

Guiding Principles Comparison Matrix for the Official Plan

Table 1 Guiding Principles Comparison Matrix for the Official Plan

Guiding Principle	Topic	Recommended Direction	Status	Topic name in New OP	Section in New OP
Agriculture		Consult community for input of Prime Agricultural Areas and Potential prime Agricultural Areas	to be addressed in public consultation stage		
	Prime Agricultural Mapping	No Change to the Baseline minimum size for new farm in Agricultural (100 acres) and Rural (50 acres)	Addressed in New OP	3.11 Countryside Areas	Agricultural (3.11.2.1(5)) Rural (3.11.3.1(3))
	Minimum Lot Size for New Agricultural Lots	More policy detail to support proposed smaller lots	Done with Agriculture Amendment		
		Special Policy area that allows 50-acre farm lots in the original 50-acre survey area	not done - not recommended		
		Consider trade-offs between irregular vs rectangular lot shapes	not done - not recommended		
	Surplus Farm Dwelling Severances	consider removing bona fide farmer owner requirement for more applicant flexibility	not done - not recommended		
		consider continuing to allow new residential lots in woodlots in the Rural Area	no change		
	New Residential Lots in Woodlands	Broaden permitted uses to reflect more flexible Provincial policy and guidelines	Done with Agriculture Amendment		
	Industrial and Commercial Uses on Farms	Develop made-in-Bruce Agricultural System policy	Addressed in New OP	3.11 Countryside Areas	3.11.1 3.11.2(1, 2) 3.11.3.2(11)
		Identify specific areas with urban-agricultural edge issues and opportunities	not done - not recommended		
	Urban-Agriculture Edge Planning	Investigate potential to implement Farm Enterprise Zones	not done - not recommended		

Guiding Principle	Topic	Recommended Direction	Status	Topic name in New OP	Section in New OP
		Investigate benefits of Community Planning Permit System for edge planning	not done - not recommended		
		develop policies to address directing facilities to agricultural and rural vs industrial locations	Addressed in New OP	3.11 Countryside Areas	3.11.2.1(12)
	Cannabis Production	support and appropriate mix and range of businesses	Addressed in New OP - mainly in 1.3 guiding principles, could be addressed more	3.4 Economic Development	3.4.1(5)
		maintain a range and choice of suitable sites for employment uses and take into account needs of existing and future businesses	Addressed in New OP	3.10 Settlement Areas	3.10.4.3
Business	Flexible approach to Economic Development	support a diversity of housing types and tenures to provide affordable choices for the workforce	Addressed in New OP	3.2 Housing	3.2.5(8) and 3.2.5(9)(b)
		rationalizing and protecting Employment Areas	Addressed in New OP	3.4 Economic Development	3.4.1(0) and 3.4.1(1)
		supporting a full range of employment generating uses like office, institutional, restaurants, retail, service commercial	Addressed in New OP	3.4 Economic Development	3.4.1(5)
	Speak to Economic Development Strategy as a separate document	infrastructure to support economic development, especially tourism	Addressed in New OP - not explicitly	3.4 Economic Development	3.4.1(3)
		transportation options	Addressed in New OP	3.6 Connecting Our Communities	3.6.1(4)
		home occupations and home industries	Addressed in New OP	3.10 Settlement Areas	3.10.2(7)(d)
		on farm diversified uses and agricultural systems approach	Addressed in New OP	3.11 Countryside Areas	3.11.1(6)

