



# Haldimand County

## Ward Boundary Review

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Final Recommended Options to Council

February 4, 2025

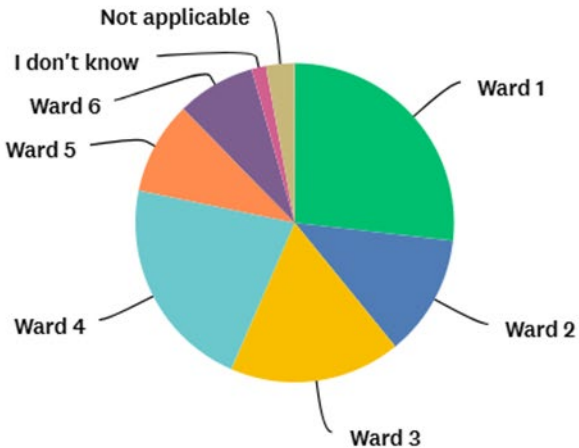
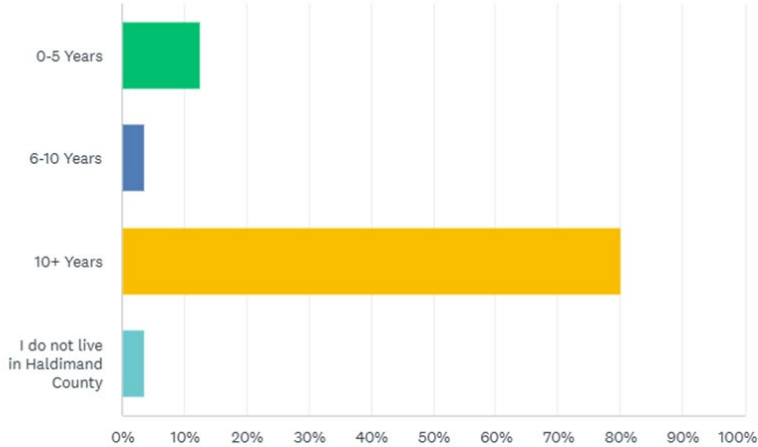
# What we Heard

Which ward do you live in? (See map above) GLE-02-2025, Attachment 1

Answered: 138 Skipped: 2

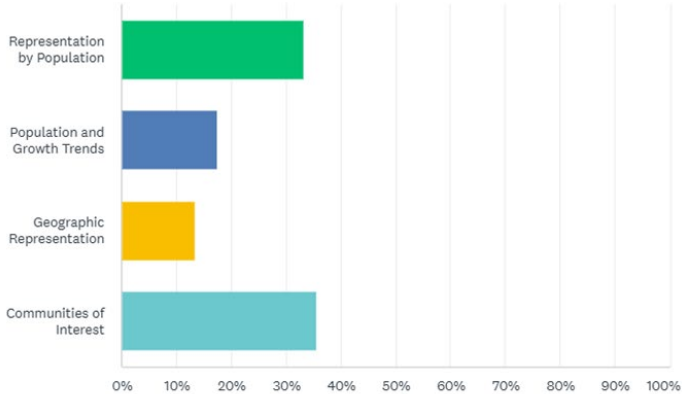
How long have you lived in Haldimand County?

Answered: 136 Skipped: 4



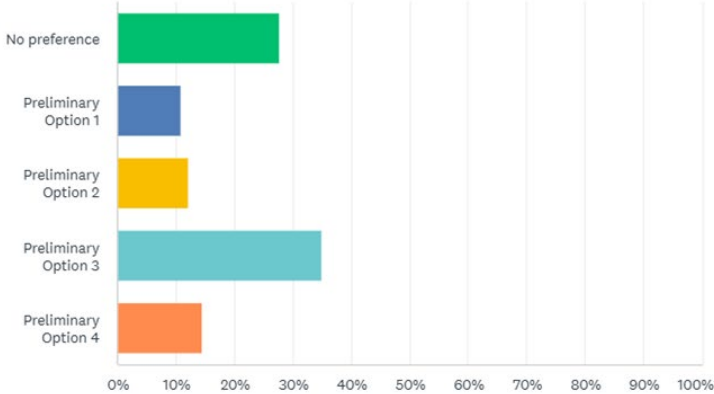
Please indicate the ONE guiding principle that should be given the greatest priority to ensure effective voter representation as we assess the current ward makeup in Haldimand County:

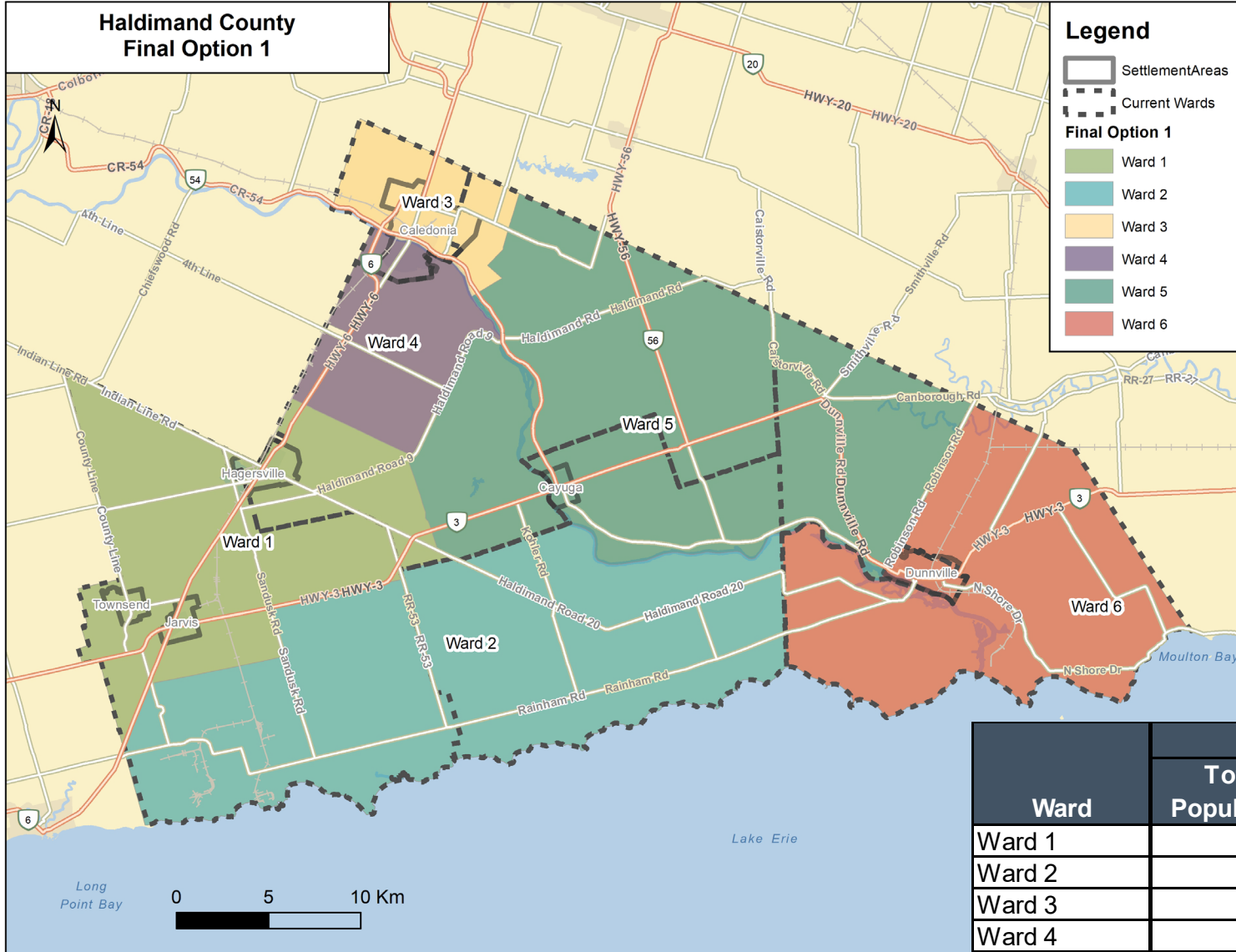
Answered: 171 Skipped: 6



Which of the four preliminary options do you prefer? Please note that you can view previous options using the "prev" and "next" buttons at the bottom of each option page.

