MUNICIPALITY OF TEMAGAMI	
Report Prepared For:	Suzie Fournier, Clerk
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Subject:	Update on Official Plan Review
Report Date:	June 25, 2020

The purpose of this Planning Report is to provide Council with an update regarding the Official Plan Review. The Official Plan Review was set to commence in March of 2020, however the impact of the COVID-19 emergency had an effect on the timing and the ability to host meetings at the Municipal office. The recommendation is that Council receive this Report for information purposes.

The following is an update on the process to date:

- MHBC has reviewed the current Official Plan and associated mapping schedules, and are considering changes to the document that would make the document easier to use, easier to administer and less repetitive. MHBC is considering a document format that would include Neighbourhood specific policies, but also General policies that would apply to all neighbourhoods. This would improve readability and substantially reduce the repetition that exists throughout the document.
- 2. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing have been contacted to provide an overview of the Official Plan Review. One of the required tasks of an Official Plan Review where the Ministry is the approval authority is to host a "Core Team Meeting" with all applicable Ministries (MMAH, MNDM, MNRF and MOECP). The purpose of this meeting is to receive comments from all Ministries in order to ensure all interests of the Province are represented in the new Official Plan. The Municipality has reached out to the Ministry with available dates to host a conference call in lieu of an in-person meeting due to the COVID-19 emergency.
- 3. A meeting under Section 26 of the *Planning Act* is also required at the start of the Official Plan Review process. The purpose of this meeting is to provide members of the public with an overview of the Official Plan Review process and to identify potential issues to be considered through the Official Plan Review. It is common for background work to take place prior to this meeting, however this meeting is meant to inform the public of the project and to outline future public meetings and engagement sessions.

Given the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions for public meetings, combined with the Municipality's protocols, a virtual meeting may be utilized at the discretion of Staff and Council, rather than the traditional in-person Council meeting. Provided members of the public can be adequately circulated and informed of the Section 26 meeting, a virtual meeting may be considered. It is understood that the Municipality has a comprehensive email circulation list.

4. There are certain tasks included in the work plan associated with the Official Plan Review that are best suited for in-person meetings. This includes the "Planning Workshop to Review Neighbourhood Policies" and the "Public Open House". It is recommended that these sessions be delayed to see if an opportunity is provided in the near future to have in-person meetings. If time passes and in-person meetings are still not possible, virtual meetings may be required to be scheduled.

In summary, the process and timing associated with the Official Plan Review has been delayed due to the COVID-19 emergency. The Official Plan Review is an important project and the overall process is conducive to public interaction and input, including that of Staff, Council, ratepayers, First Nations, stakeholders and agencies. It is recommended that with the assistance of Staff, MHBC continue to work on the background research and tasks that do not require public engagement in a public forum. It is also recommended that meetings that can occur over the telephone or virtually be scheduled over the summer/fall of 2020 – including the following:

- Pre-consultation Meeting with Ministry
- Section 26 Meeting
- Meeting with Temagami First Nation
- Review of Planning Issues with Council

The Municipality should be in a position over the summer of 2020 to approve the Official Plan Amendments associated with Secondary Dwelling Units and Home Industries and Home Occupations. These amendments will be transitioned into the new Official Plan. It is recognized that these items were a priority of Council, and as such will be completed prior to the approval of the new Official Plan.

It is recommended that Staff report back to Council with a revised project timeline once the COVID-19 emergency has ended and there the ability host in-person meetings or in the fall of 2020, whichever occurs first

Respectfully Submitted,

**MHBC Planning** 

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