Guiding Principle	Topic	Recommended Direction	Status	Topic name in New OP	Section in New OP
		For employment land employment (business parks, industrial uses), differentiate what is "effective supply" versus supply that is available as a longer-term proposition. The concept of effective supply is crucial to attracting new employers in this sector, and effective supply is important to offering reasonable choice in locations throughout the County that are "shovel-ready". That means the lots are created and available for sale, municipal infrastructure is either in the ground, or readily available, and that the properties are designated in the Official Plan, and pre-zoned for the intended use. The County should continue to work with local municipalities to assess the designated employment areas to ensure the lands are appropriate for their intended use and adjust the employment land budget accordingly.	OP encourages local municipalities to prepare and implement employment strategy	Employment Lands within Settlement Areas	4.2.4.3
		Official Plan policy needs to be as flexible as possible to facilitate a new use, or expansion of existing uses, as quickly as possible, minimizing hurdles to implementation. This may include policies with respect to scaling a comprehensive review to the size or complexity of a proposal when site-specific expansion is proposed.	More flexibility for municipal boundary expansions available through new PPS		
	Diverse Land Supply	The County should include policies to allow for minor employment land area adjustments or conversions in the development of the new Official Plan. This creates flexibility for employment land conversions to be approved where certain tests or criteria have been met, for example, where the conversion helps to mitigate an existing land use conflict, or where the conversion provides for a specific and desirable alternative development opportunity. The definition of "minor" will need to be more fully explored in the context of the existing land supply, and the achievement of the identified tests or criteria.	Addressed in New OP	3.10 Settlement Areas	3.10.4.3(8)
		To accommodate population-related employment, the County will need to ensure that land opportunities for the expansion of the retail and service commercial sector is adequately considered and tailored to the anticipated residential growth of an area, and the understanding of whether these uses are to be accommodated in an expanded or intensified downtown, OR within an existing or newly planned retail and service commercial nodes located outside of the downtown.	Addressed in New OP	3.2 Housing	3.2.2(16)(b)

Guiding Principle	Topic	Recommended Direction	Status	Topic name in New OP	Section in New OP
		Major institutional uses like a significant medical centre or a post-secondary campus tend to go through their own site selection process. Anticipating these uses in specific locations is difficult, but not outside of what the County may want to consider. Office uses should generally be permitted in downtowns and can also be accommodated in existing or newly planned retail and service commercial nodes located outside of the downtown.	Addressed in New OP	3.10 Settlement Areas	3.10.2(7)(g)
		Generally, the policies of the County's in-effect Official Plan require a comprehensive review and update to ensure consistency with the PPS, 2020 and conformity with Provincial plans, while recognizing a need to develop policies that are tailored for Bruce County.	Addressed in New OP	4.15 Review of the Plan	4.15(1, 2)
		A stronger role for the County in planning for, implementing, and maintaining a regional transportation network.	Addressed in New OP	3.6 Connecting Our Communities	3.6.1(4)(a)
Connecting	review and update current policies	Establish a mobility-based transportation planning which includes transit and active transportation.	Addressed in New OP	3.6 Connecting Our Communities	3.6.1(4)(b)
	Six recommendations from Best Practice Review	Consider implementation of "steps" to a transit network as contemplated by policies of the Town of Innisfil's Official Plan (January 2018).	In collaboration with the Province, local municipalities, and neighbouring jurisdictions, the County will work to: Improve inter-municipal and inter-regional transit connections	3.6 Connecting Our Communities	3.6.1
		Ensure provisions exist in the new official plan to support more efficient use of existing transportation resources.	Addressed in New OP	3.6 Connecting Our Communities	3.6.2.1(12)
		The County should consider active transportation corridors as a means of linking communities and settlement areas together while providing alternatives to private vehicle use.	Not explicitly mentioned	3.6 Connecting Our Communities	3.6.1(4)(a)

Guiding Principle	Topic	Recommended Direction	Status	Topic name in New OP	Section in New OP
		The new official plan should put in place some of the land use building blocks required for the county to one day implement a transit system	Not explicitly mentioned	3.6 Connecting Our Communities	3.6.1(4)(c)
		Explore and further refine the transportation and connectivity priorities of the County and its residents within the context of what can be achieved through land use policy.	Addressed in New OP	3.6 Connecting Our Communities	3.6.1
		Confirm which recommended strategies of the MTP are appropriate or desirable to advance through an updated land use and transportation policy framework through the new Official Plan.	Network, active transportation and access all included in new OP	3.6 Connecting Our Communities	3.6.1
	Transportation Master Plan Recommendations	Work closely with both County and Local Municipality staff to develop a transportation policy framework that is realistic and can be feasibly implemented over the planning horizon.	not specifically addressed	3.6 Connecting Our Communities	3.6.1
		Consult with relevant utilities and service providers to inform a policy framework that will enable communication and telecommunication infrastructure and associated services to be coordinated and interconnected.	Addressed in New OP	3.6 Connecting Our Communities	3.6.1(5)
		Give specific consideration to the relationship between the 'Connecting' Guiding Principle and the Good Growth, Communities, Homes and Business Guiding Principles when updating Official Plan policies.	addressed in New OP	Complete Communities in a Thriving Region	3.1
		Consider the role of asset management as established through policies of the new Official Plan, including implementation monitoring and evaluation considerations.	Addressed in New OP	2.2 Growth Management Strategy	2.2.7(1)
		Broadly consult and engage on an updated Schedule B: Roads with County residents, local municipalities, and the Province.	To be completed during public engagement	3.6 Connecting Our Communities	3.6.2(8)
		Consider whether there is a role for 'Scenic Routes' and accompanying policies in the context of the new Official Plan	Addressed in New OP	3.6 Connecting Our Communities	3.6.2(11)
		Support an active transportation system that is highly integrated and connected within the community, the County, and broader region.	Addressed in New OP	3.6 Connecting Our Communities	3.6.1(4)(c)
		Design the community around pedestrian activity with destinations including parks, cultural and community facilities, shopping, and restaurants within walking distance.	Addressed in New OP - high level in County Op, to be	4.6 General Development Criteria	4.6.7.3(8)

