

STATUS REPORT

APPEAL TO THE ONTARIO MUNICIPAL BOARD (OMB) REGARDING WARD BOUNDARIES

On August 29, 2009 the OMB issued a Decision and Procedural Order based on the pre-hearing conference of August 17, 2009. A copy is attached separately and includes position statements of both parties.

On September 2, the Applicants served a notice of motion on the OMB. In bringing the motion in advance of the full hearing, the Applicants are seeking an order of the Board, that the ultimate hearing in November "concern itself only with the location where the Ward boundaries shall be divided or re-divided or dissolved, not the matter of whether Ward boundaries shall be divided or re-divided or dissolved".

On September 4, the Vice Chair of the OMB contacted the County Solicitor to discuss the potential for mediation. The Vice Chair of the OMB also contacted the Agent for the Applicants separately.

On Tuesday, September 8 the Vice Chair advised in an e-mail that "it would be premature to attempt mediation at this juncture" given the nature of the relief being sought by the Applicants in the Notice of Motion".

Following a telephone conference call on Friday, September 11 with the OMB, the Agent for the Applicants and the County Solicitor, the OMB has determined that the parties are to appear before the OMB on **Wednesday, September 16, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in the Council Chambers at Shire Hall** for purposes of making submissions with respect to the above noted motion of the Applicants. As is consistent with the County position, the County will oppose the motion.

These proceedings will be open to the public.