



# OHBA ACTIVITY Summary

Keeping Members Informed

## DATES TO NOTE

- November 1 - Toronto Metrolinx public roundtable
- November 6 – Hamilton Metrolinx public roundtable
- November 8 – York Region Metrolinx public roundtable

## November 2017

### **BILL 139 - ONTARIO MUNICIPAL BOARD OVERHAUL**

Since the province announced an overhaul to the planning appeals system in May and introduced [Bill 139, Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act, 2017](#), creating the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal to replace the OMB, OHBA and our local HBAs have been very active in our advocacy efforts. On August 14, OHBA and BILD provided the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and the Ministry of the Attorney General with a [joint submission on Bill 139 and the OMB](#).

On October 16, 2017, OHBA and BILD each made presentations to the Standing Committee on Social Policy, which included proposed legislative amendments prepared by David Bronskill, (Goodmans LLP) who has been assisting the associations with legal and planning advice. In our continued advocacy efforts with respect to Bill 139, OHBA, BILD and the Greater Ottawa HBA met with Attorney General Yasir Naqvi on October 12. This followed OHBA and BILD meetings on September 25 with Municipal Affairs Minister Bill Mauro (who also addressed the OHBA conference), meetings with Housing Minister Peter Milczyn on September 11 and with senior Ministry and political staff on August 30.

On October 16, 2017, the Liberal members of the Standing Committee voted to cancel two days of previously scheduled public hearings – leaving those applied to speak, GOHBA/HHBA/NHBA/LHBA/SDHBA/WRHBA, as well as many other stakeholders, out of the hearing process. OHBA thanks the locals who have since written to the government and their local MPPs to express their frustration and sense of disrespect that they have been shut out of the democratic hearing process on a bill that directly impacts their members and their community. OHBA made a submission to the Standing Committee on October 18 with our specific recommended amendments to Bill 139, which can be found [here](#).

BILD, OHBA, the Canadian Environmental Law Association, the Preservation of Agricultural Lands Society, Environment North, and the Advocate for Effective OMB reform have joined together to voice their collective concern for Bill 139, putting out a collective press release and sending a letter to Premier Wynne on Friday October 20<sup>th</sup> which can all be accessed [here](#).

Bill 139 received clause-by-clause amendments on October 23 and 24, keeping the legislation on track to be brought back to the Ontario Legislature in November, with passage expected shortly thereafter.

To support our local associations' efforts, OHBA has embarked on a public relations strategy which seeks to further engage the industry and politicians in an informed debate about the current state of housing for Ontarians. Visit [buildingcommunities.ca](http://buildingcommunities.ca) to see the first of this campaign.

### **BILL 139 – CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES ACT**

On May 31, the province proposed amendments to the *Conservation Authorities Act* as part of [Bill 139, Building Better Communities and Conserving Watersheds Act, 2017](#). The legislation has received Second Reading and public hearings took place at the Standing Committee on Social Policy on October 16 and 17. The province has also posted, [Conserving our Future: A Modernized Conservation Authorities Act](#) which outlines the legislative, regulatory, policy and program changes proposed to be made as a result of the review. This proposal was posted to the [Environmental Registry \(013-0561\)](#) and OHBA responded with a [2017 submission on the Conservation Authorities Act](#) on July 31.

OHBA and BILD are members of the Multi-Stakeholder Service Delivery Review Committee, which will play an advisory role to the government as regulations and policy under the legislation are developed.

### **FAIR HOUSING PLAN: DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS ROUNDTABLE**

OHBA first called upon the Provincial Government last fall to convene a "Housing Panel" to address declining housing supply and rapidly increasing housing prices in late 2016. As part of [Ontario's Fair Housing Plan](#), the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, in partnership with other ministries involved in the residential development approval process, has convened an approvals roundtable, chaired by the Secretary of Cabinet and comprised of Deputy Ministers, senior municipal officials, as well as representatives from OHBA, BILD, HHHBA and RESCON.

The roundtable has met four times to discuss opportunities to improve the land use planning and development approval process and bring more housing supply to market. The roundtable reviewed a number of proposed regulatory and public policy options to streamline, provide guidance and clarity and improve the approvals process, many of which will soon be posted for public consultation.

### **METROLINX – DRAFT 2041 REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

Metrolinx is required to review the GTHA Regional Transportation Plan under the *Metrolinx Act* (2006) at least every 10 years, in alignment with the Growth Plan.

