



West Nipissing Ouest

Ward Boundary Review

Municipality of West Nipissing

Melanie Ducharme, Municipal Clerk

July 10, 2025

Purpose of the Review



-
- Municipal ward boundaries should be reviewed every election term (4-year cycle).
 - West Nipissing's existing structure was created at the time of amalgamation in 1999.
 - The municipality has seen demographic shifts and population growth over the past two decades.
 - The municipality has evolved from a cluster of separate towns to a vibrant, united community with shared goals and a united future.
 - The review will focus on making minor adjustments to existing boundaries to ensure they are equitable and responsive to population growth, while maintaining communities of interest.

Project Timeline



July
2024

May 6,
2025

July 10,
2025

August 15,
2025

September
2, 2025

Initial report
presented
to Council

Preliminary Options
presented to Council

Public Meeting

Final date to
submit feedback

Final
recommendations
to Council

Guiding Principles

Based on Ontario Municipal Act and Best Practices

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

Representation by population

Population equity – each ward should have roughly the same number of residents or electors .

Reflect communities of interest and identity

Ward boundaries should reflect local communities and neighbourhoods that share common social, historical, economic, or cultural interests.

Account for population changes and disparities

Ward boundaries should account for expected growth to maintain population equity over time.

Consideration of natural and physical boundaries

Natural (rivers, lakes, escarpments) or man-made (railways, major roads) features should be considered. Using clear and logical boundaries enhances accessibility and helps constituents understand their ward.

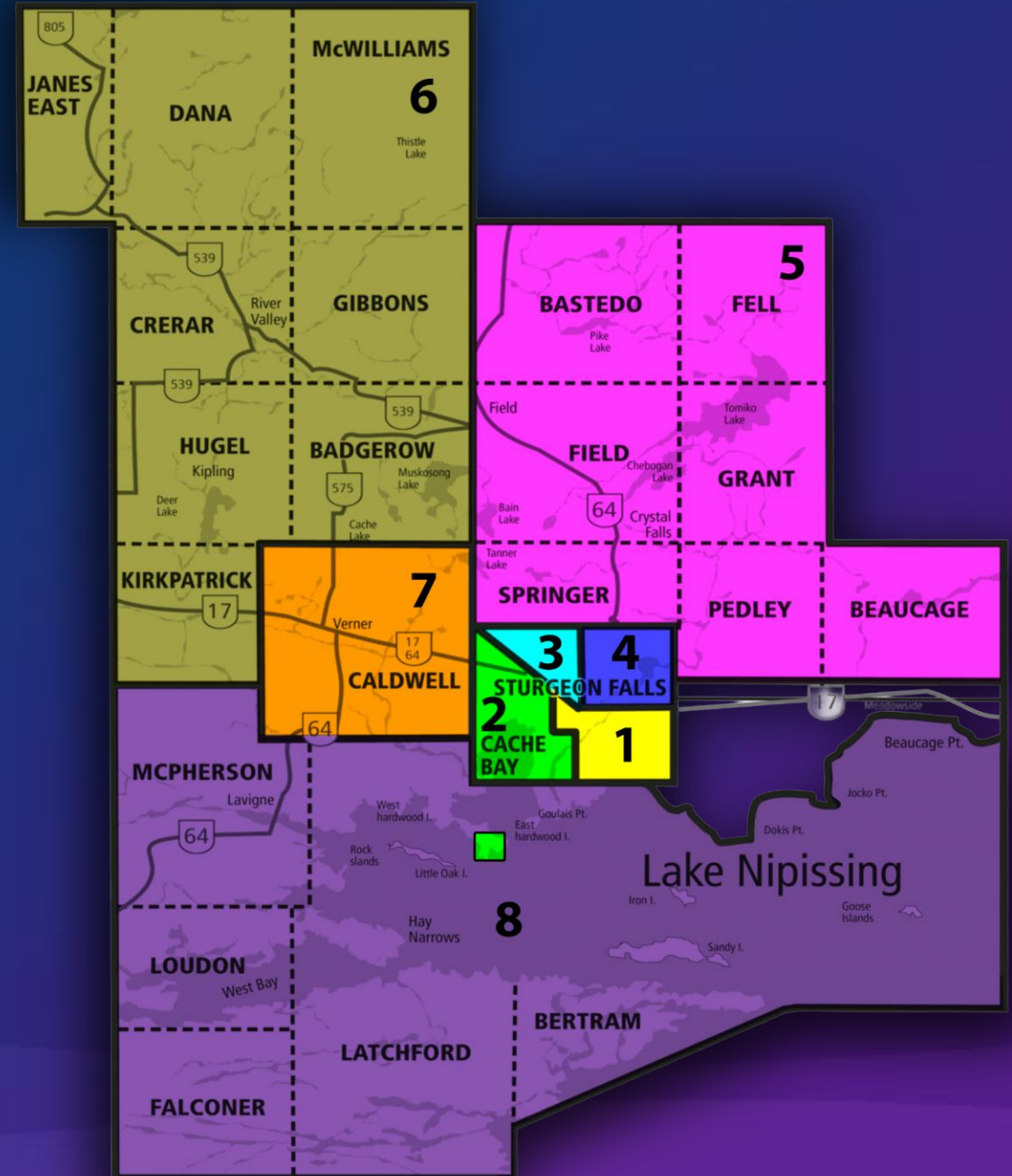
Effective representation

The above principles contribute to achieving the over-arching principle of effective representation. Wards must provide residents with fair and equitable access to their elected representative.

