Township of SEVERN
Ward Boundary Review

Public Information Session
Ward Boundary Review

Fall 2024
Project Start-Up

October 2024
Council Workshop

October 2024
Council Interviews

November 2024
Background Reports

November 2024
Public Engagement #1

Winter 2024
Preliminary Options

Spring 2025
Public Engagement #2

Spring 2025
Finalize Options

May 2025
Council Decision

We want to hear from you!

For more information, visit
https://www.severn.ca/wbr

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Township of Severn
2024 Ward Boundary Review

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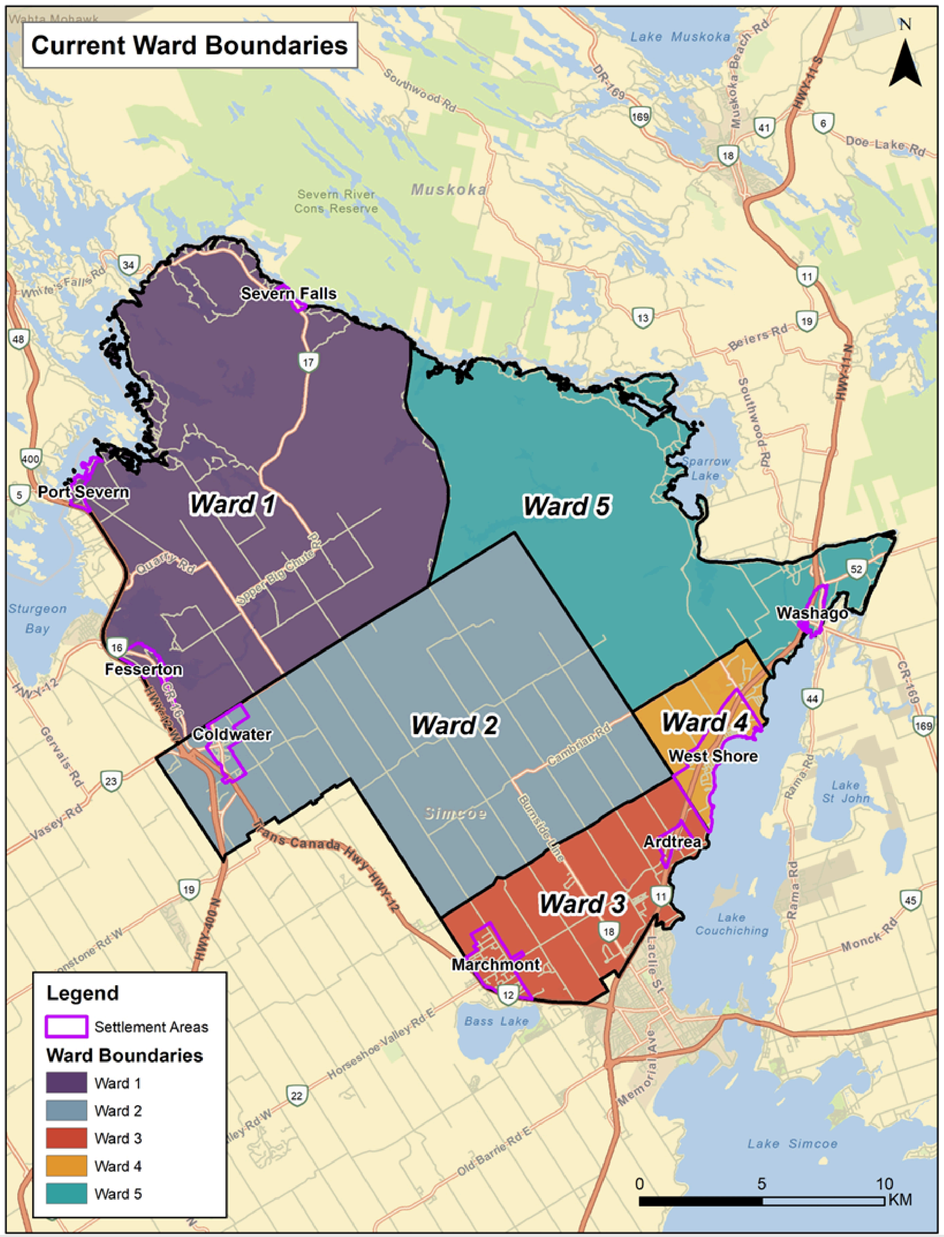
Township of SEVERN

