



Staff Report

Report Title: Legislative Update – September 2022

Prepared By: Emily Dance, Clerk

Department: Clerk

Date: Sep. 7, 2022

**Report Number: CLK-2022-09-78
Reports**

File Number: C11 CLK

Attachments:

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby receives for information Report CLK-2022-09-78 prepared by Emily Dance, Clerk

Background:

Throne Speech & Provincial Budget

Bill 3 The Strong Mayors, Building Homes Act.

Federal Electoral Districts Redistribution

Discussion:

Throne Speech & Provincial Budget

On August 9, 2022 Lieutenant Governor Elizabeth Dowdeswell read the [Throne Speech](#) outlining the provincial government's legislative objectives for the remainder of its mandate.

- The provincial government is seeking to deliver on ongoing and new priority actions, particularly in the health, long-term care, and housing sector
- A five per cent increase in payments made through the Ontario Disability Support Program, with a commitment to introduce changes that will increase ODSP rates annually, tied to inflation.
- The introduction of a strong-mayor system.
- Continued investments in the implementation of the Roadmap to Wellness, Ontario's plan to build a connected and comprehensive mental health and addictions system.

- A commitment to expand the scopes of practice for community paramedicine programs to allow paramedics to care for people at home, rather than in hospital or long-term care.
- A recommitment to build 30,000 new long-term care beds by 2028, with 31,705 new and 28,648 upgraded beds now in development, with a total investment of nearly \$5 billion over four years to hire the more than 27,000 new staff that will be needed to provide long-term care home residents an average of four hours of direct care per day by 2025.
- A commitment to explore partnering with municipalities to leverage surplus provincial lands and add new incentives to build attainable housing that lowers costs for potential buyers and puts home ownership in reach for more families

Bill 3 The Strong Mayors, Building Homes Act.

On August 10, 2022 the Ontario government introduced the [*Strong Mayors, Building Homes Act*](#), that if passed would give the mayors of **Toronto** and **Ottawa** new tools to advance provincial priorities, including building 1.5 million new homes over the next ten years and the construction and maintenance of infrastructure to help build housing faster.

Proposed changes include:

- hiring the Chief Administrative Officer and municipal department heads, and create and re-organize departments
- appointing chairs/vice-chairs for identified committees and local boards, and establish new identified committees
- bringing matters for council consideration related to provincial priorities
- vetoing by-laws approved by council if they relate to matters of provincial priority
- proposing the municipal budget

If passed, the proposed changes are intended to take effect on November 15, 2022 — the start of the new municipal council term.

Federal Electoral Districts Redistribution

The Constitution Act, 1867 and the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act require that the number of seats in the House of Commons and the boundaries of federal electoral districts be reviewed after each decennial (10-year) census. This mechanism allows for changes and movements in Canada's population to be reflected in the House of Commons.

On August 19, 2022 the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission for Ontario released a proposed new electoral map for consideration at public hearings this fall.

This introduces changes to the Ontario's federal electoral district boundaries which was developed through an independent and non-partisan process.

Under the [Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act](#), the Commission's main aim in redrawing the boundaries is to divide the province into 122 electoral districts (increase of 1 electoral district from 2012) that are as close to the electoral quota as reasonably possible, while taking into consideration, communities of interest or identity, and historic and geographic factors. The electoral quota is calculated by dividing the population of the province by the number of electoral districts it has been allocated. In the case of Ontario, the quota for each electoral district is 116,590 (14,223,942 residents divided by 122 electoral districts).

There is a proposed change to the boundaries for electoral district for the Township of Huron-Kinloss including a name change.

[Huron-Bruce Existing](#) (includes Township of Huron-Kinloss)

[South Huron Shores Proposed](#) (includes Township of Huron-Kinloss)

The redistribution process is expected to take several months. The new boundaries can only be put in place at a general election called at least seven months after the new electoral districts have been set.

The Ontario commission is holding in-person and virtual public hearings to gather opinions on the proposed boundaries and electoral district names at various locations and times.

If you wish to make a representation at a hearing, you must complete the Public Hearing Participation Form and submit it by September 25, 2022. Comments can be submitted in writing if you don't want to appear at an in-person or virtual hearing.

More details can be found on the [Redistribution Federal Electoral Districts Website](#).

To note the only province that currently has a majority of matching federal and provincial electoral boundaries is Ontario. All other provinces have completely different federal and provincial electoral boundaries.

Financial Impacts:

There are no financial impacts associated with this report.

Strategic Alignment / Link:

We are an accessible community by being open and transparent.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Emily Dance, Clerk

Approved By:

Mary Rose Walden, Chief Administrative Officer