

Municipality of Lambton Shores Council Composition and Ward Boundary Review

Presentation of Final Report

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Background Documents

- Preliminary Report
- Supplementary Report on Deputy Mayor
- Online survey results

Consultations

- Interviews with key stakeholders (members of council and senior staff)
- 1 public meeting (9 people) in Thedford and 1 virtual meeting (13 people)
- 189 respondents to online survey
- Given the pandemic and experience elsewhere, we are quite happy with response
- But respondents are still only a tiny portion of population of Lambton Shores

Origins of Option 5

- Emerged after the presentation of our Preliminary Report and our interviews with key stakeholders
- Included in online survey and in discussions at public consultations
- We explicitly point out in Report that we remained totally independent throughout the process

Deputy Mayor

- Stakeholder interviews raised question of reducing size of council by eliminating this directly elected position
- But membership on county council is by statute a 4-year term; cannot be rotated
- Majority in survey favoured retaining deputy mayor; so do we

At-large council elections

- Limited support for at-large elections
- Most thought a council elected at-large was not appropriate for a municipality with a territory as expansive as Lambton Shores
- We agree

Council size

- Divided opinion here
- In our interviews, we determined that a majority of council members favoured a 7-member council with 5 wards
- We do not have strong views on the subject but were influenced by feasibility of constructing 5 defensible wards
- We believe we have done so

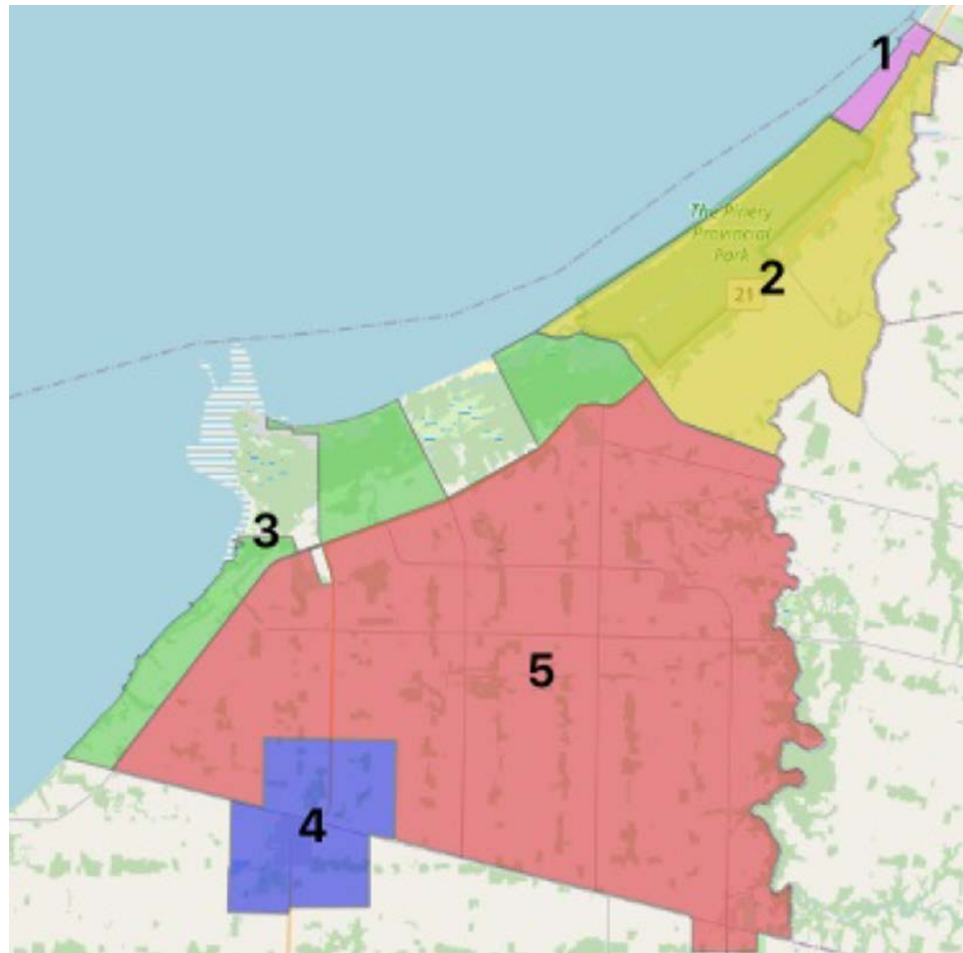
Determining ward populations

- We explained our methodology for counting seasonal property-owners and renters in our Preliminary Report
- Public consultations raised issue of American seasonal property-owners
- MPAC data show only 117 separate residences owned by “aliens” in Lambton Shores
- We eliminated these residences in our population calculations for our chosen option

Options 1-3

- Option 1: at-large elections
- Option 2: Port Franks has its own under-populated proposed ward but we learned more development not possible without sewers
- Option 3: not as much support for a “lakeshore” ward as we expected
- Options 2&3 involve 7 wards

