

Presented To:	City Council
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Type:	By-Laws
By-Law:	2012-213

Request for Decision

By-law to Establish Ward Boundaries

Recommendation

That the City of Greater Sudbury repeal By-law 2005-250, and enact City of Greater Sudbury By-Law 2012-213.

Background

Since the initial creation and review of the City of Greater Sudbury's 12 wards and their boundaries, Section 222 of the Municipal Act, 2001 which governs the establishment of wards by a municipality was amended. In order to ensure that the City's By-law governing the existing 12 ward structure is up to date and reflective of the legislative changes, it is necessary to repeal existing City of Greater Sudbury By-law 2005-250 and enact By-law 2012-213. In addition, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology has significantly evolved since the time of the original ward mapping. As such it is necessary to perform an administrative cleanup of the existing maps to reflect the more precise GIS technology.

Ward boundaries for the City of Greater Sudbury were defined using former Area Municipal, City and Town Boundaries. Criteria as set out in the Ward Boundary Review process was also used in defining the new 12 ward boundary structure for the amalgamated City of Greater Sudbury.

Boundary lines followed the property fabric as it existed at the time of amalgamation using a combination of the above in determining the division of the wards for the City of Greater Sudbury.

At the time the original mapping was done for the 2010 Municipal Election, the process was conducted utilizing the best available information the GIS department had. Since that time, mapping technology has evolved.

As part of the 2014 Municipal Election Plan, staff began a process of reviewing and revising polling subdivisions within the City's 12 Wards utilizing existing ward and poll maps from the 2010 Municipal Election.

Signed By

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When the GIS department overlaid the 2010 boundary maps as approved by City Council overtop of their spatially accurate and updated property fabric it was discovered that there was a discrepancy with the boundary maps as defined by GIS in Wards 1, 2, and 4.

In the GIS department's investigation as to why the ward boundaries in these three wards were inconsistent, it was discovered that the lines were splitting some properties; part of the property being in one ward and the other half or portion in another.

Spatial inconsistencies were found in Wards 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, and 12 where the map line was not reflective of the new accurate property base. In Ward 9, the map line was not consistent with the municipal boundary, and it was also found that the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC) had inaccurate property data for parcels in Wards 1, 9, 10, 11, and 12.

Every property in the City's GIS has been acquired using the latest Teranet Property Identifier Number (PIN) and MPAC Assessment Role Number (ARN), which are both updated monthly. The GIS department now has an accurate and up to date ownership property fabric, and has addressed and updated all inconsistencies to reflect the current data.

GIS has performed an administrative cleanup of the maps and has carefully reviewed each Ward to ensure that the discrepancies have been corrected and the boundary lines encompass the entire property.

It should be noted that the majority of the affected properties in question were either owned or acquired by Vale since amalgamation. The other property affected by the inconsistency was the Big Nickel property, owned by Science North.

There is no impact on previous election results or elector populations. All voters cast their ballots in the correct Ward and will remain in that Ward after the proposed corrections.

As a result of legislative changes in the Municipal Act, 2001 and the administrative cleanup of the maps, it is recommended that the City of Greater Sudbury repeal By-Law 2005-250 and enact By-law 2012-213.

Ward boundary maps showing the details of these updates are available for viewing in Clerk's Services. Ward boundary maps for the 2014 Municipal Election will be posted on the election website and will be made available to candidates in 2013.