

To whom it may concern,

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your review.

As a resident of over 20 years in the municipality, I am of the view that having a sole Councillor responsible for a "right-sized" geographic ward is by far the best operating model. Experience has shown that when there is no sole accountability of Councillors for a single Ward, several things can happen:

- One Councillor can end up doing the lion's share of the work, while the other Councillor slackens off.
- It is confusing which Councillor should be contacted in the event of an issue arising.
- No one Councillor would have as complete a picture of the opportunities or issues within a larger Ward, compared with the current Ward structure.
- There is often an inconsistency in the way things are managed between Councillors, to the detriment and frustration of the residents.
- It can create political driven and ideological battles that divide the community, not unite it.
- Some mischievous residents may "shop around" to see which Councillor will cave in to their highly vocal demands, causing unfair representation of the community as a whole.

Additionally, I believe that assigning larger Wards to multiple Councillors is an unfair burden for those seeking to run for office, as the amount of campaigning and related costs would double.

Given that Councillors are effectively community volunteers, this would restrict the potential number of quality volunteers that would put up their hand.

Furthermore, imagine if we had dual State Premiers, or dual Prime Ministers, or dual Mayors.

Management theory clearly shows that single point accountability works best for all the reasons outlined in the literature. Job sharing may sound good in theory, but rarely best succeeds in practice.

Sincerely,

Elliot Watson

