



# 2024/2025 Ward Boundary Review

City of Clarence-Rockland

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## Preliminary Options Report

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# 1. Background

The City of Clarence-Rockland has retained Watson & Associates Economists Ltd. and Dr. Robert J. Williams, hereinafter referred to as the Consultant Team, to conduct a comprehensive and independent Ward Boundary Review (W.B.R.).

The primary purpose of the study is to prepare Clarence-Rockland Council to make decisions on whether to maintain the existing electoral structure or to adopt an alternative. This report provides a set of alternative ward boundary designs that have been created based on preliminary research and the first round of public consultation with residents of Clarence-Rockland.

This review is premised on the democratic expectation that municipal representation in Clarence-Rockland would be effective, equitable, and an accurate reflection of the contemporary distribution of communities and people across the City.

# 2. Study Objective

The project has several key objectives:

- Develop a clear understanding of the present eight single-member ward system, including its origins and operations as a system of representation;
- Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the present electoral system based on guiding principles adopted for the study;
- Develop and conduct an appropriate consultation process in accordance with Clarence-Rockland's public engagement practices to ensure community support for the review and its outcome;
- Prepare population projections for the development and evaluation of alternative electoral structures for the 2026 and 2030 municipal elections; and
- Deliver a report that will set out recommended alternative council ward boundaries and related council structures to ensure effective and equitable electoral arrangements for Clarence-Rockland, based on the principles identified.

In December 2024, the Consultant Team prepared background materials that set out:

- The parameters and purpose for the review;
- The basic electoral arrangements in Clarence-Rockland;
- Council's legislative authority to modify electoral arrangements in the City; and



- An initial assessment of the City's current ward boundary system.

A set of guiding principles has also been adopted to inform the study and the work of the Consultant Team. These principles address:

- Population Parity;
- Population Trends;
- Communities of interest; and
- Natural boundaries.

Taken together, the guiding principles will contribute to achieving the over-arching principle of effective representation.

Each principle is described in detail in a background information paper that can be found through the City's W.B.R. web page. <sup>[1]</sup>

The purpose of this Preliminary Options Report is to provide:

- A summary of the work completed to date;
- A summary of the information received from the public engagement sessions and consultation tools, such as the survey and website; and
- A series of preliminary ward boundary options for consideration.

### 3. Project Structure and Timeline

Council adopted the terms of reference for the W.B.R. as part of the request for proposals for the project, which began in November 2024. Work completed to date includes:

- Research and data compilation;
- Interviews with councillors, the mayor, and municipal staff, which were conducted virtually; and

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[1] [www.clarence-rockland.com/en/hotel-de-ville/R\\_vision\\_des\\_limites\\_des\\_quartiers.aspx](http://www.clarence-rockland.com/en/hotel-de-ville/R_vision_des_limites_des_quartiers.aspx)



- Three live public consultations in January 2025, which were conducted in Bourget and Rockland to obtain insight into the existing electoral system and ward structure.

## 4. Existing Electoral Structure

The Clarence-Rockland City Council today comprises nine members, including the mayor (elected at-large) and eight City councillors, elected in eight wards.

A council of nine members is four above the minimum size for a local council as set out in the *Municipal Act, 2001* (section 217). It is larger than the councils in six of the municipalities in the United Counties of Prescott and Russell and is the same size as the council in Champlain Township, where the eight councillors are elected in four wards. While it is within the legislative authority of the Clarence-Rockland Council to modify the size of council (see the background information paper “What is the Optimal Size for a Municipal Council?” on the City’s W.B.R. web page), the terms of reference for this review did not direct the Consultant Team to include recommendations for an electoral system to elect a different number of councillors.

Eight wards were described in Schedule “A” of the Ministerial Order dated March 27, 1997, that established the City through the amalgamation of the Town of Rockland and the Township of Clarence and have not been reviewed or adjusted since then. The perception of many we have already consulted is that the two existing municipalities, Rockland and Clarence, were treated as equals at amalgamation, with four wards assigned to each. Although the population of the two pre-amalgamation municipalities was reasonably balanced in 1997, the arrangement appears to place what can be considered the “community of interest” principle ahead of other guiding principles.

Since the present wards were adopted over 25 years ago, it is timely to step back to consider their viability today, since the City has experienced population growth mostly within the Rockland settlement area. By 2021, approximately 60% of the City’s population resided in the four Rockland wards. Aligning council representation, placing a greater emphasis on “representation by population,” will require an adjustment in some or all wards.

It is the responsibility of the Consultant Team to help move this review process forward. To address these questions thoroughly and systematically, it is helpful to understand what is open to change and what is not.



As noted above, the *Municipal Act, 2001*, establishes that the council of a “local municipality” must consist of “a minimum of five members, one of whom shall be the head of council” (subsection 217 (1) 1) and that the head of council (the mayor) “shall be elected by general vote (subsection 217 (1) 3). Furthermore, the “members, other than the head of council, shall be elected by general vote or wards or by any combination of general vote and wards” (subsection 217 (1) 4). In the background information paper, “The Component Parts of the Clarence-Rockland Council,” on the City’s W.B.R. web page, the Consultant Team took the position that Clarence-Rockland is better served by having councillors elected in wards rather than at-large.

While some aspects of the current wards may continue to be valid, electoral boundaries should be understood as being temporary groupings of residents who reside in communities and neighbourhoods for the purpose of electing municipal representatives. As the population of the municipality changes, the ward configuration should be evaluated on a regular basis to ensure that it reflects the contemporary and future distribution of residents across the City.

From that starting point, it is possible to consider whether the present ward configuration fulfils the guiding principles and, if not, to propose alternatives to address the shortcomings of the present Clarence-Rockland wards. Based on that assessment, the review will include a series of alternative configurations for representation in Clarence-Rockland.

## 5. Existing Population and Forecast Growth in the City of Clarence-Rockland

As previously discussed, a basic premise of representative democracy in Canada is the notion that the geographic areas used to elect a representative should be reasonably balanced with one another in terms of population. Accordingly, a detailed population estimate for the City of Clarence-Rockland, including its constituent wards and communities, was prepared to enable the Consultant Team to evaluate the existing ward structure and subsequent alternatives in terms of representation by population for the current year (2025). Population figures presented throughout this report include both populations captured by the 2021 Census and estimated populations for 2025 and 2036 as explained below.



The City of Clarence-Rockland is forecast to experience population growth over the next decade and beyond. For this reason, it is important that this study assess representation by population for both existing and future-year populations. In accordance with the study terms of reference, the analysis considered representation by population over the next three municipal elections through to 2036. A population and housing forecast for the City for the 2025 to 2036 period was determined and the results of this analysis are discussed below.

## 5.1 Existing Population and Structure

As mentioned, this study needs to look at both the existing and future populations. A 2025 population estimate was derived by utilizing the 2021 Census and a review of building permit activity from 2021 through 2024. Clarence-Rockland's estimated 2025 population is 28,780 and includes the net Census undercount.<sup>[2]</sup> The City's 2025 total population is presented by existing ward structure in Table 5-1. As shown, the population of Wards 1 to 4, which cover the Rockland urban area.

Table 5-1  
City of Clarence-Rockland  
2025 Population by Ward

Ward	Area (sq.km)	2025 Total Population	Population Variance
Ward 1	11.5	3,948	1.10
Ward 2	4.0	3,665	1.02
Ward 3	8.1	5,047	1.40
Ward 4	9.8	4,770	1.33
Ward 5	43.4	3,064	0.85
Ward 6	86.8	2,338	0.65
Ward 7	73.6	3,194	0.89
Ward 8	63.2	2,752	0.77
<b>Total/Average</b>	<b>300.3</b>	<b>28,778</b>	<b>3,597</b>

Note: Numbers may not add precisely due to rounding.  
Source: Watson & Associates Economists Ltd., 2025.

<sup>[2]</sup> The net Census undercount is an adjustment to the population to account for the net number of persons who are missed (i.e. over-coverage less under-coverage) during enumeration and is estimated at approximately 3.0%.



## 5.2 Forecast Population Growth, 2025 to 2036

The population across the City of Clarence-Rockland is expected to increase over the next decade, reaching 32,700 by 2036. Growth, however, is not anticipated to develop evenly across the City or within the wards but will be directed to the already well-established Rockland urban settlement area.

The Consultant Team has prepared population growth metrics for the 2025 to 2036 period, consistent with the 2024 Development Charges Background Study that is guided by county and provincial growth targets, policy objectives, and a comprehensive review of opportunities to accommodate future residential growth through planned residential developments and intensification potential. Anticipated population growth over the 2025 to 2036 period was identified on a sub-geographic unit level.

Table 5-2  
City of Clarence-Rockland  
2036 Population by Ward

Ward	Area (sq.km)	2036 Total Population	Population Variance
Ward 1	11.5	5,853	1.43
Ward 2	4.0	3,510	0.86
Ward 3	8.1	5,560	1.36
Ward 4	9.8	6,866	1.68
Ward 5	43.4	2,929	0.72
Ward 6	86.8	2,239	0.55
Ward 7	73.6	3,106	0.76
Ward 8	63.2	2,638	0.65
<b>Total/Average</b>	<b>300.3</b>	<b>32,701</b>	<b>4,088</b>

Note: Numbers may not add precisely due to rounding.  
Source: Watson & Associates Economists Ltd., 2025.

## 6. Public Consultation

The first phase of the W.B.R. incorporated a public engagement component that was delivered in person and designed to:



- Inform residents of Clarence-Rockland about the reasons for the W.B.R. and the key factors that are considered in the review; and
- Engage the residents in a manner that provides valuable input to the evaluation of the existing ward structure and development of alternative ward boundaries.

One in-person consultation session was held in Bourget on January 22, 2025, and two additional public consultation sessions were conducted on January 23, 2025, in Rockland. Information about the review prepared by the Consultant Team can be found on the City's website (also provided in Appendix B): [https://www.clarence-rockland.com/en/hotel-de-ville/R\\_vision\\_des\\_limites\\_des\\_quartiers.aspx](https://www.clarence-rockland.com/en/hotel-de-ville/R_vision_des_limites_des_quartiers.aspx)

Through the public consultation sessions, a survey, and the project website's online comment/feedback form, participants were invited to provide their input/opinions with respect to the following:

- Existing ward structure – What are the strengths and weaknesses of the current ward structure?
- Guiding principles – Which guiding principles should be given the greatest priority in the development of ward boundaries?

The feedback and comments collected through the public consultation process are reflected in the analysis presented below and have helped inform the preliminary set of ward options. While public input from consultation provides valuable insight into the review, it is not relied on exclusively. The Consultant Team utilized the public input in conjunction with its professional expertise and experience in W.B.R.s, along with best practices, to develop the preliminary options presented herein.

## 7. What We Heard

To promote public engagement in the W.B.R., the City of Clarence-Rockland created a project web page for all documents necessary to give residents an informed voice. All subsequent communications could then direct people to that page, through social media and other forms of outreach. Members of the public were able to visit the site, read up on context, download a background report and, most importantly, they were urged to complete a survey. The Consultant Team also prepared a whiteboard-style explainer video in both French and English describing the overall process of the W.B.R.



The public survey was a key tool for collecting input from as many residents as possible and gave some of the best high-level insight into the views and perspectives of Clarence-Rockland's residents. The level of participation in the survey was fairly high, with 153 people responding to some or all questions; a detailed summary of these results can be found in Appendix A. The survey results tended to confirm what earlier research had begun to indicate:

- Close to half the survey respondents (48%) thought having eight local councillors, with one elected from each ward, was adequate to their needs. Of those who felt that the size of council is inappropriate, approximately 21% felt it was too large, while 9% respondents believed it to be too small.
- Most importantly for the next phase of the project, respondents equally prioritized present and future population trends and representation by population as the most important guiding principle (33% for both). A significant percentage of respondents also thought that communities of interests and neighborhoods should be the top priority (26%). The physical features as natural boundaries principle was prioritized by the fewest number of people (11%).

The survey also included several questions that were open-ended, giving respondents the opportunity to submit longer, written responses about issues they considered important. There were two major recurrent themes that arose in these responses. First, respondents expressed a strong sense of community, emphasizing the unique blend of rural and urban areas within Clarence-Rockland. Second, respondents voiced concerns with regards to the balance of growth areas across the City of Clarence-Rockland.

