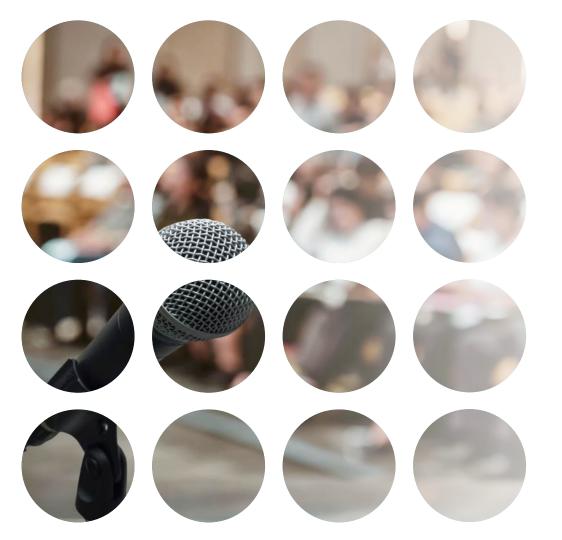


ECONOMISTS LTD.

## Municipality of North Perth Phase 1 Report: Council Composition

Dr. Robert Williams & Jack Ammendolia July 10, 2023



#### Jack Ammendolia

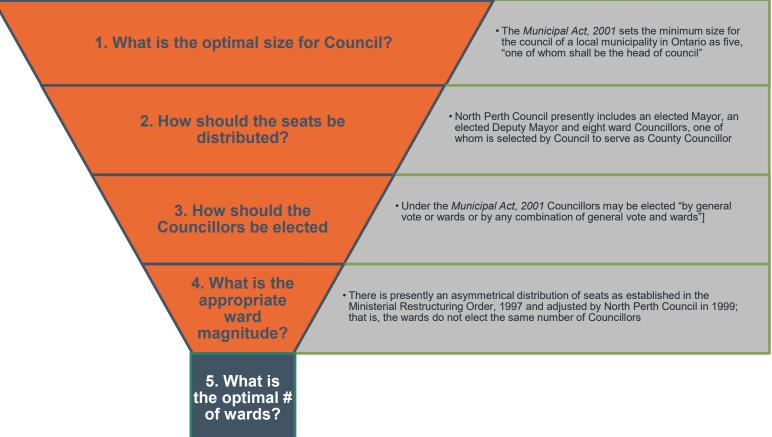
Watson & Associates Economists Ltd.

#### Dr. Robert Williams Public Affairs Consultant



# Five Questions to Answer before conducting a Ward Boundary Review





#### Engagement





Survey Responses



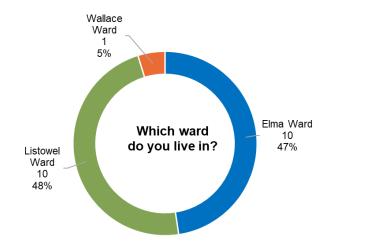
informed participants (viewed a video, downloaded a document, contributed to an engagement tool)

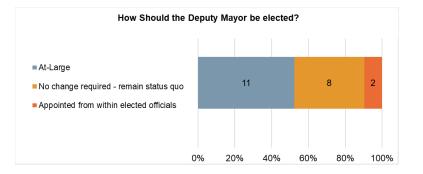
views on the virtual open house YouTube video

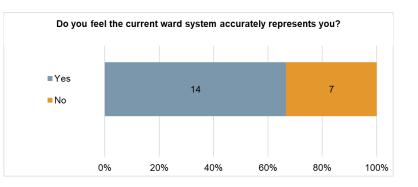


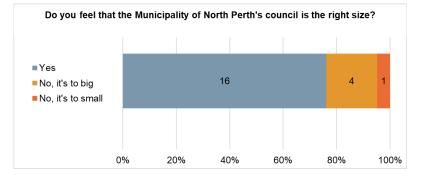
Initial Consultations with Council & Sr. Staff (2021)

## Engagement – Survey Responses











## **Overview of Phase 1 Considerations**

- 1. The election of the Deputy Mayor;
  - Currently elected at-large
  - No feedback or concerns raised with current method.
  - Consistent with many other municipalities in Ontario.
- 2. The election of the County Councillor;
  - Currently selected by Council from one of the elected local councillors.
  - Hybrid role both ward and County responsibilities.
  - Directly elected to serve in one capacity (ward) but indirectly elected to serve in the other (County)
- 3. The continued use of wards and ward magnitudes
  - North Perth characteristics and resident feedback indicate that the ward system continues to be appropriate.
  - Current wards are asymmetrical and do not achieve proportional equality.



## North Perth Council Composition Recommendation

- Current Council is a 10-member Council (Mayor, Deputy Mayor, County Councillor and Ward Councillors).
- Consultant Team working assumption is that 10 is the preferred number but no larger.
  - There can be scenarios that can result in a reduction of ward councillors based on some of the considerations raised in this phase of the analysis (e.g County Councillor method of election) or when constructing wards in Phase 2 of the review.

The Consultant Team recommends that North Perth Council consider new ward scenarios built around 6, 7 or 8 single-member wards in Phase 2 of this review.



- 1. the election of the Deputy Mayor at-large
- 2. the election of the County Councillor at-large; and
- 3. the election of <u>up to</u> eight Councillors in single-member wards.

# **Next Steps**



Develop alternative Ward Boundary options based on council direction:

#### If all recommendations are accepted:

 A maximum of 10-member council (up to 7 single member wards + County Councillor at-large + Deputy Mayor at-large + Mayor)

If county councillor continues to be selected from Council (Status Quo):

• A maximum of 10-member council (up to 8 single member wards + County Councillor selected from Council + Deputy Mayor at-large + Mayor)

If Council does not want single-member symmetrical wards:

- Could impact Council composition/number of wards.
- More analysis would have to be completed dependent on desired configurations.

#### Phase 2 Ward Boundary Review: Drawing the Lines

A **ward-based** electoral system should address these core principles/guidelines:

1	Representation by Po					ulatio	n		
2	Municipal Growth Trends and Projections								
3	Representation of Communities of Interest								
4	Geographical and Topographical Features as Boundaries								
			Effective Representation						
<u>Phase</u>	<u>e 1 Resp</u>	<u>onses:</u>	Please indicate the ONE core princ priority as we assess the current = Voter Parity (each ward should have the same number of electors, within +/- 25%) = Representation of communities of interest (wards should reflect historic and prominent communities = Geographical size (wards should be as compact possible and the boundaries follow clear markers	s)					

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# Questions?

https://www.northperth.ca/CCWBR