Current Ward Boundaries

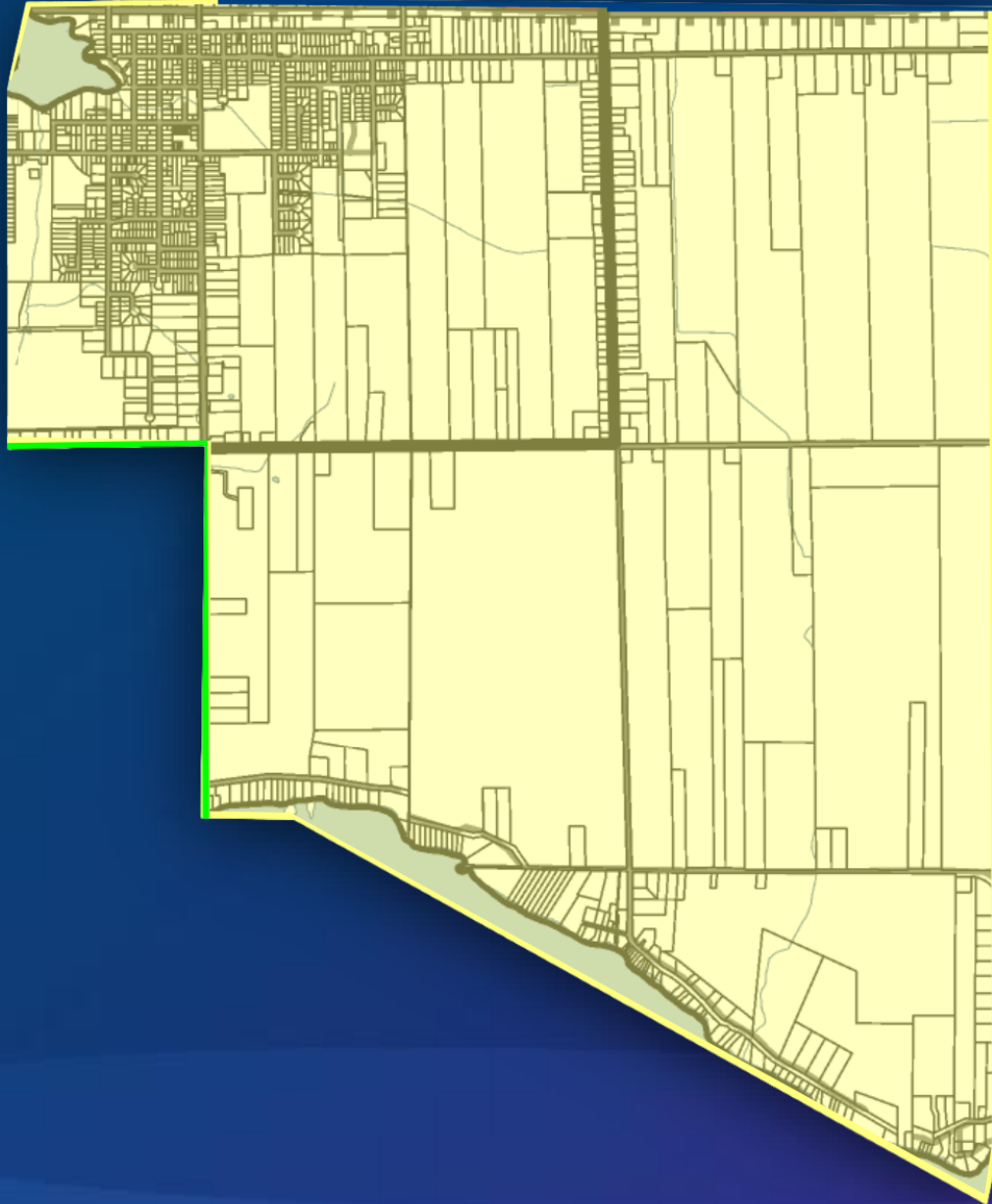
There are 8 wards in West Nipissing.

Each ward is represented by one Councillor.



Proposed Ward Boundary Adjustment





Ward 1

Change Summary

Move upper west boundary from King Street to Roy Street.

Rationale:

Equalize number of properties in Wards 1 & 2 due to increased development in southwest Sturgeon Falls.