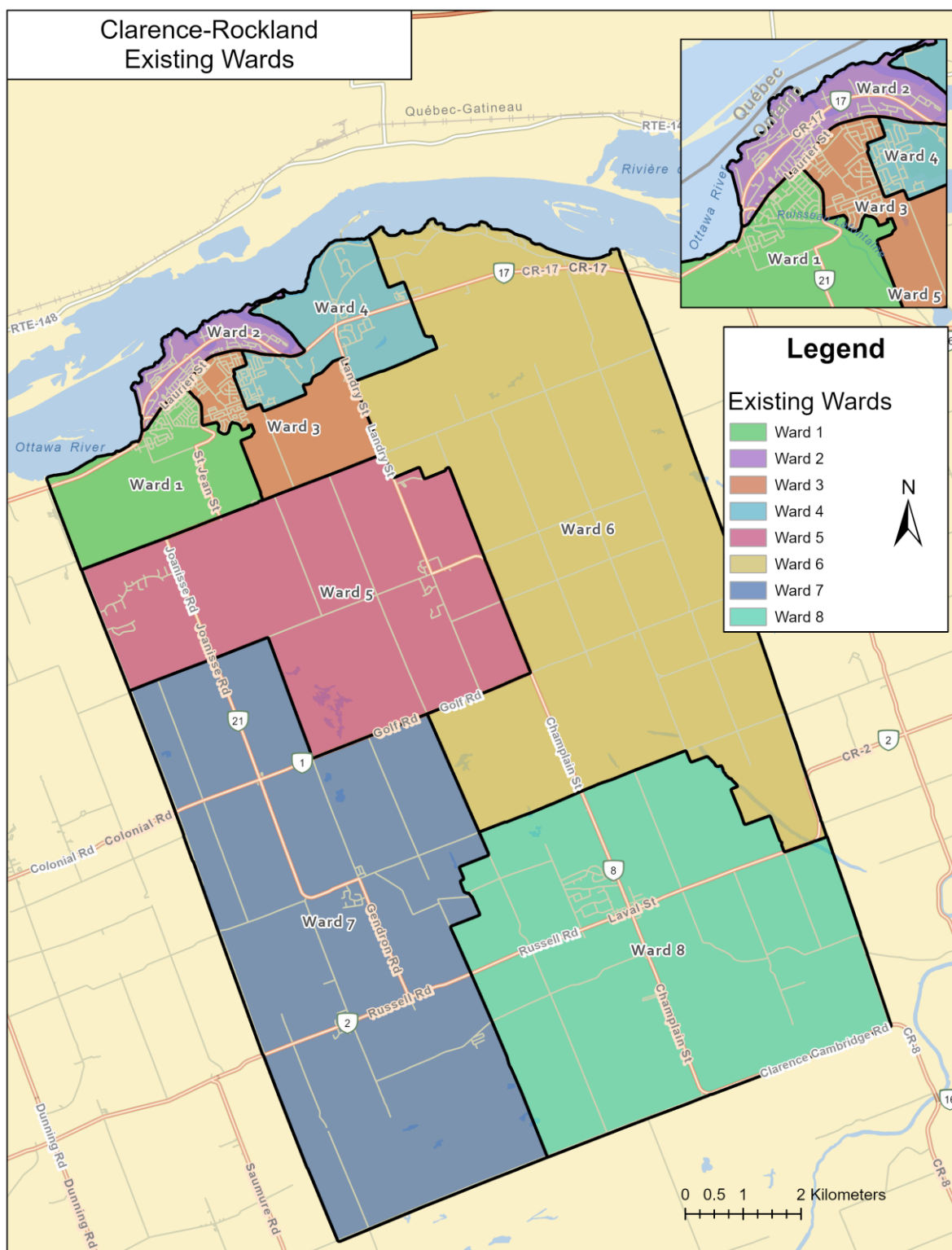
## 8. Evaluation of Existing Ward Structure

A preliminary evaluation of the existing ward structure in terms of the guiding principles is included in one of the background information papers on the City's website (see above). For reference, the current wards are illustrated in Figure 8-1. The survey, conducted as part of the initial phase of public consultation, asked respondents to assess the current wards in terms of their strengths and weaknesses. The responses added depth to that initial assessment.

This section revisits that evaluation, integrating information received during consultation and addressing certain challenges identified in parts of the existing ward system.



Figure 8-1  
Existing Ward Structure





## 8.1 Consideration of Population Parity

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One of the basic premises of representative democracy in Canada is the belief that the geographic areas used to elect a representative should be reasonably balanced with one another in terms of population. This is the concept of representation by population (“rep by pop”) or “one person, one vote” – where the vote of any one person carries roughly the same weight as that of any other person. In some places (such as parts of the United States) this principle of voter parity is enforced rigorously – almost to the exclusion of any other factor – so that there is no noticeable variation in the population of electoral units within a particular jurisdiction.

In the Carter decision<sup>[3]</sup> however, the majority of the Supreme Court of Canada understood that Canadian electoral law has never been driven by the need to achieve “full parity” in the population of electoral divisions. The Court concluded that some degree of variation from parity (“relative parity”) may be justified and, at times, even necessary “on the grounds of practical impossibility or the provision of more effective representation.”

Since there are variations in the densities and character of communities and neighbourhoods across Clarence-Rockland, the guiding principles make clear that some flexibility in applying the principle of representation by population is acceptable. That is, the concept of “equitable” (that is, fair) representation – not necessarily “equal” representation – is legitimate, although the closer the population of the wards is to parity, the more the entire design can be assessed as successful.

As a working premise, a range of variation of 25% above or below the optimal (average) ward population will be considered acceptable. This is a rather generous range of tolerance from parity, but in the absence of any guidance in the *Municipal Act, 2001* or provincial regulations, it is based on long-standing parameters for the federal redistribution process. The goal in any case will be to reduce the range of variation among the wards as much as possible.

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<sup>[3]</sup> *Reference re: Provincial Electoral Boundaries* (Saskatchewan) [1991] 2 S.C.R.



Moreover, in the Consultant Team's opinion, developing wards within a narrower range of population variation would make the successful achievement of the other recognized guiding principles more difficult.

The degree of parity in each ward will be determined through the calculation of what will be called an "optimal" ward population in Clarence-Rockland, a figure computed by dividing the population by the number of wards in the City. The population of a ward will be considered "optimal" when it falls within 5% above or below that number (noted in green). A ward population would be considered within the acceptable population range if it is between 5% and 25% of the "optimum" population (noted in pink). Populations that are above or below 25% of the "optimal" population are considered outside the acceptable range (noted in red). It is important to remember that as the overall population changes, the "optimal" population size of a ward will also change.

Based on the figure calculated for the City's overall 2025 population (28,778) and an eight-ward system, the optimal population would be 3,597. In 2036, the City's forecast population is 32,701 and the optimal ward population would be 4,088. An example of these ranges is provided for Clarence-Rockland's eight-ward system for the 2025 and 2036 populations and is shown below in Table 8-1.

Table 8-1  
City of Clarence-Rockland  
Optimal Range for an Eight-Ward System

Symbol	Description	Variance	2025 Population Range	2036 Population Range
OR+	Outside Range - High	25% and above	>4,497	>5,110
O+	Above Optimal but Acceptable	5% to 25%	3,777 - 4,497	4,292 - 5,110
O	Optimal Population Range	+/- 5%	3,417 - 3,776	3,882 - 4,292
O-	Below Optimal but Acceptable	-5% to -25%	2,698 - 3,416	3,066 - 3,883
OR-	Outside Range - Low	-25% and below	<2,698	<3,066



Table 8-2  
City of Clarence-Rockland  
Estimated Population by Existing Ward, 2025

Ward	2025 Total Population	2025 Population Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	3,948	1.10	O+
Ward 2	3,665	1.02	O
Ward 3	5,047	1.40	OR+
Ward 4	4,770	1.33	OR+
Ward 5	3,064	0.85	O-
Ward 6	2,338	0.65	OR-
Ward 7	3,194	0.89	O-
Ward 8	2,752	0.77	O-
<b>City-wide</b>	<b>28,778</b>	-	-
<b>Optimal Population</b>	<b>3,597</b>	-	-

Note: Numbers have been rounded.

Source: Watson & Associates Economists Ltd., 2025.

Population data suggests that three of the eight present wards are outside the optimal range of variance, two above and one below. Based on this empirical evidence, the present wards do not adhere to the representation by population principle.

## 8.2 Consideration of Population Trends

As noted in section 5.2, population growth over the next decade within Clarence-Rockland will be approximately 3,900, mostly focused on the present Rockland urban settlement area, specifically in the present Wards 1 and 4.

This principle is directed towards maintaining a balance through subsequent municipal elections. It is generally not practical to change electoral boundaries for every election; hence, the wards designed in 2025 for the 2026 municipal election will be planned to accommodate anticipated changes in the size and distribution of the population and electors over the next two elections in 2030 and 2034.



As in the previous population principle, the goal is to design a system that will comprise wards that are generally in equilibrium to one another as growth takes place. The concept of an optimal ward size (with an associated range of variation) will be used to assess the success of the individual wards and the overall configuration, making use of a population and housing forecast for Clarence-Rockland and its communities for the 2025 to 2036 period.

Table 8-3  
City of Clarence-Rockland  
2025 and 2036 Population Distribution in the Existing Wards

Ward Number	2025 Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range	2036 Total Population	Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	3,948	1.10	O+	5,853	1.43	OR+
Ward 2	3,665	1.02	O	3,510	0.86	O-
Ward 3	5,047	1.40	OR+	5,560	1.36	OR+
Ward 4	4,770	1.33	OR+	6,866	1.68	OR+
Ward 5	3,064	0.85	O-	2,929	0.72	OR-
Ward 6	2,338	0.65	OR-	2,239	0.55	OR-
Ward 7	3,194	0.89	O-	3,106	0.76	O-
Ward 8	2,752	0.77	O-	2,638	0.65	OR-
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,778</b>	-	-	<b>32,701</b>	-	-
<b>Average</b>	<b>3,597</b>	-	-	<b>4,088</b>	-	-

Note: Numbers have been rounded.

Source: Watson & Associates Economists Ltd., 2025.

These forecasts show that the pattern of population imbalance present in 2025 is worsened in 2036. Future population growth in Clarence-Rockland over the next decade will be concentrated in urban settlement area, particularly in the present Wards 1 and 4 and to a lesser extent the present Ward 3, while other wards experience little to no population change.

The empirical evidence confirms that existing ward configuration - if left unchanged - will not grow into population parity over time and will fall well short of meeting this principle.



## 8.3 Consideration of Communities of Interest

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Care should be taken to ensure communities of interest remain intact during the design of ward boundaries. Such communities represent social and economic groups that may have deep historical roots, but they can also be social, economic, or religious in nature, depending on the history and composition of the municipality in question.

This principle addresses two perspectives: what is divided by ward boundaries and what is joined together? The priority is that communities ought not to be divided internally; as a rule, lines are drawn around communities, not through them. Secondly, as far as possible, wards should be cohesive units composed of areas with common interests related to representation, not just contrived arithmetical divisions of the City.

Wards should have a “natural” feel to those that live within them, meaning that they should have established internal communication and transportation linkages, and boundaries should be drawn taking existing connections into consideration. This is done to avoid creating wards that combine communities with dissimilar interests and no obvious patterns of interaction.

Clarence-Rockland has traditionally been composed of several identifiable communities of interest of varying sizes and types. The rural part of the municipality includes communities such as Bourget, Hammond, Cheney, Clarence Point, St. Pascal Baylon, Clarence Creek, and others. On the urban side, there are several older established neighbourhoods in Rockland, plus extensive riverfront neighbourhoods and newer residential clusters such as Morris Village.

The initial generalization is that in terms of community of interest in Clarence-Rockland, the eight wards partially meet this principle. In the rural area, settlements such as Bourget, Hammond, and Clarence Creek are located in different wards. The present Ward 6, however, includes both Clarence Point and St. Pascal-Baylon, communities that have few obvious shared interests. In the more densely populated Rockland area, identifiable communities are less evident, although there is a mixture of older neighbourhoods, 1970s and 1980s housing forms, and the more recent Morris Village, with forecast residential development expected to have an impact on three of the present wards.



It would be difficult to conclude that all the current wards consist of coherent collections of communities of interest; the configuration can be assessed as only partially successful in meeting the principle.

## **8.4 Consideration of Natural Boundaries**

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Ward boundaries should be easily recognizable and take advantage of natural and built geographic features such as arterial roads, waterways, and railway lines. Often these features already separate communities within a municipality, which usually explains their historical use as boundary lines between existing wards.

The present ward boundary lines in Clarence-Rockland are somewhat arbitrary, especially in the urban area where wards are aligned on either side of the traditional “main street” (Laurier) or, in the case of the present Ward 3, appear to follow property lines rather than visible features. Across the four rural wards, there are several examples of ward boundaries following “phantom” lines that are not actual physical features, such as the boundary between the present Wards 5 and 7 between Vinette and Du Golf Roads or between the present Wards 7 and 8 south of LaCroix Road.

In the assessment of the Consultant Team, ward boundaries in Clarence-Rockland only partially meet this principle.

## **8.5 Effective Representation**

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As discussed in one of the documents on the City’s website (see above), the guiding principles are subject to the overarching principle of “effective representation,” meaning that, to the extent possible, each resident should have comparable access to an elected representative and each councillor should speak (and vote) on behalf of an equal number of residents. Deviations from the strict application of the principles can be justified if they contribute to more effective representation.

Effective representation is not based on the performance of incumbent councillors. It is, rather, a concept that is premised on serving the on-going relationship between residents and elected officials – not just on the way the resident is “counted” on election day, although that is an important component of a fair system of representation. The expectation should be that the wards support the capacity of councillors to represent their constituents, rather than hinder councillors performing those responsibilities. Are



the individual wards plausible and coherent units of representation? Are they drawn in such a way that representatives can readily play the role expected of them? Do they provide equitable (that is, fair) access to councillors for all residents of the municipality?

