



# Township of Severn

## Ward Boundary Review

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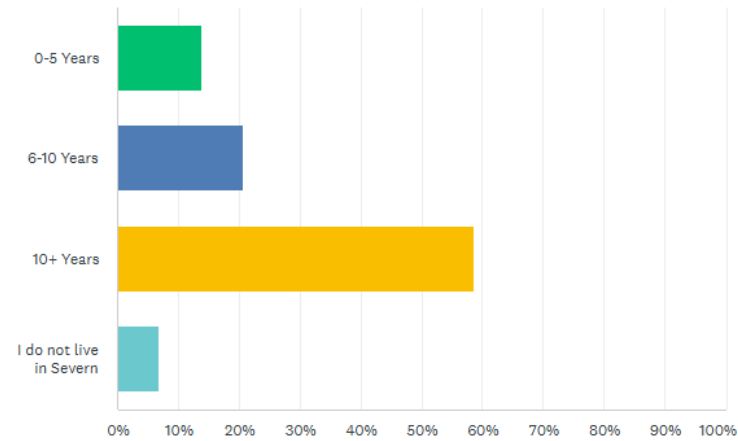
Final Recommended Options to Council

May 28, 2025

# What we Heard

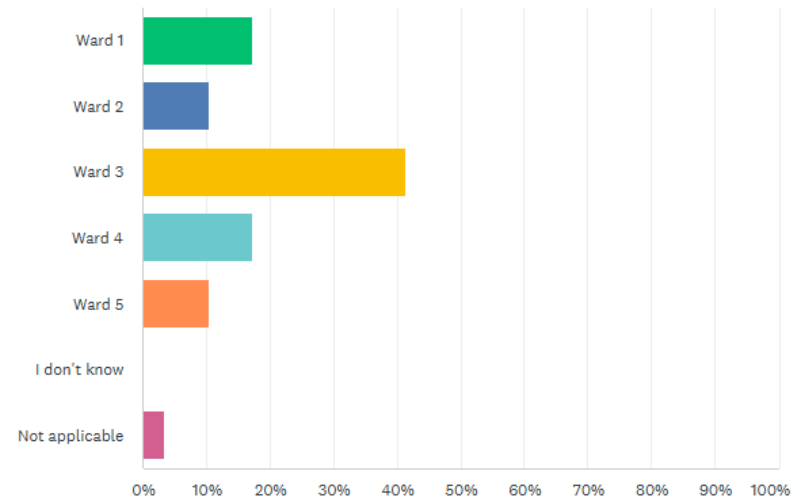
## How long have you lived in Severn?

Answered: 29   Skipped: 0



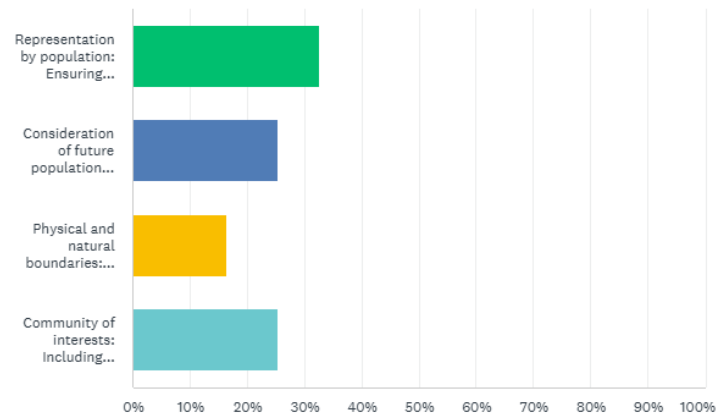
## Which ward do you live in?