Ward Boundary Review



Existing Ward System

The degree to which each guiding principle is satisfied is ranked as:

- "**Yes**" (fully satisfied);
- "**Largely Successful**";
- "**Partially Successful**"; or
- "**No**" (not satisfied)

O	±5% of the Optimal (Average) Population
O-	±5%-25% of the Optimal (Average) Population
OR-	>±25% of the Optimal (Average) Population

Principle	Does the Current Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?[1]	Comment
Representation by Population	Largely Successful	One ward is at the optimal point and no ward exceeds the ±25% range of variation.
Population and Electoral Trends	Largely Successful	Population growth will not overcome the population disparity between wards, but all wards remain in the acceptable range of variance.
Geographical and Topographical features	Largely Successful	Most boundaries are regular and visible lines although Hwy 11 divides three wards.
Community or Diversity of Interests	Largely Successful	The wards address this principle successfully despite the complex geography of the Township.
Effective Representation	Largely Successful	Population disparities amongst some wards could hinder the achievement of effective voter representation over time but the guiding principles in most cases are largely successful.

Ward	2025			2036		
	Population	Population Variance	Optimal Range	Population	Population Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	5,058	1.12	O+	5,084	1.05	O+
Ward 2	4,010	0.89	O-	4,140	0.86	O-
Ward 3	4,913	1.09	O+	5,406	1.12	O+
Ward 4	4,576	1.02	O	5,514	1.14	O+
Ward 5	3,978	0.88	O-	3,958	0.82	O-
Total/Average	**22,536**	**4,507**		**24,102**	**4,820**	

* All numbers include projected growth and seasonal populations.

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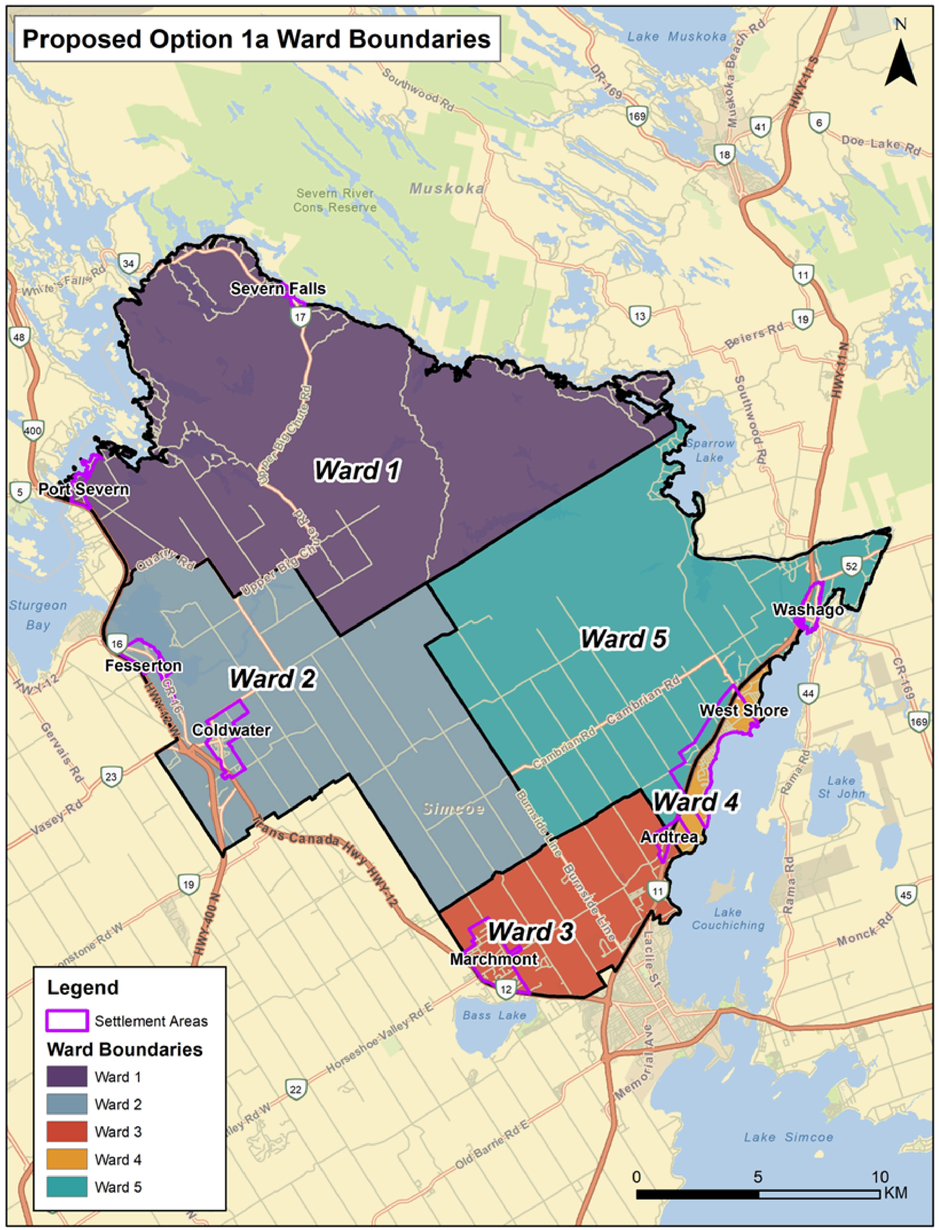
Ward Boundary Review