In Clarence-Rockland, there are significantly different relationships between constituents and councillors, in terms of present and future population distributions and community groupings and the geographic size of the wards that hinder the achievement of effective representation. Specifically, one councillor has approximately 2,700 more constituents to serve (and represent) as another, while another represents a ward that is 20 times the area of another.

The present configuration embeds a dilution of the votes cast by certain electors compared to others and weakens the democratic expectation that when the eight councillors decide on a matter before them, each vote is cast on behalf of a relatively equal number of residents.

The present boundaries fall short of meeting this over-arching principle and the imbalance will become even greater as forecast population growth is realized. The present wards do not, in our assessment, ensure effective representation.

**Overview:** No ward design is likely to meet all the principles in their entirety; however, the best designs maximize adherence to the principles, especially in relation to representation by population and communities of interest. It is our conclusion that it is possible to develop a ward configuration in Clarence-Rockland that is more supportive of effective representation. Several alternative ward boundary options have been developed for consideration by the community and are set out in the following pages.



Figure 8-2  
City of Clarence-Rockland  
Present Clarence-Rockland Ward Configuration Evaluation Summary

Principle	Does the Current Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle? <sup>[1]</sup>	Comment
Population Parity	No	Three of the eight present wards are outside the $\pm 25\%$ range of variance.
Population Trends	No	Population growth will not overcome the existing population imbalance. Six of the eight wards are forecast to be outside the $\pm 25\%$ range of variation.
Communities of Interest	Partially Successful	Some wards do not include obvious shared interests.
Natural Boundaries	Partially Successful	Many boundaries are arbitrary and/or “phantom” lines.
Effective Representation	No	Population imbalances and geographic areas hinder the achievement of effective voter representation.

The degree to which each guiding principle is satisfied is ranked as “**Yes**” (fully satisfied), “**Largely Successful**,” “**Partially Successful**,” or “**No**” (not satisfied).

## 9. Alternative Ward Boundary Options

The evaluation of the current ward system in Clarence-Rockland suggests that there are identifiable shortcomings when evaluated against the guiding principles for this review. Although the alternative options presented here differ in the way they address these shortcomings, each is considered a plausible and defensible approach to representation in the City.



Council could still choose to retain the status quo by turning down all recommended options for an alternative ward configuration. That decision, however, could result in a petition submitted under section 223 of the *Municipal Act, 2001* requesting that Council adopt new ward boundaries. The analysis presented herein suggests that it could be difficult for the City to defend the existing ward system before the Ontario Land Tribunal, especially in addressing future growth and that the Consultant Team would not be supportive of Council's refusal to adopt a change.

If Council decides to change the ward boundary system, what would alternatives look like? Keeping the identifiable communities of interest intact, creating wards with roughly equal populations, and providing for effective representation throughout Clarence-Rockland poses a challenge, given the large geography and uneven population distribution across the City as outlined above and in Figure 8-2.

With those limitations in mind, the Consultant Team has prepared six preliminary options for consideration at this stage of the W.B.R.

## 9.1 Preliminary Option 1A

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This first option can be considered a “minimal change” option since it preserves key features of the existing rural wards but looks to utilize major roadways and features as more easily identifiable boundary lines. More significant changes were made within the Rockland urban area to better address population parity in the short and longer term.

In this option, the proposed Wards 2, 3 and 4 are each small geographic areas within Rockland while the proposed Wards 1 and 5 are larger areas that include neighbourhoods to the west and east of the present urban centre that are less densely populated today. The remaining three wards proposed in this option are large, primarily rural, geographic areas each with an identifiable community focus: Clarence Creek for the proposed Ward 6, Hammond for the proposed Ward 7 and Bourget for the proposed Ward 8. Like the existing arrangement, there is a large ward along the eastern municipal boundary, although it does not include riverfront properties.

In contrast to the present system, all eight wards fall within the  $\pm 25\%$  variance for 2025. The proposed Wards 1 and 5 are forecast to experience significant growth over the next decade, in the former case taking the 2036 population to the optimal point while in the latter the growth moves an already large population ward well over the acceptable



range of variation. The proposed Ward 2 is forecast to come close to the acceptable upper range of variation while the proposed wards 7 and 8 fall below the acceptable range of variation.

This option provides familiarity to residents and retains some of the existing ward characteristics in the rural area, while addressing some of the issues raised in the evaluation. Population distribution for the next municipal election is good but the forecast for 2036 is not as successful since four of the eight wards fall on or near the high or low side of the acceptable population ranges.

An evaluation of Preliminary Option 1 against the guiding principles can be found in Figure 9-2.

Table 9-1  
City of Clarence-Rockland  
Preliminary Option 1A – Population by Proposed Ward

Ward Number	2025 Population	Variance	Optimal Range	2036 Population	Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	2,854	0.79	O-	3,906	0.96	O
Ward 2	3,830	1.06	O+	5,017	1.23	O+
Ward 3	3,331	0.93	O-	3,185	0.78	O-
Ward 4	4,422	1.23	O+	4,222	1.03	O
Ward 5	4,462	1.24	O+	6,583	1.61	OR+
Ward 6	3,684	1.02	O	3,805	0.93	O-
Ward 7	3,021	0.84	O-	2,940	0.72	OR-
Ward 8	3,174	0.88	O-	3,043	0.74	OR-
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,778</b>	-	-	<b>32,701</b>	-	-
<b>Average</b>	<b>3,597</b>	-	-	<b>4,088</b>	-	-

Numbers have been rounded.

Source: Watson & Associates Economists Ltd., 2025.



Figure 9-1  
Preliminary Option 1A

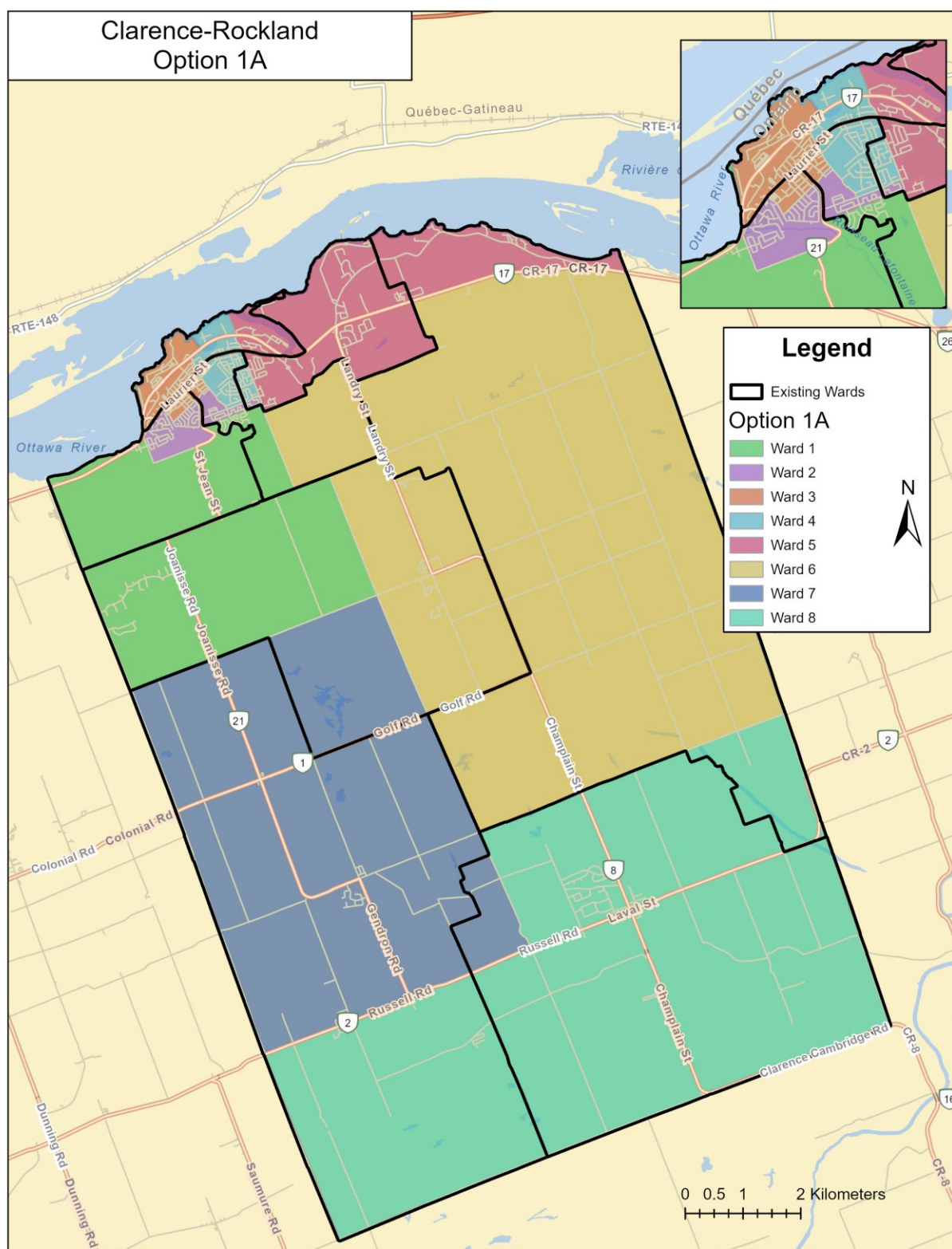




Figure 9-2  
City of Clarence-Rockland  
Preliminary Option 1A – Evaluation Summary

Principle	Does the Current Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
Population Parity	Yes	All wards are within the $\pm 25\%$ range of variation with one ward within the optimal range ( $\pm 5\%$ ) of the average population.
Population Trends	No	Population change within Clarence-Rockland will result in Wards 5, 7, and Ward 8 falling outside the $\pm 25\%$ range of variation. Four wards remain within the $\pm 25\%$ range of variation and one is within the optimal range.
Communities of Interest	Largely Successful	The wards each contain plausible groupings of settlements and/or neighbourhoods.
Natural Boundaries	Largely Successful	Most – but not all - boundaries are clear and/or visible lines.
Effective Representation	Partially Successful	Future population imbalances hinder the achievement of effective representation.

The degree to which each guiding principle is satisfied is ranked as “Yes” (fully satisfied), “Largely Successful,” “Partially Successful,” or “No” (not satisfied).

## 9.2 Preliminary Option 1B

The proposed Wards 1 through 5 are identical in Preliminary Options 1A and 1B with the boundary lines changed between the proposed Wards 6, 7 and 8. In Preliminary Option 1B, the proposed Wards 7 and 8 are aligned north-south with the proposed Ward 6 a more compact shape. The Option retains the identifiable community focus captured in Option 1A but achieves a better population balance in 2036. The design still includes a significant population gap between some individual wards (such as the proposed adjacent Wards 5 and 6) and two large geographic wards.



Most boundaries are clear and recognizable within the Rockland urban area. The communities grouped together are acceptable.

An evaluation of Preliminary Option 1B against the guiding principles can be found in Figure 9-4.

Table 9-2  
City of Clarence-Rockland  
Preliminary Option 1B – Population by Proposed Ward

Ward Number	2025 Population	Variance	Optimal Range	2036 Population	Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	2,854	0.79	O-	3,906	0.96	O
Ward 2	3,830	1.06	O+	5,017	1.23	O+
Ward 3	3,331	0.93	O-	3,185	0.78	O-
Ward 4	4,422	1.23	O+	4,222	1.03	O
Ward 5	4,462	1.24	O+	6,583	1.61	OR+
Ward 6	2,871	0.80	O-	3,027	0.74	OR-
Ward 7	3,663	1.02	O	3,556	0.87	O-
Ward 8	3,345	0.93	O-	3,205	0.78	O-
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,778</b>	-	-	<b>32,701</b>	-	-
<b>Average</b>	<b>3,597</b>	-	-	<b>4,088</b>	-	-

Numbers have been rounded.

Source: Watson & Associates Economists Ltd., 2025.



