



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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TOWN TO REVIEW ITS MUNICIPAL WARD BOUNDARIES

The Town of Truro is currently conducting a review of its municipal ward boundaries. The purpose of the review is to evaluate each of the Town's current wards and determine if the number of voters in each ward is approximately the same. The review is also intended to look at the size of Truro Town Council and determine if it is large enough to adequately serve the Town's population.

The *Municipal Government Act* requires that each municipality review their polling districts, or wards, every eight years. By requiring regular reviews of municipal ward boundaries, the Province hopes to ensure that municipalities offer fair and reasonable representation to their voting populations. "Changing demographics and migration can cause the population of individual wards to vary over time and this makes boundary review necessary" said Jason Fox, Truro's Director of Planning & Development. "If a ward grows or declines compared to another; the amount of voters can become skewed and this may lead to situations where there is no longer equal representation by population".

Once a municipality completes a review of its polling districts it must submit the review to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board. If the Board determines that a ward varies more than plus or minus 10 percent from the average number of voters per ward, the Board may require that the ward boundaries be adjusted. "Currently, Truro's Ward 2 has too many voters while Wards 1 and 3 have too few" says Fox, "and Ward 2 is expected to grow faster than the other wards which will make things even more skewed in the future. The boundaries need to be adjusted."

The Town of Truro will be holding a public meeting to present the details of its ward boundary review and proposed ward boundary adjustments. The Town invites members of the community to attend the public meeting which is scheduled for May 20th, 2015 at 6:30 pm in the council chambers on the third floor of the Civic Building at 695 Prince Street. The meeting will start with an information session, followed by an opportunity for members of the public to ask questions and comment. The Town also welcomes written submissions on the proposed ward boundary review.

For more information you may contact:

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