Option 1a

The degree to which each guiding principle is satisfied is ranked as:

- "**Yes**" (fully satisfied);
- "**Largely Successful**";
- "**Partially Successful**"; or
- "**No**" (not satisfied)

O	±5% of the Optimal (Average) Population
O-	±5%-25% of the Optimal (Average) Population
OR-	>±25% of the Optimal (Average) Population

Principle	Does the Current Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
Representation by Population	**Yes**	All wards are within the ±25% range of variation with three within the optimal range (±5%) of the average population.
Population and Electoral Trends	**Yes**	Population growth within Severn will not result in wards falling outside the ±25% range of variation. Two wards remain within the ±5% range of variation.
Geographical and Topographical features	**Largely Successful**	Boundaries are clear and/or visible lines. Highway 11 used as Ward 4-5 boundary.
Community or Diversity of Interests	**Largely Successful**	The wards contain plausible groupings of settlements and/or neighbourhoods.
Effective Representation	**Yes**	Future population changes and community groupings support effective representation.

Ward	2025			2036		
	Population	Population Variance	Optimal Range	Population	Population Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	4,929	1.09	O+	5,031	1.04	O
Ward 2	4,372	0.97	O	4,491	0.93	O-
Ward 3	4,402	0.98	O	4,620	0.96	O
Ward 4	4,182	0.93	O-	5,437	1.13	O+
Ward 5	4,651	1.03	O	4,524	0.94	O-
Total/Average	**22,536**	**4,507**		**24,102**	**4,820**	

