



City of London
Ward Boundary Review

Introductory Council Workshop

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Agenda



**Introduction to the
2024 Ward
Boundary Review**



**Focus on the
City of London**



**Next Steps and
Discussion**

Key Questions



**Consider
these
Questions**



- How does the present electoral arrangement for the City of London measure up?
- Do the current wards deliver **fair representation, conducive to good governance**?
- What are the goals of a Ward Boundary Review?
- What information does Council need to **make an informed decision**?

2024 Ward Boundary Review



Why Undertake the Review?

Prepare Council to consider and discuss whether to maintain the existing ward boundaries or pursue an alternative arrangement.

Objectives of the Review

Fair Representation

Reviewing electoral arrangements can help ensure equal representation and give communities an equitable voice in decision-making processes.









Consider Population and Demographic Changes

A review can align boundaries, reflect population shifts, and better serve evolving community distribution and interests.

Improve Democracy

An independent review promotes transparency and accountability, bolstering trust in the democratic system, and increasing civic engagement.

Website Materials and Interactive Tools

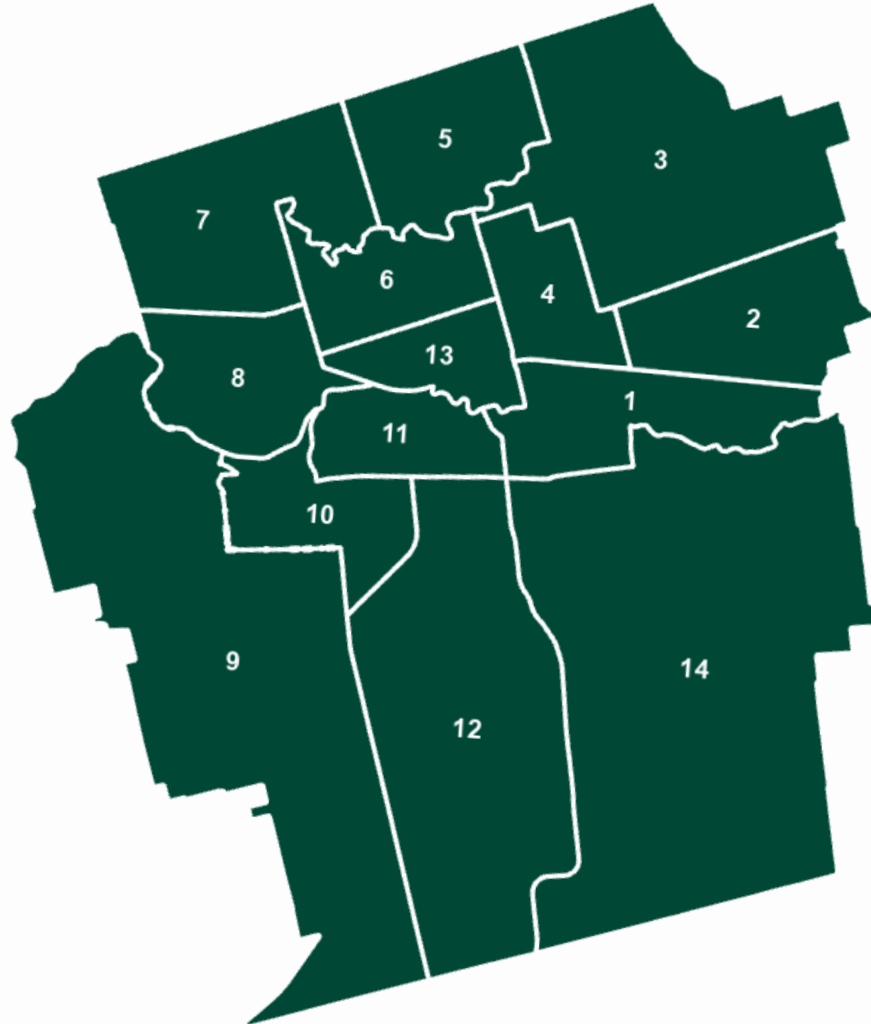
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|---|---|---|---|
|  Preliminary Options Map |  Preliminary Options Presentation |  Survey |  About |
|  Current Ward Boundaries |  Get Involved |  Background |  City Council |

Educational Videos



2024 Ward Boundary Review

Existing Wards



| Ward | Planning District | Area (sq. Km) |
|------|---|---------------|
| 1 | Hamilton Road, Glen Cairn*, South London* | 16.98 |
| 2 | Argyle*, Crumlin, East London* | 18.01 |
| 3 | Argyle*, Huron Heights*, Airport, Fanshawe, Carling* | 44.71 |
| 4 | East London*, Carling*, Huron Heights* | 10.27 |
| 5 | Masonville*, Stoneybrook, Stoney Creek, Uplands | 17.63 |
| 6 | North London, West London*, Medway* | 12.48 |
| 7 | Medway*, Sunningdale, Fox Hollow, Hyde Park* | 27.13 |
| 8 | Oakridge, West London*, Hyde Park | 15.39 |
| 9 | Byron*, River Bend, Wood Hull, Sharon Creek, Talbot, Bostwick*, Lambeth, Longwoods*, Tempo* | 81.16 |
| 10 | Byron*, Westmount, Highland*, Bostwick* | 12.62 |
| 11 | Southcrest*, South London, Highlands* | 10.40 |
| 12 | Highland*, White Oaks, Longwoods*, Westminster*, Brockley*, Tempo* | 52.92 |
| 13 | Central London, West London*, South London*, Southcrest* | 8.77 |
| 14 | Old Victoria, Bradley, Jackson, Glen Cairn*, Westminster*, Brockley, Glanworth, Highbury | 94.61 |

