



Frequently Asked Questions

What is the North Grenville Official Plan?

The North Grenville Official Plan (or OP) sets out how our community will grow and develop over time. It serves as a foundation for all policies, regulations, and decisions about land use and development to ensure present and future community needs are met. This includes identifying where different types of housing will be located, and planning for schools, parks, public facilities and other service requirements to support growth and change in North Grenville.

The OP also anticipates the commercial, agricultural, and industrial growth required to support the community, and places restrictions on lands that are environmentally sensitive or hazardous in order to protect our natural environment.

Why does the OP need to be reviewed?

The *Ontario Planning Act* requires that every municipality review and update its OP every five years.

The North Grenville OP was reviewed and updated in 2009. Our community has changed a lot since then and it's now time for another review. While many of the basic premises of the OP remain relevant today, additional content is expected to reflect changing legislative requirements and community expectations.

What is PlaceSpeak and why is the Municipality using this tool?

PlaceSpeak is a location-based, online community consultation platform designed to make public participation easier. It connects residents with issues in their own neighbourhoods to promote meaningful dialogue on local issues. The Municipality is using PlaceSpeak as an exciting and innovative platform to get your input on 'hot topics' as part of the 2014 Official Plan Review process.

PlaceSpeak enables participation online 24/7 for those who might never come to a public meeting. You can get involved when it's convenient for you from the comfort of your own home.

Why should I create an account and get involved?

Creating a PlaceSpeak account and getting involved will ensure that the directions and decisions of the Municipality surrounding land use policy are informed by local knowledge and in line with community values.

When you set up your account, your location will be geo-verified so that the Municipality knows where respondents live within the municipal boundaries: the hamlets, Downtown Kemptville and so forth. You can then learn about hot topics, engage in forum discussions, and share your views on issues that affect you locally.

You can do all of this on your schedule and from the comfort of your own home.

You will retain complete control over your user profile and public visibility settings. PlaceSpeak confirms that residents reside within spatial boundaries but will never share private information, including your residential address or contact information.

If you need help creating an online account, come out to a tutorial in early August. Check out the 'Events' tab on PlaceSpeak or visit www.northgrenville.ca for more details about this event.

What impact will residents have on the outcome?

It is important to the Municipality of North Grenville to hear your ideas and feedback. Your involvement will affect the decisions of the Municipality surrounding land use policy and other key issues throughout the course of the 2014 Official Plan Review.

To prepare for community consultation, 8 discussion papers were developed, covering key issues and concerns regarding:

- (1) OP Goals & Objectives;
- (2) Urban Land Use;
- (3) Rural Land Use;
- (4) Building Community;
- (5) Active Transportation;
- (6) Natural Environment & Resources;
- (7) Jobs & Economic Development; and
- (8) Affordable Housing.

Please read these discussion papers to ensure that you are informed about key issues. Then, get involved!

You can:

- Answer the poll questions;
- Join our online discussion (in the discussion section);
- Upload photos, videos, and text onto the notice board;
- Come out to the Open House and Public Council Meeting in December 2014; and
- Share the word with friends and family, in person and through social media.

The Municipality's planning staff will act as moderators to guide discussion forums and prompt responses, or provide clarification when needed. Before engaging in the discussion forums, please read the [Guidelines for Online Engagement](#).

How can I get involved off-line?

There will be opportunities to get involved in the community consultation off-line as well. Come on out to events throughout August, and attend the Open House and Public Council Meeting in November 2014.

Event details will be posted on PlaceSpeak, on the Municipality's website www.northgrenville.ca, and in local newspapers.

How can I sign up?

To create your free PlaceSpeak account:

1 CREATE AN ACCOUNT

- Select "**Sign Up**" in the top right corner
- Fill in your information and click "**Register**"
- You will receive a verification email. **Click on the verification link** to get started.



2 LOG IN & CONNECT

- Click "**Connect with this topic**" to participate in discussions!



You can also connect with PlaceSpeak through your Facebook, LinkedIn, or Twitter account.

Will my privacy be protected?

Yes, only you can see your PlaceSpeak profile. Your residential address is never displayed to other users or to the Municipality of North Grenville. It is only used to identify which part of the Municipality you live in so that your feedback can be grouped.

Your information is secure, confidential, and will never be shared with advertisers. If you have any questions, you can write to PlaceSpeak at privacy@placespeak.com and read their Privacy Policy by clicking [here](#).