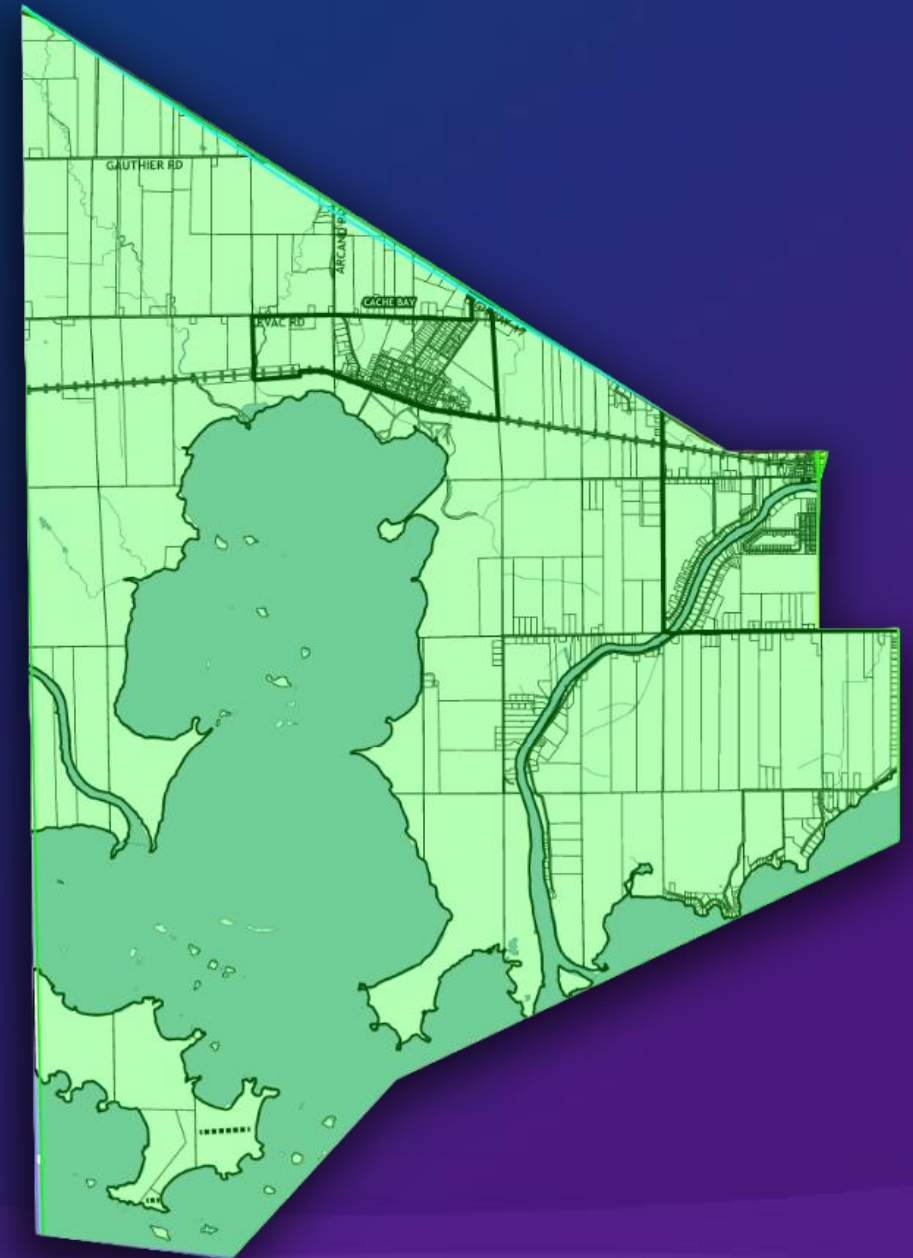
Ward 2

Change Summary

1. Move upper east boundary from King St. to Roy St.
2. Extend north boundary from Gauthier Road to Hwy. 17

Rationale

1. Equalize number of properties in Wards 1 & 2
2. Small addition from Ward 3
(South Side Highway 17 north of Gauthier Road.)



Ward 3

Change Summary

Move north boundary to include both sides of Stewart and Levert Roads in the same Ward.

Rationale

Maintains communities of interest by eliminating splitting the ward in the middle of Stewart Rd. & Levert Dr.



Ward 4

Change Summary

Add all of Pedley and Beaucage Townships from Ward 5

Rationale

Addresses communities of interest (Pedley and Beaucage Twp. – residents are more closely aligned with Sturgeon Falls.



