

Bylaw 19366

Amendment to Bylaw 15142 - City of Edmonton Ward Boundaries and Council Composition

Purpose

To replace the existing Schedule A of Bylaw 15142-*City of Edmonton Ward Boundaries and Council Composition* for the purpose of aligning municipal ward boundaries, as described in the final report submitted by the Ward Boundary Commission, with the criteria of the Ward Boundary Design Policy (C469A).

Readings

Bylaw 19366 is ready for first reading only.

Advertising and Signing

Pending first reading of this bylaw at the June 16, 2020, City Council meeting, the Bylaw will be advertised in the Edmonton Journal on Monday, June 22, 2020, and Monday, June 29, 2020. Administration will then wait the required petition period and will return to City Council after August 28, 2020.

Position of Administration

Administration supports this Bylaw.

Previous Council/Committee Action

At the May 25/26/27, 2020, City Council meeting, the following motion was passed:

That Administration prepare an amended Schedule A (Ward Boundary Maps) of Bylaw 15142 City of Edmonton Ward Boundaries and Council Composition Bylaw based on the recommendations set out in Attachment 1 of the May 25, 2020, Ward Boundary Commission report CR_8263 and return to a non-statutory public hearing in June 2020 to ensure ward maps are confirmed well in advance of the next municipal election.

At the May 25/26/27, 2020, City Council meeting, the following motion was passed:

1. That Administration prepare amendments to Bylaw 17138, The City of Edmonton Naming Committee Bylaw, expanding its mandate to include names of wards;

2. That, subject to Council approving the necessary amendments to Bylaw 17138 - The City of Edmonton Naming Committee Bylaw, the Naming Committee and the Returning Officer provide recommendations to name each of the new City's twelve wards based on options, but not limited to lettering, numbering and/or geographical location.
3. That Administration prepare further amendments to Bylaw 15142, Ward Boundary and Council Composition Bylaw, to reflect the names of the wards given by the Naming Committee.

Report Summary

Administration has prepared an amendment to Bylaw 15142 *City of Edmonton Ward Boundaries and Council Composition Bylaw*, which, if approved, will align the composition of Edmonton's municipal electoral ward boundaries with the recommendations presented in the Ward Boundary Commission's report.

Ward Boundary Commission Recommendation

The Ward Boundary Commission was created as a temporary Committee of Council in June 2019. Following an analysis of legislated requirements, statistical data, feedback from stakeholders and comparable jurisdictional practice, the Commission's report recommends revisions to the existing municipal ward boundary structure to better align with the criteria detailed in the *Ward Boundary Design Policy* (C469A).

Naming Committee Recommendation

At the May 26, 2020, City Council meeting, the mandate of the Naming Committee was amended to include providing recommendations on the names of City of Edmonton Wards.

In response to Council's direction, on June 2, 2020, the Naming Committee met with the Election team to review the Ward Boundary Committee report. At this meeting, the Committee made recommendations for naming City of Edmonton Wards. These recommendations are contained in Bylaw 19366 as well as in Attachment 3.

2021 Edmonton General Election

In accordance with the *Local Authorities Election Act (LAEA)*, nomination period for the 2021 Edmonton General Election begins on January 4th, 2021. As required in the *Municipal Government Act*, changes to municipal ward boundaries must be formalized in bylaw by December 31 of the year preceding a municipal general election. A bylaw establishing wards must be advertised, and allow for a 60-day petition period following advertising.

If Council gives first reading to Bylaw 19366 on June 16, 2020, Administration will advertise the bylaw on the dates listed above. Following the legislated petition period,

the Bylaw will return to Council for second and third readings. In order to allow sufficient time for these boundary amendments, including the adoption of new ward names, to be communicated to residents and those intending to run for City Council, second and third readings of Bylaw 19366 should occur in September 2020. If Council directs amendments to Bylaw 19366 after it is advertised, the Bylaw will need to be re-advertised and an additional 60-day petition period will apply.

Corporate Outcomes and Performance Management

Corporate Outcome(s): Edmontonians are connected to the City in which they live, work and play.			
Outcome(s)	Measure(s)	Result(s)	Target(s)
Edmontonians have a voice in shaping their City through equitable representation at City Council	Population representation per ward	Boundary adjustments establish wards that ensure a proportional distribution of eligible voters across the city	Population of each ward remains within a range of +/- 25% of the optimum

Risk Assessment

Risk Element	Risk Description	Likelihood	Impact	Risk Score (with current mitigations)	Current Mitigations	Potential Future Mitigations
Public Perception	Residents believe the level of public consultation to be insufficient, leading to the perception that any ward boundary adjustments are inappropriate	1 - rare	1 - minor	1 - low	The Commission's public engagement activities provided a number of opportunities for residents to share perspectives. The Commission's report describes the alignment between their recommended concept and the criteria of the Ward Boundary Design Policy	The 60 day petition period provides residents with a formal opportunity to declare their opposition to the proposed boundary adjustments

Public Engagement

The Ward Boundary Commission conducted public engagement activities with a variety of stakeholders, including residents, as described in the Commission's report and is available through the minutes of the May 25-27, 2020 Council meeting.

Attachments

1. Bylaw 19366
2. Ward Boundary Commission Final Recommendations
3. Naming Committee Recommendation

Others Reviewing this Report

- B. Andriachuk, City Solicitor