Figure 9-3  
Preliminary Option 1B

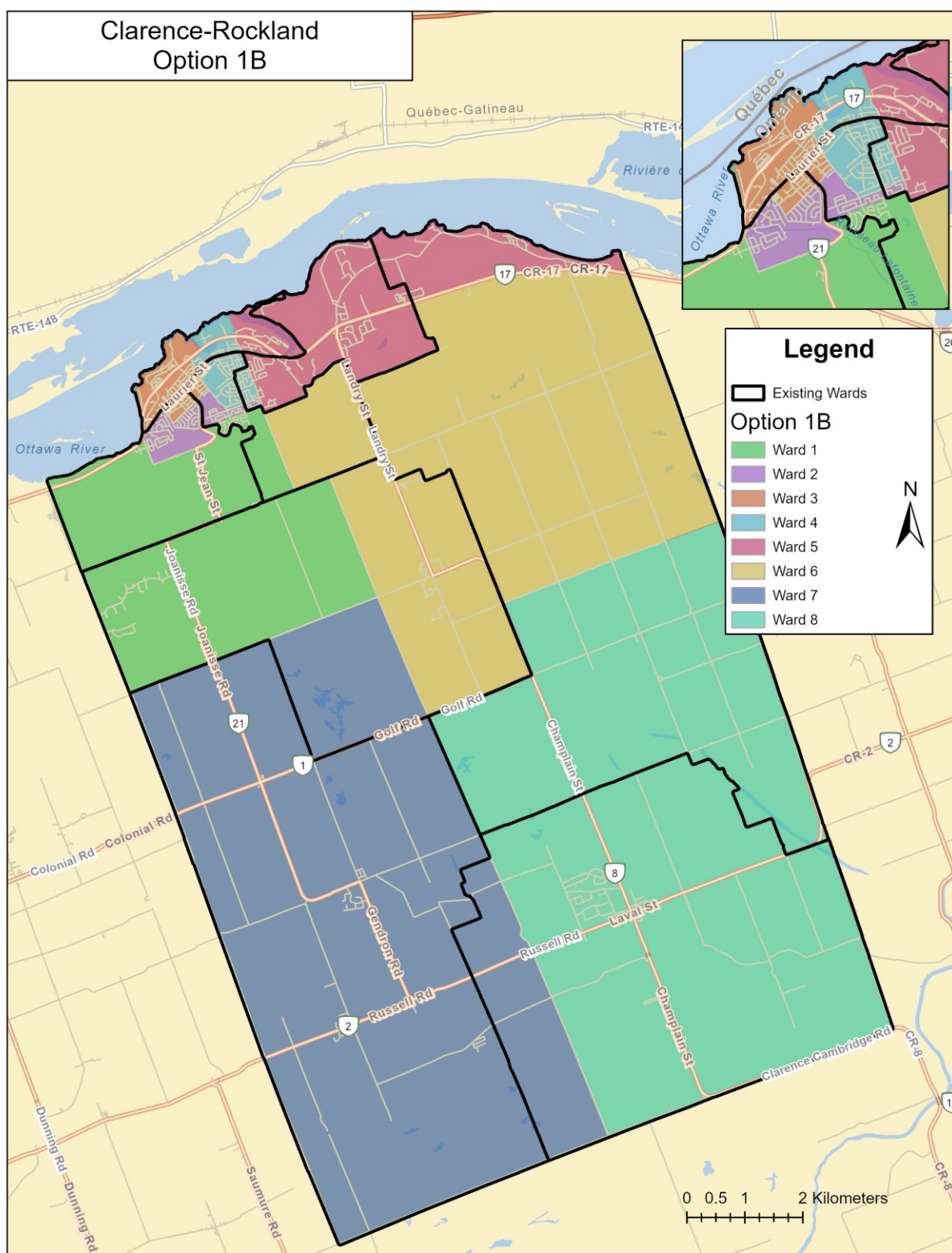




Figure 9-4  
City of Clarence-Rockland  
Preliminary Option 1B - Evaluation Summary

Principle	Does the Current Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
Population Parity	Yes	All wards are within the $\pm 25\%$ range of variation with one ward within the optimal range ( $\pm 5\%$ ) of the average population.
Population Trends	Partially Successful	Population growth within Clarence-Rockland will result in Ward 5 and Ward 6 falling outside the $\pm 25\%$ range of variation. Four wards remain within the $\pm 25\%$ range of variation and two are within the optimal range.
Communities of Interest	Largely Successful	The wards each contain plausible groupings of settlements and/or neighbourhoods.
Natural Boundaries	Largely Successful	Most boundaries are clear and/or visible lines.
Effective Representation	Largely Successful	Future population imbalances hinder the achievement of complete effective representation.

The degree to which each guiding principle is satisfied is ranked as “**Yes**” (fully satisfied), “**Largely Successful**,” “**Partially Successful**,” or “**No**” (not satisfied).

## 9.3 Preliminary Option 2

Preliminary Option 2 offers a configuration in which five proposed wards are located between the Ottawa River and Baseline Road and three wards are located south of Baseline Road. In this configuration, the greatest population growth is forecast to be in the proposed Ward 1 which includes extensive riverfront properties but also the planned developments around Poupart Road and the Rockland West Secondary Plan that would make this ward the largest by population in 2036. Forecast growth is also expected in the proposed Wards 4 and 5 because all three of these wards extend through the presently undeveloped areas north of Baseline Road.



The proposed wards 7 and 8 are identical to the proposed wards in Preliminary Option 1B while the proposed Ward 6 is aligned on an east-west axis south of Baseline Road. Most boundaries are recognizable features, even within the Rockland urban area. The communities grouped together are largely acceptable, although the proposed Ward 8 includes both Bourget and St. Pascal-Baylon.

In relation to the population principles, Option 2 is successful in the short term with only two wards approaching the upper range of variation (the proposed Wards 2 and 3) and three within the optimal range. By 2036, one ward (the proposed Ward 1) is almost at the upper limit of variation and two within the optimal range, meeting the population change principle.

This option provides better population parity over time than that Preliminary Options 1A and 1B, while still adhering to and balancing the remaining guiding principles.

An evaluation against the guiding principles is presented in Figure 9-6.

Table 9-3  
City of Clarence-Rockland  
Preliminary Option 2 – Population by Proposed Ward

Ward Number	2025 Population	Variance	Optimal Range	2036 Population	Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	3,140	0.87	O-	5,062	1.24	O+
Ward 2	4,350	1.21	O+	4,153	1.02	O
Ward 3	4,285	1.19	O+	4,089	1.00	O
Ward 4	3,506	0.97	O	4,667	1.14	O+
Ward 5	2,805	0.78	O-	4,448	1.09	O+
Ward 6	3,684	1.02	O	3,521	0.86	O-
Ward 7	3,663	1.02	O	3,556	0.87	O-
Ward 8	3,345	0.93	O-	3,205	0.78	O-
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,778</b>	-	-	<b>32,701</b>	-	-
<b>Average</b>	<b>3,597</b>	-	-	<b>4,088</b>	-	-

Note: Numbers have been rounded.

Source: Watson & Associates Economists Ltd., 2025.



Figure 9-5  
Preliminary Option 2

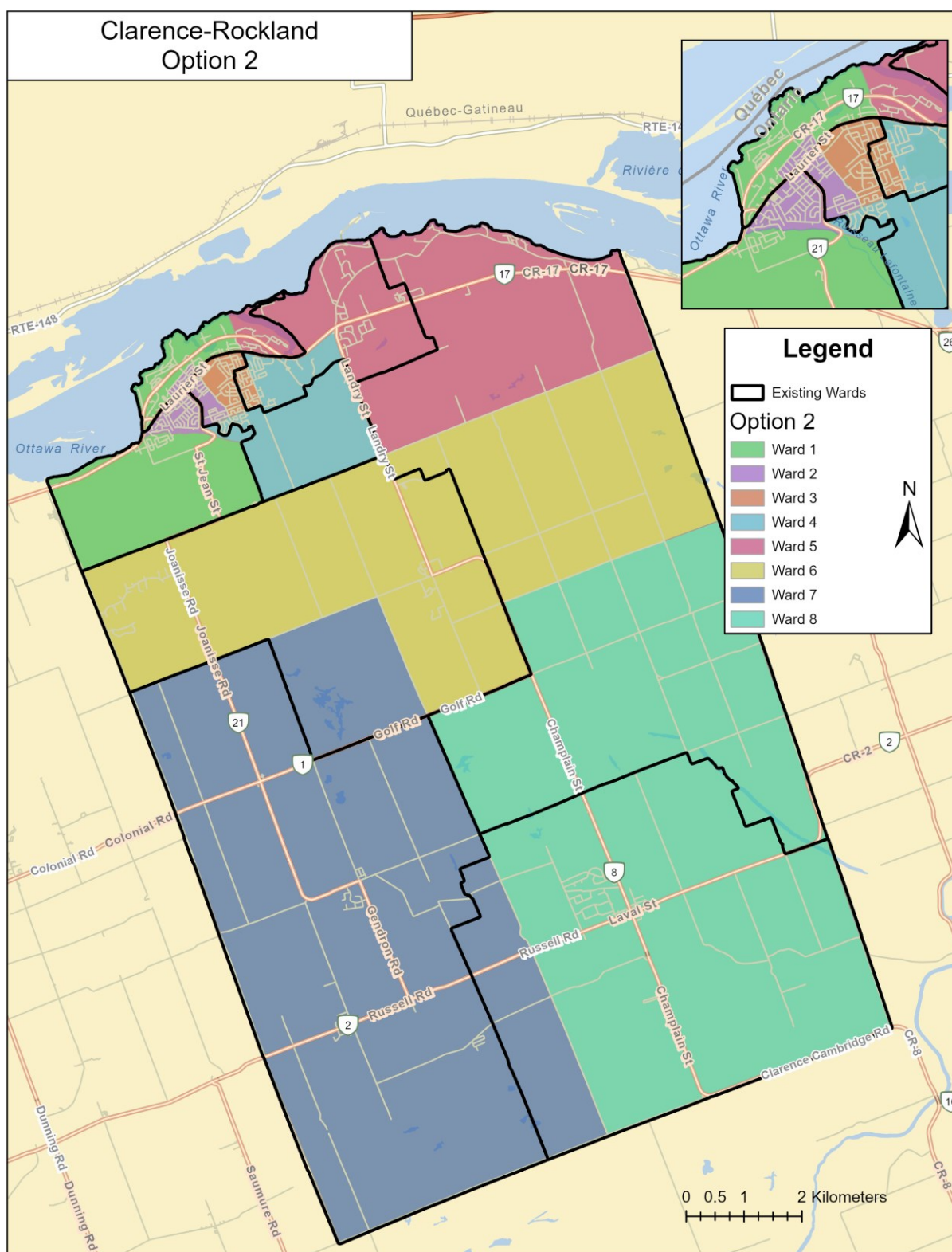




Figure 9-6  
City of Clarence-Rockland  
Preliminary Option 2 – Evaluation Summary

Principle	Does the Current Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
Population Parity	Yes	All wards are within the $\pm 25\%$ range of variation with three of the eight wards within the optimal range ( $\pm 5\%$ ) of the average population.
Population Trends	Yes	All proposed wards remain within the $\pm 25\%$ range of variation with two ward 2 within the optimal range.
Communities of Interest	Largely Successful	Most boundaries are clear and/or visible lines.
Natural Boundaries	Largely Successful	The wards contain plausible groupings of settlements and/or neighbourhoods, although the proposed Ward 8 includes two population centres.
Effective Representation	Yes	This model meets all the guiding principles and accounts for existing and future population parity, while maintaining communities of interest.

The degree to which each guiding principle is satisfied is ranked as “**Yes**” (fully satisfied), “**Largely Successful**,” “**Partially Successful**,” or “**No**” (not satisfied).

## 9.4 Preliminary Option 3

The configuration in Preliminary Option 3 includes four proposed wards between the Ottawa River and Baseline Road and three wards located entirely south of Baseline Road. The proposed Ward 1, however, crosses Baseline Road to include both an area running from the municipal boundary with Ottawa to Bouvier Road between Vinnette Road and Baseline Road, as well as the area directly north as far as Laurier Street and



west of Bouvier Road. This Option proposes three wards in the rural area of the municipality that are reasonably balanced with one another in area and population, features that are not achieved in the northern part of the City. There, for example, the population in the proposed Ward 3 is more than 1,600 greater than the proposed Ward 3 which is similar in area.

This option is largely successful in meeting population parity principle in 2025 but does not come close to addressing population growth out to 2036 where six of the proposed wards fall outside the acceptable range of variation (three above and three below with a seventh at the edge of the lower limit)

Preliminary Option 3 successfully meets most of the guiding principles being considered in this W.B.R., resulting in effective representation in the short term. This Option could be adopted in 2025 to adjust the shortcomings of the present ward system with the clear expectation that another W.B.R. would likely be required, possibly ahead of the 2030 municipal election. An evaluation against the guiding principles is presented in Figure 9-8.

Table 9-4  
City of Clarence-Rockland  
Preliminary Option 3 – Population by Proposed Ward

Ward Number	2025 Population	Variance	Optimal Range	2036 Population	Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	4,052	1.13	O+	5,927	1.45	OR+
Ward 2	2,769	0.77	O-	2,647	0.65	OR-
Ward 3	4,427	1.23	O+	4,226	1.03	O
Ward 4	4,439	1.23	O+	5,555	1.36	OR+
Ward 5	3,628	1.01	O	5,238	1.28	OR+
Ward 6	3,268	0.91	O-	3,125	0.76	O-
Ward 7	3,021	0.84	O-	2,940	0.72	OR-
Ward 8	3,174	0.88	O-	3,043	0.74	OR-
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,778</b>	-	-	<b>32,701</b>	-	-
<b>Average</b>	<b>3,597</b>	-	-	<b>4,088</b>	-	-

Note: Numbers have been rounded.

Source: Watson & Associates Economists Ltd., 2025.



