



REPORT TO

REGULAR BOARD

REALIGNMENT OF TRUSTEE WARDS TO THE NEWLY APPROVED 47 CITY WARDS

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
February 5, 2018	February 22, 2018	Click here to enter a date.

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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.



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A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Toronto completed a review of its existing 44 ward boundaries in an effort to understand the number of people living in each boundary and how their populations are expected to change in the future.

Due to population growth, some of the existing City ward boundaries were 30% to 40% above the population of an average City ward. Therefore, not every Toronto citizen was being equally represented at City Council. This led to the creation of 47 new City wards.

The new 47 City wards were officially approved on December 31st, 2017 after appeals to the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) were reviewed and dismissed. These new City wards will be the official electoral ridings for the upcoming Municipal elections and will be effective on December 1st, 2018.

TCDSB legal staff have advised that Trustee wards must be in complete alignment with the newly approved City ward boundaries.

This report provides a staff recommendation for the re-alignment of Trustee ward boundaries.

The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 349 hours.

B. PURPOSE

To gain approval of the recommended changes to the TCDSB Trustee ward boundaries in order to align with the newly approved 47 City wards.

C. BACKGROUND

1. **June 2013**—the current City ward boundaries were established in 2000 and are based on the Federal Electoral Districts that cover the City of Toronto. The City completed a preliminary review of its 44 ward boundaries to increase their understanding of the residents within each boundary and how their populations are expected to change in the future.

2. **March 2014 to July 2015**—the Consultant team (“TWBR”) was selected by the City to undertake the research and development of City ward boundary options. The team consisted of members from the Canadian Urban Institute, Beate Bowron Etcetera, The Davidson Group, and Thomas Ostler. They gathered information on current ward characteristics and boundary options. Based on public input, expected population change and extensive background research, five (5) different ward boundary options were created:
 - 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 more details.

3. **October 15th, 2015**—in a report to Corporate Services, Strategic Planning and Property Committee: “*City of Toronto Ward Boundary Review – Impact on TCDSB Trustee Boundaries*”, staff advised the Board on the potential impacts to TCDSB Trustee ward boundaries based on the five (5) initial options put forward by the City’s Consultant team as noted above.
4. **May 24th, 2016**—the Consultant team provided their final report to the City’s Executive Committee. The report recommended a ward structure of 47 wards (Option 1: “Minimal Change”) with an average population of approximately 61,000 people per City ward. This, in turn, will ensure effective representation given forecasted population growth in City of Toronto over the next fifteen (15) years.
5. **August 25th, 2016**—in a report to Board, staff provided a status update on the City of Toronto ward boundary review process. Staff also provided Trustees and members of the public with detailed information on how to get involved and provide feedback to the Consultant team.
6. **November 9th, 2016**—City Council considered a final report on the new ward boundary options and selected the 47-wards (Option 1: “Minimal Change”).
7. **March 28-30th, 2017**—City Council enacted a By-law to revise the ward boundaries of the City. The By-law reflects the City Council decision thus ending any further debate on City ward boundary options.

8. **April 19th, 2017**—in an information report to Board: “*City of Toronto Ward Boundary Changes and its Impacts to Trustee Wards*”, staff provided a preliminary proposal (staff Option 1) to align the Trustee ward boundaries to the new 47 City wards, with a primary focus on maintaining a balance of schools and enrolment per Trustee ward.
9. **May 14th, 2017**—six (6) appeals were submitted to the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) concerning the City Council decision to adopt 47 City ward boundaries.
10. **August 24th, 2017**—in a report to Board: “*City of Toronto Ward Boundary Changes and Impacts to Trustee Ward Consultant Proposal*”, staff recommended retaining the services of the Consultant team “TWBR” for its own Trustee ward boundary review. The Board, however, recommended that TCDSB staff conduct its own study and review.
11. **November 30th, 2017**—staff organized and led a Trustee ward boundary workshop, which provided three (3) staff options and one (1) sub-option to re-align the Trustee wards to the newly approved 47 City wards. Staff were directed to continue to explore other possible options in a follow-up workshop.
12. **December 15th, 2017**—all six (6) OMB appeals were dismissed, with the exception of one (1) minor adjustment to a City ward boundary within the Thorncliffe Park neighbourhood.
13. **January 11th, 2018**—staff facilitated a second Trustee ward boundary workshop, where an additional option (staff Option 4) was created in response to the feedback received.
14. **April 1st, 2018**—the last day for Toronto school boards to provide the City Clerks office with Board approved re-aligned Trustee ward boundaries.

D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS

1. The process of re-aligning Trustee ward boundaries is governed by the Education Act (*Sec. 58.1*) and Ontario Regulation 412/00 *Elections to and Representation on District School Boards*.

2. The existing 44 City wards and the newly approved 47 City wards can be found in a map in *Appendix 'A'*. This map also demonstrates the misalignment between the newly approved 47 City wards and the current Trustee ward boundaries.
3. After consultation with TCDSB legal counsel, it was recommended that Trustee wards be created with a focus on equitable distribution of eligible Catholic Supporters. This is in accordance with the Education Act, using a calculation method known as the Electoral Quotient.

Electoral Quotient is simply the proportion of eligible Catholic supporters per Trustee ward. Below, is the calculation for Electoral Quotient:

$$\text{Electoral Quotient} = \frac{a \times b}{c}$$

a—is the number of eligible Catholic supporters within each Trustee ward

b—is the total number of Trustee wards

c—is the total number of eligible Catholic supporters in the City of Toronto

4. Staff re-aligned Trustee wards to the new 47 City wards with a goal of maintaining a fair and equitable balance of eligible Catholic supporters. *Appendix 'C'* provides maps and details of all staff options shared with Trustees to date.
5. **Option 1**—focuses primarily on balancing the distribution of schools and enrolment per Trustee ward. This option was dismissed during the first Trustee ward boundary workshop.
6. **Option 2**—provides for the most optimal balance of eligible Catholic supporters per Trustee ward and still demonstrates minimal changes to the current Trustee ward boundaries.
7. **Option 3a**—still provides for an acceptable balance of eligible Catholic supporters per Trustee ward and demonstrates the least amount of changes to current Trustee ward boundaries. However, there was a noticeable imbalance of eligible Catholic supporters between Trustee wards 9 and 10, which led to the creation of Option 3b.

8. **Option 3b**—maintains the original configuration of Option 3a but with an adjustment to the proposed boundaries for Trustee wards 9 and 10 to allow for a better balance of eligible Catholic supporters.
9. **Option 4**—was created following feedback received from Trustees during the first ward boundary workshop. The most noticeable change to this configuration is the transfer of City ward 31 to Trustee ward 7 and the transfer of City ward 19 back to Trustee ward 9.
10. After reviewing all options for re-alignment and incorporating feedback from Trustees, staff recommend Option 2, as provided in *Appendix 'B'*. Option 2 provides the most optimal balance of eligible Catholic supporters per Trustee ward, with minimal changes to the current Trustee ward boundaries. There will also be minimal changes for the parent and school communities in regards to current Trustee representation based on Option 2.

E. IMPLEMENTATION, STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN

All impacted schools will be notified upon approval of the report, and Trustee boundary changes will be reflected on the Boards website and directory.

F. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Board approve Trustee ward boundary Option 2 as outlined in *Appendix 'B'*.
2. That staff provide the City Clerk's office with the newly approved Trustee wards prior to the April 1st, 2018 submission deadline.