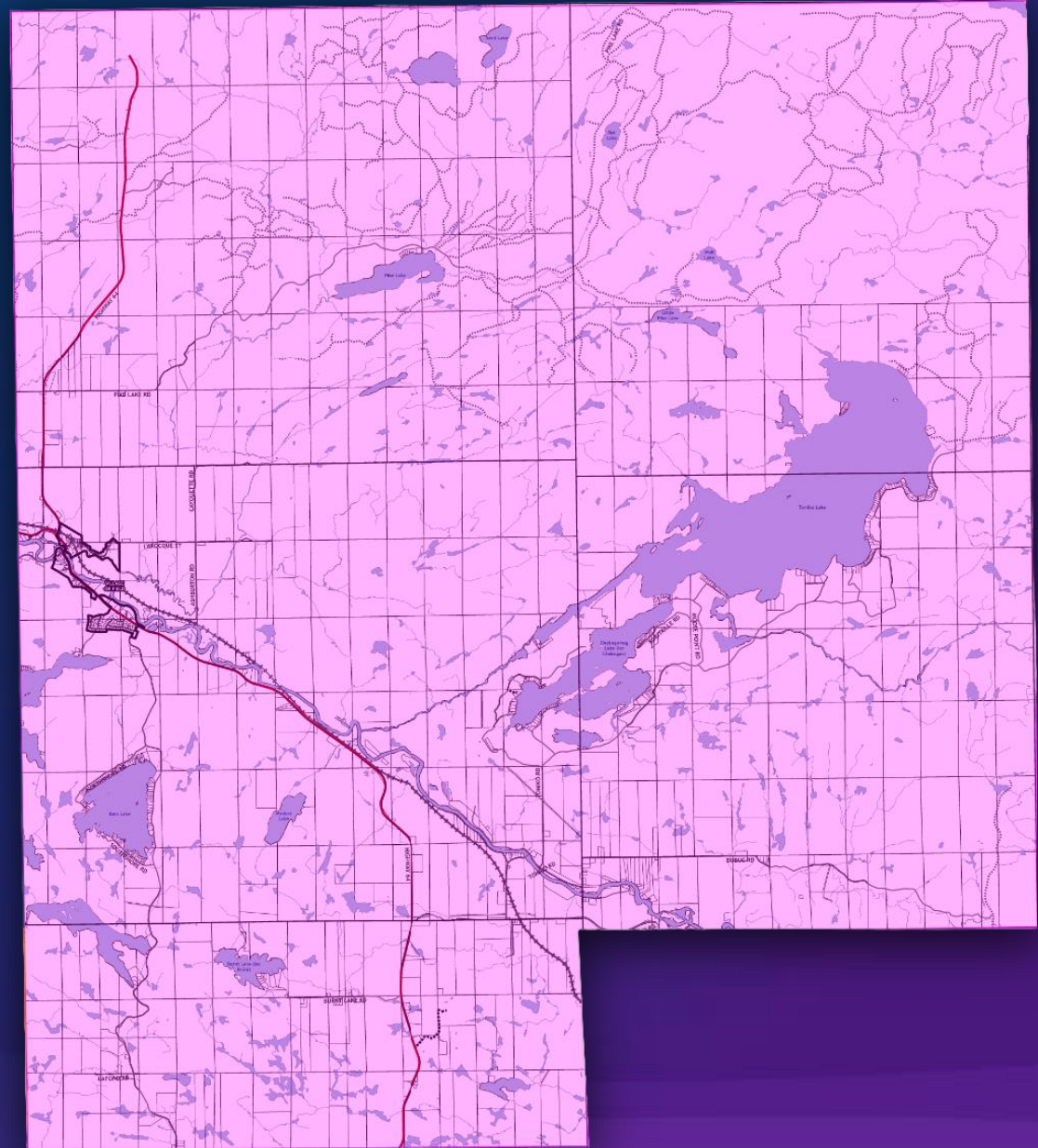
Ward 5

Change Summary

1. Remove Pedley and Beaucage Townships.
2. Remove north side of Stewart Road and Levert Drive.

Rationale

1. Pedley and Beaucage do not align with Field
2. Addresses splitting Stewart Road and Levert Drive.





Ward 6

Change Summary

