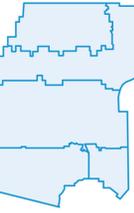


Township of Springwater 2024 Ward Boundary Review

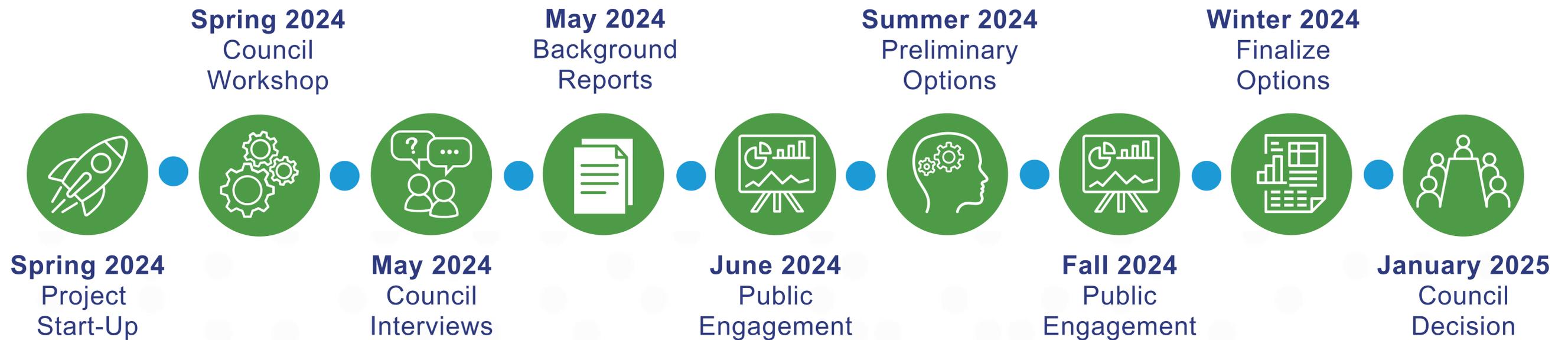
www.springwater.ca/wbr



**Ward Boundary
Review 2024**



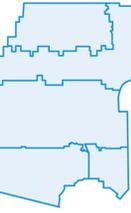
Public Information Session 2024 Ward Boundary Review



We want to hear from you!



For more information, visit
www.springwater.ca/wbr



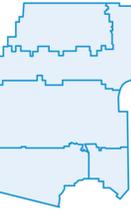
Project Overview and Objectives

The Township of Springwater has retained Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. in association with Dr. Robert J. Williams to undertake the 2024 Ward Boundary Review.

The primary purpose of the Ward Boundary Review is to prepare Municipal Council to make decisions about whether to maintain the existing ward structure or to adopt an alternative arrangement.

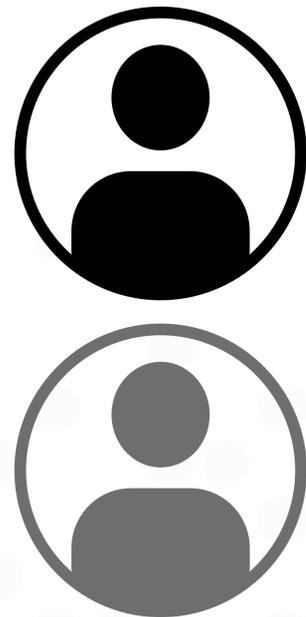
Key Objectives Include:

-  Develop a clear understanding of the present ward system, including its origins and operations as a system of representation;
-  Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the present ward system on the basis of identified guiding principles;
-  Conduct an appropriate consultation process to ensure community support for the review and its outcome;
-  Identify plausible modifications to the present ward structure; and
-  Deliver a report that will set out recommended alternative ward boundaries to ensure effective and equitable electoral arrangements for the Township of Springwater, based on the principles identified.



Existing Council Structure

Mayor & Deputy Mayor



1 Councillor for Each Ward (x5)



Both the Mayor and Deputy Mayor are elected at-large and serve on both local and county council.



