



# HBM - WARD BOUNDARY REVIEW

## History of Township

The Township of Havelock-Belmont-Methuen was formed in 1998 when the previously independent Townships of Methuen and Belmont joined with the Village of Havelock.

Since that time there have been 5 members of Municipal Council and 2 voting Wards.

### Ward 1 -Township (Rural) Ward

- Ward 1 Councilor - Voted on by residents residing in the rural areas of the Township, being all areas not within the Village proper

### Ward 2 - Village (Havelock) Ward

- Ward 2 Councilor - Voted on by residents residing in the Village of Havelock only

The **Mayor, Deputy Mayor** and **Councilor at Large** are voted for by **ALL** residents of the Township.

## Resident Options

1. **Leave the electoral ward system unchanged.**
2. **Eliminate the ward system** and elect all Members of Council at-large whereby all eligible voters within the entire Township would be casting ballots for Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and three Councillors.
3. **Redraw the boundaries** of the two current wards to allow for an equal number of eligible voters in each ward.

## Current Review

### 2022 Municipal Election

**Ward 1** - 87% of eligible voters reside in the Rural Township Ward (6387)

**Ward 2** - 12 % of Eligible Voters reside in the Village Ward (868)

*\*Each ward is responsible for the election of 20% of Town Council*

Town Council has expressed a desire to review the current electoral wards prior to the 2026 Municipal Election.

### October 6, 2023 Council Meeting

- HBM Council voted to start the Public Consultation Process which included the sending of a Survey to all residents with the Interim Tax Bill in February 2024.

### January 16 2024 Council Meeting

- HBM Council approved the final Resident Survey to be mailed out with the Interim Tax Bill in February

## LKRA Position

The LKRA Executive voted **STRONGLY** to support the elimination of the Ward System at its meeting of February 5, 2024.

In the Executive's opinion, this will allow for more balanced and equitable representation of our rural needs and unique perspectives as taxpayers, given our percentage of the Township's overall population.



### HAVE YOUR SAY!!

**Please ensure you return your survey to the Township to register your position on the Ward System Review!!**

Now that many of us have started to receive our Tax bills in the mail, we wanted to provide an update on the LKRA Executives position as it relates to the provided choices.

# Council would like your input regarding the Municipal Election Ward System



In the current system, you, like all voters in the Township of Havelock-Belmont-Methuen, can vote for the positions of Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and Councillor-at-Large but you can only vote for one (1) position of Ward Councillor. You can vote for either the Township Ward Councillor or the Village Ward Councillor depending on which ward you live in.

Council is considering a change to the Municipal Election Ward System.

**Do you want the Municipal Election Ward System to change? \***

- Yes
- No

**If you have selected "yes" above, please indicate which change you would prefer? \***

- Dissolve the ward system completely and allow all voters to vote for the positions of Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and three (3) councillors. In this system, the candidate for Mayor with the most votes, the candidate for Deputy Mayor with the most votes, and the top three councillors with the most votes would be elected.
- Leave the positions as they are currently structured; Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Councillor-at-Large, and two ward councillors (Village Ward and Township Ward) but redraw the boundaries of each ward so that there are the same number of voters in each ward.
- Other suggestions; please specify.

**If you have selected "other suggestions" above, please explain below\***

Completed paper surveys can be delivered to the Township Office (via in person or mail).  
To complete the survey online visit [www.hbmtwp.ca](http://www.hbmtwp.ca)  
or scan the QR Code