Guiding Principle	Topic	Recommended Direction	Status	Topic name in New OP	Section in New OP
			developed further in local plans		
Communities	A Healthy community	Plan for "age-in-place" facilities that anticipate changing housing needs for an aging population.	Addressed in New OP	3.2 Housing	3.2.5(9)(f)
		Support opportunities for a sustainable local food system.	Addressed in New OP	3.3 Sustainable Development and Climate Change	3.3.1(7)
		Strengthen the role of public health in collaborating with municipalities to promote the development of healthy communities.	To be discussed in "Did You Know" boxes	2.2 Growth Management Strategy	2.2.1(2)
		Support accessibility for persons with disabilities in all land-use planning and development decisions.	Addressed in New OP - in objectives	3.1 Complete Communities in a Thriving Region 3.10 Settlement Areas	3.1(8) 3.10.2(c)
		Promote building and site design through Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles.	Community safety and wellbeing addressed	Guideline Documents	5.14
		Recognize the importance of providing the opportunity for residents to remain in the community for their entire lifecycle by accommodating a range and mix of housing types.	Addressed in New OP -housing at all "stages of their lives"	3.2 Housing	3.2.4
		Recognize the importance of social interaction and where services can be provided within easy walking and cycling distances to meet the needs of people of all ages, backgrounds, and capabilities.	Addressed in New OP - in objectives	3.1 Complete Communities in a Thriving Region 3.10 Settlement Areas	3.1.1 3.19.1(1, 4) is closest
	A Complete Community	Ensure easy access for all residents to a wide range of uses including retail, parks and open spaces, employment opportunities, educational and cultural opportunities, mobility options, and diversity of housing types.	Addressed in New OP - in objectives	3.1 Complete Communities in a Thriving Region	3.1.4

Guiding Principle	Topic	Recommended Direction	Status	Topic name in New OP	Section in New OP
		Support higher density-built forms and higher intensity land uses as a way of reducing land consumption and maximizing the efficiency and cost effectiveness of municipal service infrastructure.	Addressed in New OP	3.2 Housing	3.2.5(9)(a)
		Develop a high-quality community that encourages and supports active living, social engagement, civic pride, and the creation of a sense of place and well-being.	Addressed in New OP - in objectives	3.1 Complete Communities in a Thriving Region	3.1(1, 6, 8)
		Include landmarks and gateways that clearly identify where you are, and when you have entered.	Addressed in New OP	Guideline Documents	5.14
	A Beautiful Community	Build beautiful streets and streetscapes that accommodate all modes of transportation and are designed to be pedestrian friendly and safe.	Addressed in New OP	Guideline Documents	5.14
		Ensure that parks and open spaces, as well as Bruce County's natural features, are beautiful, accessible, and linked.	Addressed in New OP	Guideline Documents	5.14
		Require high quality architecture through a diversity of scale and style.	Addressed in New OP	Guideline Documents	5.14
		Continue to attract long-term economic development opportunities by protecting for and establishing opportunities for businesses and commercial activities.	Addressed in New OP	3.4 Economic Development	3.4.1(2)
		Continue the County's leadership role in attracting new economic drivers by adapting to trend changes, while still providing a full range of population-related employment options.	Addressed in New OP	3.4 Economic Development	3.4.1(4)
	A Viable Community	Ensure that new development supports a full range of economical, safe, and accessible mobility options, including transit, when it becomes available.	Addressed in New OP	Settlement Areas-Objectives	4.2.1
		Ensure that development is sustainable and financially viable over its life cycle.	Addressed in New OP	2.2 Growth Management Strategy	2.2.4(17)
		Protect and enhance local and regional ecosystems and biological diversity.	Addressed in New OP	2.1 County Structure	2.1.4
		Promote the responsible use of resources to ensure long-term sustainability, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and reduce demands for energy, water, and waste systems.	Addressed in New OP	3.3 Sustainable Development and Climate Change	3.3.1(3)