Remove properties in Kirkpatrick
Twp South of Hwy 17

Rationale

Addresses communities of interest

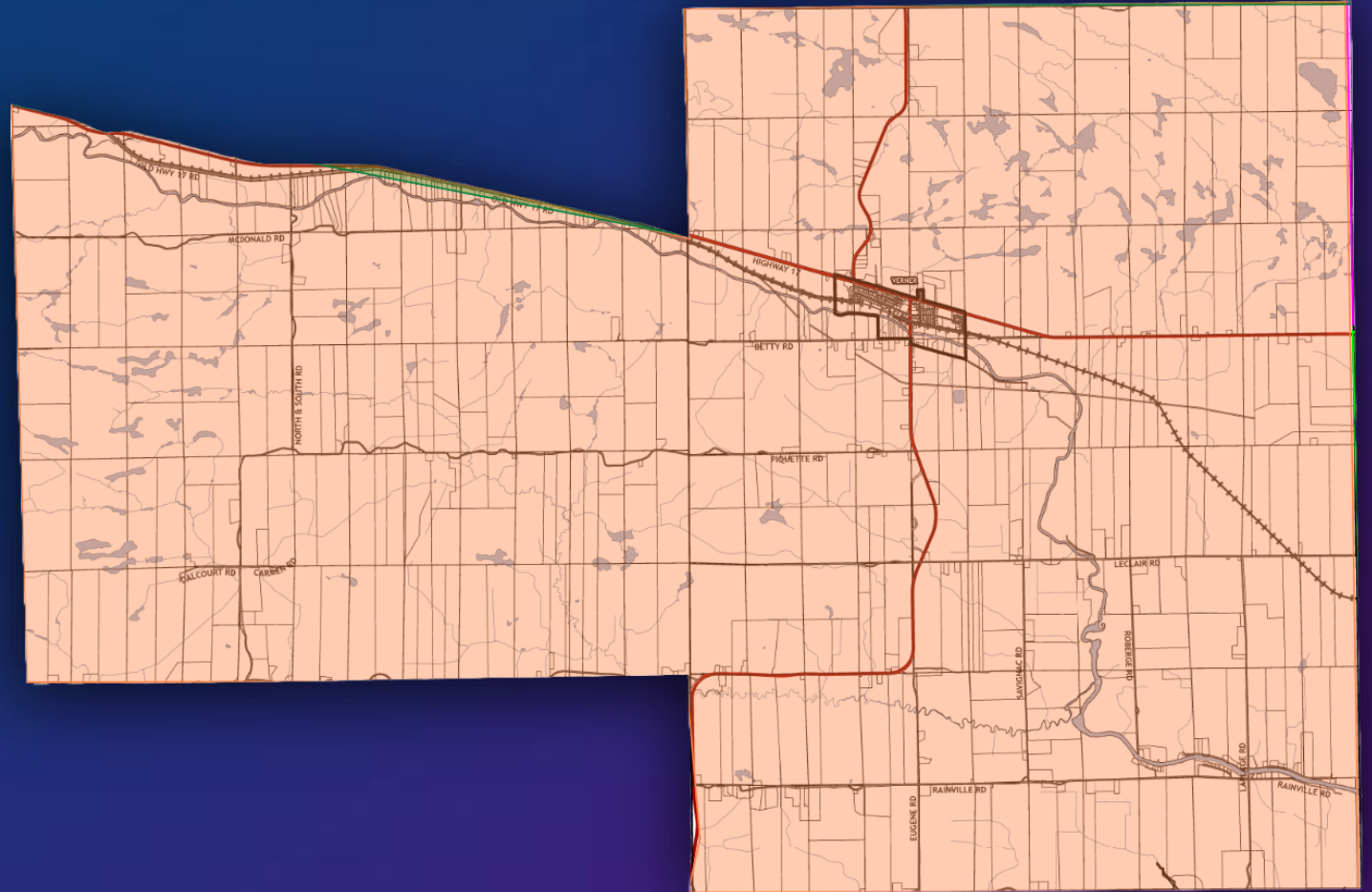
Ward 7

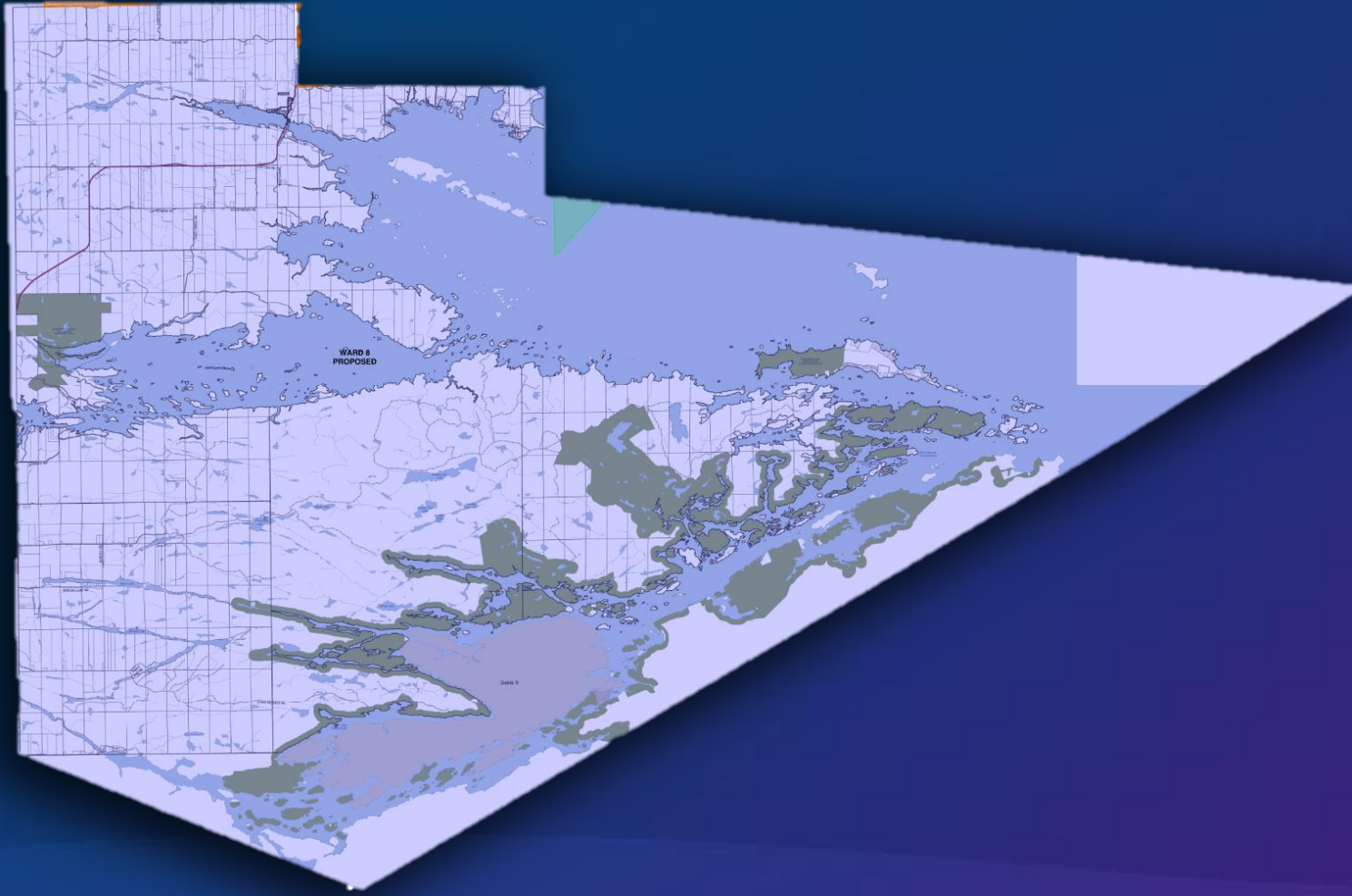
Change Summary

1. Add properties from Kirkpatrick South of HWY 17
2. Add properties from south side of Rainville Road