Answered: 29   Skipped: 0



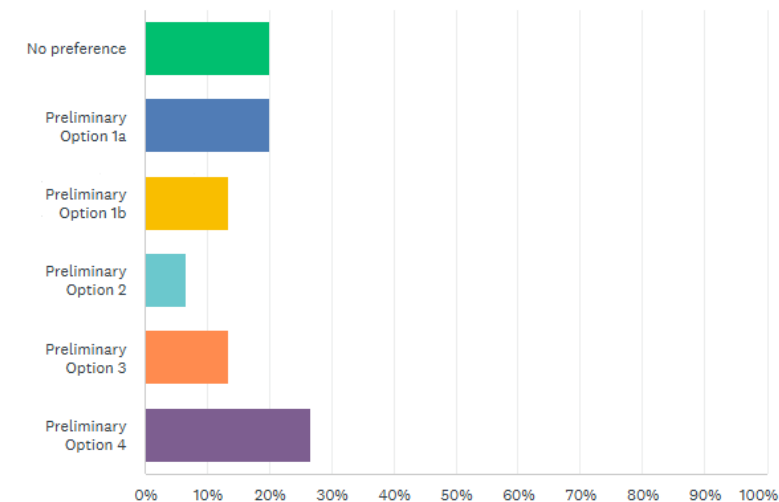
## Please indicate the ONE guiding principle that should be given the highest priority to ensure effective representation:

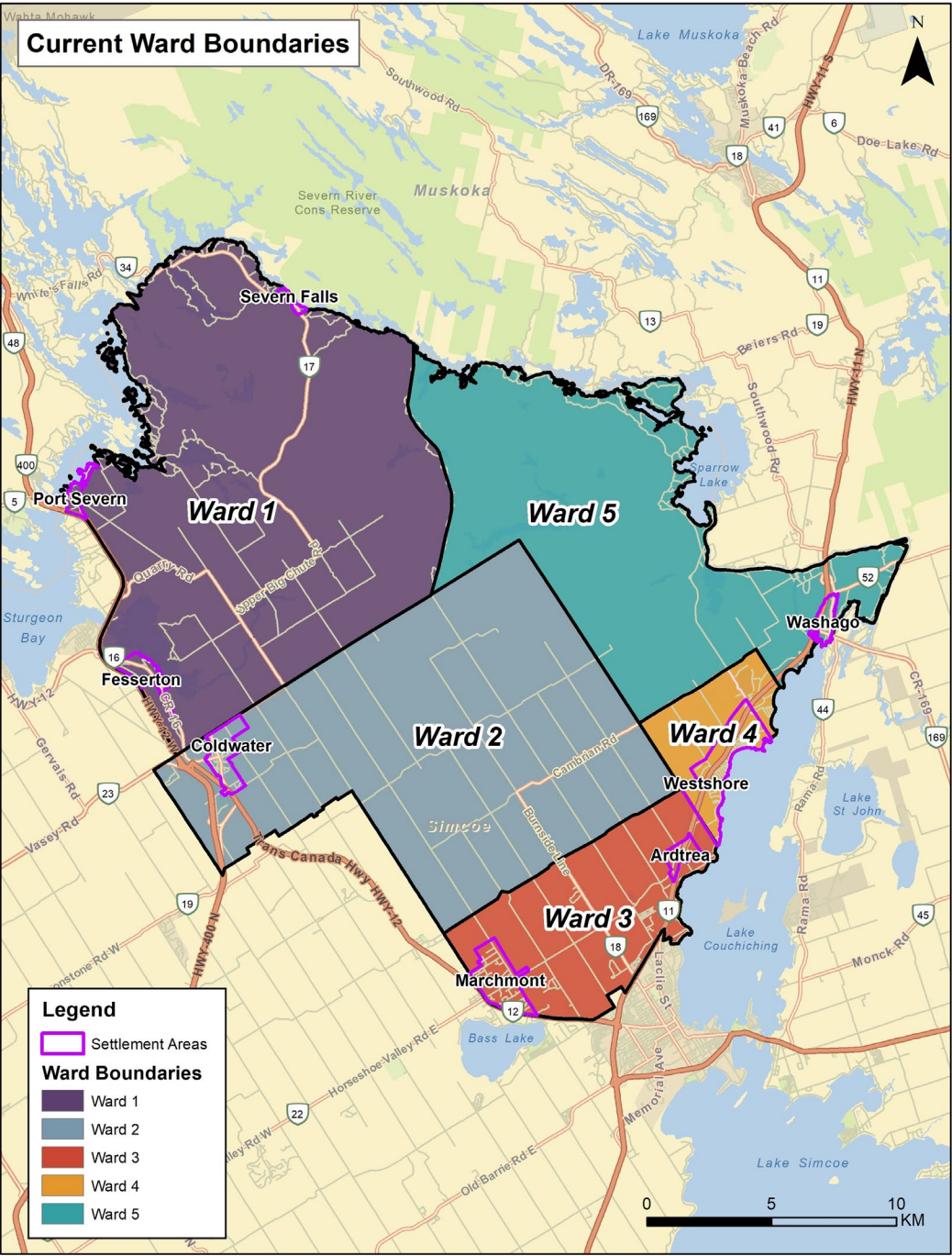
Answered: 55   Skipped: 16



## Which of the preliminary options do you prefer?

Answered: 15   Skipped: 14





# Existing Wards



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	

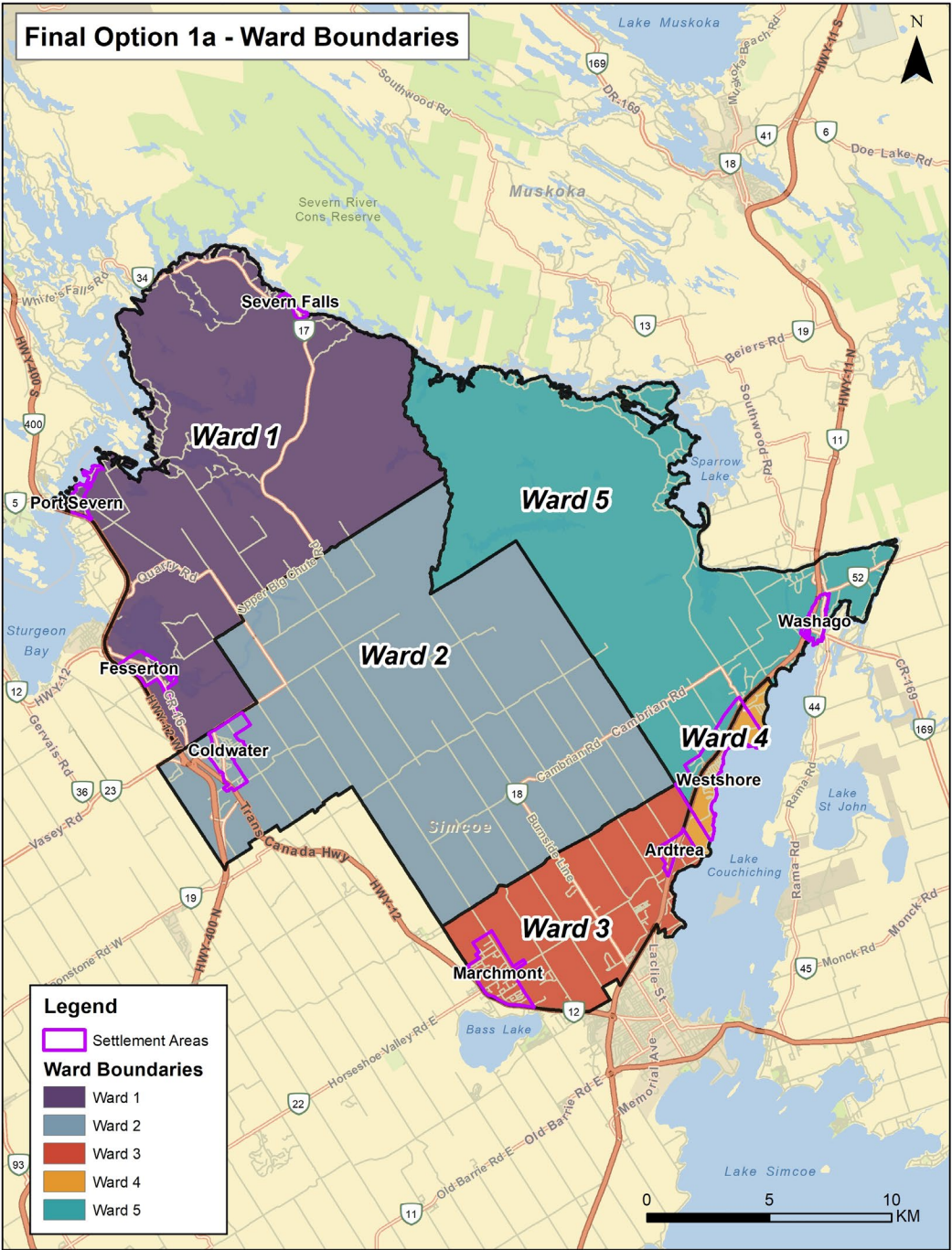


# Final Option 1a

(Preliminary Option 1)