*indicates portion of the Planning District located within the ward boundary

2024 Ward Boundary Review



Legislative Basis

Ontario's *Municipal Act, 2001* authorizes a local municipality to:

Change the size of the Council

- Requirement that there be a minimum of five members, including the head of Council
- No appeal rights associated with executing this authority

Determine how Council (other than the Mayor) will be elected

- May be elected by general vote, wards, or any combination of a general vote and wards
- No appeal rights associated with executing this authority

Divide or re-divide the municipality into wards or dissolve the existing wards

- A by-law adopted by Council is subject to appeal rights

The *Municipal Elections Act, 1996* standardizes key elements:

- Date of elections
- Term of office
- Eligibility
- Counting of ballots



2024 Ward Boundary Review

Guiding Principles



Balancing the current population distribution among the wards



Balancing the future population distribution among the wards based on projections



Respecting established neighbourhoods and communities



Respecting geographical features and the defining natural and infrastructure boundaries



City of London
Review of Ward
Boundaries
Policy

Guiding
Principles

Public
Engagement

2022-2026

2026-2030

2030-2034

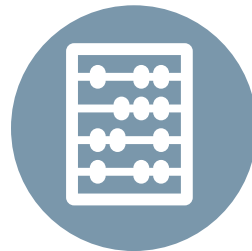
Three Terms of Council

2024 Ward Boundary Review

Changing Communities



- Municipalities must navigate population growth, shifting demographics, and changing community needs.
- Outdated electoral arrangements, including electoral systems and governance structures, may lead to unequal representation and make it challenging for elected officials to best serve the varied and changing needs of communities.
- It is a standard municipal practice to review services considered “necessary or desirable” and organizational arrangements to deliver them – the structure of the body that makes authoritative decisions (the Council) should also be reviewed from time to time.