Rationale

1. Add voters to Ward 7 to equalize Wards
2. Address communities of interest by adding South portion of Kirkpatrick Twp.
3. Eliminate Ward split on Rainville Road





Ward 8

Change Summary

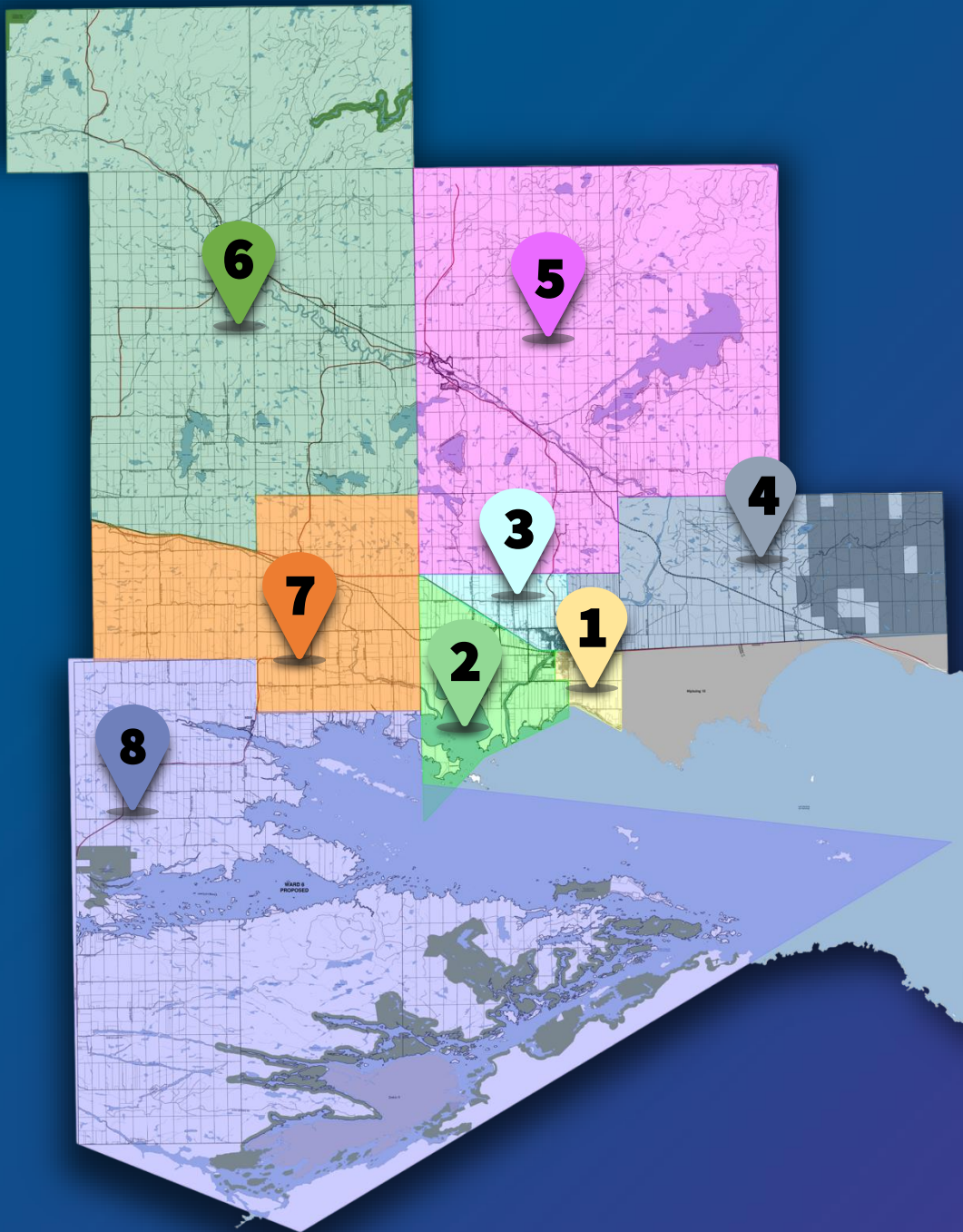
Remove properties on south side of Rainville Road

