**The Municipality of Port Hope**

**Official Plan Review**

**Notice of Open Houses (March, 2014)**

The Municipality of Port Hope has initiated a five-year review of the Municipality’s Official Plan. This planning document is very important to the quality of life for all residents of the Municipality, and consultation with the public is an important part of the review process. As a component of the public consultation program, a series of informal Open Houses have been scheduled for both Wards.

The Open Houses provide an early opportunity for the public to engage in the process and provide their input on potential revisions to the Official Plan. Two Open Houses, one for each Ward, will occur on April 9th, 2014.

**All are welcome and encouraged to attend these important events.**

**What is an Official Plan?**

An Official Plan is the key Policy Statement of a Municipality and establishes the long-term land use decision-making framework that will be used by the Municipality. It sets out the collective views of the community and establishes how land should be used over the short and long term. A goal of the Official Plan is to create a positive living environment in the Municipality by considering important environmental, economic, cultural and social elements.

**We Invite Your Input**

Both Public Open Houses will have the same format and material covered (all members of the public are welcome to attend either or both Open Houses) and will include a formal presentation 30 minutes into the open house to detail: the purpose of an Official Plan (OP); the key policy components of the current OP; the critical Municipal Plans and updated Provincial policies (in the last 5 years.) which need to be reviewed/ noted/ included in the OP update; a brief summary of the Issues & Options identified thus far by the Province, MPH staff and Fotenn; a synopsis of the OP Review process and timing; and, most of all, an opportunity to solicit Public feedback on the presentation material and ask residents what OP policies they would like to see reviewed or revised, and why. The first round of Open Houses will be held on:

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| **Ward #1****April 9th****6:00 - 8:00 p.m.****Port Hope Public Library (Mary J. Benson Branch)****31 Queen Street, Port Hope, ON** | **Ward #2****April 9th****3:00 - 5:00 p.m.****Canton Municipal Office (upstairs meeting room)****5325 County Road 10, Port Hope, ON** |

We encourage you to visit the Municipality’s website at [www.porthope.ca](http://www.porthope.ca) for regular updates and to view the existing Official Plan and related documents.

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