



Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board

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December 10, 2021

cao@munclare.ca

District of Clare
c/o Chief Administrative Officer
PO Box 458
Little Brook, NS B0W 1Z0

Dear Mr. Cyr:

S. 369 of the Municipal Government Act – 2022 Municipal Boundary Review

Section 369 of the *Municipal Government Act* requires councils of every town and municipality to apply to the Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board in 2022 to “confirm or to alter the number and boundaries of polling districts and the number of councillors.” All councils must conduct a study into the number of councillors and into the reasonableness and fairness of the number and boundaries of polling districts before making the application to the Board.

Enclosed is a copy of a User Guide prepared by the Board to provide guidance to towns and municipalities in the preparation of their applications. This information is also available on the Board’s website: <https://nsuarb.novascotia.ca/> under the Municipal Boundaries page.

Also, enclosed is a copy of Board’s *Municipal Government Act Rules (Rules)*. *Rule 27* sets out the information that is required to be filed by towns and municipalities which have polling districts or wards (to be completed on Form C). *Rule 28* sets out the requirements for towns which have no polling districts or wards (Form D).

It is recognized that Municipality of the District of Clare conducted an extensive consultative process for a municipal boundary review in 2018, leading to the Board’s decisions in 2018 approving the application to maintain its Council size and new polling district boundaries. The Board does not have the jurisdiction to waive the statutory requirement for a further study and application in 2022, as set out in the statute. However, in the circumstances, assuming Council has satisfied itself through public consultation that there is general public acceptance of the current Council size, and to the configuration of the polling district boundaries, the Board is prepared to consider a simplified application with respect to the 2022 review.

Subject to the public or any intervenor raising the issue of the number of councillors, the application may be limited to a consideration of polling district boundaries. The application should include a

request for approval of the present number of councillors and polling districts, as well as approval of the polling district boundaries (or any minor revisions considered appropriate).

If required, the Board is available to discuss the form and nature of the next application. Please confirm receipt of this letter.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bruce Kiley", is written over a printed name.

Bruce Kiley
Chief Clerk of the Board

Encl.