

History of the Simcoe County Official Plan Process

Date/Period	Action/Milestone	
		Engagement/Consultation
		Provincial Policy or Legislative Change
		OMB Hearing Process
2004	County of Simcoe initiates 5 year Simcoe County Official Plan (SCOP) Review and Update	
July 12, 2004	Release of Provincial discussion paper “Places to Grow: Better Choices, Brighter Future”, for comments	
December 16, 2004	Greenbelt Plan comes into effect	
March 1, 2005	Updated Provincial Policy Statement comes into effect	
June 13, 2005	Places to Grow Act enacted	
June 16, 2006	Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe approved (Official Plan conformity deadline June 16, 2009); Establishes single Population & Employment growth target for Simcoe County (including City of Barrie & City of Orillia)	
2007	Meetings conducted by the Office of the Provincial Development Facilitator (OPDF), between County of Simcoe, City of Barrie and City of Orillia to try to disaggregate the Schedule 3 population and employment forecasts	
May 4, 2007	Simcoe County Transportation Master Plan commences	
January 2008	Letter from Ontario Growth Secretariat, to distribute population and employment between the County, Barrie and Orillia leaving 40,000 unallocated population and 13,000 unallocated jobs.	
Late 2007 to May 2008	5 sub-committees work on addressing growth management issues in the Simcoe Area – included representatives from the County of Simcoe and City of Orillia. City of Barrie chose not to participate.	
May 2008	Simcoe Area Growth Strategy released by Hemson Consulting Ltd. and adopted by County Council	

July 2008	County of Simcoe Transportation Master Plan completed and adopted by Council
July 2008	Release of draft SCOP update which included allocation of the unallocated 40,000
July 23 and July 28, 2008	Public Open Houses and comment period on draft SCOP
August 13 and September 10, 2008	Statutory Public Meetings for SCOP Review & Update
November 25, 2008	County Council adopts the SCOP update
December 11, 2008	County submitted Clerk's Record package to Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing (MMAH)
June 2, 2009	Lake Simcoe Protection Plan comes into force
June 4, 2009	Ministry of Energy & Infrastructure (MEI) release of Simcoe Area: A Strategic Vision for Growth ("Simcoe Vision Plan") discussion paper for comment
June 9, 2009	Letter from MMAH stating reasons for no decision on SCOP
June 16, 2009	Growth Plan conformity deadline – MEI issued letters to 16 local municipalities to provide a 1 year extension
August 24, 2009	Letter from MMAH outlining two-phased approach to the review and comments on the SCOP
August 2009	Meetings with local municipalities and County with MEI staff to understand Vision Plan and prepare feedback for September 2 nd deadline
September 2009	Comment letters submitted to MEI on Simcoe Vision Plan
October 2009	Meetings between County Planning staff and MMAH planning staff to review phase 1 comments/proposed modifications on County OP
November 2009	Meetings with MEI staff and County Planning staff to work through comments and requirements of County Land Budget
November 24, 2009	County Council passes resolution to direct staff to appeal lack of decision of SCOP and request that the Ontario Provincial Development Facilitator (OPDF) get involved to help resolve the matter
November 26, 2009	First meeting with Métis Nation of Ontario with MMAH staff and County Planning staff regarding SCOP

December 3, 2009	Meeting between MEI staff and County Planning staff to receive an update on the Simcoe Vision Plan status and timing of proposed amendment to Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe
December 7, 2009	Appeal letter submitted to MMAH for lack of decision on SCOP and request made to involve the OPDF
December 2009	Minister's Zoning Orders establish employment lands in Bradford West Gwillimbury (O. Reg. 464/09, O. Reg. 465/09, O. Reg. 466/09)
January 1, 2010	Bill 196 becomes law (Barrie-Innisfil Boundary Adjustment Act, 2009)
January 14, 2010	Meeting between MMAH staff, County Planning staff and Beausoleil First Nations (aboriginal consultation process)
January 18, 2010	Meeting between MMAH staff, County Planning staff and Métis Nation of Ontario (part of aboriginal consultation process)
January 28, 2010	Letter sent to Ontario Provincial Development Facilitator (OPDF) to request involvement
January 2010	MEI engages Hemson Consulting Ltd. to undertake a review of Schedule 3 of the Growth Plan (Population & Employment Forecasts)
February 2010	Final Simcoe County Land Budget submitted to MEI for consideration
March 15, 2010	County Planning staff meets with MEI staff to review Simcoe Vision Plan (Growth Plan Amendment) policy ideas regarding Economic Districts
April 20, 2010	Letter sent to MMAH and MEI asking for the OPDF to become involved
April to July 2010	County Planning Staff meets with MMAH staff to review/refine proposed Phase 1 modifications to the SCOP in preparation for a partial decision at some later date
Oct 28, 2010	MOI releases proposed Growth Plan Amendment #1 for Simcoe Area – comments to be submitted through EBR by January 31, 2011
Summer of 2011	OPDF (Paula Dill) appointed by Premier McGuinty to get involved in the Simcoe area regarding the proposed Growth Plan Amendment 1 and bring back recommendations to Minister of Infrastructure by November 1, 2011
Summer/Fall 2011	Paula Dill meets with all municipalities, the County, and anyone else who requested meetings in order to gather information to assist with making recommendations to the Minister

