



TOWN OF SOUTH BRUCE PENINSULA

September 17, 2024

Via email

Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula
Municipality of Arran-Elderslie
Municipality of Brockton
Municipality of South Bruce
Municipality of Kincardine
Township of Huron-Kinloss
Town of Saugeen Shores

Dear Municipal Councils:

Re: Proposed Bruce County Official Plan

At their regular meeting held today, Council adopted the resolution which is below.

*It was **Moved** by J. Kirkland, **Seconded** by C. Hull and **Carried***

***That** the County of Bruce is undertaking a comprehensive review of its Official Plan and has now presented the draft for public comments;*

***And that** South Bruce Peninsula Council and staff, in reviewing the proposed Official Plan wish to advise Bruce County and the municipalities in Bruce County that South Bruce Peninsula believes that the lower tier municipalities would be better served by the County Official Plan if it more closely mirrored the Provincial Planning Statement, meaning that it provides only high-level policy and does not become overly technical and prohibitive as the document governs all municipalities in Bruce County, each of which have separate and distinct ideologies relating to planning matters;*

***And that** with a more generalized County Official Plan, each municipality in Bruce County would be afforded the opportunity to include more detailed planning policies in each local Official Plan, allowing the municipalities to shape their own futures, tailor development as each municipality sees fit and to accept the liability for planning decisions at the local level without upper tier restrictions while still depending on County planning staff to provide planning services for the lower tier municipalities;*

***And that** municipalities in Bruce County have identified areas of the proposed County Official Plan which prove or will prove to be problematic for any type of growth with an example being the requirement for nitrate studies which are not specifically required in the Provincial Planning Statement and would stifle growth in any areas not serviced by municipal sewer and water, including rural, hamlet and shoreline areas;*

***And that** the Town of South Bruce Peninsula hereby asks all Bruce County municipalities to thoroughly review the proposed new provisions in the Bruce County Official Plan with a local lens to*



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gauge the impacts the proposed new Official Plan will have on future development in in each municipality;

And further that the lower tier municipalities in Bruce County reach out to County Council and request that the new Bruce County Official Plan is not more restrictive than Provincial Planning Statement requires and secondly, to not use the new Bruce Official Plan to create additional red tape by regulating items that are or can be regulated by current codes, acts, plans, etc.

The Council for the Town of South Bruce Peninsula is formally asking each municipal Council to thoroughly review the proposed new Official Plan and join South Bruce Peninsula in insisting that the County Official Plan mirrors the Provincial Planning Statement, meaning that the document is a high-level planning tool without unnecessary red tape and regulation.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours very truly,

Jay Kirkland
Mayor

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Cc: Bruce County Council