

NOVA SCOTIA COURT OF APPEAL

Citation: *Richmond County (Municipality) v. Nova Scotia (Attorney General)*,
2016 NSCA 11

Date: 20160223

Docket: CA 442005

Registry: Halifax

Between:

Municipality of the County of Richmond

Appellant

v.

Attorney General of Nova Scotia and Nova Scotia Utility and Review Board

Respondents

v.

Rod Samson, Alvin Martell, Steve MacNeil and Steve Samson

Intervenors

Judge: The Honourable Justice Joel E. Fichaud

Appeal Heard: January 28, 2016, in Halifax, Nova Scotia

Subject: Utility and Review Board – Review of number of councillors and polling districts – *Municipal Government Act*, S.N.S. 1998, c. 18, ss. 368 and 369

Summary: As prescribed by ss. 368 and 369 of the *Municipal Government Act*, the Utility and Review Board conducted a review of the number of councillors and polling districts in the Municipality of the County of Richmond. The Board reduced the number from ten to five. The Municipality appealed, and sought to retain the existing number of ten.

Issues: Did the Board’s ruling offend the appellate standard of review?

Result:

The Court of Appeal dismissed the Municipality's appeal. The Board's ruling reasonably applied the criteria set out in the *Municipal Government Act*. The Municipality's proposal was well outside the established guidelines for relative parity of voting power and effective representation, without any justification for the disparity.

This information sheet does not form part of the court's judgment. Quotes must be from the judgment, not this cover sheet. The full court judgment consists of 12 pages.