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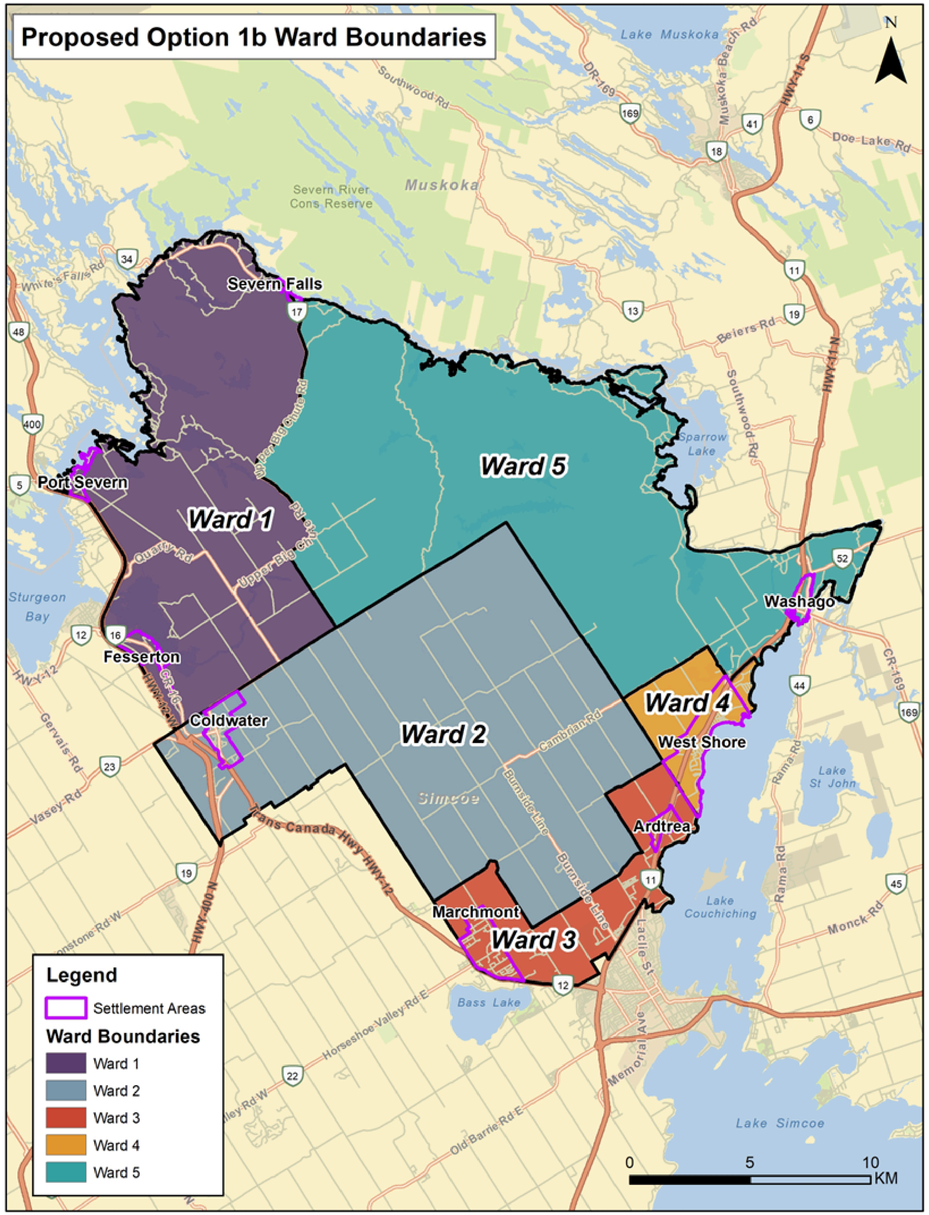
Ward Boundary Review



Option 1b

The degree to which each guiding principle is satisfied is ranked as:

- "**Yes**" (fully satisfied);
- "**Largely Successful**";
- "**Partially Successful**"; or
- "**No**" (not satisfied)

O	±5% of the Optimal (Average) Population
O-	±5%-25% of the Optimal (Average) Population
OR-	>±25% of the Optimal (Average) Population

Principle	Does the Current Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
Representation by Population	Yes	All wards are within the ±25% range of variation with three of the five wards within the optimal range (±5%) of the average population.
Population and Electoral Trends	Yes	All wards are within the ±25% range of variation with four of the five wards within the optimal range (±5%) of the average population.
Geographical and Topographical features	Largely Successful	Most boundaries are clear and/or visible lines.
Community or Diversity of Interests	Largely Successful	The wards each contain plausible groupings of settlements and/or neighbourhoods.
Effective Representation	Largely Successful	Future population balance is offset by the wide variation in the geographic size of the wards. This combination hinders the achievement of complete effective representation.

Ward	2025			2036		
	Population	Population Variance	Optimal Range	Population	Population Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	4,593	1.02	O	4,624	0.96	O
Ward 2	4,400	0.98	O	4,502	0.93	O-
Ward 3	4,524	1.00	O	5,044	1.05	O
Ward 4	4,025	0.89	O-	4,981	1.03	O
Ward 5	4,994	1.11	O+	4,951	1.03	O
Total/Average	**22,536**	**4,507**		**24,102**	**4,820**	

