

Planning Peterborough to 2031: How the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe Will Impact Peterborough

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Points to Consider As You Read This Document:

- ▶ How do we increase density in the downtown and maintain our heritage buildings?
- ▶ How can we ensure new buildings are physically accessible?
- ▶ How can we maintain a safe and healthy balance of green space?
- ▶ How will the Little Lake Master Plan impact on the directions of this plan?

The Growth Plan will:

- Change traditional patterns of urban development, emphasizing compact and transit supportive communities
- Reduce urban sprawl and help maintain agriculture lands
- Promote more transit-reliant development
- Impact how we need to plan for service delivery, such as hub development with multiservices
- Promote healthy lifestyles due to the city being more pedestrian/bike friendly
- Develop a community that is family friendly
- Promotes a sense of community and belonging

Synopsis of the Plan:

The City of Peterborough has initiated an amendment to its Official Plan as a requirement of complying with the Growth Plan for the greater Golden Horseshoe. The purpose of the amendment is to bring the Official Plan into conformity with the Provincial Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, as required by the Places to Grow Act, 2005.

The Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe is a provincial plan that establishes a planning policy framework to implement the Province's vision for managing population and employment growth in the Greater Golden Horseshoe region to 2031. The Growth Plan seeks to address the negative effects of community development that have occurred primarily since the 1950's such as urban sprawl, traffic gridlock, and inefficient infrastructure spending by requiring municipalities to plan for compact, complete and transit-supportive communities.

Key requirements of the Growth Plan include planning for minimum development densities in both suburban and downtown areas and accommodating a significant proportion of new residential growth within existing built-up areas of the City. All municipalities within the Greater Golden Horseshoe (including the City of Peterborough) must ensure their Official Plan complies with and implements the Growth Plan Policy.

The Public Open Houses will be held as follows:

Tuesday, May 26, 2009
Peterborough Free Methodist Church,
450 Lansdowne Street East,
5:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Thursday June 2, 2009,
Northminster United Church,
300 Sunset Boulevard,
5:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 28, 2009
Murray Street Baptist Church,
175 Murray Street,
5:30 to 9:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 4, 2009,
Westdale United Church,
1409 Sherbrooke Street,
5:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Selected highlights of the plan:

Population & Employment Forecasts:

The Growth Plan provides population and employment projections for all upper and single-tier municipalities in the GGH and requires them to use these projections when planning for future growth. From 2006 to 2031, the City of Peterborough is forecast to grow by:

- An additional 13,000 people to reach a total population of 88,000
- An additional 1,300 jobs to reach a total of 42,000 jobs

Intensification & Density Targets:

The Growth Plan contains intensification and density targets that municipalities within the GGH must adopt into their Official Plans and plan to achieve. While these targets represent only a portion of the Growth Plan's requirements that municipalities are expected to adopt into their Official Plans, these targets are the Growth Plan's central focus, intending to create a compact urban form that maximizes the use of new and existing infrastructure. The Growth Plan specifically requires the City of Peterborough to:

- Plan to achieve an average density of 150 resident and jobs per hectare in the Downtown Peterborough Urban Growth Centre by 2031
- Direct at least 40% of all annual residential development to the City's existing Built Area by 2015 and for each year thereafter to 2031.
- Plan to achieve an average density of 50 residents and jobs per hectare within its Designated Greenfield Area.

For further information on this report contact:

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