



August 1, 2023

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
17th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M5G 2E5
Attn: Honorable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Dear Sir:

Re: Environmental Registry of Ontario – ERO #019-6813

The Corporation of the Town of Penetanguishene has reviewed the proposed Provincial Planning Statement, which intends to replace the existing Provincial Policy Statement and A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe and is responding to the Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) Posting #019-6813 with comments.

At the Council Meeting on July 12, 2023, Council directed staff to provide the following comments on the proposal:

Primary Settlement Area

The Town of Penetanguishene is identified as Primary Settlement Area in A Place to Grow: Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (Growth Plan) and in the County of Simcoe's Official Plan. The proposed new statement no longer includes reference to this important and unique type of urban area which has formed the basis of the Town's growth management strategy that informed the new Town of Penetanguishene Official Plan (2020) and Comprehensive Zoning By-law 2022-17 (2022). The Town is requesting confirmation from the Government of Ontario that the Rural and Agriculture policies of the Provincial Planning Statement 2023 will not apply to lands within Settlement Areas previously identified in the Growth Plan, 2020.

Rural and Agricultural Area Development

The Town does not support the development of agricultural lands for development as proposed in the new Provincial Planning Statement in Section 4.3. We are encouraged by announcements that the Province would not move forward with these permissions; however, wanted to confirm that the Town does not support these policies.

Housing Focus

The Town recognizes the need to be responsive to the housing needs in the Province and is actively exploring ways in which the municipality can assist. The proposed new Provincial Planning Statement places significant focus on providing housing but excludes any language on affordable or attainable housing which is an unfortunate and untimely

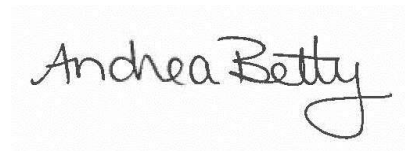
change in policy. This is an unfortunate elimination of language that municipalities use to support or require this missing housing form. We encourage the Province to reconsider the language and identify affordable and attainable housing as a matter of provincial interest.

We trust the above is satisfactory, should you have any questions please contact Andrea Betty, RPP, MCIP - Director of Planning and Community Development at 705-549-7453 ext. 215 or by email at abetty@penetanguishene.ca.

Thank you.

Yours truly,

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF PENETANGUISHENE

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrea Betty". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'y' at the end.

Andrea Betty, MCIP RPP
Director of Planning and Community Development

Cc: Jeff Lees, Chief Administrative Officer jlees@penetanguishene.ca