In the first phase of the review, a Discussion Paper for the Next Regional Transportation Plan was published in August 2016 and [OHBA responded with a submission in November 2016](#). By 2041, over 10 million people will live in the region, meaning significant new investment beyond currently

projects in the construction and planning stages will be required. OHBA is seeking feedback from members on the recently released [Metrolinx Draft Plan](#) as we prepare a submission, which is due November 17, 2017 – please direct your comments to OHBA Director of Policy, [Mike Collins-Williams](#).

Upcoming Metrolinx public roundtables are being held in Toronto, Hamilton and York:

- **TORONTO - Wednesday, November 1**, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. (Doors open at 6:30 p.m. We will begin at 7:00 p.m.)  
Metro Toronto Convention Centre, North Building, 255 Front Street West, Toronto
- **HAMILTON - Monday, November 6**, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. (Doors open at 6:30 p.m. We will begin at 7:00 p.m.)  
Hamilton Central Library, 55 York Boulevard, Hamilton
- **YORK REGION - Wednesday, November 8**, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. (Doors open at 6:30 p.m. We will begin at 7:00 p.m.)  
Newmarket Community Centre and Lions Hall, 200 Doug Duncan Drive, Newmarket

### **GREATER GOLDEN HORSESHOE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM**

The Ministry of Transportation is seeking public input on a long-term plan to modernize the transportation system in the Greater Golden Horseshoe (GGH) region, to ensure people and goods are able to move throughout the region with greater ease. The [GGH Transportation Plan](#) will build on short- and medium-term projects, such as GO Regional Express Rail to create the next-generation transportation system in the GGH.

The province is seeking public input on a draft set of long-term goals and objectives for the GGH Transportation Plan. Those interested in sharing their feedback on the draft long-term goals and objectives can fill out an online [survey](#) until December 23, 2017. OHBA is also seeking input from members – please contact OHBA Director of Policy, [Mike Collins-Williams](#).

### **MAPPING: NATURAL HERITAGE SYSTEM & AGRICULTURAL SYSTEM**

The updated Growth Plan includes a new Agricultural System supporting the protection of farmland while promoting economic development of the agri-food sector. The updated Growth Plan also includes new polices and the mapping of a Natural Heritage System (NHS) for the GGH beyond the Greenbelt Plans.

In July, the Province posted these proposals to the Environmental Registry.

- [Release of draft Agricultural System mapping and Implementation Procedures](#) (EBR 013-0958)
- [Criteria, methods, and mapping of the proposed regional Natural Heritage System for the Growth Plan](#) (EBR 013-1014)

OHBA hosted two industry consultations for members with the provincial government – one on the NHS mapping and one on the agricultural system. OHBA responded with a [letter outlining preliminary industry positions to the MNRF](#) and an additional [letter to MAFRA](#) in late June.

OHBA submitted two formal letters to government responding to the Environmental Registry postings on October 4:

- [OHBA Submission: Natural Heritage System Mapping for GGH](#)
- [OHBA Submission: Agricultural Mapping for the GGH](#)

### **PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE BUILDING CODE**

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs is hosting the Ontario Building Code Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) meetings in November to review all of the public and industry stakeholder comments. OHBA will be representing member comments at all of the meetings.

Please direct questions to OHBA's Senior Technical Advisor, Shawn Good at [sgood@ohba.ca](mailto:sgood@ohba.ca).

### **MTCS PROPOSAL: A GUIDE TO CULTURAL HERITAGE RESOURCES IN LAND USE PLANNING**

Through the Development Approvals Roundtable, the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCS) is proposing a new document: *A Guide to Cultural Heritage Resources in the Land Use Planning Process* (document is attached). This is a revised version of the 2006 infosheet series, Heritage Resources in the Land Use Planning Process.

The proposed guide will help those involved in the land use planning process in Ontario understand the changes to the cultural heritage policies in the Provincial Policy Statement, 2014. [This proposal has been posted for a 45 day public review on the Environmental Registry \(013-0914\)](#) to November 17, 2017 with comments to be directed to [graham.chernoff@ontario.ca](mailto:graham.chernoff@ontario.ca).

OHBA is seeking feedback from members on the proposed Guidance on Cultural Heritage document. Going forward, OHBA also anticipates additional consultation from the MTCS for guidance on the interpretation of the cultural heritage landscape concept in spring 2018. OHBA is seeking feedback from members on the proposal – please share comments with OHBA Director of Policy, [Mike Collins-Williams](#).

