

The Corporation of the City of Kawartha Lakes
Kawartha Lakes Municipal Heritage Committee Report

Report Number KLMHC2020-04

Meeting Date: January 9, 2020

Title: Provincial Policy Statement Updates

Description: Summary of proposed provincial changes to the Provincial Policy Statement (2014)

Ward Number: All

Author and Title: Emily Turner, Economic Development Officer – Heritage Planning

Recommendation(s):

That Report KLMHC2020-04, **Provincial Policy Statement Updates**, be received for information.

Background:

In May 2019, Ontario's provincial government released its "More Homes, More Choice: Ontario's Housing Supply Action Plan" which included a range of initiatives to address housing supply in the province. Part of this action plan was a review of the 2014 Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) to address land use planning policies.

Cultural heritage and archaeology is addressed in Section 2.6 of the PPS. The 2014 policies are as follows:

2.6 Cultural Heritage and Archaeology

2.6.1 Significant built heritage resources and significant cultural heritage landscapes shall be conserved.

2.6.2 Development and site alteration shall not be permitted on lands containing archaeological resources or areas of archaeological potential unless significant archaeological resources have been conserved.

2.6.3 Planning authorities shall not permit development and site alteration on adjacent lands to protected heritage property except where the proposed development and site alteration has been evaluated and it has been demonstrated that the heritage attributes of the protected heritage property will be conserved.

2.6.4 Planning authorities should consider and promote archaeological management plans and cultural plans in conserving cultural heritage and archaeological resources.

2.6.5 Planning authorities shall consider the interests of Aboriginal communities in conserving cultural heritage and archaeological resources.

The only change to the cultural heritage policy section is the strengthening of requirement under subsection 2.6.5 to consult with indigenous communities when conserving cultural heritage and archaeological sites. This is an important and positive change to ensure that municipalities undertake the duty to consult with First Nations, particularly with regard to archaeological sites. The revised section 2.6.5 reads as follows:

2.6.5 Planning authorities shall engage with Indigenous communities and consider their interests when identifying, protecting and managing cultural heritage and archaeological resources.

These changes have not yet been ratified but it is expected that they will be in place by the end of 2020. A review and commenting period took place in summer 2019 and is now closed. A link to the full document outlining the new proposed policies is provided as Appendix A.

Rationale:

The Provincial Policy Statement is Ontario's consolidated policy on land use planning and is issued under Section 3 of the Planning Act. It provides direction to municipalities with regard to a range of planning related issues, including the conservation of cultural heritage, and is the primary policy document guiding municipal decision making in this area. The Cultural Heritage and Archaeology policies in Section 2.6 of the 2014 PPS have a significant impact on how municipalities conserve their heritage resources because land use planning decisions in municipalities are required by the Planning Act to be consistent with the policies established in the PPS. The policy statements outline in this section of the PPS are intended to ensure that cultural heritage resources are conserved and provide municipalities with the policy background to protect heritage resources and guide development in such a way that there is minimal impact on identified heritage resources.

Alongside the changes to the Ontario Heritage Act introduced through Bill 108: More Homes, More Choices Act, the revision of the PPS statement has the potential to impact heritage conservation in Ontario municipalities.

Other Alternatives Considered:

No alternatives are considered.

Financial/Operation Impacts:

There are no financial impacts as a result of the recommendation of this report.

Consultations:

N/A

Attachments:

Appendix A – Link to Proposed PPS Policies:

<http://www.woodbull.ca/docs/default-source/publications/pps-review-proposed-policies---july-2019.pdf?sfvrsn=2>

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