Answered: 83 Skipped: 57





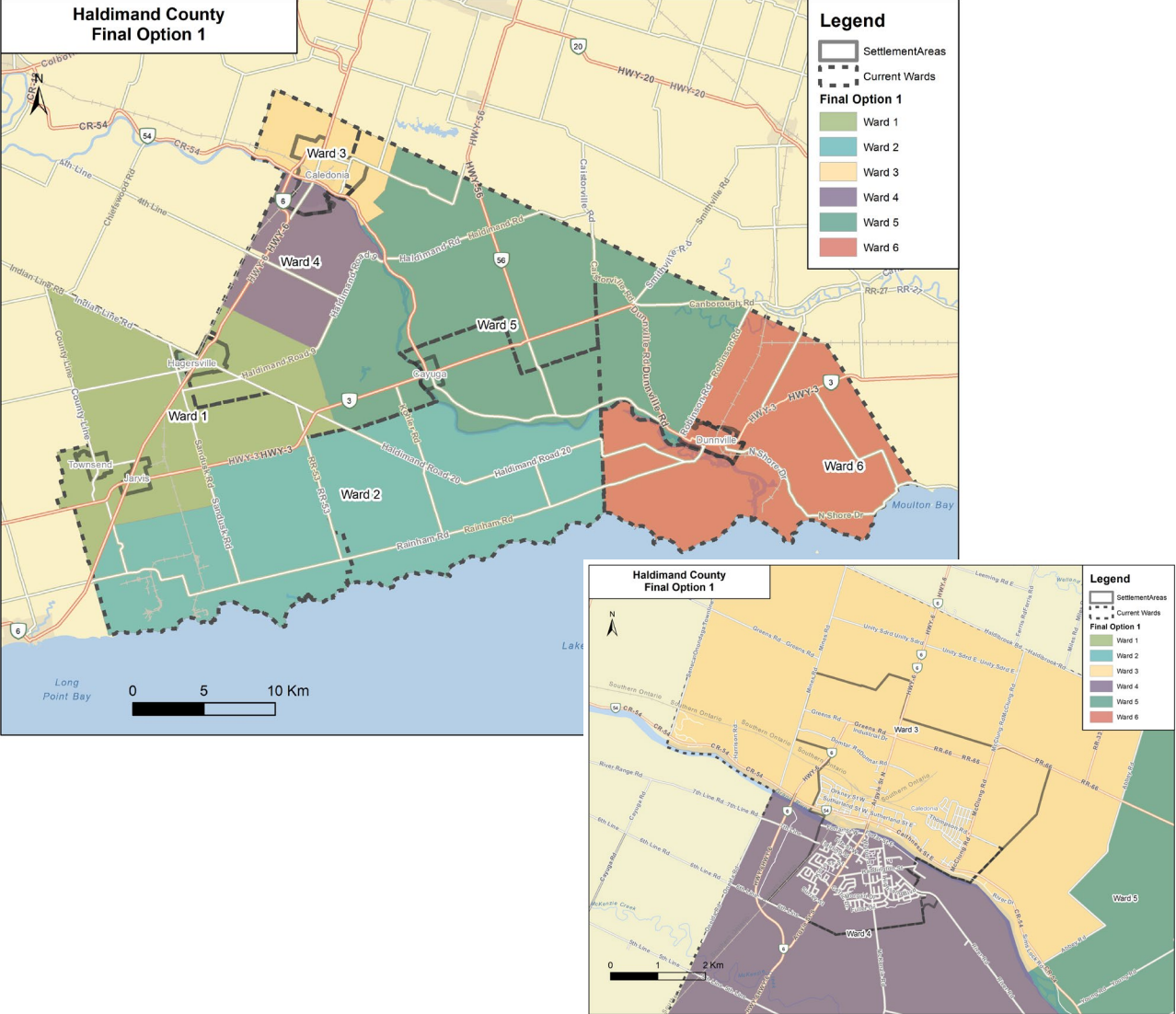
# Final Recommended Option 1 (Preliminary Option 1-B)