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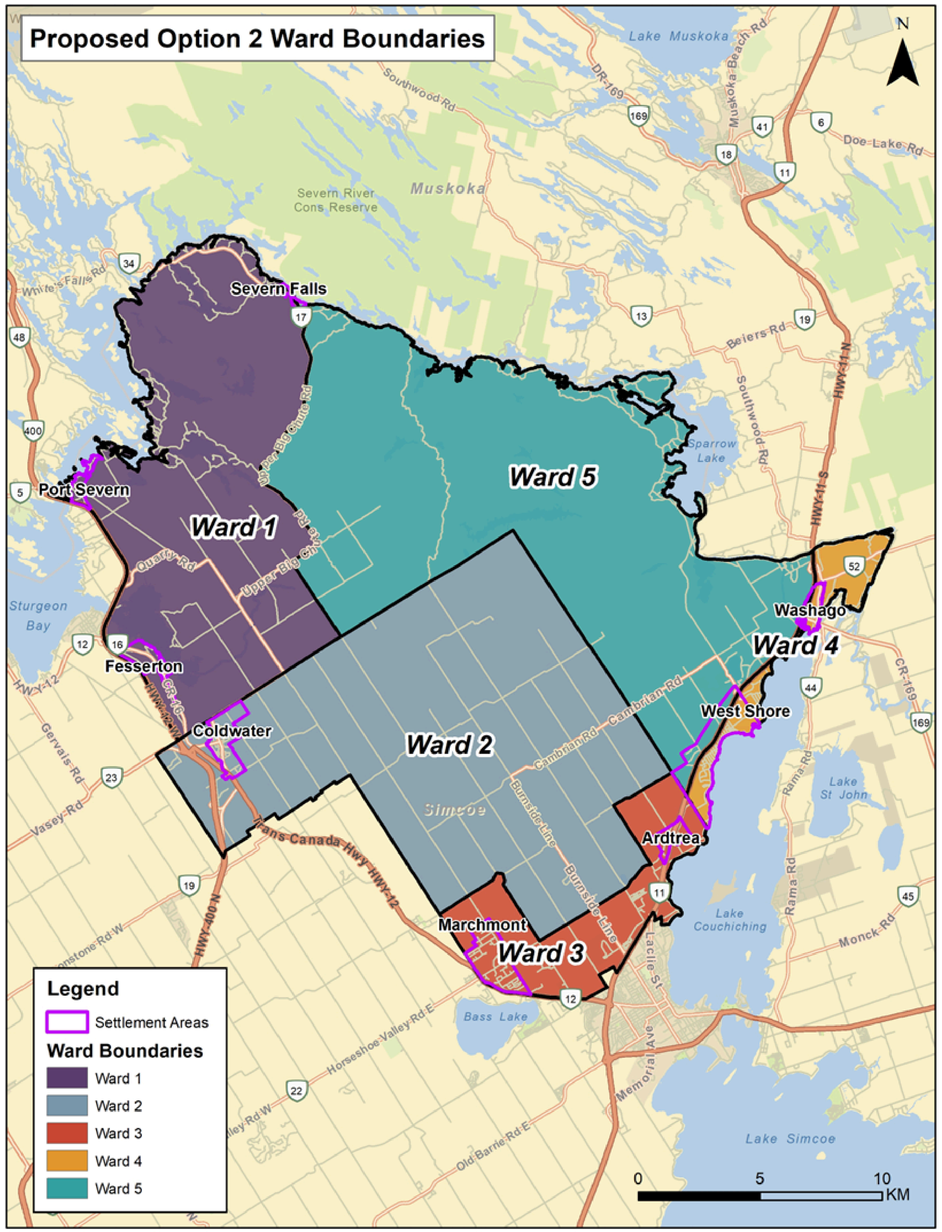
Ward Boundary Review



Option 2

The degree to which each guiding principle is satisfied is ranked as:

- "**Yes**" (fully satisfied);
- "**Largely Successful**";
- "**Partially Successful**"; or
- "**No**" (not satisfied)

O	±5% of the Optimal (Average) Population
O-	±5%-25% of the Optimal (Average) Population
OR-	>±25% of the Optimal (Average) Population