- Provides for significantly better population parity than the current ward configuration with successful groupings of communities of interest despite the geographic separation of the major population clusters
- Proposed Ward 1, Ward 2 and Ward 3 within parity for 2025 while other two are within 25%
- Four wards within parity for 2036 while proposed Ward 2 is within the acceptable range

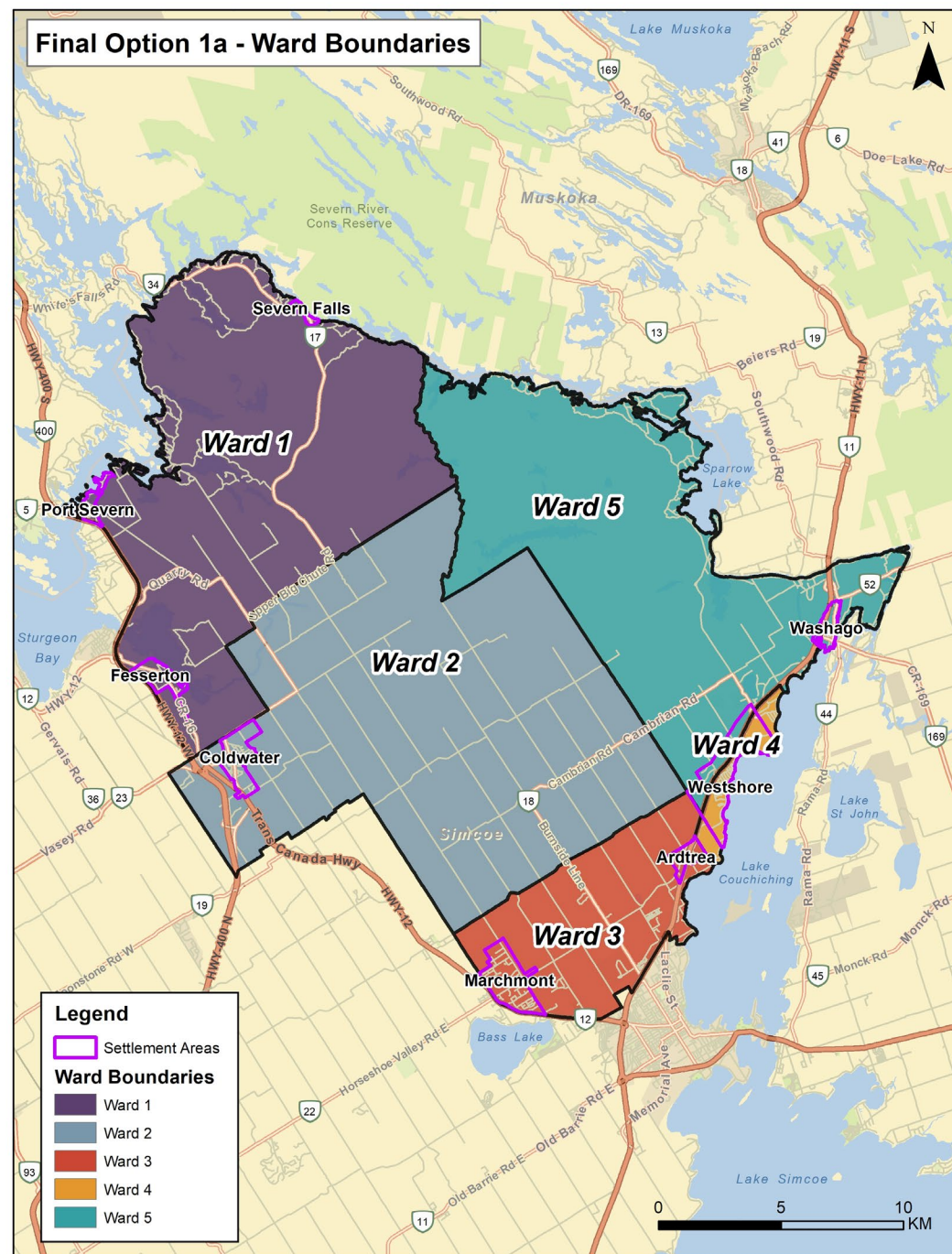
Ward Number	2025 Population	Variance	Optimal Range	2035 Population	Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	4,696	1.04	O	4,744	0.98	O
Ward 2	4,373	0.97	O	4,481	0.93	O-
Ward 3	4,678	1.04	O	5,042	1.05	O
Ward 4	3,955	0.88	O-	5,057	1.05	O
Ward 5	4,835	1.07	O+	4,778	0.99	O
Total	22,536	-	-	24,102	-	-
Average	4,507	-	-	4,820	-	-



