and the City of Toronto.

Step 2—Create the Options (that meet the tests for effective representation)

Step 3—Consult on the Options:

- i. The project would be advertised through the TCDSB’s website (this would require the assistance of Communications staff)
- ii. There would be three main avenues for public consultation:
 1. Two (2) public/stakeholder meetings which would start with an open house and then move into a public meeting format, generally lasting three hours.
 2. Web-based survey and information campaign.
 3. Two (2) meetings to allow Trustees to review and discuss options.

Step 4—Final Report(s), including three (3) meetings:

- iii. A draft report would be discussed with senior staff.

- iv. A report would be submitted to the Corporate Affairs, Strategic Planning and Property Committee, and finally, a final report to Regular Board.
16. The cost of the Consultant team's services would be approximately \$40,000. Any expenses related to printing, meetings, advertisement, accessibility and translation/interpretation, if required, would not be included in this amount.
17. Through a recently approved Planning Department restructuring and from 2016-2017 staff attrition in Business Services, Corporate and Executive Services, sufficient net savings have been identified to cover the \$40,000 Consultant costs.

D. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

1. That TWBR be retained to assist the Board with the development of realigned Trustee Ward boundaries as governed by the Education Act (Sec 58.1) and Ontario Regulation 412.
2. That \$40,000 in funding be made available through the net savings realized from 2016-2017 staff attrition in Central Administration areas such as Planning Services, Business Services, Corporate and Executive Services.