

# County of Bruce Plan the Bruce Update

Bruce County Council  
Thursday, August 1, 2024



# What is the Bruce County Official Plan?

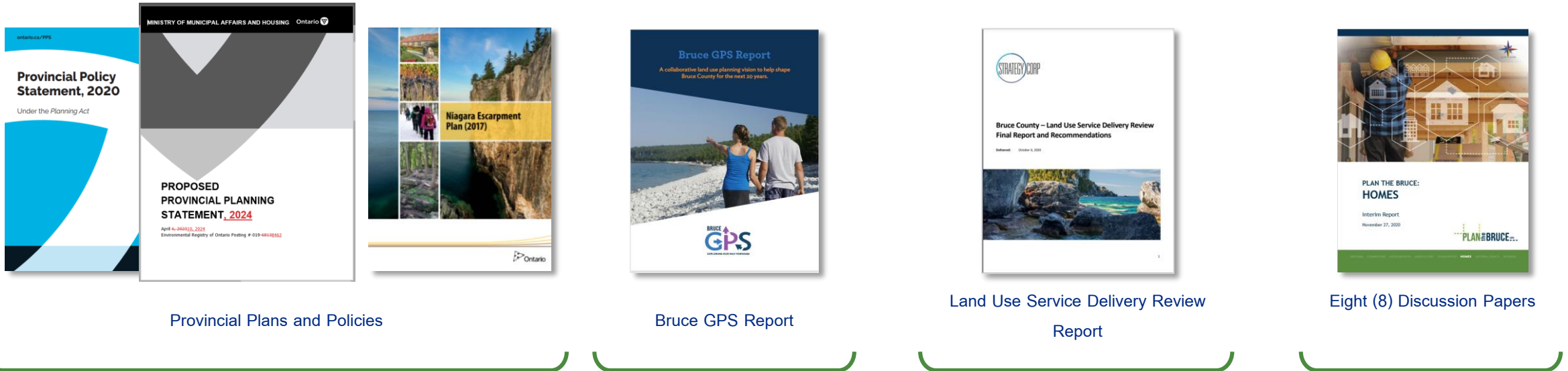
- The **Bruce County Official Plan** is the **guiding policy document** for land use planning. It guides long-term future land use and growth within the County.
- The Plan functions as the local official plan for areas not covered by local Official Plans
- Bruce County's Official Plan review:
  - Addresses Consistency and conformity with Provincial policies and legislation; and
  - Addresses issues such as growth, housing, and protection of agricultural lands and the natural environment.



## Did you know?

The Official Plan Review process is known as **Plan the Bruce.**

# Context for the Bruce County Official Plan



New Bruce County Official Plan



# Plan the Bruce Timeline

## Background

2018 – July 2022

### Background Research and Analysis

#### Key Outcomes

1. 8 Bruce GPS Discussion Papers
2. Land Use Service Delivery Report and Recommendations
3. Agriculture, Additional Residential Unit, and Housekeeping Amendments

## Phase 1

July 2022 – October 2022

### Growth Management Amendment

#### Key Outcomes

1. Updated Good Growth Discussion Paper
2. Commercial Land Needs
3. Growth Management Amendment (awaiting provincial approval)

## Phase 2

May 2023 – April 2024

### Implementation Amendment

#### Key Outcomes

1. Reduce wordiness
2. Enable added planning tools
3. Reduce policy duplication and enable local plans to reference County Plan

## Phase 3

Fall 2022– Fall-2024

### New Official Plan

#### Key Outcomes

1. Bring full product together for engagement
2. Final policy updates, Include Natural Heritage and Water Resource Systems

Ongoing engagement and consultation with the public, stakeholders, and Indigenous communities

# Background: Discussion Papers

- Explore the **Guiding Principles**
- Prepared by County staff and subject matter consultants
- Informed through public consultation and engagement.
- Include policy directions that inform the new **Official Plan**.



**Visit us online**

Visit [planthebruce.ca](http://planthebruce.ca) to review  
the Discussion Papers

# Phase 1: Growth Management Amendment

- Established new **Vision and Guiding Principles (Part 1 of new Plan)** and **updated growth forecasts (Part 2 of new Plan)** based on Bruce GPS and consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement.
- Supported local municipalities to move forward with local planning processes.
- **Adopted by County Council in October 2022;** awaiting approval by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

## Phase 2: Implementation Amendment

- Originally intended to cover completion of the Official Plan
- Provincial Release of Draft PPS (April 2023) created significant uncertainty
- Focus shifted to response, looking at areas with minimal anticipated change, and anticipating further change  
change, and anticipating further change
  - Replaced reference to specific legislation, or policies quoted from PPS or Niagara Escarpment Plan, with 'provincial direction' and 'for Escarpment Plan, with 'provincial direction' and 'for your information' boxes (that are not part of the plan) that describe the [current] not part of the plan) that describe the [current] direction.

## Phase 2: Implementation Amendment (cont'd)

- Enabled local plans to reference policies in the County Plan, rather than duplicate them in their own plans
- Enabled Community Planning Permit systems to be set up by local municipalities
- Enabled a County Affordable Housing Community Improvement Plan once the province allows the County to make one
- Adopted by County Council and came into effect April 3, 2024
- Carried forward as most of Part 4 of proposed New Official Plan



## Phase 3: New Official Plan

- Comprehensive review and update of the **remaining Official Plan policies (mostly in “Part 3”)** and **schedules** to develop a **new official plan**
- This includes policy matters such as **housing, agriculture, the natural environment, economic development, and**

# Current Engagement and Consultation Schedule\*



## \* Risks to the Timeline

- The province has not yet confirmed the content or in-effect date of the Provincial Planning Statement.
- If public engagement results in a need for significant revisions the timeline may be impacted.

# Your Input Matters

## Engage with Plan the Bruce



Visit [planthebruce.ca](http://planthebruce.ca) to view project information, work completed to date, and opportunities to get involved.



Register to receive project updates and to stay informed.



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## Contact



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# Thank You

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