

UPDATE



From the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

October 2010

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Message from Minister Rick Bartolucci

When Premier McGuinty recently appointed me to this portfolio, I felt that I was returning to familiar ground since I spent many years serving on Sudbury Council before turning my eye to provincial politics. In my new portfolio, I am responsible for strengthening all Ontario communities — rural and urban. I am also committed to ensuring that affordable housing is available for those who need it. [Read more](#)



Windsor Venue for 2010 AMO Conference

The City of Windsor and Essex County played host for the annual conference of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario. 'Propelling Economic Prosperity' was the theme for the conference in August that attracted more than 1,500 delegates from municipal governments across Ontario. [Read more](#)



Provincial Policy Statement Review

The Ontario government is undertaking a review of land use planning policies, which are detailed in the Provincial Policy Statement, 2005. This document provides clear province-wide direction on land use. Input from partners, stakeholders and the public is an important part of the review. It will help determine if



New Planning and Application Resource Centre

A new source for information on land use planning in Ontario provides tools for municipal and planning board staff, developers, consultants, agents, and Ontarians interested in land use planning. This one-stop online shop also provides access to guides and application forms. [Read more](#)



Updated Municipal Councillor's Guide

A new guide for municipal councillors provides up-to-date information on municipal governance, finance, and land use planning. The guide, revised to include recent legislative and policy changes, can also be used as a reference tool to learn more about municipal roles and responsibilities. [Read more](#)

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Message From Minister Rick Bartolucci

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I am pleased to welcome UPDATE readers, in my new role as Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

When Premier McGuinty recently appointed me to this portfolio, I felt that I was returning to familiar ground since I spent many years serving on Sudbury Council before turning my eye to provincial politics.

In my new portfolio, I am responsible for strengthening all Ontario communities — rural and urban.

I am also committed to ensuring that affordable housing is available for those who need it. We are working to create access to adequate, suitable and affordable housing through the Affordable Housing Agreement that our

government signed with the federal government last year and through development of a Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy.

In August, the Premier and more than a dozen of our Cabinet colleagues were in Windsor for the 2010 conference of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario. This issue of UPDATE has some photos from this important annual gathering. I am looking forward to working with Norman Sandberg, the new AMO President and his executive.

A three-year renewal of the memorandum of understanding on consultation was signed at the conference. The constructive framework of this agreement continues to provide a forum for frank and open discussions among provincial and municipal officials, which strengthens our partnership and enables the province to make better decisions.

The government has begun a review of the land use planning policies found in the Provincial Policy Statement. The Statement, which was last updated in 2005, provides clear province-wide direction on land use. I encourage UPDATE readers to participate in these consultations. In this issue of our e-newsletter we are providing information on the many ways you can provide your input.

Many UPDATE readers are elected officials who may again be seeking office later this month. Regardless of the outcome, you can be justifiably proud of your public service. I especially want to thank those of you who are not running again, and your families, for your years of service to Ontario communities.

Please provide us with your feedback. If this issue of UPDATE has been forwarded to you and you would like to continue receiving our e-newsletter, please take the time to subscribe.

Rick Bartolucci, MPP Sudbury
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

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The City of Windsor and Essex County played host for the annual conference of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

'Propelling Economic Prosperity' was the theme for the conference in August that attracted more than 1,500 delegates from municipal governments across Ontario.

"It's a good opportunity to network with people from other communities to find out what issues they're dealing with," Lambton County Warden Jim Burns told the Sarnia Observer during the conference. "It's also a really good opportunity to meet with provincial ministries."

Here are a few photos taken during the conference:





Peter Hume (right), who wrapped up his term at AMO president, shakes hands with then Municipal Affairs and Housing Minister **Jim Bradley** after they signed the renewal of a memorandum of understanding on consultation.



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Provincial Policy Statement Review [Email this page](#)

The Ontario government is undertaking a review of land use planning policies, which are detailed in the Provincial Policy Statement, 2005.

“Our government remains committed to a better planning system that provides for a strong and vibrant economy while reducing urban sprawl, preserving greenspace and protecting natural resources,” says Minister Rick Bartolucci. “We want better Ontario communities where people want to live, work and invest.”

The Provincial Policy Statement provides clear province-wide direction on land use and how development should take place.

Regional Workshops

Input from partners, stakeholders and the public is an important part of the current review. It will help determine if current policies are providing appropriate direction for prosperous, green, well-planned Ontario communities, while protecting broader provincial interests

Nine consultation workshops are being conducted across the province this fall. There is a consultation session on October 6th in Dryden.