Principle	Does the Current Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
Representation by Population	Largely Successful	All wards are within the ±25% range of variation with three of the five wards within the optimal range (±5%) of the average population.
Population and Electoral Trends	Partially Successful	Population growth creates large imbalance between the proposed Wards 4 & 5; the two wards fall outside the ±25% range of variation.
Geographical and Topographical features	Largely Successful	Most boundaries are clear and/or visible lines.
Community or Diversity of Interests	Largely Successful	The wards each contain plausible groupings of settlements and/or neighbourhoods.
Effective Representation	Partially Successful	This Option maintains communities of interest but with a wide variation in the geographic size and population of the wards

Ward	2025			2036		
	Population	Population Variance	Optimal Range	Population	Population Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	4,593	1.02	O	4,624	0.96	O
Ward 2	4,400	0.98	O	4,502	0.93	O-
Ward 3	4,524	1.00	O	5,044	1.05	O
Ward 4	5,238	1.16	O+	6,212	1.29	OR+
Ward 5	3,782	0.84	O-	3,720	0.77	O-
Total/Average	**22,536**	**4,507**		**24,102**	**4,820**	

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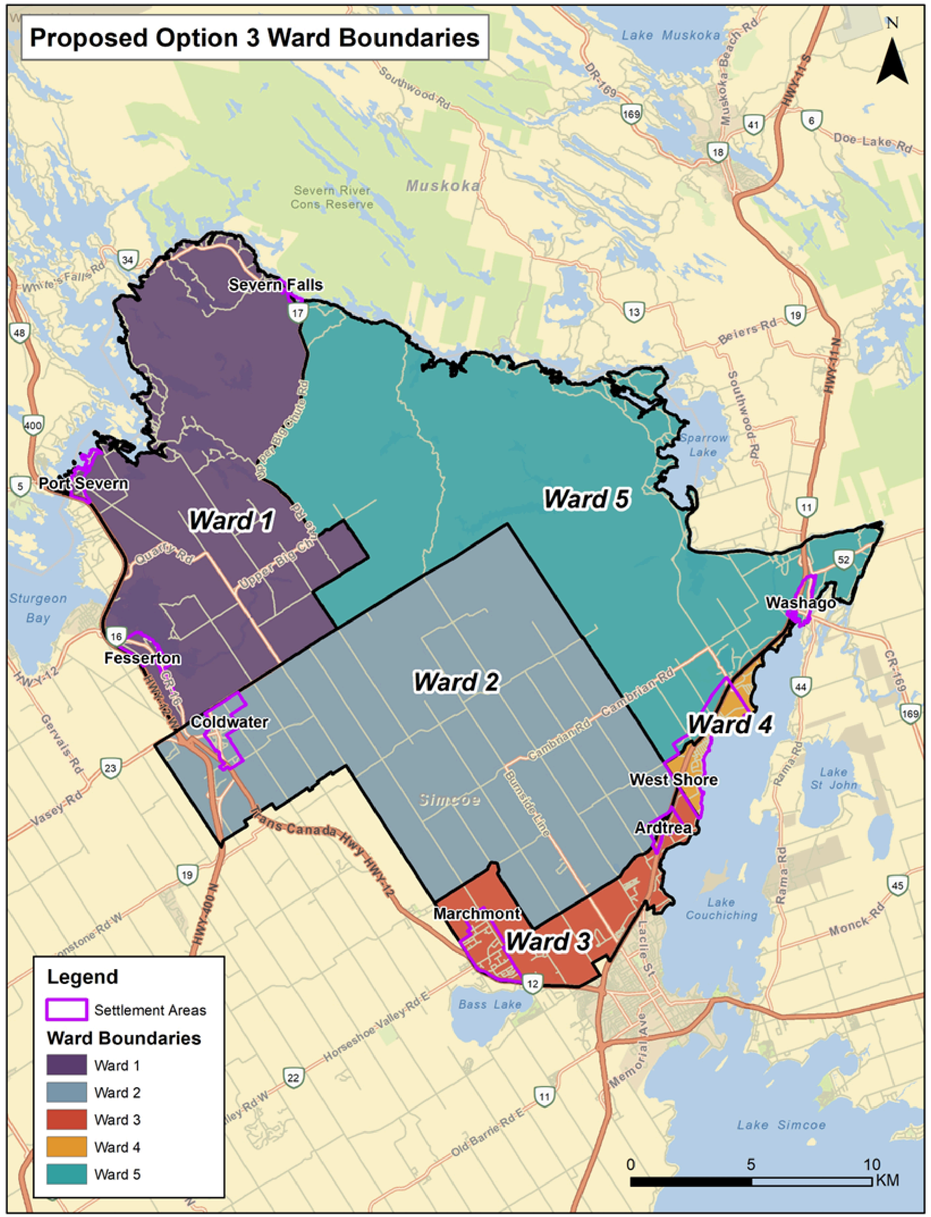