November 1, 2011	OPDF (Paula Dill) submits her recommendations to Minister of Infrastructure
January 19, 2012	Growth Plan Amendment #1 for the Simcoe Sub-Area (and related Transition Regulations) comes into effect. Disaggregates the Schedule 3 Population and Employment forecasts for Barrie, Orillia, and then to all 16 Local Municipalities within the County (Schedule 7)
February 2012	County Planning staff meet with Provincial staff (both MOI and MMAH) to understand new legislation and transition regulations
February to June 2012	County staff continue to work with Provincial staff to prepare proposed changes to the adopted SCOP 2008 to reflect the new legislation
June 2012	County Council approves the release of the proposed Draft Modified SCOP for public review and comment – 2 months given for comment period.
Summer 2012	County Planning staff review comments received, meet with several stakeholders to get clarity, etc. and then prepare staff recommendations to County Council to address the comments
July 2012	MOI issues letters on 3 of the 4 Employment Areas to finalize boundaries and uses – County updates maps and policies to reflect these (only outstanding one was Innisfil Heights)
Oct 2012	County Council approves the staff recommendations related to proposed Draft Modified SCOP County Council requests staff to update the SCOP accordingly and bring back in its final form (was published on County website as December 2012 version)
Jan 22, 2013	County staff bring the updated Draft Modified SCOP text and maps back to County Council for endorsement
Feb 4, 2013	MOI issues letter for Innisfil Heights Strategic Settlement Employment Area to finalize boundary and uses (Note: County has not updated OP or maps to reflect this at this time)
March 5, 2013	Formal Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) hearing process begins with the first Pre-hearing Conference – all parties register their interest and what status they are seeking (i.e. appellant party, party or participant) (OMB Order issue date March 25, 2013)
April 19, 2013	Pre-hearing Conference #2 - County Motion for partial approval of the SCOP approved by the OMB – all parts of the Plan not at issue (OMB Order issue date June 13, 2013 and amended July 5, 2013)
June 20, 2013	Pre-hearing Conference #3 – Participants list finalized; Motion to dismiss Midhurst Ratepayers Association appeal to SCOP (OMB Orders July 25, 2013 and August 2, 2013)

November 7, 2013	Pre-hearing Conference #4 – County Motions dealing with approval of Primary Settlement Areas; site-specific aggregate mapping and the Economic Districts/Strategic Settlement Employment Areas, and finalizing of Procedural Order for Phases 1a, 1b and 1c (OMB Order issue date February 25, 2014)
April 15, 2014	Pre-hearing Conference #5 – Town of Innisfil Motion for Fennell’s Corners; County Motion for Waste Management Policies; Motions for Midland and Penetanguishene settlement boundaries; partial approval of the 20,000 population policies (Phase 1a) (OMB Order issue date May 15, 2014)
June 2, 2014	OMB Hearing – Various Participants provided their evidence to the Board (OMB Order issue date July 28, 2014 – included comment from Board about public consultation paragraph 10)
June 20, 2014	Pre-hearing Conference #6 – Various motions seeking Appellant Party Status (OMB Order issue date August 1, 2014)
August 12, 2014	Pre-hearing Conference #7 – report on progress on Phase 2 and mediation (OMB Order issue date August 25, 2014)
September 2014	OMB assisted Mediation on Phase 2b – Transition matters
September 12, 2014	Pre-hearing Conference #8 – OMB oral decision on Transition policies as resolved through mediation; certain mapping matters for Town of Innisfil and various site-specific mapping corrections (OMB written Order pending)
October 24, 2014	Pre-hearing Conference #9 – OMB oral decision on Phase 2a – Growth Management and Settlement designation policies based on County Motion (OMB written Order pending)
December 1-4, 2014	OMB assisted Mediation on various Phase 2 and site-specific matters
December 8, 2014	Pre-hearing Conference #10 – County Motion for Schedule 5.1 Land Use Designations as it relates to most settlement areas; Township of Oro-Medonte Motion for mapping modification for Highway 11 Commercial corridor; confirm remaining phases of hearing (OMB written Order pending)
January 29, 2015	Teleconference to hear County Motion to approve Section 4.8 Transportation and related mapping schedules – Board gave verbal approval (OMB written Order pending)