Guiding Principle	Topic	Recommended Direction	Status	Topic name in New OP	Section in New OP
	A Sustainable Community	Demonstrate leadership in sustainable forms of green building design and technology, including the incorporation of renewable and alternative energy sources.	Addressed in New OP	3.3 Sustainable Development and Climate Change	3.3.1(4)
		Protect the urban forest and the tree canopy and identify objectives for how it can be enhanced and expanded.	Addressed in New OP	3.8 Natural Environment System	3.8.2.1(6)
		Support opportunities for best management practices for stormwater to protect against flooding and erosion while improving water quality.	Addressed in New OP	4.6 General Development Criteria	4.6.2(6)(c)
		Explore opportunities in the Official Plan to support Emergency Preparedness Planning with respect to development, infrastructure, and systems to ensure access basic needs are designed in a way that mitigates the impacts of climate change and related extreme weather events, such as flooding, heat waves, severe winter storms, and supply chain disruption.	Addressed in New OP	3.3 Sustainable Development and Climate Change	3.3
		Responsibly manage municipal servicing infrastructure	Addressed in New OP	3.7 Servicing Our Communities	3.7.1(1)
	A Resilient Community	maintain a distinct settlement area structure	Addressed in New OP	2.1 County Structure	2.1.1
Good Growth	Growth Management	plan for permanent population growth	Addressed in New OP	2.3 Growth and Housing Forecasts	2.3.2(24)
		plan for seasonal population growth	Addressed in New OP	2.3 Growth and Housing Forecasts	2.3.2(25)
		develop a robust plan monitoring and evaluation framework	High level in New OP	Review of the Plan	5.17
		update County-wide Housing projections	Addressed in New OP	2.3 Growth and Housing Forecasts	2.3.1
		define a regional market area	No longer required due to greater flexibility in PPS		
	Residential Themes	promote and plan for residential intensification	Addressed in New OP	3.2 Housing	3.2.2(15)(a, b)

Guiding Principle	Topic	Recommended Direction	Status	Topic name in New OP	Section in New OP
		Establish consistent employment area delineations	Addressed in New OP	3.10 Settlement Areas	3.10.4.3
		continue to plan for future employment lands	Addressed in New OP	3.10 Settlement Areas	3.10.4.3(9)
	Non-residential Themes	ensure that employment lands are well adapted to structural changes occurring in the evolving macro-economy	Addressed in New OP	3.10 Settlement Areas	3.10.4.3(8)
		provide stronger direction regarding employment-supportive uses in employment areas	Addressed in New OP	3.4 Economic Development 3.10 Settlement Areas	3.4.1(1) 3.10.4.3(9)
		continue to provide broader market choice on Bruce County Employment Lands	Plan supports supply of employment lands across the County	3.10 Settlement Areas	3.10.4.3
		explore opportunities for intensification of Employment Lands within Urban Settlement Areas	Addressed in New OP	2.2 Growth Management Strategy	2.2.2(1, 2)
		protect employment lands from conversion to non-employment uses	Addressed in New OP	3.10 Settlement Areas	3.10.4.3
		continue to recognize opportunities for agriculture-related industrial and commercial uses on Agricultural lands subject to Local Official Plan Policies	Addressed in New OP	3.11 Countryside Areas	3.11.2.1(6)
		Plan for the Vision of the Urban Employment Areas by Mitigating Land-Use Compatibility Conflicts	Addressed in New OP	Employment Lands within Settlement Areas	4.2.4.3
		Encourage Office Development in Downtowns and Support Smaller-Scale Office Opportunities in Designated Employment Areas	Use of office in employment lands as per provincial direction	Employment Lands within Settlement Areas	4.2.4.3
		Conduct a Commercial Land Needs Study that Specifically addresses the County's Retail Requirements and Commercial Structure	Addressed in New OP	Land Needs Assessment	2.2.3