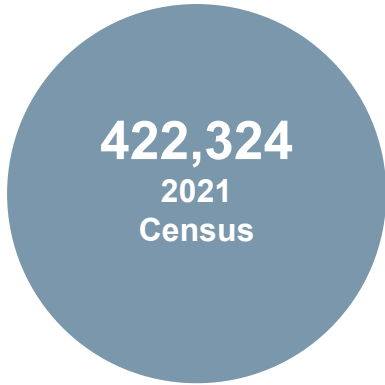


Focus on London

Population and Growth



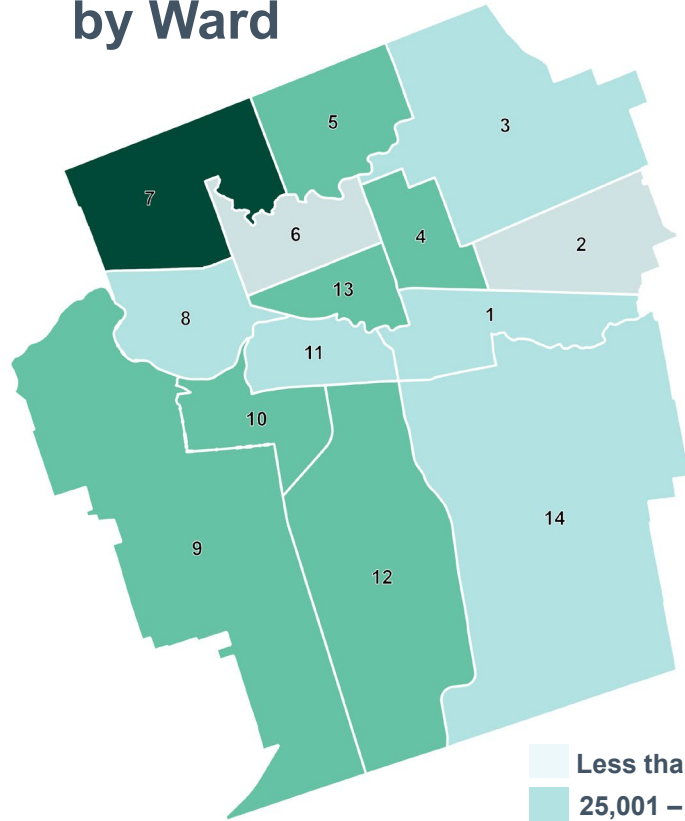
Total London Population



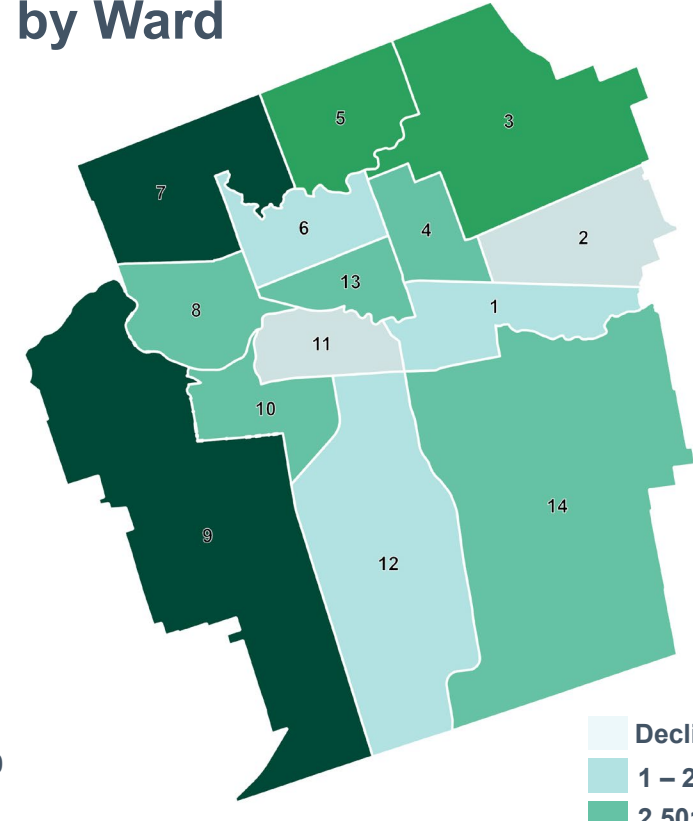
2011 – 2021 Total London Population Change



2021 Total Population by Ward



2011-2021 Population Change by Ward



Focus on London

Past, Present and Future



2005

**Ontario
Municipal
Board imposes
changes to
London's ward
boundaries**

2010

**Elimination of the
Board of Control**
Minor adjustments to
ward boundaries and
governance model

2010
to
2022

**Internal Reviews of
Ward Boundaries**
Reviews by Civic
Administration in
advance of municipal
elections based on
population data and
guiding principles

2024

**2024 Ward
Boundary Review**



2026

**Next Municipal
Election**
Any adjusted ward
boundaries would
be in effect for the
October 26, 2026
Municipal Election

Focus on London

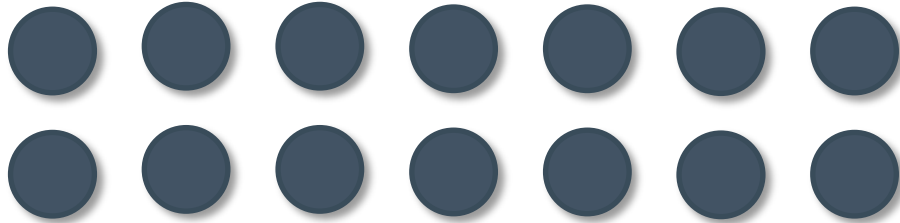


London Council Composition and Representation in Big Cities



Mayor

Elected at-large as the head of Council



14 Ward Councillors

Elected by ward as a local representative

The Deputy Mayor is nominated by the Mayor, confirmed by majority vote, and appointed

The Mayor may nominate a new Deputy Mayor throughout the Council Term

| Municipality | 2021 Population | Area (sq.km) | Council Members | Avg. Population per Member |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Brantford | 104,688 | 98.65 | 11 | 9,517 |
| Cambridge | 129,920 | 112.99 | 9 | 14,436 |
| Chatham-Kent | 103,988 | 42.4 | 18 | 5,777 |
| Guelph | 143,740 | 87.43 | 13 | 11,056 |
| Kitchener | 256,885 | 136.81 | 11 | 23,353 |
| London | 422,324 | 420.50 | 15 | 28,154 |
| St. Catharines | 133,113 | 96.20 | 13 | 10,239 |
| Waterloo | 121,436 | 64.06 | 8 | 15,179 |
| Windsor | 229,660 | 146.02 | 11 | 20,878 |
| Average | 182,862 | 134 | 12 | 15,099 |

Sample of Ontario Big Cities (Southwestern Ontario)
Council Members include head of Council

Next Steps

Project Timelines and Activities



Today

Introductory Workshop

Introduce Consultant Team

Provide background information

Stimulate discussion

Provide Council with questions to consider



**Spring/
Summer
2024**

Information Collection

Interview and engage with Members of Council

Collect core review themes and key considerations

Prepare Background Papers



**Fall
2024**

Reflection and Evaluation

Reflect on collected information

Evaluate existing ward boundaries

Explore alternatives



**Fall/
Winter
2024**

Recommendations and Report

Engage community and stakeholders

Present alternative options

Prepare and deliver recommendations to Council

Next Steps

Interviews with Council



Consider the following questions:

- What are the strongest attributes of the **present** wards?
- What are the weakest attributes of the **present** wards?
- Which of the **guiding principles** would you personally see as a priority during the Ward Boundary Review?
 - Which, in your mind, is least important?
- Are there areas of the City that appear to be **under-represented or over-represented**?