



PUBLIC NOTICE

DIVISION BOUNDARIES REVIEW

Council passed a Division Boundaries Review Policy in December 2022. A copy of the policy is available on the website under the “RM GOVERNANCE” tab. The Province required Council to implement a policy by Jan 1, 2023; failure to do so would have resulted in the elimination of the existing divisions and future elections would be “at large” meaning that there would be no divisions and councillors would be elected for no specific area of the RM. Council determined that elections “at large” would not serve voters of the RM and therefore established a Division Boundaries Review Committee to develop a report for Council.

The Division Boundary Review Committee is made up of:

- Reeve – Sherry Jimmy
- Division 2 – Keith Gregson
- Division 6 – Bernie Nedelec
- Public Member – Gil Cadrin
- Public Member – Sheryl Ballendine

The Committee has developed several options for consideration and is seeking input from the public prior to making a recommendation to Council on one of the options. Anyone who is interested may contact one of the committee members directly or send their written comments to cao@rmmeota468.ca **Submission Deadline April 19, 2023.**

The options are outlined below. The population numbers are based on Stats Canada 2021 census. The actual number of voters is significantly higher within the hamlets. **The committee is interested in your feedback on your preferred option or any other options that have not been considered.**

Option 1 – Divisions as the Current Exist - No Changes	Advantages	Disadvantages																												
<div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Division Population - RM of Meota - Current</p> <table border="1" style="margin-top: 10px;"> <caption>Division Population Data (Estimated from Chart)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Division</th> <th>Ag District</th> <th>Hamlet District</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Division 1</td> <td>150</td> <td>200</td> <td>350</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Division 2</td> <td>150</td> <td>130</td> <td>280</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Division 3</td> <td>90</td> <td>0</td> <td>90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Division 4</td> <td>50</td> <td>140</td> <td>190</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Division 5</td> <td>50</td> <td>60</td> <td>110</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Division 6</td> <td>80</td> <td>0</td> <td>80</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </div>	Division	Ag District	Hamlet District	Total	Division 1	150	200	350	Division 2	150	130	280	Division 3	90	0	90	Division 4	50	140	190	Division 5	50	60	110	Division 6	80	0	80	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Known to everyone ✓ Not broken ✓ Good geographic representation ✓ Course of least resistance ✓ Least Expensive option 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Not Compliant with Policy for balance of Census numbers ✓ Not representative of population ✓ Number of voters in the hamlet sector can impact ag representation ✓ Some people want change
Division	Ag District	Hamlet District	Total																											
Division 1	150	200	350																											
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<p>Option 2 – 3 Separate Hamlet and Ag Divisions</p>  <table border="1"> <caption>Division Population - Separate AG/Hamlet</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Division</th> <th>Population</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Div A1</td> <td>210</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Div A2</td> <td>210</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Div A3</td> <td>170</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Div H1</td> <td>180</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Div H2</td> <td>170</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Div H3</td> <td>180</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Division	Population	Div A1	210	Div A2	210	Div A3	170	Div H1	180	Div H2	170	Div H3	180	<p>Advantages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ It addresses the imbalance of the number of voters such that the extra voters are within specific hamlet divisions and don't impact ag ✓ A step in the direction of independent governance of hamlets/lakeshore communities ✓ Balances Population ✓ Interests of each sector could be balanced through committee work 	<p>Disadvantages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Hamlets would be over represented based on a level of representation that ag doesn't have through the hamlet boards ✓ Hamlets would be under represented by number of voters ✓ Reeve is the swing vote and could sway the representation to either sector in an imbalanced way ✓ Administrative Cost ✓ Creates a split between Ag/Hamlet 														
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<p>Option 3 – Balance the Ag and Hamlet Population in each Div</p>  <table border="1"> <caption>Division Population - Mixed</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Division (alt)</th> <th>Ag District</th> <th>Hamlet District</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Div 1 (alt)</td> <td>100</td> <td>85</td> <td>185</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Div 2 (alt)</td> <td>100</td> <td>85</td> <td>185</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Div 3 (alt)</td> <td>90</td> <td>90</td> <td>180</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Div 4 (alt)</td> <td>100</td> <td>85</td> <td>185</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Div 5 (alt)</td> <td>100</td> <td>85</td> <td>185</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Div 6 (alt)</td> <td>85</td> <td>90</td> <td>175</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Division (alt)	Ag District	Hamlet District	Total	Div 1 (alt)	100	85	185	Div 2 (alt)	100	85	185	Div 3 (alt)	90	90	180	Div 4 (alt)	100	85	185	Div 5 (alt)	100	85	185	Div 6 (alt)	85	90	175	<p>Advantages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Balanced Population 	<p>Disadvantages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Creates the potential for massive over representation by voters not in Census numbers
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<p>Option 4 – Split Division 1 & 2 into 4 divisions</p>  <table border="1"> <caption>Division Population - RM of Meota - Split Div 1&2</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Division</th> <th>Population</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Division 1A</td> <td>155</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Division 1H</td> <td>200</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Division 2A</td> <td>155</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Division 2H</td> <td>130</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Division 3</td> <td>90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Division 4</td> <td>195</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Division 5</td> <td>115</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Division 6</td> <td>85</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Division	Population	Division 1A	155	Division 1H	200	Division 2A	155	Division 2H	130	Division 3	90	Division 4	195	Division 5	115	Division 6	85	<p>Advantages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Population more balanced than status quo 	<p>Disadvantages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Higher Governance and Admin Costs with more divisions and larger council 										
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Option 5 – Create 2 Hamlet Divisions and 3 Ag Divisions	Advantages	Disadvantages																		
<div data-bbox="110 178 824 630"> <p>Division Population - RM of Meota - Lake & Ag</p> <table border="1"> <caption>Division Population Data</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Division</th> <th>Population</th> <th>District Type</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Jackfish Lake Hamlets</td> <td>~275</td> <td>Hamlet District</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Murray Lake Hamlets</td> <td>~215</td> <td>Hamlet District</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Div 1 Ag</td> <td>~205</td> <td>Ag District</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Div 2 Ag</td> <td>~205</td> <td>Ag District</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Div 3 Ag</td> <td>~205</td> <td>Ag District</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> </div>	Division	Population	District Type	Jackfish Lake Hamlets	~275	Hamlet District	Murray Lake Hamlets	~215	Hamlet District	Div 1 Ag	~205	Ag District	Div 2 Ag	~205	Ag District	Div 3 Ag	~205	Ag District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Population Deviation falls within policy guidelines ✓ Provides each lake that has its own unique challenges with a representative ✓ Gives consideration to the autonomy hamlets are provided to the boards while ensuring representation at the Council table ✓ Ensures the Ag Sector has adequate representation and with majority vote being 4; thus the hamlet sector could not drive the types of decisions for the ag sector that their boards have been empowered to make for the hamlets. ✓ More cost-effective governance model 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Divided Ag and Hamlet divisions ✓ Requires a lot of consensus decisions
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