Figure 9-7  
Preliminary Option 3

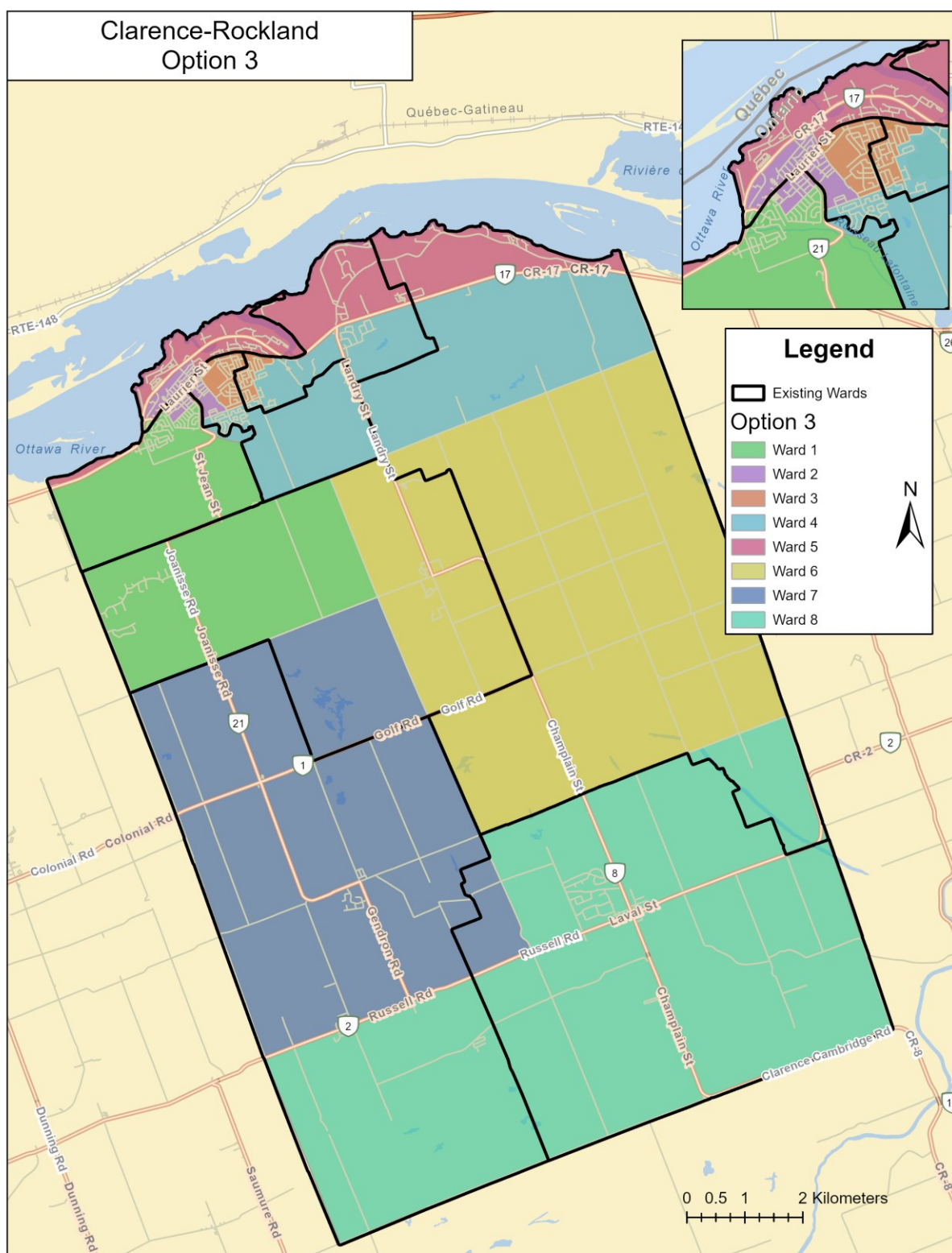




Figure 9-8  
City of Clarence-Rockland  
Preliminary Option 3 – Evaluation Summary

Principle	Does the Current Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
Population Parity	Yes	All wards are within the $\pm 25\%$ range of variation with Ward 5 within the optimal range ( $\pm 5\%$ ) of the average population.
Population Trends	No	Six of eight wards will grow out of the $\pm 25\%$ range of variation with Ward 3 within the optimal range and Ward 6 within 25%.
Communities of Interest	Largely Successful	Most boundaries are clear and/or visible lines.
Natural Boundaries	Largely Successful	The wards each contain plausible groupings of settlements and/or neighbourhoods.
Effective Representation	Partially Successful	Future population imbalances hinder the achievement of complete effective representation.

The degree to which each guiding principle is satisfied is ranked as “**Yes**” (fully satisfied), “**Largely Successful**,” “**Partially Successful**,” or “**No**” (not satisfied).

## 9.5 Preliminary Option 4

Preliminary Option 4 includes five proposed wards between the Ottawa River and Baseline Road and three wards located entirely south of Baseline Road. The proposed wards south of Baseline Road include one narrow ward aligned along the boundary with the City of Ottawa and two wards that are divided along Du Golf Road-St. Pascal Road.



The overall design includes a successful population balance in 2025 since five of the wards are at the optimal point and the other three vary by ten per cent or less. The population distribution is less successful by 2036 with one proposed ward at the upper limit of the range of variation and one proposed ward well above the range. The short-term balance is achieved primarily by realigning one of the proposed wards in Rockland in such a way as to include both the area east and south of the present built-up area extending as far west as St. Jean Street. The forecast growth in the proposed Wards 1 and 4 make the City's population distribution partially successful overall for 2036.

Preliminary Option 4 is assessed as partially successful at meeting effective representation, largely because it meets the population parity principle in the short term but not the longer-term. The boundary between the proposed Wards 6 and 8 may be seen as a drawback to this Option. An evaluation against the guiding principles is presented in Figure 9-10.

Table 9-5  
City of Clarence-Rockland  
Preliminary Option 4 – Population by Proposed Ward

Ward Number	2025 Population	Variance	Optimal Range	2036 Population	Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	3,433	0.95	O	5,100	1.25	O+
Ward 2	3,665	1.02	O	3,510	0.86	O-
Ward 3	3,661	1.02	O	3,493	0.85	O-
Ward 4	3,489	0.97	O	5,643	1.38	OR+
Ward 5	3,838	1.07	O+	4,673	1.14	O+
Ward 6	3,220	0.90	O-	3,079	0.75	O-
Ward 7	3,860	1.07	O+	3,740	0.91	O-
Ward 8	3,612	1.00	O	3,463	0.85	O-
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,778</b>	-	-	<b>32,701</b>	-	-
<b>Average</b>	<b>3,597</b>	-	-	<b>4,088</b>	-	-

Note: Numbers have been rounded.

Source: Watson & Associates Economists Ltd., 2025.



Figure 9-9  
Preliminary Option 4

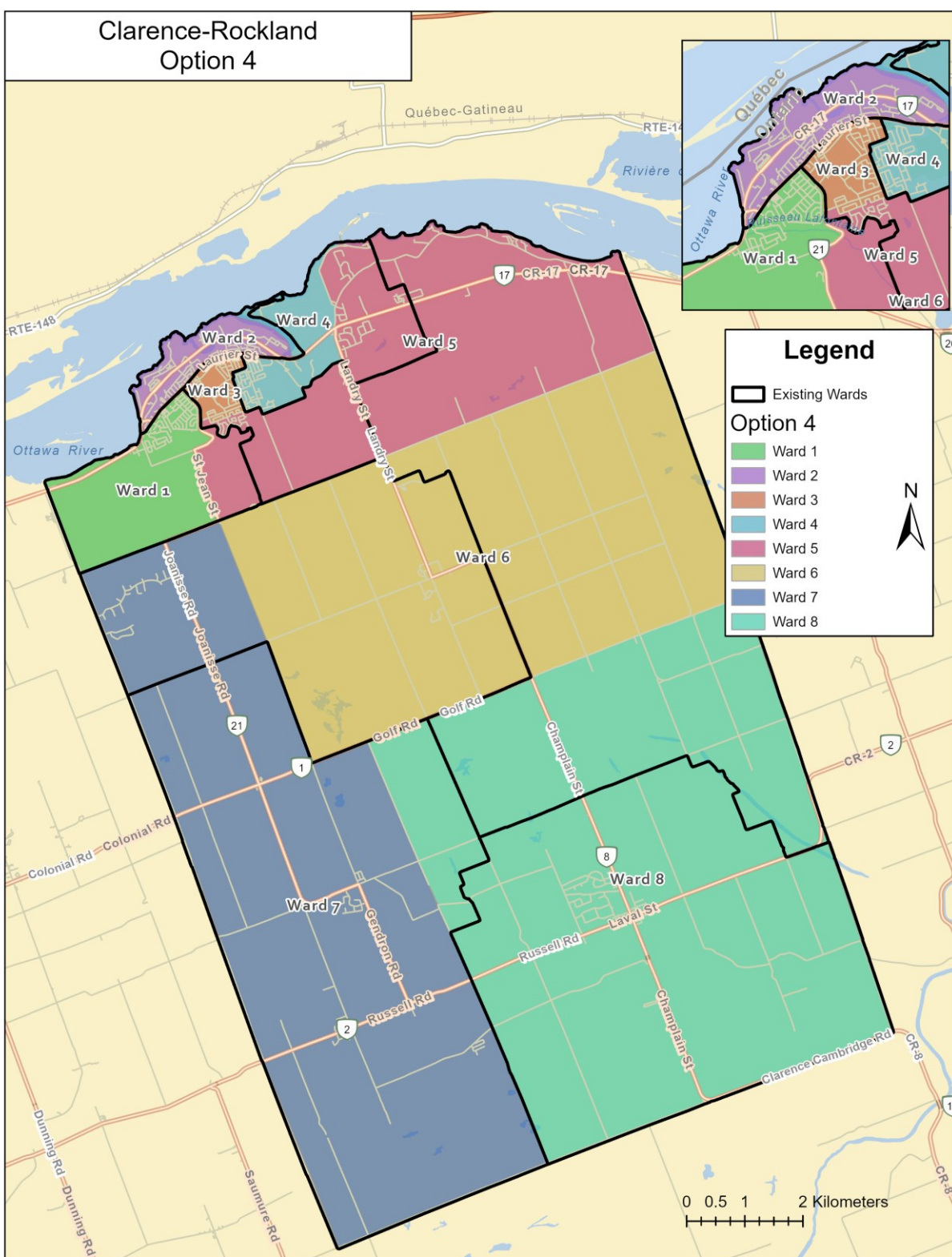




Figure 9-10  
City of Clarence-Rockland  
Preliminary Option 4 – Evaluation Summary

Principle	Does the Current Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
Population Parity	Yes	All wards are within the $\pm 25\%$ range of variation, with five of the eight wards within the optimal range ( $\pm 5\%$ ) of the average population.
Population Trends	Partially Successful	Seven of eight wards remain at or within the $\pm 25\%$ range of variation with Ward 4 growing well outside.
Communities of Interest	Largely Successful	The wards each contain plausible groupings of settlements and/or neighbourhoods but St. Pascal is divided.
Natural Boundaries	Largely Successful	Most boundaries are clear and/or visible lines.
Effective Representation	Partially Successful	Future population imbalances hinder the achievement of complete effective representation.

The degree to which each guiding principle is satisfied is ranked as “**Yes**” (fully satisfied), “**Largely Successful**,” “**Partially Successful**,” or “**No**” (not satisfied).



## 9.6 Preliminary Option 5

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Preliminary Option 5 offers a ward design intended to achieve improved population parity in 2036: three of the wards are forecast to be at the optimal point then with none outside the acceptable range of variation. To achieve that result, the Option proposes four wards north of Baseline Road, two complete wards in the southern part of the City and two wards that cross Baseline Road. In this case, the most significant absolute population growth is forecast for the proposed Wards 1 and 6; in both cases, the ward population rises from well below the optimal range to the optimal range.

One possible drawback to this Option is the population of the two “growth wards” just noted in 2025 that is at least 1,900 fewer than the next smallest ward (the proposed Ward 7). However, over the period to 2036, the balance is corrected: three wards are at the optimal point, the other five are within the acceptable range of variance and the gap between the two smallest proposed wards is forecast reduced to approximately 300 residents.

Meeting the community of interest principle may also be hampered by the inclusion of a major growth area on the southern fringe of Rockland in the same ward as Clarence Creek (proposed Ward 5) and the placement of both Bourget and St. Pascal-Baylon in the proposed Ward 8.

Preliminary Option 5 is largely successful at meeting effective representation by achieving most of the guiding principles being considered in this W.B.R. An evaluation against the guiding principles is presented in Figure 9-12.



Table 9-6  
City of Clarence-Rockland  
Preliminary Option 5 – Population by Proposed Ward

Ward Number	2025 Population	Variance	Optimal Range	2036 Population	Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	1,902	0.53	OR-	3,875	0.95	O-
Ward 2	4,297	1.19	O+	4,107	1.00	O
Ward 3	4,262	1.18	O+	4,067	0.99	O
Ward 4	4,177	1.16	O+	4,551	1.11	O+
Ward 5	4,178	1.16	O+	4,758	1.16	O+
Ward 6	2,199	0.61	OR-	3,861	0.94	O-
Ward 7	3,663	1.02	O	3,556	0.87	O-
Ward 8	4,100	1.14	O+	3,926	0.96	O
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,778</b>	-	-	<b>32,701</b>	-	-
<b>Average</b>	<b>3,597</b>	-	-	<b>4,088</b>	-	-

Note: Numbers have been rounded.