Guiding Principle	Topic	Recommended Direction	Status	Topic name in New OP	Section in New OP
		Archaeological Management Plan	Addressed in New OP	4.5 Archaeological Resources	4.5(16)
		Cultural Action Plan	Addressed in New OP	3.5 Cultural Heritage	3.5.1(0)
		As such, with the Official Plan currently under review, Bruce County proposes to make culture an explicit element of decision-making across its jurisdiction. By developing a CAP, county leaders aim to design a tool that considers culture within all planning decisions. The manner through which this culture is considered in these decisions relies on the definition of a "Bruce County Cultural Perspective" (BCCP). The BCCP is an amalgamation of the cultural priorities and legacies observed in Bruce County throughout the development of the CAP.	The BCCP is not mentioned in the New OP, however cultural heritage 'tools' are mentioned	3.5 Cultural Heritage	3.5.1(2)
Heritage	Archaeological Management Plan	Apply Housing Targets	Addressed in New OP	3.2 Housing	3.2.2(18)(a)
	Cultural Action Plan	Permit Additional Dwelling Units	Addressed in New OP	3.2 Housing	3.2.6(2)
		Permit Smaller Homes	Addressed in New OP	3.2 Housing	3.2.5(9)(c)
Homes		Permit More Types of Homes	Addressed in New OP	3.2 Housing	3.2.2(15) 3.2.4
		Increase stability and flexibility through development permitting process	Addressed in New OP	3.2 Housing	3.2.2(18)(f)
		maintain supply of rental units	Addressed in New OP	3.2 Housing	3.2.5(11, 12)
		use appropriate density to lower development costs	Addressed in New OP	3.2 Housing	3.2.3(4)
		incentives that lower process and operating costs	Addressed in New OP	3.2 Housing	3.2.3(4)(f)
		reduce operating costs by design	encouragement of energy efficient housing that	Affordable Housing	3.2.5

Guiding Principle	Topic	Recommended Direction	Status	Topic name in New OP	Section in New OP
			reduces operating costs		
		prioritize applications	Addressed in New OP	3.2 Housing	3.2.5(1)(b)
		maintain land inventory	Addressed in New OP	Affordable Housing	3.2.5
		use surplus public lands for homes	Addressed in New OP	3.2 Housing	3.2.2(18)(d)
		require affordable housing	Addressed in New OP	3.2 Housing	3.2.5(7)
		Review and update EIS Guidelines to include guidelines for scoping, and standardization of reports to increase consistency of information.	Addressed in New OP	3.8 Natural Environment System	3.9.5.1
		Tying policy to mapping in a very close and relatable way, through summaries on schedules and in GIS / interactive formats.	Legends on maps	Schedules	Schedule E and F
		Focused writing / policies that provide the essential informational material, even in brochure formats.	Policy Tables in New OP	Natural Environment System	3.9.3 and 3.9.6
Natural Legacy	update EIS Guidelines	Role of policy to set a basic standard and provide (guidelines) for minimum mitigation measures options / best practices for enhancement.	Addressed in New OP	Requirements for Environmental Impact Studies	3.9.5
	Make it easier to link mapping and policy	County OP consider policies for a Community Planning Permit system which can provide improved implementation tools.	Addressed in New OP	4.5 Land Use Planning	4.5.7(16)
	Provide essential material in accessible formats	Policies should create coordinated Countywide planning approach for settlement areas and hamlets, while remaining sensitive to local contexts.	Addressed in New OP	2.1 County Structure 3.10 Settlement Areas	2.1.1(0) 3.10.2(7)(a)
	focus policy on overall direction and use guidelines for the details	The Official Plan should have increased specificity on growth management policies designed with local municipal input.	Addressed in New OP	2.2 Growth Management	2.2.1

