#### Presentation to Special City Council Meeting on City Council Composition and Ward Boundary Review

By

Hugh Whiteley

June 21 2021

### Who Should Decide on Council Composition ?

- Council composition is best decided by the electorate whose best interests are protected and advanced by the actions of City Council.
- The principle of following the direction of the electorate in deciding on the composition of City Council is well established in Guelph and has been followed for 194 years.

# What support is needed to change the composition of City Council

- At least a clear majority of expressed opinion must favour a change in the composition of City Council before a change is justified.
- If support for change and opposition to change are closely balanced change should not be undertaken.

## Is there support for change in Council Composition ?

- No the criteria for a clear majority of the electorate in support of change in Council Composition is not met .
- Only one third of responses favour change, two thirds favour retention of 6 wards with two Councillor per ward.
- The decision of City Council must be to retain the current composition of City Council.

### Which Ward-boundary option is best?

• Option 6-2 is best for the reasons provided in the background study.

### What salary should Councillors receive ?

 The salary for Councillors should be adequate to attract well qualified candidates representative of the diversity of the electorate and to enable Councillors to devote sufficient time to their duties to reach well-informed decisions.