- Adjustment made between Wards 1 and 4 (wards 2, 3, 5, 6 same as Preliminary Option 1)
- Ward 6 outside of acceptable population range in 2024 (+35%) but comes into parity.
- Ward 2 and 3 fall outside of acceptable 25% population range in longer term.

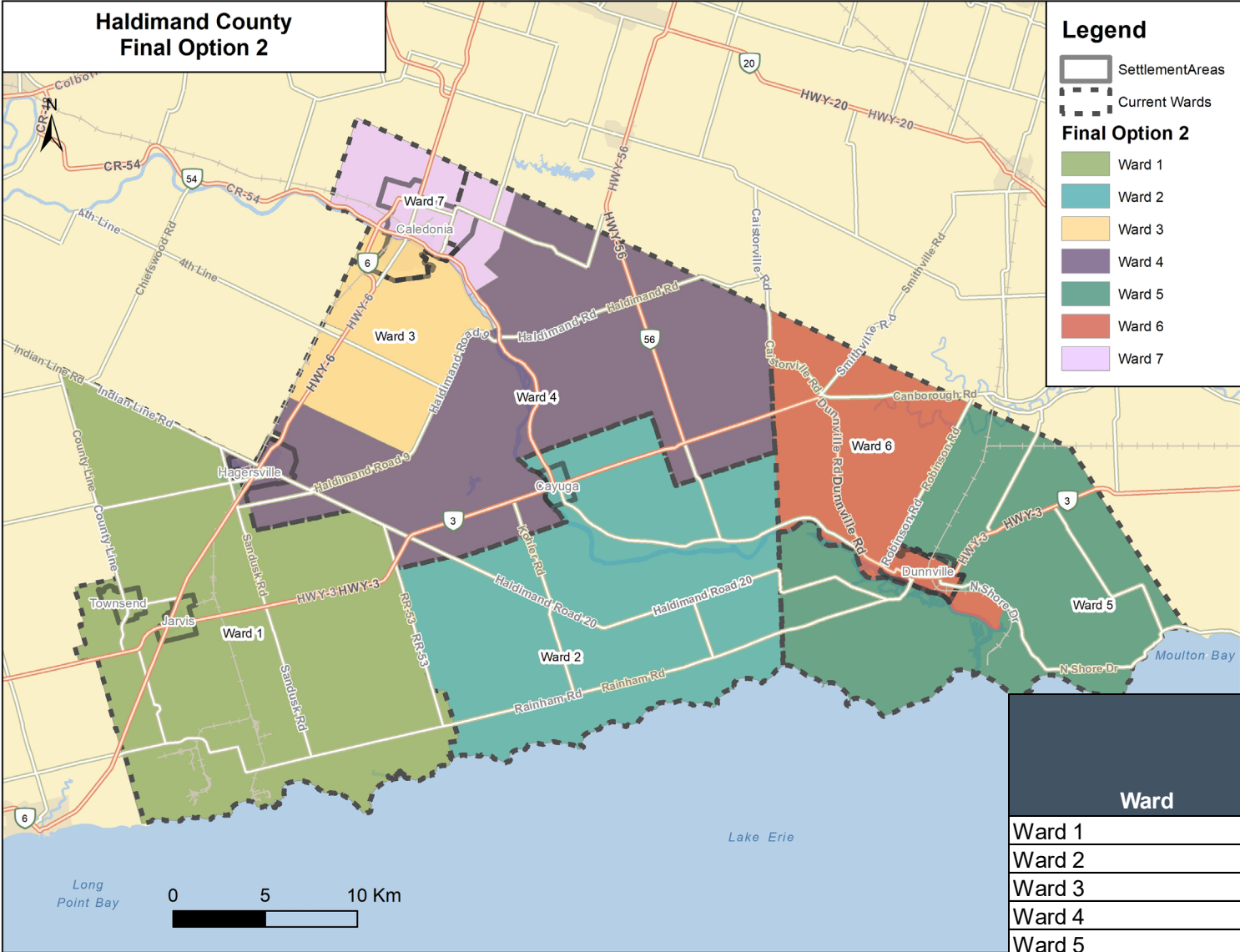
Ward	2024			2034		
	Total Population	Population Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Population Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	8,986	1.00	O	11,935	1.07	O+
Ward 2	7,058	0.79	O-	7,040	0.63	OR-
Ward 3	9,209	1.02	O	15,231	1.37	OR+
Ward 4	8,466	0.94	O-	10,154	0.91	O-
Ward 5	8,061	0.90	O-	8,741	0.79	O-
Ward 6	12,148	1.35	OR+	13,533	1.22	O+
<b>Total/Average</b>	<b>53,927</b>	<b>8,988</b>		<b>66,634</b>	<b>11,106</b>	