Option 3

The degree to which each guiding principle is satisfied is ranked as:

- "**Yes**" (fully satisfied);
- "**Largely Successful**";
- "**Partially Successful**"; or
- "**No**" (not satisfied)

O	±5% of the Optimal (Average) Population
O-	±5%-25% of the Optimal (Average) Population
OR-	>±25% of the Optimal (Average) Population

Principle	Does the Current Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
Representation by Population	Yes	All wards are within ±10% range of optimal, with two of the five wards within the optimal range (±5%) of the average population.
Population and Electoral Trends	Yes	Population growth within Severn settlement is distributed so that all wards are within the ±5% range of variation.
Geographical and Topographical features	Largely Successful	Other than the boundary between proposed wards 2 & 3, boundaries are clear and/or visible lines.
Community or Diversity of Interests	Largely Successful	The wards contain plausible groupings of settlements and/or neighbourhoods.
Effective Representation	Yes	Strong population parity in 2025 and 2036 result in the achievement of effective representation.

Ward	2025			2036		
	Population	Population Variance	Optimal Range	Population	Population Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	4,726	1.05	O	4,748	0.99	O
Ward 2	4,678	1.04	O	4,761	0.99	O
Ward 3	4,246	0.94	O-	4,786	0.99	O
Ward 4	4,055	0.90	O-	5,011	1.04	O
Ward 5	4,832	1.07	O+	4,797	1.00	O
Total/Average	**22,536**	**4,507**		**24,102**	**4,820**	

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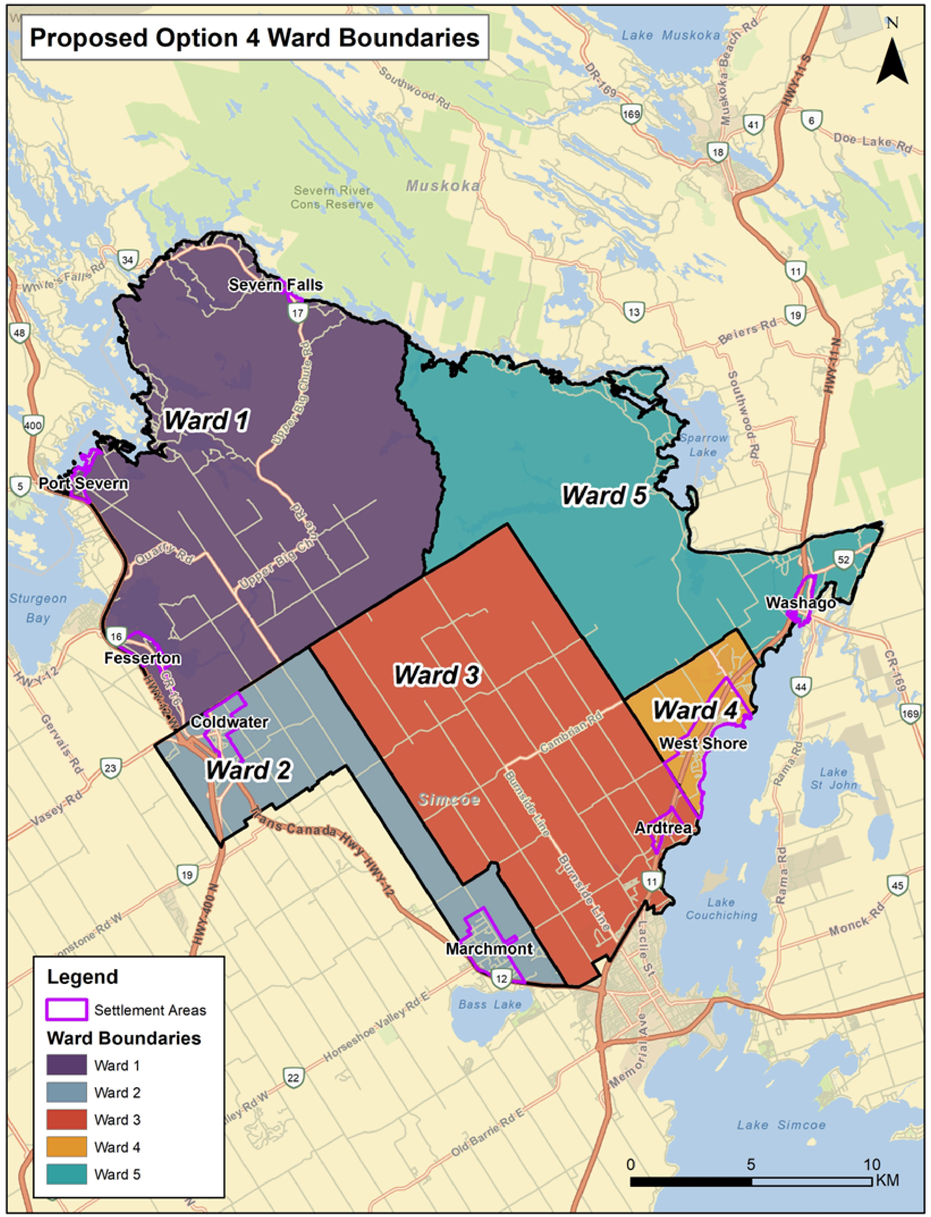