Source: Watson & Associates Economists Ltd., 2025.



Figure 9-11  
Preliminary Option 5

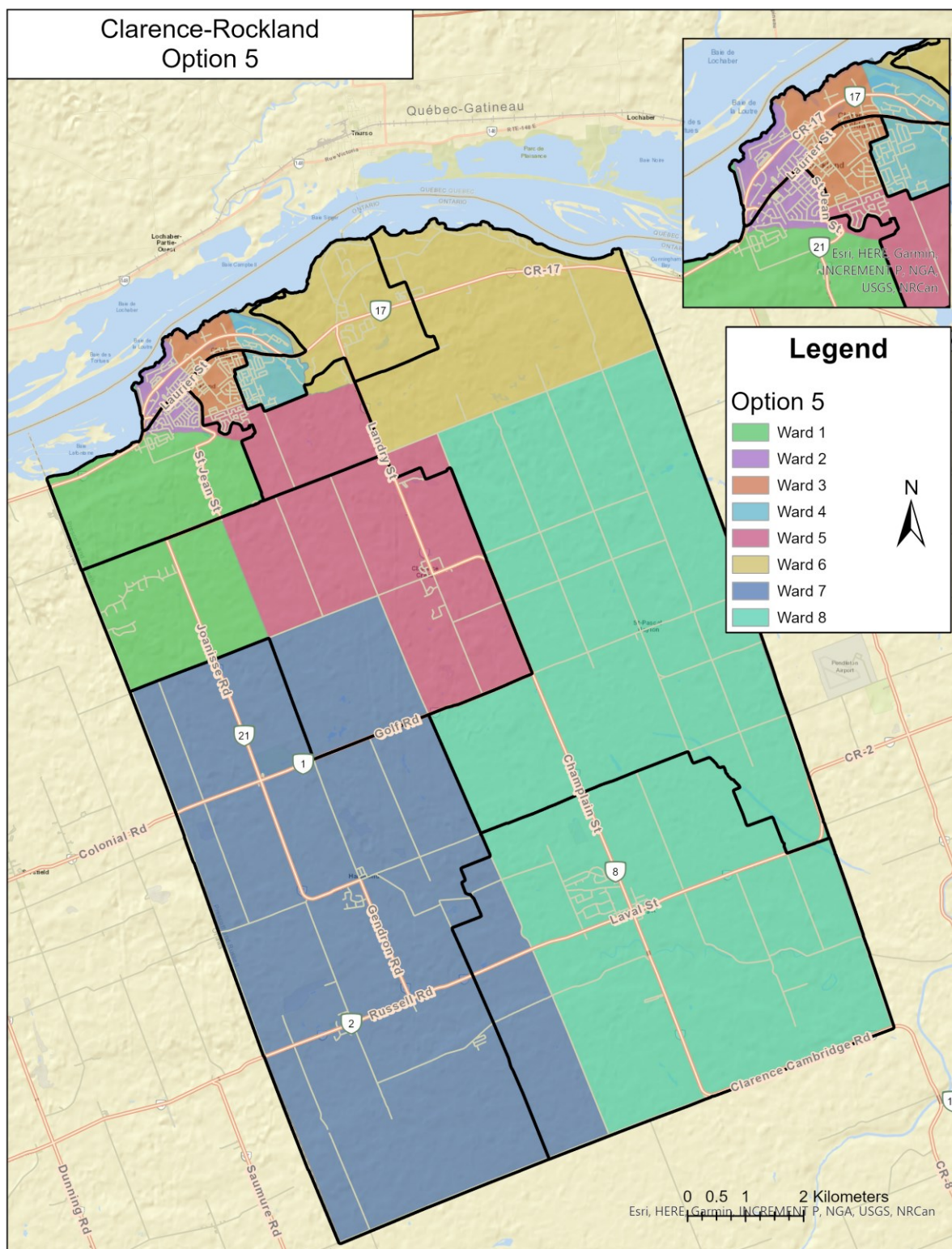




Figure 9-12  
City of Clarence-Rockland  
Preliminary Option 5 – Evaluation Summary

Principle	Does the Current Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle?	Comment
Population Parity	No	Two very small population wards with the population of five wards twice that of the smallest ward.
Population Trends	Largely Successful	Population growth within Clarence-Rockland is distributed between wards so that the ward population is balanced. All wards are within the $\pm 25\%$ range of variation.
Communities of Interest	Partially Successful	Most wards (other than the proposed wards 6 & 8) each contain plausible groupings of settlements and/or neighbourhoods.
Natural Boundaries	Largely Successful	Most boundaries are clear and/or visible lines.
Effective Representation	Largely Successful	Future population parity contributes to the achievement of effective representation over the review period.

The degree to which each guiding principle is satisfied is ranked as “**Yes**” (fully satisfied), “**Largely Successful**,” “**Partially Successful**,” or “**No**” (not satisfied).

## 9.7 Evaluation Summary

In Discussion Paper F and earlier in this paper, it has been established that the current ward boundary system in Clarence-Rockland does not provide for effective representation. The Consultant Team, therefore, recommends that changes would better accommodate growth within the City and reflect the communities of interest across the municipality.



The Preliminary Options presented in this report provide a spectrum of potential alternatives. Recognizing the strengths of the existing system, Preliminary Options 1A and 1B provide minimal changes but allow for better accommodation of the guiding principles and recognition of the way the City has developed over the last decade.

The remaining Preliminary Options offer more innovative approaches to representation by placing an emphasis on population parity for 2025 (in other words, primarily to catch up with the population changes since the present wards were adopted) or by placing a greater emphasis on forecast growth (to allow the City to gradually grow into parity beyond the 2026 municipal election). There are varied combinations and permutations of the eight wards in the six Preliminary Options that reflect the neighbourhoods and communities across the municipality that contribute to the goal of effective representation.

No single Preliminary Option is the “perfect” solution to the shortcomings identified in this W.B.R., but the Consultant Team believes that each can be defended as an improvement to the present ward system in Clarence-Rockland.

A summary evaluation of the options is provided in Figure 9-13.



Figure 9-13  
City of Clarence-Rockland  
Preliminary Options – Evaluation Summary

Preliminary Option	Population Parity	Population Trends	Natural Boundaries	Communities of Interest	Effective Representation
Existing Wards	No	No	Partially Successful	Partially Successful	No
Preliminary Option 1A	Yes	No	Largely Successful	Largely Successful	Partially Successful
Preliminary Option 1B	Yes	Partially Successful	Largely Successful	Largely Successful	Largely successful
Preliminary Option 2	Yes	Yes	Largely Successful	Largely Successful	Yes
Preliminary Option 3	Yes	No	Largely Successful	Largely Successful	Partially Successful
Preliminary Option 4	Yes	Partially Successful	Largely Successful	Largely Successful	Partially Successful
Preliminary Option 5	No	Largely Successful	Largely Successful	Partially Successful	Largely Successful

Levels of evaluation for how the Guiding Principles are met





## 10. Further Considerations

The options presented herein are preliminary; they reflect the application of the core principles for this review to the distribution of population and communities within the City of Clarence-Rockland.

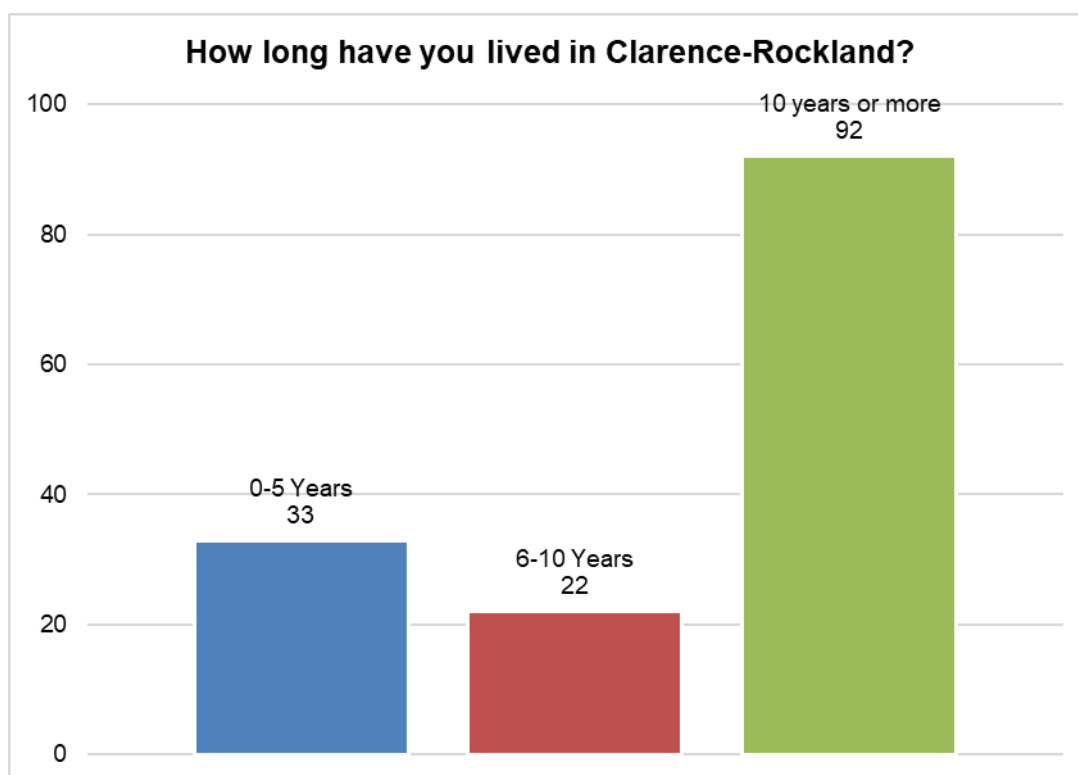
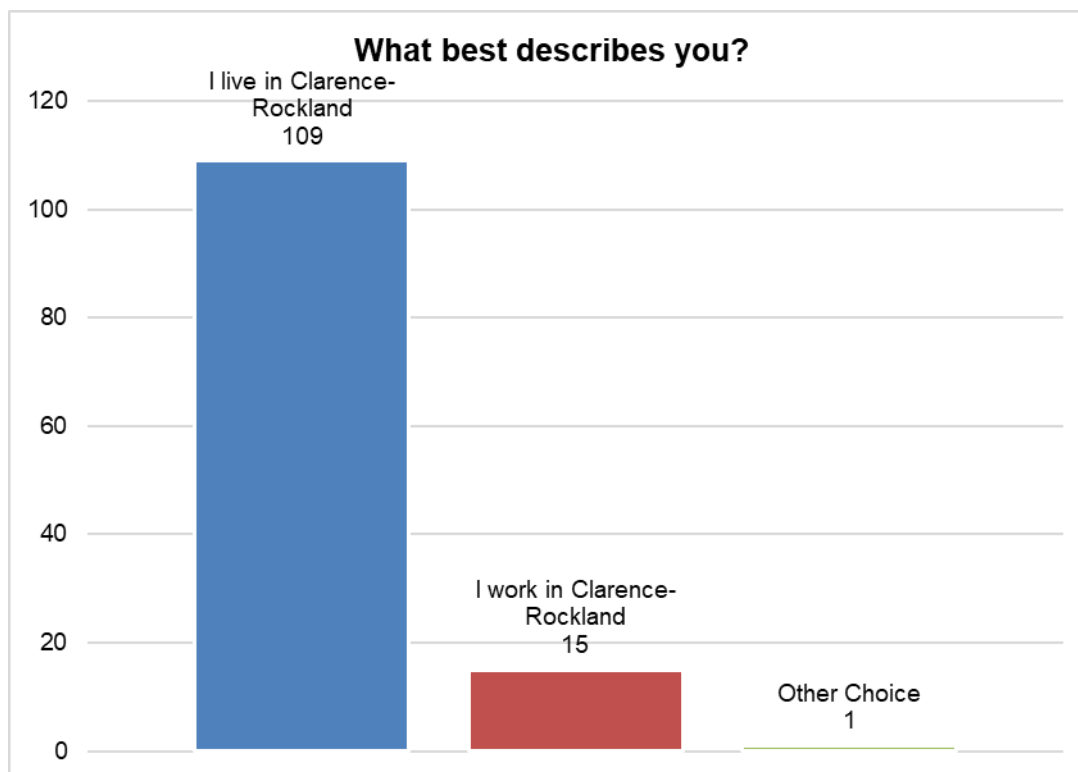
Designing an electoral system that will deliver effective representation to such a diverse and growing community requires some accommodation: designs that put an emphasis on representation by population today can hinder fair representation for residents who will locate in growing parts of the City in the coming decade. Designs that place a priority on grouping selected communities or neighbourhoods can result in the over- or under-representation of those same communities around the council table. Grouping several distinctive communities in the same ward may systematically reduce the voice of minorities, whether they be geographic, economic, or social.