# Final Recommended Option 1 - Evaluation (Preliminary Option 1-B)



Principle	Does the Current Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
<b>Representation by Population</b>	Yes	Five wards fall within the $\pm 25\%$ range of variation, with two wards within the optional range ( $\pm 5\%$ ).
<b>Protection of Communities of Interest</b>	Yes	All six wards include coherent communities of interest, with Caledonia being represented by two wards, divided by the Grand River.
<b>Consideration of Present and Future Population Trends</b>	Partially Successful	Four of the six wards fall within the $\pm 25\%$ range of variation, while growth in Caledonia results in Ward 3 falling above the 25% variance and lack of growth in Ward 2 results in it falling below the 25% variance.
<b>Consideration of Natural and Physical Boundaries</b>	Yes	All boundaries are regular and/or visible lines.
<b>Effective Representation</b>	Largely Successful	Future population imbalances hinder the achievement of effective representation over the next decade.



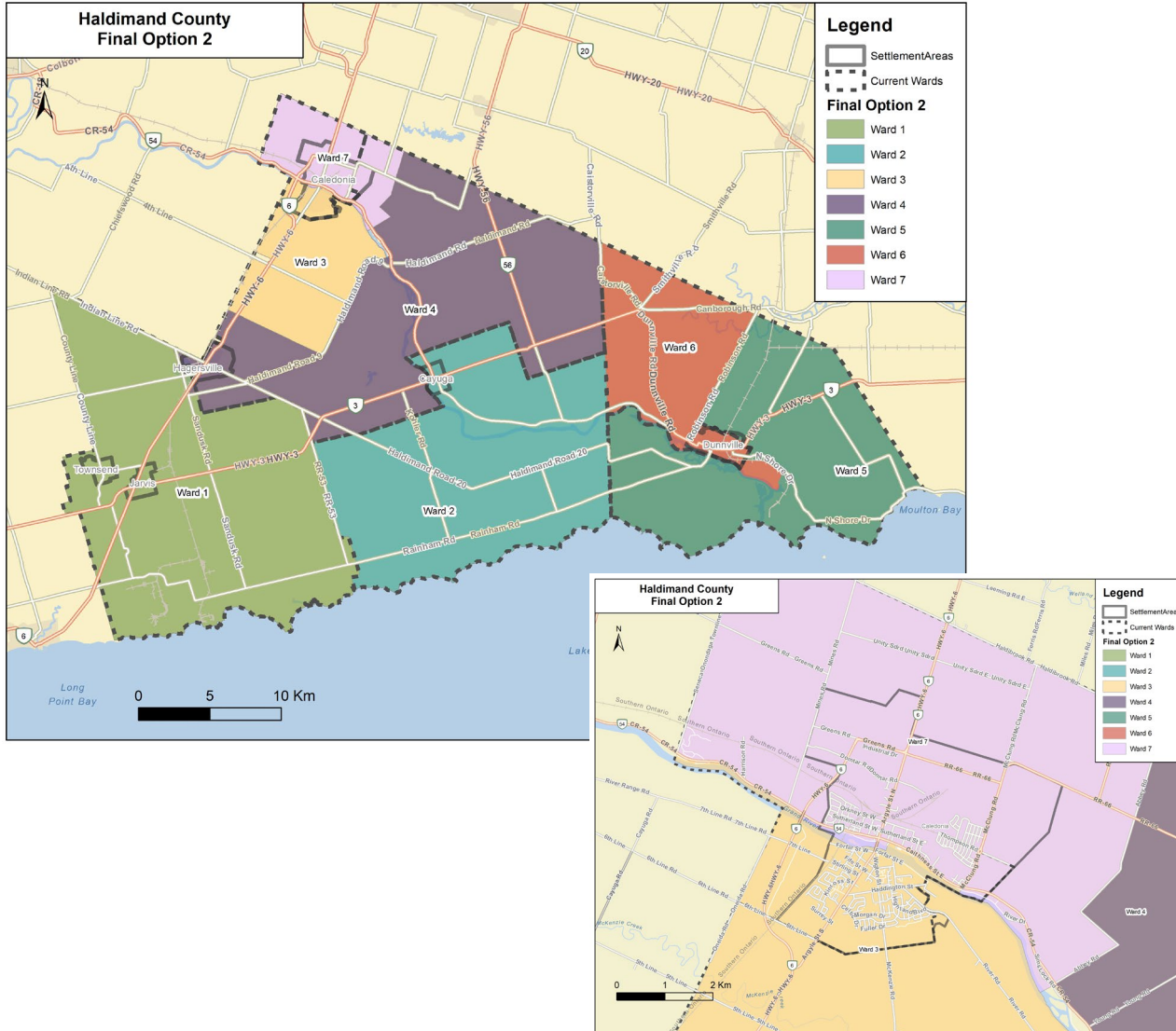
# Final Recommended Option 2 (7-Ward Option)

- Increased ward configuration by 1
- The optimal population of the wards decreases, and the geographic area of some wards is smaller
- Wards 5 and 7 outside of acceptable population range in longer term

Ward	2024			2034		
	Total Population	Population Variance	Optimal Range	Total Population	Population Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	8,111	1.05	O+	8,353	0.88	O-
Ward 2	7,041	0.91	O-	7,723	0.81	O-