# Final Option 1a

## (Preliminary Option 1)

Principle	Does the Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
Representation by Population	Largely Successful	Three of the five proposed wards at the optimal point in 2025, one falling >10% below.
Population and Electoral Trends	Yes	Four of the five proposed wards at the optimal point in 2036, one falling <10% below.
Geographical and Topographical features	Yes	All boundary lines are clear and understandable to residents.
Community or Diversity of Interests	Largely Successful	Successful groupings of communities of interest despite the geographic separation of the major population clusters.
Effective Representation	Yes	Reduced population disparities amongst the wards contribute to the achievement of effective representation over time. Other contributing factors successfully addressed.



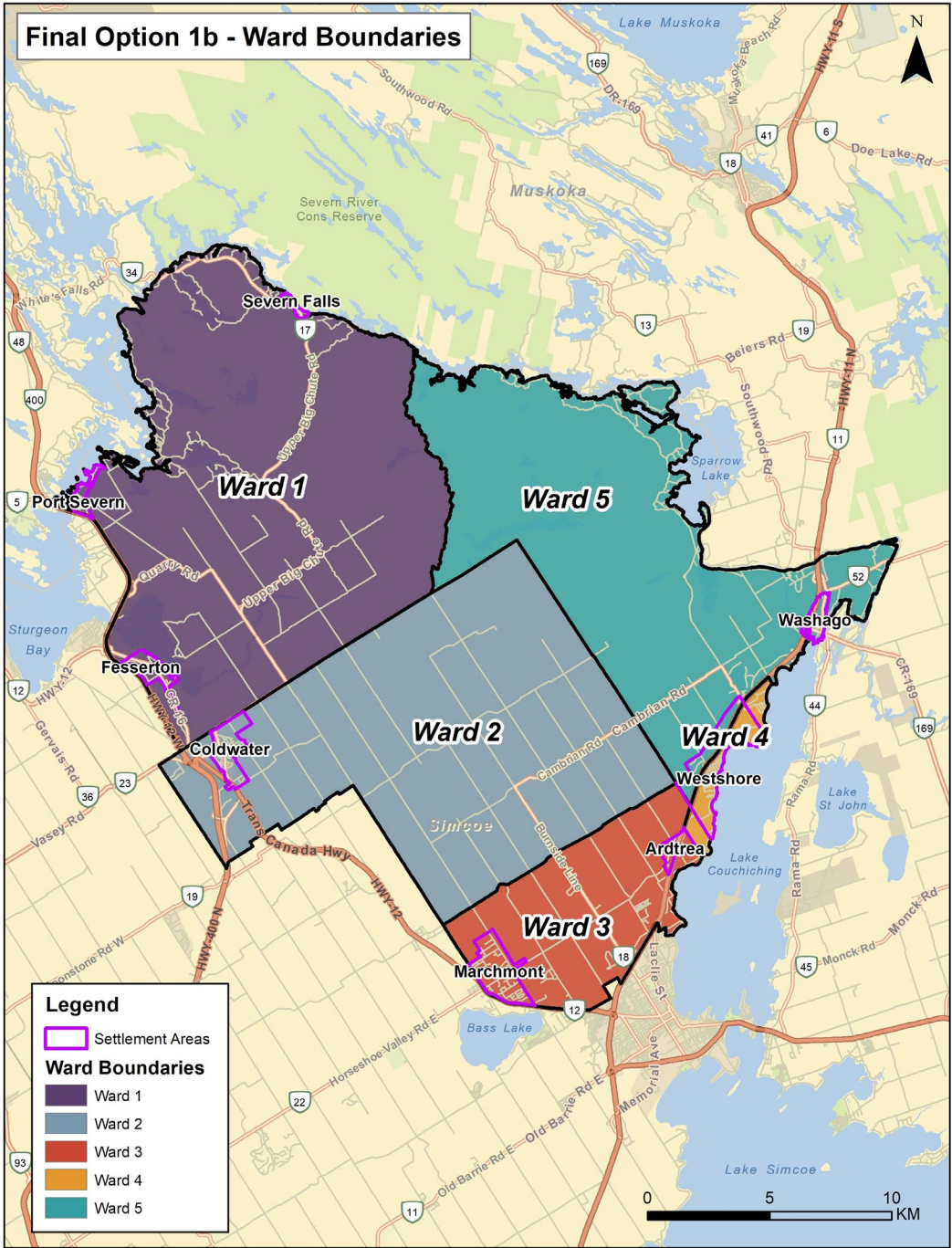


# Final Option 1b

(Adjusted Final Option 1a)

- The boundary between the proposed Wards 1 and 2 reverts to Mount Stephen Road, meaning that these two proposed wards are unchanged from the present Wards 1 and 2
- The other three wards are identical in Final Options 1a and 1b