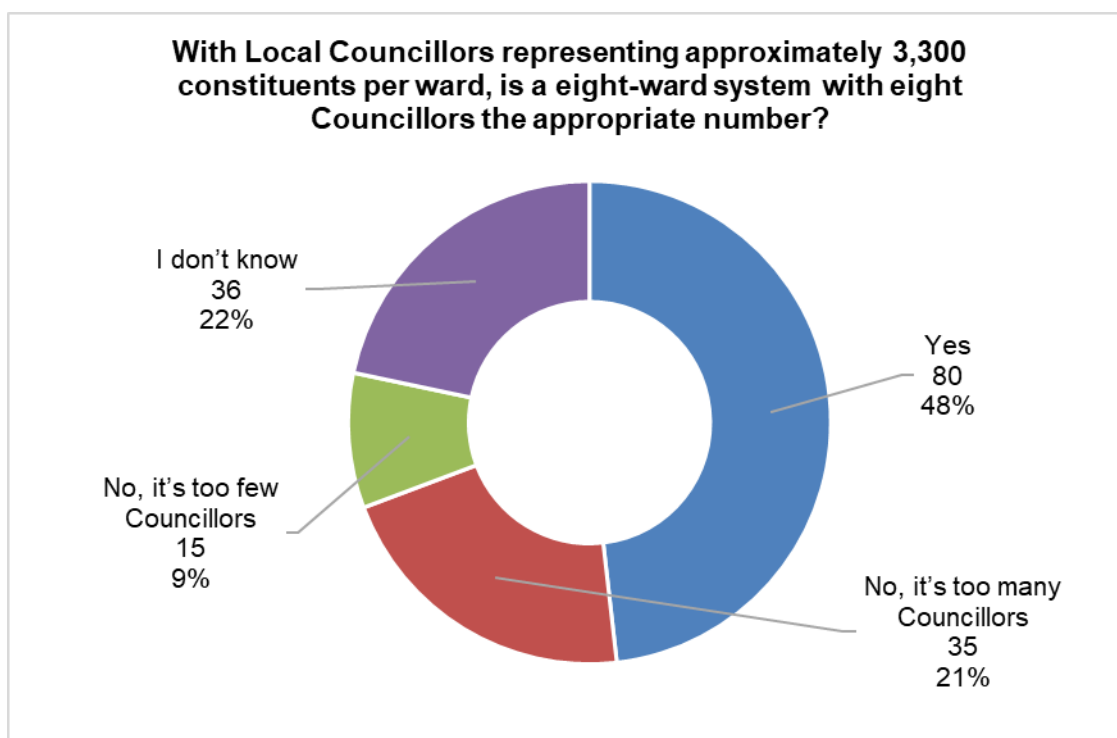
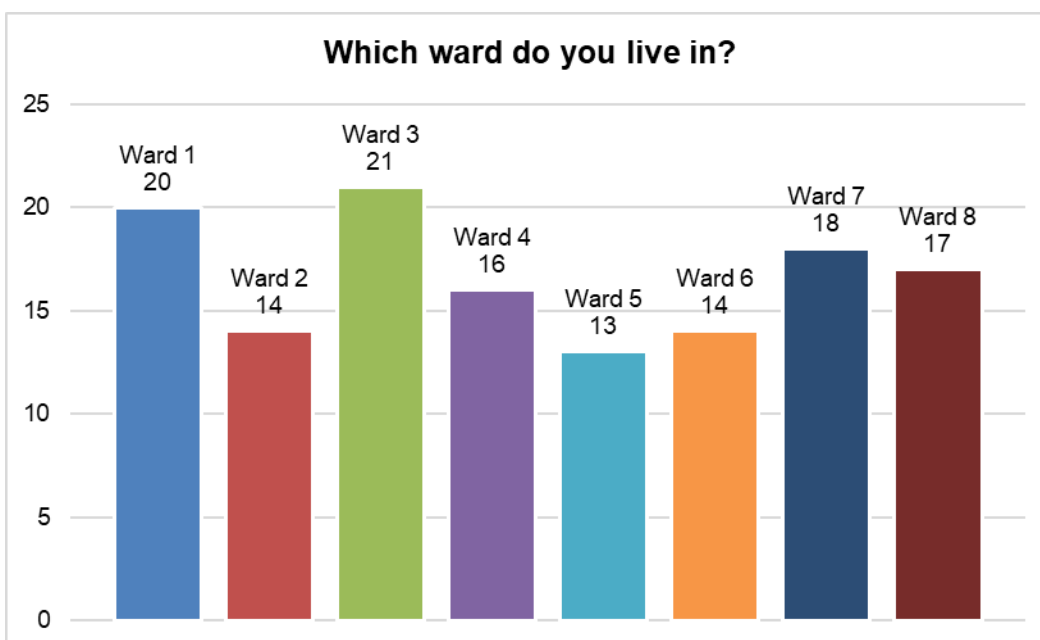
The purpose of this report is to stimulate discussions in Clarence-Rockland and encourage residents to consider their preferred ward boundary configurations for the City. The options included are deliberately called “preliminary” since much of the next phase of this review involves gathering the perspectives of residents on these alternatives.



# Appendix A

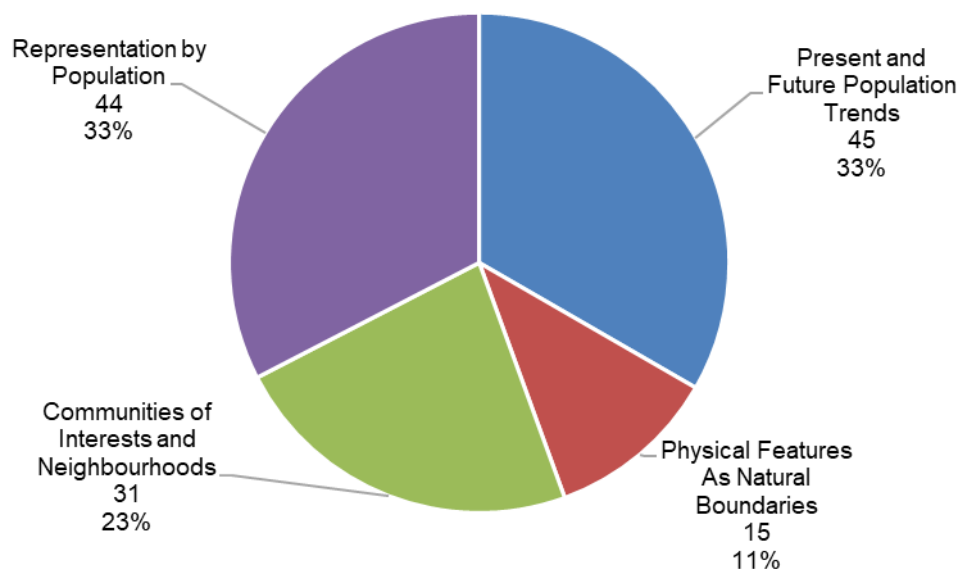
# Survey Results







**Please indicate the ONE guiding principle you believe should be given the greatest priority to ensure effective voter representation.**





# Appendix B

# Public Consultation

# City of Clarence-Rockland 2024/2025 Ward Boundary Review

Clarence-Rockland  
WARD  
BOUNDARY  
REVIEW  
RÉVISION DES  
LIMITES DES  
QUARTIERS



## Public Information Session Ward Boundary Review



We want to hear from you!



For more information, visit:  
[www.clarence-rockland.com/en/hotel-de-ville/R\\_vision\\_des\\_limites\\_des\\_quartiers.aspx](http://www.clarence-rockland.com/en/hotel-de-ville/R_vision_des_limites_des_quartiers.aspx)

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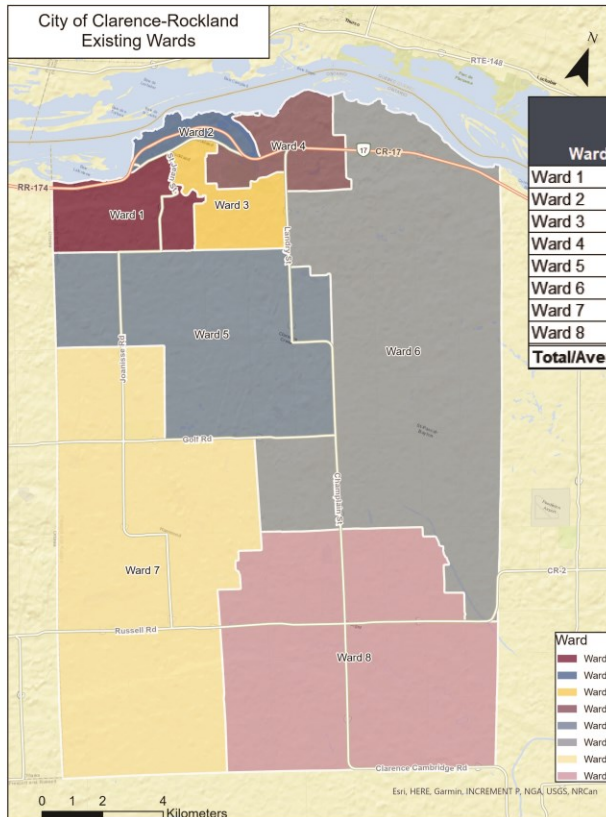
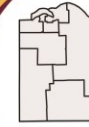
In association with Dr. Robert J. Williams  
Public Information Session | 2025

# City of Clarence-Rockland 2024/2025 Ward Boundary Review

Clarence-Rockland

WARD  
BOUNDARY  
REVIEW

RÉVISION DES  
LIMITES DES  
QUARTIERS



## Existing Ward Evaluation

Ward	Area (SqKm)	2021		
		Population	Population Variance	Optimal Range
Ward 1	11.5	3,415	1.03	O
Ward 2	4.0	3,364	1.02	O
Ward 3	8.1	4,673	1.41	OR+
Ward 4	9.8	4,351	1.31	OR+
Ward 5	43.4	2,922	0.88	O-
Ward 6	86.8	2,209	0.67	OR-
Ward 7	73.6	2,982	0.90	O-
Ward 8	63.2	2,589	0.78	O-
<b>Total/Average</b>	<b>300.3</b>	<b>26,505</b>	<b>3,313</b>	

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

Principle	Does the Current Ward Structure Meet the Respective Principle? <sup>(1)</sup>	Comment
Population Parity	No	Three wards exceed the ±25% range of variation.
Communities of interest	Yes	The wards each contain plausible groupings of settlements and/or neighbourhoods.
Population Trends	No	Population growth will not overcome the existing population imbalance.
Natural Boundaries	Partially Successful	Some boundaries are complex and/or arbitrary.
Effective Representation	Partially Successful	Population imbalances hinder the achievement of effective voter representation.

The degree to which each guiding principle is satisfied is ranked as:

- “Yes” (fully satisfied);
- “Largely Successful”;
- “Partially Successful”; or
- “No” (not satisfied)

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# City of Clarence-Rockland 2024/2025 Ward Boundary Review

Clarence-Rockland  
WARD  
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## Guiding Principles

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

### REPRESENTATION BY POPULATION



It is desirable that electors should be equally represented, and wards should have reasonably equal population totals. Given the geography and varying population densities and characteristics of the municipal, a degree of variation will be acceptable;

### PRESENT AND FUTURE POPULATION TRENDS



Given the varying rates of population growth across Clarence-Rockland, any proposed ward designs should take account of projected population changes so that wards will be equitable for up to three (3) terms of Council;

### PHYSICAL FEATURES AS NATURAL BOUNDARIES



Consideration will be given to using natural and artificial features as ward boundaries that already serve as physical boundaries of communities. Where feasible, natural and artificial features, including arterial roads, highways, railway lines, rivers and creeks should be used to define ward boundaries. Where possible, the preferred boundaries should follow straight lines, have few turns, and be easily identifiable

### COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST AND NEIGHBOURHOODS



It is desirable to avoid fragmenting existing communities of interest and neighbourhoods. Where possible, existing communities should be maintained, and future neighbourhoods developed within a single ward. Where possible, the rural area should be contained within a single ward.

### EFFECTIVE REPRESENTATION



The four articulated principles contribute to achieving the over-arching principle of effective representation.