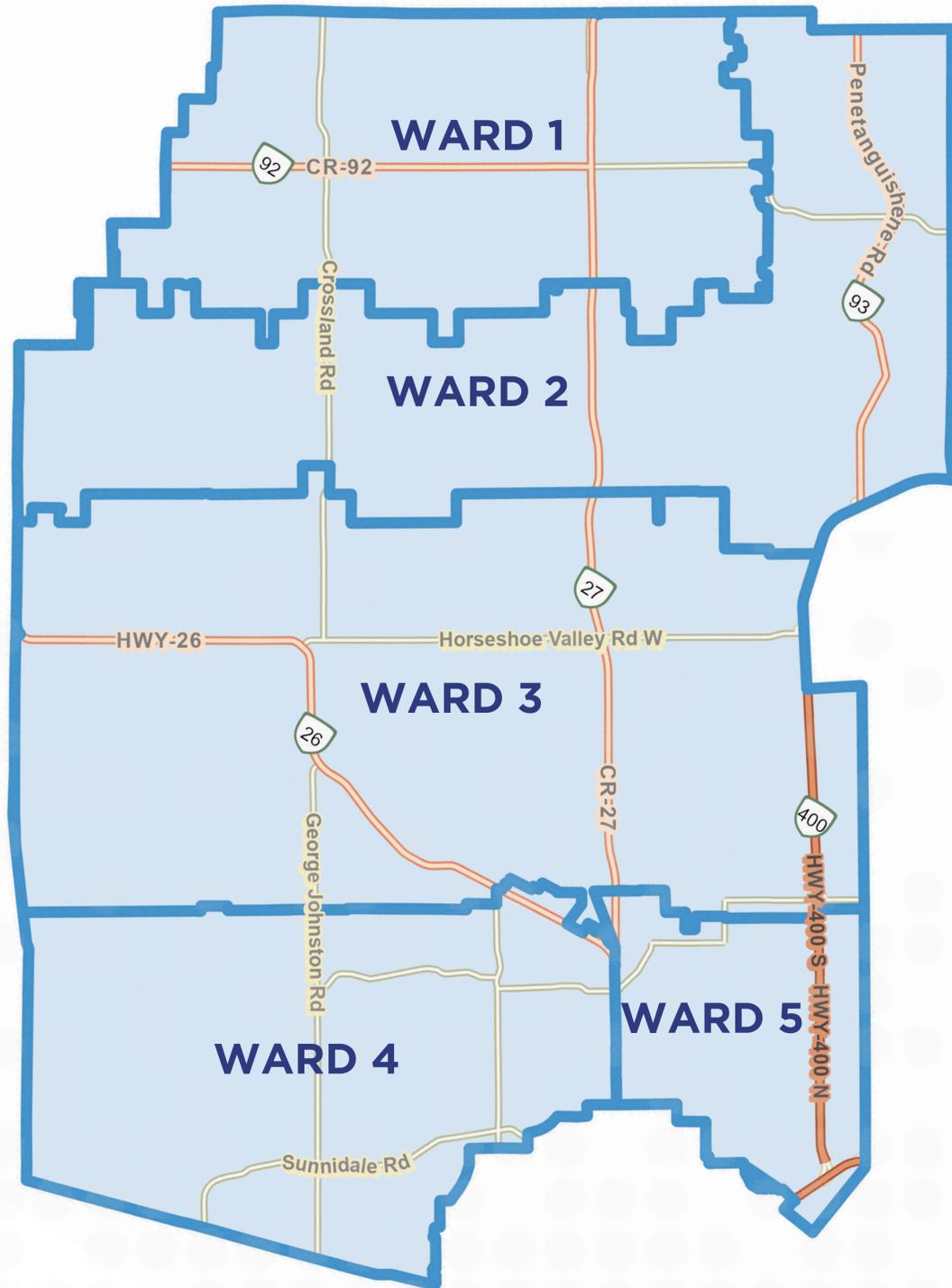
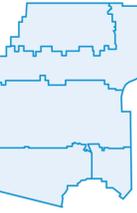
The minimum size for council of a local municipality in Ontario is five (5), “one of whom shall be the head of council” (mayor).

Township of Springwater 2024 Ward Boundary Review

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Ward Boundary
Review 2024



Existing Ward Configuration

2011 Population by Ward

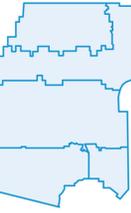
Ward	Area (SqKm)	2011		
		Population	Population Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	95.0	3,274	0.90	O-
Ward 2	132.3	3,547	0.97	O
Ward 3	183.5	3,828	1.05	O+
Ward 4	97.9	3,671	1.01	O
Ward 5	34.8	3,904	1.07	O+
Total/Average	543.6	18,223	3,645	

2021 Population by Ward

Ward	Area (SqKm)	2021		
		Population	Population Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	95.0	3,646	0.84	O-
Ward 2	132.3	3,810	0.88	O-
Ward 3	183.5	4,225	0.97	O
Ward 4	97.9	6,088	1.40	OR+
Ward 5	34.8	3,932	0.91	O-
Total/Average	543.6	21,701	4,340	

O	±5% of the Optimal (Average) Population
O-	±5%-25% of the Optimal (Average) Population
OR-	>±25% of the Optimal (Average) Population





Guiding Principles

The following principles will be used to evaluate the existing ward structure and subsequent alternative options:

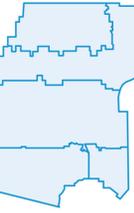
-  **REPRESENTATION BY POPULATION**
Ensure that residents are equitably represented, have comparable access to their elected representative, and the wards have reasonably equal population totals.
-  **POPULATION AND ELECTORAL TRENDS**
Take account of anticipated population growth in Springwater, specifically over a two-election cycle (2026, 2030) and beyond.
-  **MEANS OF COMMUNICATION AND ACCESSIBILITY**
Wards should group existing neighbourhoods to reflect current transportation and communication patterns.
-  **GEOGRAPHICAL AND TOPOGRAPHICAL FEATURES AS BOUNDARIES**
Ward boundaries will be drawn impartially and with consideration for natural and man-made features within the Township of Springwater that may serve as effective internal boundaries.
-  **COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST**
Consider residential and commercial clusters but also geographic, social, historical, economic, and/or cultural factors, including the identifiable rural and agricultural component of the Township of Springwater.
-  **ENSURING EFFECTIVE VOTER REPRESENTATION**
The five articulated principles contribute to achieving the over-arching principle of effective representation.

Township of Springwater 2024 Ward Boundary Review

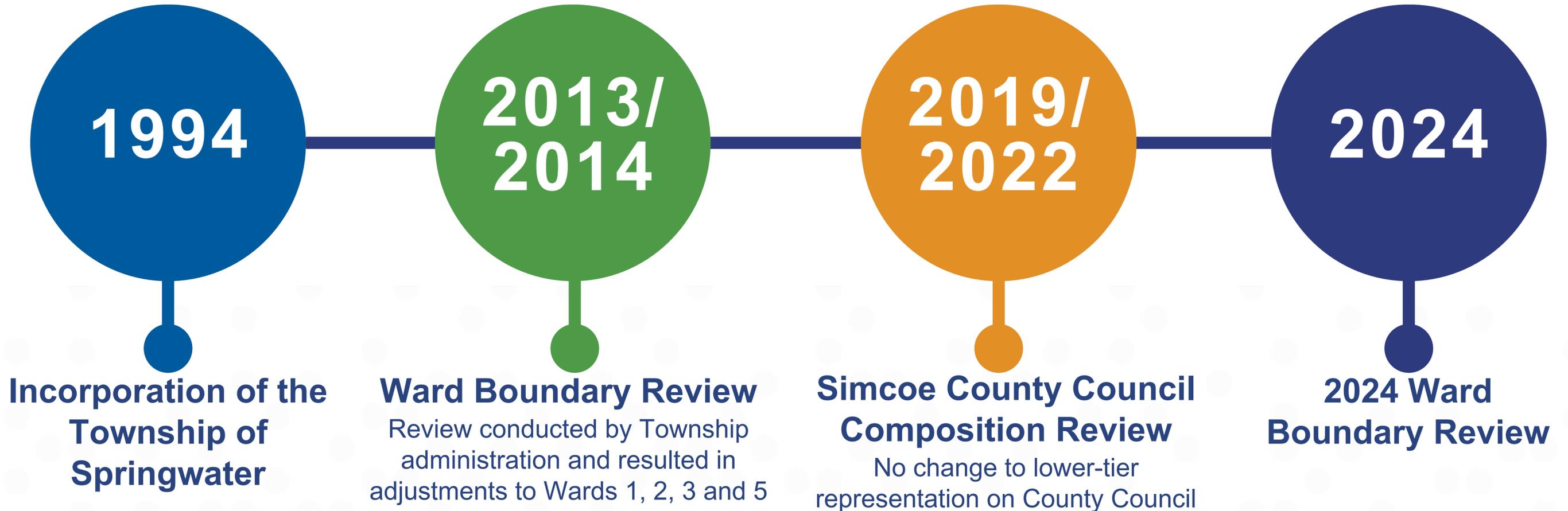
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**Ward Boundary
Review 2024**



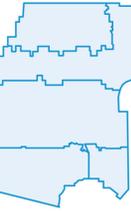
History



Mayor & Deputy Mayor
(elected at-large and represent the Township on County Council)

5 Local Councillors
(1 per ward)





Legislative Framework

Ontario's *Municipal Act, 2001* authorizes a lower-tier municipality to:

- define the size of the Council
- determine how Council (other than the Mayor) will be elected
- “divide or re-divide the municipality into wards or dissolve the existing wards”

No stipulated schedule, standardized process or established criteria exist for electoral reviews in Ontario

- Each municipality must set its own terms, parameters, guiding principles, etc.
- A review is typically framed by established procedures and principles applied in several Ontario municipalities (and by the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT) and judicial rulings on representation)