



Town of The Blue Mountains

32 Mill Street
Box 310
THORNBURY, ON N0H 2P0
www.thebluemountains.ca

January 17, 2018

Michael Helfinger, Intergovernmental Policy Coordination Unit
900 Bay Street, Hearst Block, 7th Floor, Toronto ON M6H 4L1

**RE: Request for Comments – ERO Number 013-4293 and 013-4239
Schedule 10 to Bill 66, Restoring Ontario's Competitiveness Act, 2018
New Regulation Open For Business Planning Tool
Town of The Blue Mountains, County of Grey, Province of Ontario**

Dear Mr. Helfinger;

The Town of The Blue Mountains has reviewed the first reading of proposed Bill 66 and offers the following comments for your consideration:

1. The Blue Mountains supports the Province in finding ways to reduce 'red-tape' and to speed up application processing time.
2. The Blue Mountains requires the Province to take a more balanced position on the need for economic development while also protecting and enhancing the natural environment
3. The Blue Mountains prides itself on the significant natural and environmental features. These significant features are a priority and must continue to be protected and enhanced wherever possible. The Blue Mountains has been identified as a four-seasons recreation area used by residents inside and beyond our provincial borders. The Town relies on these features to continue to provide exception recreational and resort opportunities for the Province. Current land use planning and environmental protections are paramount when considering all development applications. At a minimum an 'open-for-business zoning by-law' should not apply to areas of Provincial and Local Significance including the Niagara Escarpment Plan Development Control Area, Wetlands, Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI), Woodlands, Wildlife Habitat, Valleylands, Fish Habitat, Source Water Protection Areas.
4. The Blue Mountains seeks to attract many small scale employment uses rather than one larger large scale employment uses. The Province can support rural Ontario economic growth by modifying the minimum 50 job threshold for a municipality of 250,000 people or less to also include new employment uses that can create 15 full time jobs in a municipality of 20,000 people or less.

5. The Blue Mountains struggles with more significant issues that are not employment uses but are directly related to job recruitment and retention. Bill 66 should be modified to also include Affordable Housing Projects that directly address local municipal affordable housing goals. Less red-tape and faster application processing times should be available to housing projects that are proposed by a public body or not-for-profit organization, can meet a minimum standard for affordability, minimum density targets, and measures are imposed to ensure continued affordability.

Yours truly,

TOWN OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS



Shawn Postma, BES MCIP RPP
Senior Policy Planner



Town of The Blue Mountains

32 Mill Street, P.O. Box 310, Thornbury, ON N0H 2P0

Tel: (519) 599-3131 • Fax: (519) 599-7723

Toll Free: 1-888-BLU-MTNS (1-888-258-6867)

info@thebluemountains.ca • www.thebluemountains.ca


January 16, 2019

Moved by: Peter Bordignon Seconded by: Rob Potter

THAT Council receive Staff Report PDS.19.05, entitled "Open for Business – Bill 66 Restoring Ontario's Competitiveness Act Information Report" for information purposes;

AND THAT Staff be authorized to submit comments to the Province substantively in the form as those outlined in Attachment #1, **CARRIED**.

CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE COPY

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Royal". The signature is written over a dotted line.

Krista Royal, Deputy Clerk