**Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing**

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Ontario

February 28, 2020

Dear Head of Council:

**RE: Provincial Policy Statement, 2020**

Earlier today, the government of Ontario released the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS), 2020. The PPS is an important part of Ontario's land use planning system, setting out the provincial land use policy direction that guides municipal decision-making.

Municipalities play a key role in implementing provincial land use policies through local official plans, zoning by-laws and other planning decisions. The Planning Act requires that decisions on land use planning matters be "consistent with" PPS policies.

The PPS, 2020 supports implementation of **More Homes, More Choice:** Ontario's Housing Supply Action Plan and includes key changes to:

- Encourage an increase in the mix and supply of housing
- Protect the environment and public safety
- Reduce barriers and costs for development and provide greater certainty
- Support rural, northern and Indigenous communities
- Support the economy and job creation

The PPS, 2020 works together with other recent changes to the land use planning system – including changes to the Planning Act through Bill 108, More Homes, More Choice Act, 2019 and **A Place to Grow:** Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe. Collectively, these changes support key government priorities of increasing housing supply, supporting job creation and reducing red tape – while continuing to protect Ontarians' health and safety and the environment, including the Greenbelt.

The PPS, 2020 policies will take effect on May 1, 2020. It will replace the Provincial Policy Statement, 2014. In accordance with section 3 of the Planning Act, all decisions affecting land use planning matters made after this date shall be consistent with the PPS, 2020. My ministry will be in touch to provide education and training for municipal staff to support implementation of the new policies.

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For more information about the PPS, 2020, please visit ontario.ca/PPS where you will find:

- A digital version of the PPS, 2020
- A link to the decision notice on the Environment Registry of Ontario (ERO #019-0279)

If you have any questions about the Provincial Policy Statement, 2020, please contact the ministry at provincialplanning@ontario.ca or by calling 1-877-711-8208.

Sincerely,



Steve Clark
Minister

c: Planning Head, Planning Board Secretary-Treasurer, and/or Clerks