Option 4

The degree to which each guiding principle is satisfied is ranked as:

- "**Yes**" (fully satisfied);
- "**Largely Successful**";
- "**Partially Successful**"; or
- "**No**" (not satisfied)

O	±5% of the Optimal (Average) Population
O-	±5%-25% of the Optimal (Average) Population
OR-	>±25% of the Optimal (Average) Population

Principle	Does the Current Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
Representation by Population	Largely Successful	All wards are within the ±25% range of variation.
Population and Electoral Trends	Largely Successful	All wards are within the ±25% range of variation.
Geographical and Topographical features	Largely Successful	Most boundaries are clear and/or visible lines. The boundary between the proposed Wards 2 and 3 is novel.
Community or Diversity of Interests	Largely Successful	Three wards contain plausible groupings of settlements and/or neighbourhoods. Proposed Ward 2 has two historic population centres.
Effective Representation	Largely Successful	Strong population parity in 2025 and 2036 contribute to the achievement of effective representation.

Ward	2025 Population	2025 Population Variance	2025 Optimal Range	2036 Population	2036 Population Variance	2036 Optimal Range
Ward 1	5,058	1.12	O+	5,084	1.05	O+
Ward 2	4,806	1.07	O+	5,046	1.05	O
Ward 3	4,117	0.91	O-	4,500	0.93	O-
Ward 4	4,576	1.02	O	5,514	1.14	O+
Ward 5	3,978	0.88	O-	3,958	0.82	O-
Total/Average	**22,536**	**4,507**		**24,102**	**4,820**	

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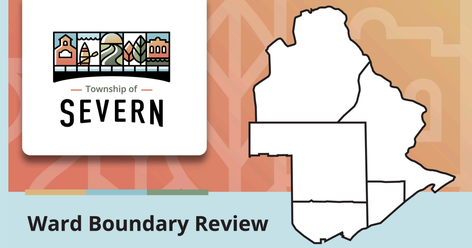

Evaluation Summary

Preliminary Option	Representation by Population	Population and Electoral Trends	Geographical and Topographical features	Community or Diversity of Interests	Effective Representation
Existing System	Largely Successful	Largely Successful	Largely Successful	Largely Successful	Largely Successful
1A	Yes	Yes	Largely Successful	Largely Successful	Yes
1B	Yes	Yes	Largely Successful	Largely Successful	Largely Successful
2	Largely Successful	Partially Successful	Largely Successful	Largely Successful	Partially Successful
3	Yes	Yes	Largely Successful	Largely Successful	Yes
4	Largely Successful	Largely Successful	Largely Successful	Largely Successful	Largely Successful

Levels of evaluation for how the Guiding Principles are met

Yes	Largely successful	Partially Successful	No

Higher Rating — **Lower Rating**