Rationale

Eliminate ward split on Rainville Road

Ward Boundary Adjustment

Property Comparison 2025



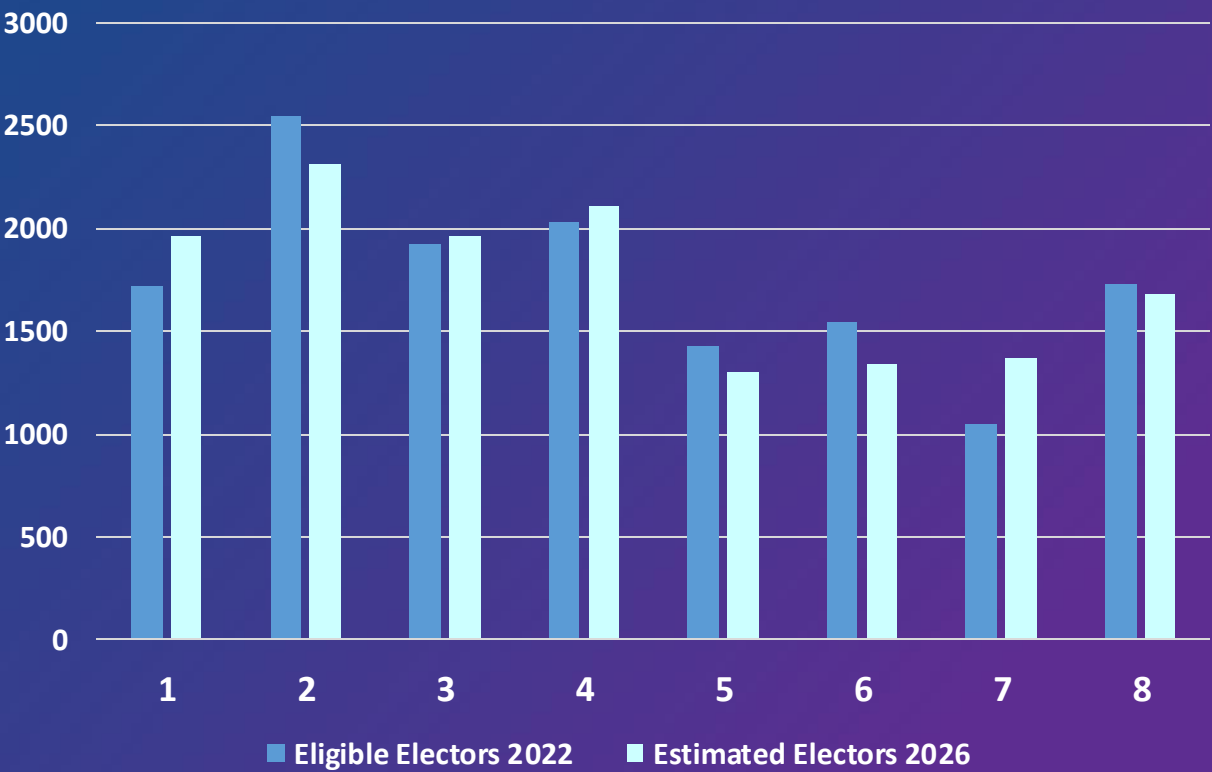
WARD	Current Properties	Proposed Properties	Change
1	978	1387	409
2	1648	1262	-386
3	1082	1131	49
4	864	1061	197
5	1285	1012	-273
6	1301	1067	-234
7	759	1036	277
8	1531	1467	-64

Ward Boundary Adjustment

Estimated Eligible Electors 2026

WARD	Eligible Electors 2022	Estimated Eligible Electors 2026	Change
1	1717	1961	244
2	2549	2319	-230
3	1924	1960	36
4	2032	2113	81
5	1429	1298	-131
6	1550	1343	-207
7	1053	1373	320
8	1731	1680	-51

All projections are estimates only and are based on data available from the 2022 Election.



Note: Ward 1 is expected to increase beyond current projections due to a 92-lot subdivision underway.

Public Participation



Submit your comments online

Share your feedback using our convenient Comment Form.

[Feedback →](#)



Send your comments by email

Contact us by email to share your feedback.

[Email us →](#)