Ward 3	8,466	1.10	O+	10,154	1.07	O+
Ward 4	7,361	0.96	O	10,052	1.06	O+
Ward 5	6,040	0.78	O-	6,437	0.68	OR-
Ward 6	7,699	1.00	O	8,683	0.91	O-
Ward 7	9,209	1.20	O+	15,231	1.60	OR+
<b>Total/Average</b>	<b>53,927</b>	<b>7,704</b>		<b>66,634</b>	<b>9,519</b>	



# Final Recommended Option 2 - Evaluation (7-Ward Option)



Principle	Does the Current Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
<b>Representation by Population</b>	<b>Yes</b>	All wards are within the $\pm 25\%$ range of variation, with two of the seven wards within the optimal range ( $\pm 5\%$ ) of the average population.
<b>Protection of Communities of Interest</b>	<b>Largely Successful</b>	The wards each contain plausible groupings of settlements and/or neighbourhoods as found in the current system.
<b>Consideration of Present and Future Population Trends</b>	<b>Partially Successful</b>	Population growth within Haldimand County settlements is distributed unevenly. Two wards fall outside the $\pm 25\%$ range of variation.
<b>Consideration of Natural and Physical Boundaries</b>	<b>Yes</b>	All boundaries are clear and/or visible lines.
<b>Effective Representation</b>	<b>Largely Successful</b>	Existing population parity results in the achievement of effective representation in the short term. Population growth will weaken effective representation over time.



# 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 a recommended option (or choose one of the other preliminary options or ask for changes to those);
  - 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.

