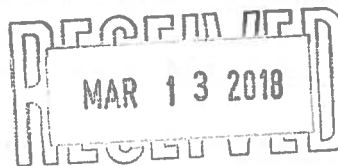


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**Date:** March 5, 2018

**Subject:** **Planning Act Regulations related to the Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act, 2017**

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Further to the email sent on February 27, 2018, I am writing to provide an update on regulations under the Planning Act related to the Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act, 2017.

The Planning Act regulations will come into effect on April 3, 2018.

New regulations under the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal Act, 2017 are also proposed and it is anticipated that they will be finalized in the near future. In the interim, please visit the [Ontario Regulatory Registry posting](#) for information on the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal Act, 2017 regulations.

Under the *Planning Act*, changes will be made to existing regulations to facilitate implementation of the Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act, 2017 changes to the land use planning and appeal system by:

- requiring explanations of how planning proposals are consistent/conform with provincial and local policies and clarify requirements for municipal notices;
- making technical changes, such as changing references from Ontario Municipal Board to Local Planning Appeal Tribunal, and amending cross-references; and
- establishing new transition provisions to set out rules for planning matters in process at the time of proclamation.

You can view copies of the amending *Planning Act* regulations on Ontario's e-Laws:

- [Ontario Regulation 67/18 "Transitional Matters – General"](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 174/16 "Transitional Matters Relating to the *Smart Growth for Our Communities Act, 2015*"
- [Ontario Regulation 68/18](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 543/06 "Official Plans and Plan Amendments"
- [Ontario Regulation 69/18](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 549/06 "Prescribed Time Period – Subsections 17 (44.4), 34 (24.4) and 51 (52.4) of the Act"
- [Ontario Regulation 70/18](#) – amending Ontario Regulation 551/06 "Local Appeal Bodies"

- Ontario Regulation 71/18 – amending Ontario Regulation 200/96 “Minor Variance Applications”
- Ontario Regulation 72/18 – amending Ontario Regulation 197/96 “Consent Applications”
- Ontario Regulation 73/18 – amending Ontario Regulation 545/06 “Zoning By-Laws, Holding By-Laws and Interim Control By-Laws”
- Ontario Regulation 74/18 – amending Ontario Regulation 544/06 “Plans of Subdivision”
- Ontario Regulation 75/18 – amending Ontario Regulation 173/16 “Community Planning Permits”

## Questions

If you have any questions about the changes to the land use planning and appeal system, including the Planning Act regulatory changes, please email [OMBReview@ontario.ca](mailto:OMBReview@ontario.ca).

Sincerely,

Laurie Miller, Director  
Provincial Planning Policy Branch  
Ministry of Municipal Affairs

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**Date:** February 27, 2018

**Subject:** Proclamation of the *Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act, 2017* changes to the land use planning and appeal system

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We are writing to provide an update on the *Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act, 2017*, which was passed by the Legislature on December 12, 2017.

**In Effect Date**

The changes the Act makes to the land use planning and appeal system will come into effect on April 3, 2018, as specified by proclamation.

This includes changes to:

- establish the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (the Tribunal) as the province-wide appeal body for land use planning matters;
- improve the hearing process at the Tribunal;
- establish the Local Planning Appeal Support Centre to provide legal and planning support services to eligible Ontarians for matters before the Tribunal;
- limit the Tribunal's ability to overturn municipal decisions that adhere to municipal official plans, provincial plans and the Provincial Policy Statement;
- give municipalities more control over local planning, resulting in fewer decisions being appealed; and
- shelter certain major planning decisions from appeal.

These changes are in response to the province-wide consultation undertaken as part of the Ontario Municipal Board Review.

## **Regulations**

To facilitate implementation of the *Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act, 2017*, several new and amended regulations have been proposed.

Proposals for the regulations under the Act were posted on Ontario's Regulatory and Environmental Registries for a 45-day public consultation period from December 7, 2017 to January 21, 2018.

We anticipate providing you with an update on the proposed regulation changes and finalized approach to transition in the near future.

## **Questions**

If you have any questions about the changes to the land use planning and appeal system, please email [OMBReview@ontario.ca](mailto:OMBReview@ontario.ca).

Sincerely,

Laurie Miller, Director  
Provincial Planning Policy Branch  
Ministry of Municipal Affairs

Mariela Orellana, Director (Acting)  
Agency and Tribunal Relations Branch  
Ministry of the Attorney General