

May 29, 2023

Honourable Steve Clark
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
College Park 17th Floor
777 Bay St Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

Dear Minister Clark:

Re: Proposed Provincial Planning Statement, 2023

Please be advised that at its meeting held the 23rd day of May, 2023, the Council of the Township of Selwyn passed the following resolution:

Resolution No. 2023 – 114 – Draft Provincial Planning Statement –

Deputy Mayor Ron Black – Councillor Brian Henry –

That the report regarding the Draft Provincial Planning Statement be received for information; and

That Selwyn Township support and endorse County Staff Report PPW 2023-13 on the draft Provincial Planning Statement (PPS) as presented to County Council on May 17, 2023 with the exception of the County staff position related to Policy section 4.3.3.; and

That Selwyn Township advise the Province that it does not support section 4.3.3. of the proposed new PPS that would permit three severances on any agricultural lands and in particular prime agricultural lands; and

That Selwyn Township advise the Province that it does support the provisions in the new PPS that provides municipalities the ability to conduct its own mapping exercise and using existing soil classifications to permit local discretion to identify productive agricultural lands vs. non-productive lands that would support severances for housing development; and

That the Province provide financial supports and other resources to conduct this mapping exercise; and

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That following the results of the mapping exercise that appropriate severance policies be developed by municipalities based on this mapping; and

That Selwyn Township support specific comments related to rural employment lands and water and wastewater capacity assessments, as noted in the May 23, 2023 report; and

That Selwyn Township support removing the Natural Heritage Systems mapping from any further versions of the PPS and instead use *Kawarthas, Naturally Connected* mapping; and

That Council direct staff to forward a copy of this report along with this recommendation to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing through the ERO website and our local MPP as the Township of Selwyn's formal response on the draft Provincial Planning Statement.

Carried.

The Township of Selwyn supports several aspects of the draft Provincial Planning Statement (PPS). In particular, the policies that provide more flexibility regarding the creation of settlement areas and settlement area boundary adjustments; the removal of meeting density targets as required by the current GPGGH; and removing the requirement to conform to the Provincially mandated Agricultural and Natural Heritage Systems mapping/policies.

The Township is not supportive of section 4.3.3. of the proposed new PPS that would permit three severances on any agricultural lands as this provision appears to be very broad having detrimental impacts on prime agricultural lands. Selwyn Township requests that this section not be approved. Preservation of the agricultural systems across the Province is crucial to help ensure the ongoing viability of the agricultural sector of our communities and our economy, and to contribute to a sustainable food supply in the future. Similar to other Provincial goals to create capacity in our domestic production of goods and services e.g. vehicles, we also need to create and maintain capacity for domestic food production.

Selwyn Township is supportive of the provisions in the draft PPS that would permit municipalities to map their own agricultural lands, using current soil classifications, local knowledge of farms in production etc... This exercise would identify productive vs. non-productive agriculture lands. Municipalities would create local severance policies based on this mapping exercise to identify non-productive lands that could be suitable for severances and ultimately housing development. Selwyn is requesting financial support to conduct this assessment and access to other Provincial resources (OMAFRA soils mapping etc...) to properly conduct this assessment.

In addition, Selwyn Township supports the removal of the Natural Heritage Systems mapping from any future versions of the draft PPS. In its place, the Township requests that the existing *Kawarthas Naturally Connected* mapping be used to protect

natural heritage systems as this mapping is a current, accurate and geographically-specific document that identifies local natural heritage features in need of protection.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the proposed PPS.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Per Lundberg".

Per Lundberg
Planner, Township of Selwyn

cc – MPP, Dave Smith - dave.smithco@pc.ola.org
County of Peterborough, Kari Stevenson - kstevenson@ptbocounty.ca