Workshop participants can learn more about Ontario’s land use planning system and provide their input into what is working well and how the Provincial Policy Statement can be improved.

Submissions

There are many ways to help influence policy direction provided by the Provincial Policy Statement.

You can visit the online [Environmental Bill of Rights registry](#) or the [Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing website](#).

You can submit your comments in an e-mail to PPSreview@ontario.ca or by fax to 416-585-6870.

Or, you can write to:

Provincial Policy Statement Review
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Provincial Planning Policy Branch
777 Bay Street, 14th Floor
Toronto, ON M5G 2E5

Related Links:

- [Provincial Policy Statement: Five-Year Review](#)

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New Planning and Application Resource Centre

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The [Planning and Application Resource Centre](#) is a new source for information on land use planning in Ontario.

This one-stop online shop provides tools for municipal and planning board staff, developers, consultants, agents, and Ontarians interested in land use planning. The site also provides access to guides and application forms.

Land Use Planning Information

The Planning and Application Resource Centre can help:

- Find the resources and tools for preparing land use planning applications.
- Access planning application forms that can be completed and submitted online.
- Discover more information about the Ontario land use planning system.

The resource centre includes information on accessibility, agriculture, brownfields, clean air and renewable energy. There is also material on cultural heritage, archaeology, municipal planning, natural heritage; provincial plans, transportation and water.

Nine Ministries

The information, resources, and tools found on the [Planning and Application Resource Centre](#) come from nine Ontario ministries:

- Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs,
- Ministry of Energy,
- Ministry of the Environment,
- Ministry of Infrastructure,
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing,
- Ministry of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry,
- Ministry of Natural Resources,
- Ministry of Tourism and Culture, and,
- Ministry of Transportation.

Open For Business

The Planning and Application Resource Centre is aligned with [Ontario's Open For Business](#) initiative by:

Land Use Planning



Planning and Application Resource Centre

Welcome to the Provincial Planning and Application Resource Centre. Your source for land use planning in Ontario.

This resource centre is brought to you by the [One-Stop Provincial Planning Service](#) - a suite of partner ministries.

These pages are designed to make it easier for you to:

Find resources and guidance materials that may help you prepare your land use planning application, including required background studies.

Access planning application forms where the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) is the planning approval authority.

Obtain information on the provincial land use planning system including provincial interests in Ontario.

Browse Land Use Planning Resources

> Resources include: general land use planning information, related legislation, provincial plans, guidelines, technical manuals and more.

> Topics include: agriculture, brownfields, municipal planning, cultural heritage, transportation and much more!

Applying for a Planning Approval

Your Ministry

Local Government

Land Use Planning

Planning and Application Resource Centre

Ontario's Guide to Land use Planning

Related Legislation

Provincial Policy Statement

Ontario Municipal Board

Ontario Municipal Board / Planning Services

Greenbelt Protection

Brownfields Ontario

The Oak Ridge Waterfront

Partnership and World Plan

Municipal Planning & Development Tools

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The new Planning and Application Resource Centre – Ontario's one-stop shop for land use planning.

- Making it easier to access land use planning resources across nine ministries through one central location.
- Providing easy access to land use planning guides, tools, and application forms. This helps create a more streamlined planning system for faster economic development.

Related Links:

- [Planning and Application Resource Centre](#)
- [Ontario's Land Use Planning System](#)
- [Planning Act](#)
- [Provincial Policy Statement](#)
- [Open For Business](#)



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Updated Municipal Councillor's Guide

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A new [Municipal Councillor's Guide](#) is now available.

The updated guide has been revised to include recent legislative and policy changes. These are changes that have taken effect since the guide was originally published in 2007.

Up-to-date Information

The guide provides up-to-date information on municipal governance, finance, and land use planning. It can also be used as a reference tool to learn more about municipal roles and responsibilities.

The guide is a valuable resource for municipal councillors and staff. It can also be used by the general public.

The Municipal Councillor's Guide examines the roles of a council and councillor, governance and law-making in the municipal setting, the fiscal context, and land-use planning.

The guide includes information about municipal governance. It also includes a checklist to help councillors access everything they need to fulfill their roles as councillors.

Municipal Elections

The updated guide is especially timely with the upcoming municipal elections on October 25. It will be a helpful reference tool for incoming municipal councillors and a great refresher for continuing councillors and staff.

Related Links:

- [Municipal Councillor's Guide](#)
- [Municipal Elections](#)
- [Resources for Municipalities](#)