Provide written comments in person or by mail

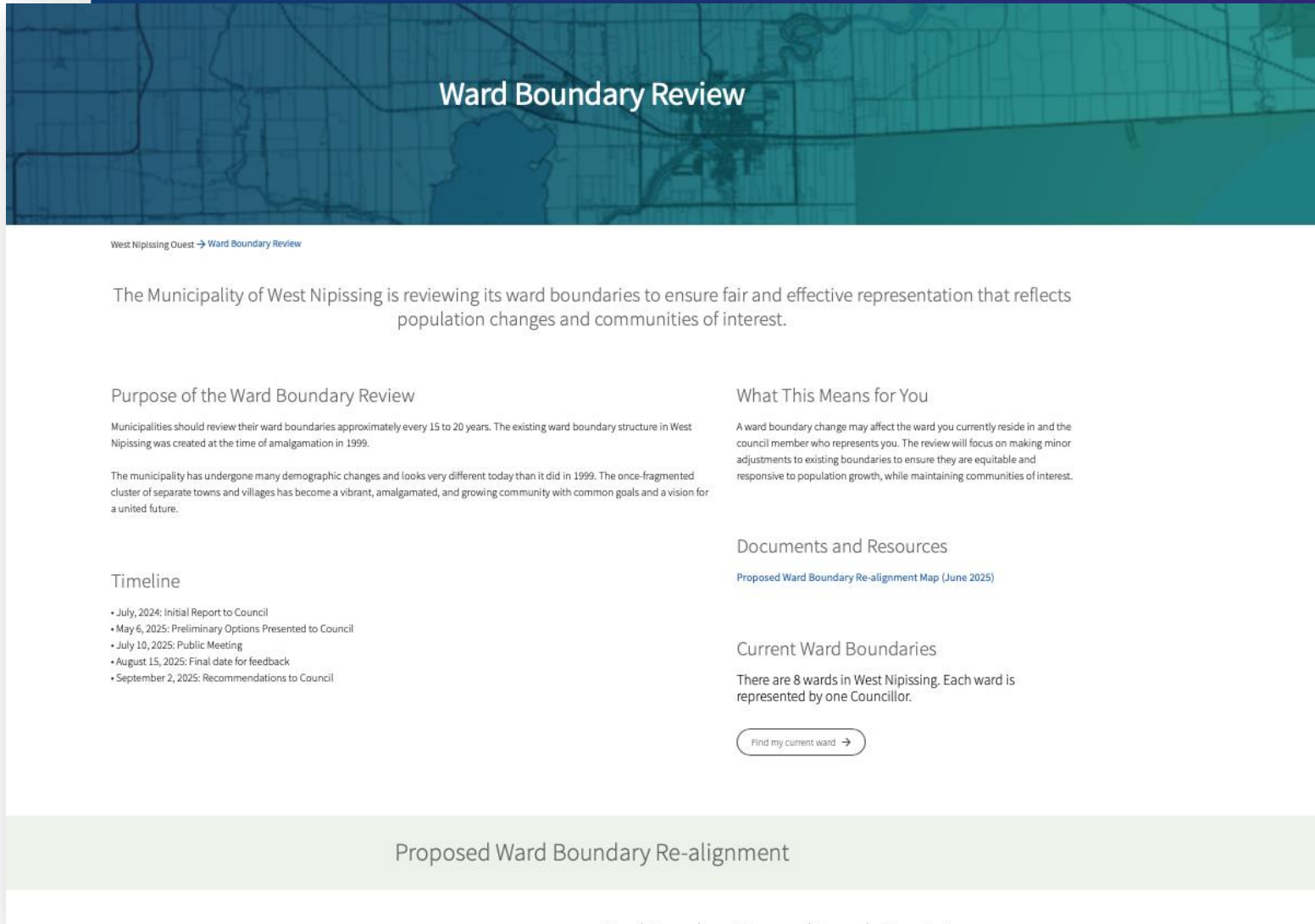
Municipal Office, 225 Holditch Street,
Sturgeon Falls, P2B 1T1, open
Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

Stay in the loop

Visit the project web page

westnipissing.ca/ward-boundary-review

- Current and proposed ward maps
- Ward bounds and metes descriptions
- Staff reports and other resources
- Online Feedback form
- Next steps and updates



Ward Boundary Review

West Nipissing Ouest → Ward Boundary Review

The Municipality of West Nipissing is reviewing its ward boundaries to ensure fair and effective representation that reflects population changes and communities of interest.

Purpose of the Ward Boundary Review

Municipalities should review their ward boundaries approximately every 15 to 20 years. The existing ward boundary structure in West Nipissing was created at the time of amalgamation in 1999.

The municipality has undergone many demographic changes and looks very different today than it did in 1999. The once-fragmented cluster of separate towns and villages has become a vibrant, amalgamated, and growing community with common goals and a vision for a united future.

What This Means for You

A ward boundary change may affect the ward you currently reside in and the council member who represents you. The review will focus on making minor adjustments to existing boundaries to ensure they are equitable and responsive to population growth, while maintaining communities of interest.

Documents and Resources

[Proposed Ward Boundary Re-alignment Map \(June 2025\)](#)

Current Ward Boundaries

There are 8 wards in West Nipissing. Each ward is represented by one Councillor.

[Find my current ward →](#)

Timeline

- July, 2024: Initial Report to Council
- May 6, 2025: Preliminary Options Presented to Council
- July 10, 2025: Public Meeting
- August 15, 2025: Final date for feedback
- September 2, 2025: Recommendations to Council

Proposed Ward Boundary Re-alignment

Legal Framework and Next Steps



Legal Authority

- Municipal Act, 2001 – Section 222 allows municipalities to revise ward boundaries by by-law
- The Act does not prescribe a specific method or process for conducting the review



Consultation and Review Period

- Proposed changes are presented to the public for feedback.
- Deadline for comments: August 15
- Final recommendations to be submitted to Council in September



Appeal Period

- Begins after the by-law is passed; 45 days to appeal after notice is given to the public.
- Appeals are submitted to the Municipal Clerk to provide to Ontario Land Tribunal



By-law Finalization

- If no appeal is filed after 45 days, the By-law is deemed final
- Boundaries take effect for the next municipal Election (2026)

Questions