Guiding Principle	Topic	Recommended Direction	Status	Topic name in New OP	Section in New OP
	consider a community planning development permit system for improved implementation	The new plan should provide flexibility to respond to unforeseen shifts in population growth and send market signals of where it may choose to expand if a substantial and unforeseen increase in demand arises and cost-effective municipal servicing permits.	Addressed in New OP	Settlement Area Boundary Adjustments	2.2.4
Best Practices Review	Link the diverse areas of Bruce County in a coordinated planning framework	Bruce County should use an agricultural system approach to plan for its agricultural communities, including the use of Agricultural Impact Assessments.	Addressed in New OP	4.26 Additional Information and Studies	4.26
		Clear the path for modest increases in on-farm housing to support farmers in every stage of life.	Addressed in New OP	Additional Residential Units	3.2.6
		Provide for modest increases in on-farm housing to support farmers as they age.	Addressed in New OP	Additional Residential Units	3.2.6
	Supporting Agriculture and Agri-Business	Clarify permitted uses and provide maximum flexibility for agriculture-related and on-farm diversified uses.	Addressed in New OP	3.11 Countryside Areas	3.11.2.1(6)
		Include provisions to help local municipalities keep planning documents in conformity with the County.	Addressed in New OP	4.11 Guideline Documents	4.11(2)
		Consider a more unified Official Plan framework to ensure consistency.	Addressed in New OP	4.5 Land Use Planning Tools	4.5.1(5)
		Ensure that modern policies prevail when there is conflict with local plans that are out of date.	Addressed in New OP	4.5 Land Use Planning Tools	4.5.1(4)
	Focusing on flexible planning policies and tools that are up to date	The anticipated impacts of climate change on the County's local environment should be illustrated in the plan.	Can be addressed in a "Did You Know" box		
		Work with local conservations authorities to identify economic and environmental hazards resulting from climate change.	Addressed in New OP	Sustainable Development and Climate Change	3.3.1

Guiding Principle	Topic	Recommended Direction	Status	Topic name in New OP	Section in New OP
		Include measurable goals to mitigate and adapt to climate change.	Not addressed in OP, OP speaks to action plan or strategy	Sustainable Development and Climate Change	3.3.1
	Climate Change	A stronger role for the County in planning for, implementing, and maintaining a regional transportation network.	Addressed in New OP	3.6 Connecting Our Communities	3.6.1(4)(a)
		The County should consider adopting policies in its official plan that would establish a mobility-based transportation planning which includes transit and active transportation.	Addressed in New OP	3.6 Connecting Our Communities	3.6.1(4)(b)
		Consider implementation of “steps” to a transit network as Innisfil has done.	Addressed in New OP	3.6 Connecting Our Communities	
	Addressing Transportation	Ensure provisions exist in the new official plan to support more efficient use of existing transportation resources.	Addressed in New OP	3.6 Connecting Our Communities	3.6.2.1(12)
		The County should consider active transportation corridors as a means of linking communities and settlement areas together while providing alternatives to private vehicle use.	Addressed in New OP	3.6 Connecting Our Communities	3.6.2.6
		The new official plan should put in place some of the land use building blocks required for the county to one day implement a transit system.	Addressed in New OP	3.6 Connecting Our Communities	3.6.1(4)(c)
		Apply intensification and density targets for local municipalities according to population allocation, land supply, future transit provision, and existing conditions.	Addressed in New OP	3.2 Housing	3.2.2(16)
		Introduce a community planning permit system focused on heritage preservation and new housing.	Broad authority given for local municipalities to establish CPPS in New Plan	Implementation	5.6.7
		Support local governments to bring in policies that would lay a foundation to implement the province’s new community benefits charge.	Addressed in New OP	4.5 Land Use Planning	4.5.12
	Addressing Housing	At the minimum, the County Official plan must be updated to Provincial requirements.	Addressed in New OP	4.15 Review of the Plan	4.15(1)

Guiding Principle	Topic	Recommended Direction	Status	Topic name in New OP	Section in New OP
		The County Plan should go beyond the minimum requirements and should enthusiastically include Indigenous Peoples in the official plan update process.	Addressed in New OP	4.1 Indigenous Communities	4.1(1)
		The Official Plan should be written with a narrative that it speaks to the context of the residents and businesses within the County.	Addressed in New OP	1.2 Vision	1.2
	Indigenous Community Engagement	Policies and their intents should be explained in plain language as much as possible.	Addressed in New OP	N/A	N/A
		The final document should be designed to be a visual document.	Ensure this is met in final plan	N/A	N/A