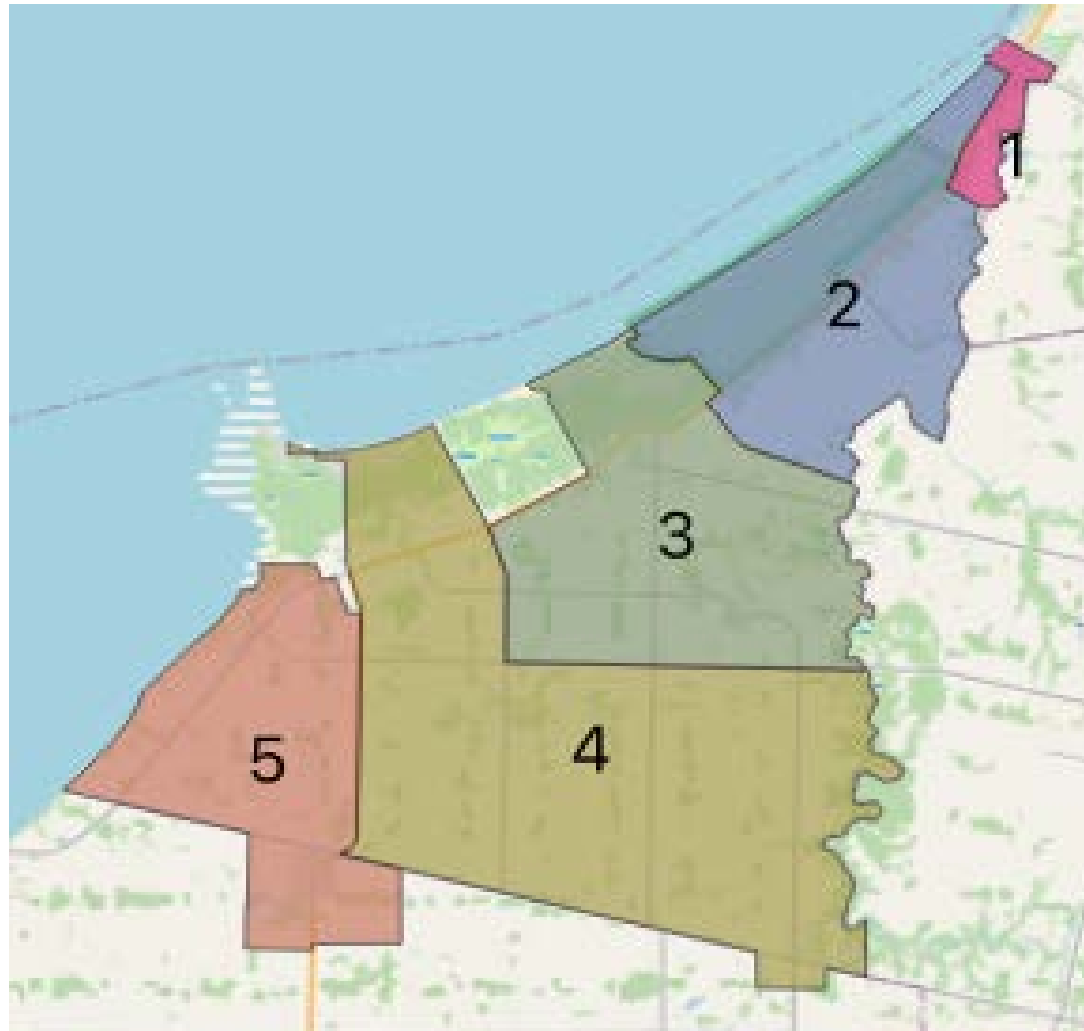
Option 4 map



Option 4 considerations

- Forest is kept together
- Not as much support for a “lakeshore” ward as we expected
- We learned about perceived differences among various lakeshore areas
- Considerable support at public meetings and in comments on survey for all councillors representing lakeshore areas (Lambton *Shores*)

Revised Option 5 map



Revised Option 5 “adjusted populations”

- Residences owned by “aliens” have been removed from calculations

Ward No.	Population	Percentage above or below
1	2376	-24.8%
2	3342	5.7%
3	3481	10.1%
4	2927	-7.4%
5	3676	16.3%
TOTAL	15802	

We recommend Option 5

- Low population in Ward 1 is counteracted by significant current and future development
- Seasonal population in all wards
- As in Option 4, Forest is kept together
- A territorially large “interior” ward (Ward 4 in this map) is inevitable in any 5-ward system
- Lakeshore area in all wards seen as a strength

Variant on Option 5

- We would also support a system based on our Option 5 that combines our proposed Wards 1 and 2 and into one ward that would elect two councillors
- The same could happen with Wards 4 and 5
- Ward 3 would be the only ward electing one councillor.