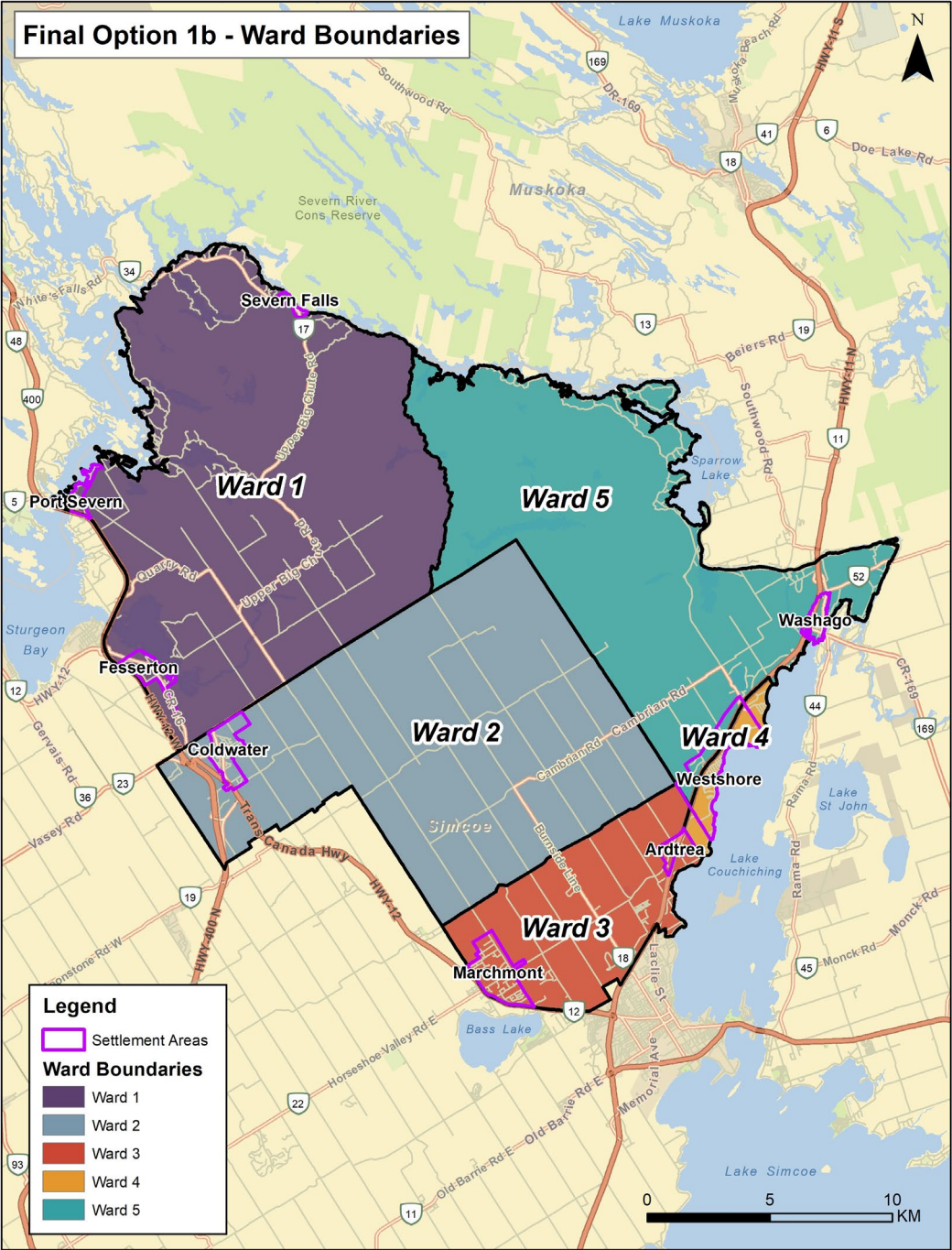
Ward Number	2025 Population	Variance	Optimal Range	2035 Population	Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	5,058	1.12	O+	5,084	1.05	O+
Ward 2	4,010	0.89	O-	4,140	0.86	O-
Ward 3	4,678	1.04	O	5,042	1.05	O
Ward 4	3,955	0.88	O-	5,057	1.05	O
Ward 5	4,835	1.07	O+	4,778	0.99	O
Total	22,536	-	-	24,102	-	-
Average	4,507	-	-	4,820	-	-



# Final Option 1b

(Adjusted Final Option 1a)

Principle	Does the Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
Representation by Population	Largely Successful	One proposed ward at the optimal point, four of the five proposed wards are within the acceptable range of variation.
Population and Electoral Trends	Largely Successful	Three of the five proposed wards at the optimal point in 2036, one falling <20% below.
Geographical and Topographical features	Yes	All boundary lines are clear and understandable to residents.
Community or Diversity of Interests	Yes	Successful groupings of communities of interest despite the geographic separation of the major population clusters.
Effective Representation	Yes	Reduced population disparities amongst the wards contribute to the achievement of effective representation over time. Other contributing factors successfully addressed.





# Council's Authority & Next Steps



Ontario's *Municipal Act, 2001* is silent on essential features of the municipal system of representation. The *Act* merely authorizes a lower-tier municipality:

- to determine the “composition of council” (that is, the size of council)
- to determine how Council (other than the Mayor) will be elected (“by general vote or wards\* or by any combination of general vote and wards”) [s. 217];
- to divide or re-divide the municipality into wards or to dissolve the existing wards” through a by-law of Council [s. 222]

Council can:

- Choose the recommended option;
- Ask for changes or revisions to the recommended option (or choose one of the other options and ask for changes to it);
- Adopt a by-law to dissolve the wards.
- Take no action

Should Council choose to implement new ward boundaries, it would have to pass a bylaw. Notice of the bylaw would have to be provided.

Any action respecting ward boundary reconfigurations (including taking no action, albeit with limitations) could be appealed to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT). A new bylaw can be appealed up to 45 days after passage.





Questions?