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I am an independent consultant. I took early retirement at the end of 2006 from the Department of Political Science, University of Waterloo, where I had been a faculty member since 1971. Throughout my career, my research and teaching interests have included municipal government, Ontario politics and electoral systems.

I have served as an expert witness in eight OMB hearings on ward applications. This includes serving as a paid consultant in hearings involving the City of Guelph, the City of Belleville, the Town of Aurora, the Town of Newmarket and the City of Vaughan. In OMB hearings in the Township of Wellesley and the Township of Woolwich I participated on a voluntary basis. In the past I provided advice to the Clerk in the Township of Wilmot and am presently serving as a consultant to the new Clerk for a ward review underway in that municipality.

A colleague and I were instrumental in the process of changing municipal elections in the City of Waterloo from an at-large to a ward system. This involved a somewhat protracted political struggle (lasting from 1986 until 1989) but the ward system and the boundaries finally implemented made use of one of our designs. I later served in 2005 on a joint staff-citizen advisory committee that designed the ward system implemented in the City of Waterloo for the 2006 municipal election.

In 2005 I was retained by the City of Cambridge to assist its Ward Boundary Task Force. I developed – in consultation with staff and the councillors appointed to the Task Force – a 13 page report that reviewed appropriate criteria for a new ward system (including design principles), an evaluation of alternative ward models and some assessment of specific ward proposals. Cambridge City Council determined, in July 2005, not to proceed with this activity; however, in 2007 the newly elected council re-opened the question and I understand that my May 2005 report will form the basis of the review.

In early 2008, I was selected to conduct a ward boundary review for the City of Kitchener; this process begun in January and a discussion paper that included four options was published at the beginning of April. A “final” recommendation went to Kitchener Council in June and, after further public consultation, an amended recommendation was accepted unanimously on October 6. It should also be noted that I had been associated with the development of

Kitchener's ward system for over thirty years, beginning in 1975 when I supervised a student project that set out a case for a ward system in Kitchener, as well as some alternative ward systems and later prepared further alternatives myself for four, six, eight and ten wards that were presented to Council for consideration in the implementation of the City's initial ten ward system. In 1998 I assisted a staff committee that examined possible modifications to the way Kitchener's Regional Councillors would be elected. This committee also reviewed the existing ten-ward configuration. Among other things, I provided a background paper entitled "Some Criteria for Revising Kitchener's Ward System", a paper that was, I believe, also shared with other Canadian municipalities reviewing their electoral systems, including the City of Vancouver.

In 2008, I was retained by the Town of Milton to conduct a ward boundary review to be completed in early 2009. I am in discussions with the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville and the Town of New Tecumseth about ward boundary reviews in 2009 and will serve in an advisory capacity to the Clerk in the Town of Ajax on that municipality's review.

I have also undertaken academic research on more than sixty OMB ward cases handled between 1974 and 1996 in an attempt to assess the Board's approach to ward systems, including gaining some insight into the kinds of ward boundaries that were considered appropriate. I have also collected materials pertaining to OMB appeals on ward systems after 1996. The reality, of course, is that there are far fewer ward cases processed by the OMB over the last dozen years or so since the Board only examines appeals to decisions made by municipal councils rather than all applications to divide or redivide.

In October 2008, I made a presentation to the AMCTO Zone 3 meeting about ward systems and hope to work with the organization to develop a resource kit for Clerks who are required to conduct ward system reviews.

Finally, I published a small article in *Municipal World* on the present Ontario legislative framework for ward boundary decisions ("Democratic Renewal: Time to start taking municipal elections seriously," *Municipal World* volume 115, number 3 (March 2005), 31 – 33, 44.)



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