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# City of Clarence-Rockland 2024/2025 Ward Boundary Review

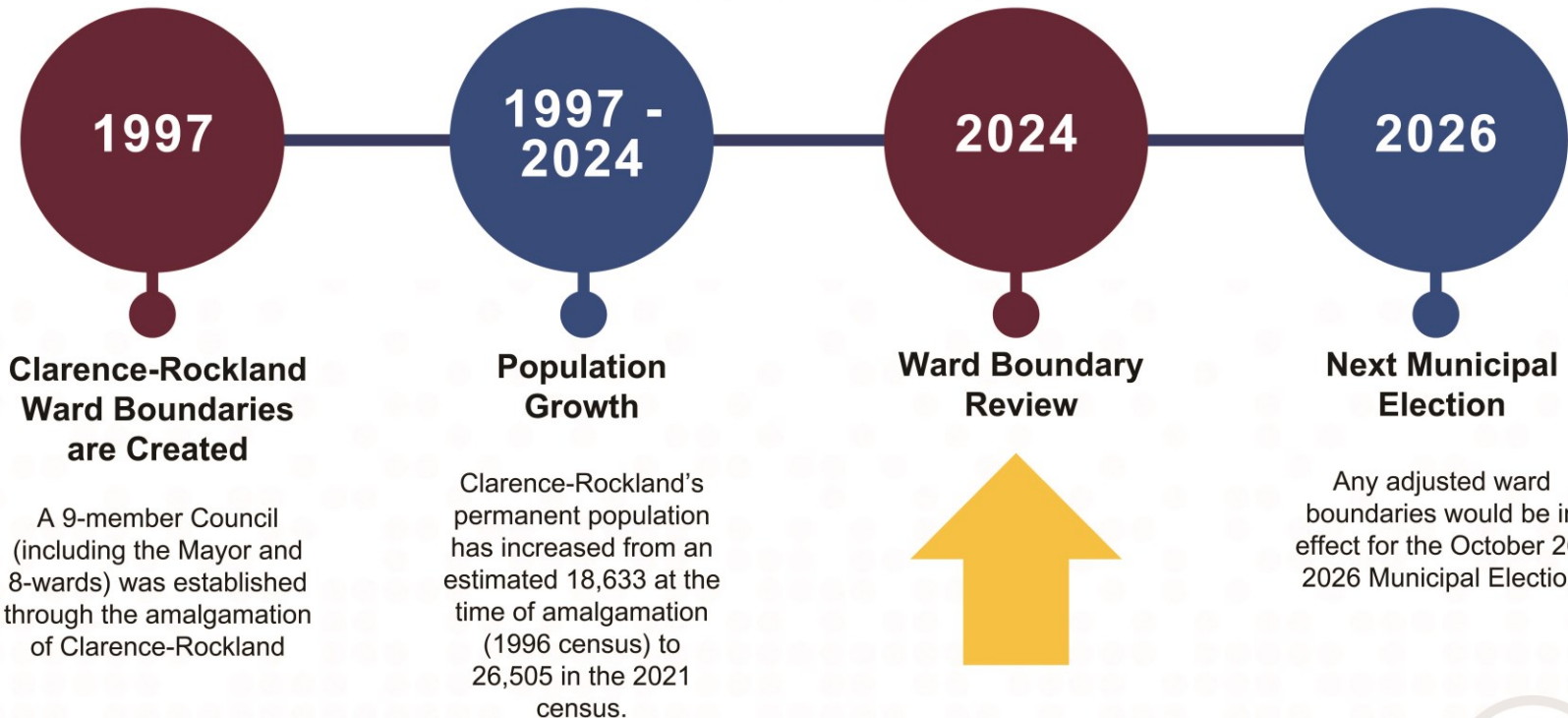
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## Past and Present



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# Cité de Clarence-Rockland

## Révision des limites des quartiers 2024/2025

Clarence-Rockland

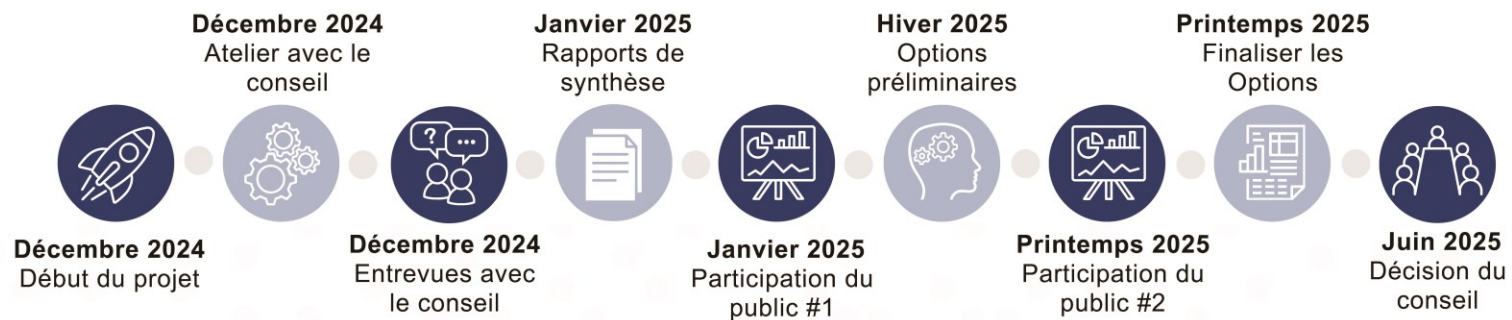
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### Séance d'information publique

### Révision des limites des quartiers



Votre avis nous intéresse !



Pour plus d'informations, visitez :  
[www.clarence-rockland.com/en/hotel-de-ville/R vision des limites des quartiers.aspx](http://www.clarence-rockland.com/en/hotel-de-ville/R%20vision%20des%20limites%20des%20quartiers.aspx)

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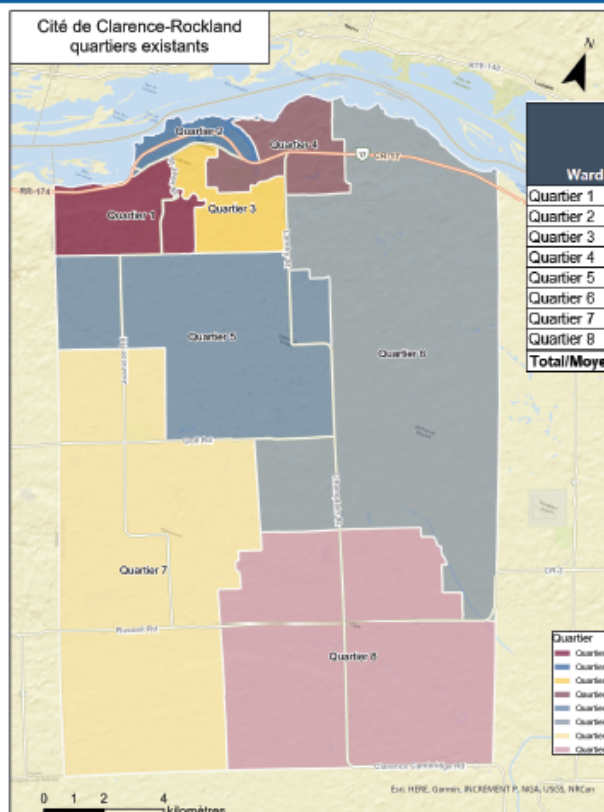
# Cité de Clarence-Rockland

## Révision des limites des quartiers 2024/2025

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## Évaluation des quartiers existants

Ward	Superficie (Km2)	2021		
		Population	Variance de population	Zone optimale
Quartier 1	11.5	3,415	1.03	D
Quartier 2	4.0	3,364	1.02	D
Quartier 3	8.1	4,673	1.41	OR+
Quartier 4	9.8	4,351	1.31	OR+
Quartier 5	43.4	2,922	0.88	O-
Quartier 6	86.8	2,209	0.67	OR-
Quartier 7	73.6	2,982	0.90	O-
Quartier 8	63.2	2,589	0.78	O-
Total/Moyenne	300.3	26,606	3,313	

O	±5% de la population optimale (moyenne)
O-	±5%-25% de la population optimale (moyenne)
OR-	>±25% de la population optimale (moyenne)

Principe	Le découpage actuel des quartiers répond-il au principe?[1]	Commentaire
Parité de population	Non	Trois circonscriptions dépassent la marge de variation de ±25%.
Communautés d'intérêt	Oui	Les quartiers contiennent chacun des groupements plausibles d'établissements.
Tendances démographiques	Non	La croissance démographique ne permettra pas de surmonter le déséquilibre démographique existant.
Frontières naturelles	Partiellement réussi	Certaines frontières sont complexes et/ou arbitraires.
Représentation efficace	Partiellement réussi	Les déséquilibres démographiques empêchent une représentation efficace des électeurs.

Le degré de satisfaction de chaque principe directeur est classé comme suit :

- « **Oui** » (pleinement satisfait) ;
- « **Largement réussi** » ;
- « **Partiellement réussi** » ; ou
- « **Non** » (non satisfait)

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### Principes directeurs

Les principes suivants seront utilisés pour évaluer la structure actuelle des quartiers et les différentes options.

#### REPRÉSENTATION PAR POPULATION



Il est souhaitable que les électeurs soient représentés de manière égale et que les quartiers aient des totaux de population raisonnablement égaux. Compte tenu de la géographie et des différentes densités de population et caractéristiques de la municipalité, un certain degré de variation sera acceptable ;

#### TENDANCES DÉMOGRAPHIQUES ACTUELLES ET FUTURES



Étant donné les différents taux de croissance de la population dans Clarence-Rockland, toute proposition d'aménagement des quartiers doit tenir compte des changements démographiques prévus afin que les quartiers soient équitables pour les trois prochains (3) mandats du Conseil ;

#### CARACTÉRISTIQUES PHYSIQUES EN TANT QUE FRONTIÈRES NATURELLES



Il sera envisagé d'utiliser comme limites de quartiers les éléments naturels et artificiels qui servent déjà de limites physiques aux communautés. Dans la mesure du possible, les caractéristiques naturelles et artificielles, y compris les artères, les autoroutes, les lignes de chemin de fer, les rivières et les ruisseaux, doivent être utilisées pour définir les limites des circonscriptions. Dans la mesure du possible, les limites privilégiées doivent suivre des lignes droites, comporter peu de virages et être facilement identifiables.

#### COMMUNAUTÉS D'INTÉRÊT ET VOISINAGES



Il est souhaitable d'éviter la fragmentation des communautés d'intérêt et des quartiers existants. Dans la mesure du possible, les communautés existantes doivent être maintenues et les futurs quartiers doivent être développés au sein d'un même quartier. Dans la mesure du possible, la zone rurale doit être contenue dans un seul quartier.

#### REPRÉSENTATION EFFICACE :



Les quatre principes énoncés contribuent à la réalisation du principe général de représentation efficace.

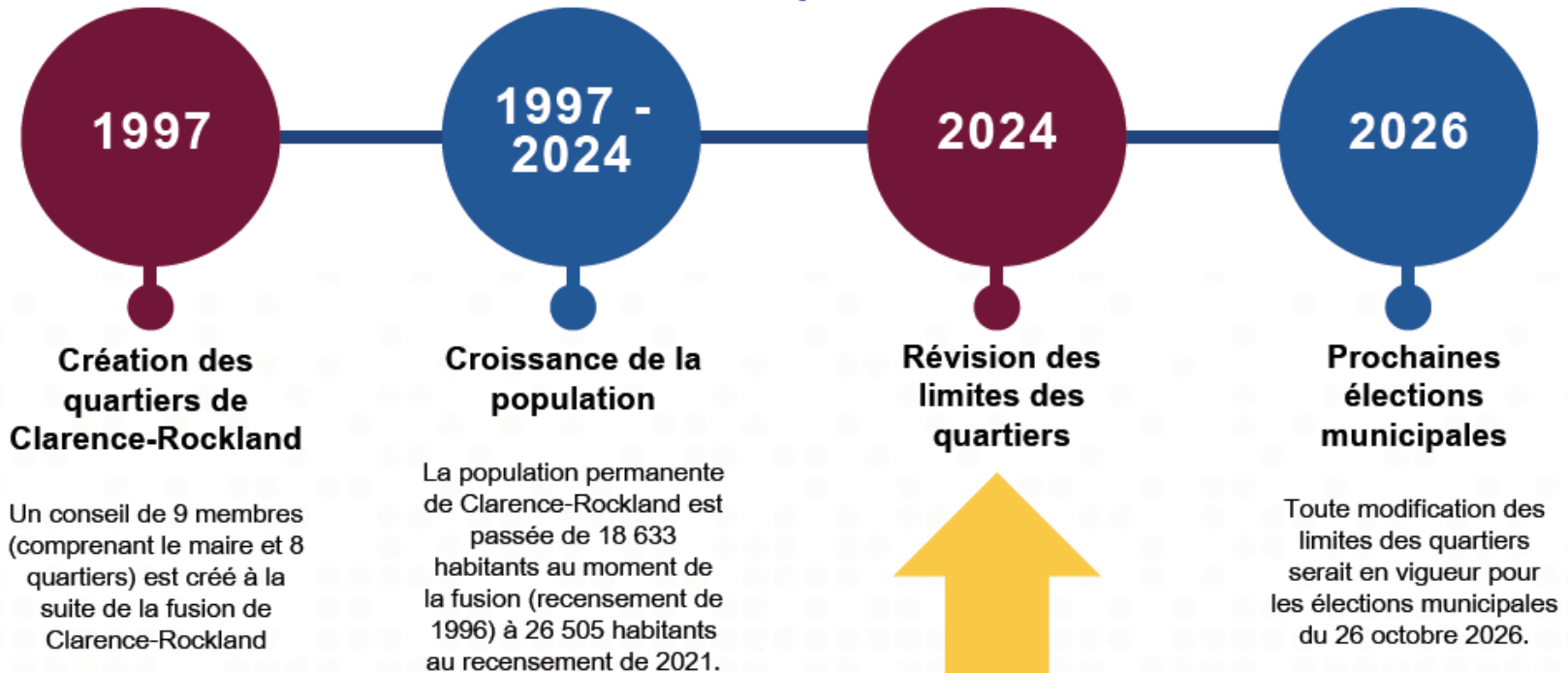
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