

Update - July 28, 2016

In 1994, the [Ontario Professional Planners Institute Act](#) was passed. This *private* legislation was the first in Canada to protect the title “Registered Professional Planner/RPP”. Over the past 25 years, most of the other provinces have passed *public* legislation regarding the regulation of the planning profession that goes further than the OPPI Act. During that time, the planning landscape has also changed dramatically and become much more complex.

In keeping with this, OPPI is seeking new public legislation. The wording for the proposed Bill is still being finalized and we are working with MPP Peter Milczyn and Legislative Counsel with this goal in mind. We are hoping to move forward to have a Bill introduced in the Ontario legislature that will become public legislation that would formally make the planning profession accountable to the government and the people of Ontario. It is also hoped that this will further raise awareness of the importance of planning and the role of the planning profession in creating and fostering healthy communities.

Key Points - Proposed Bill

- The title “Registered Professional Planner/RPP” would remain protected and reserved for use by practicing Full Members of OPPI. The title “professional planner” would also be protected (except when used in obviously-different contexts, e.g. a financial professional planner in a bank).
- Employers would continue to choose whether they want to require membership or RPP status as a requirement for a position. Changes in title and/or compensation would not be a result of the passage of this Bill.

- OPPI already, by by-law, carries out many of the duties of a regulator. Those duties and how these are carried out would simply be specified more precisely by the proposed Bill.
- Public member(s) on Council would be a new mandatory requirement under the proposed Bill.
- OPPI will continue to improve and enhance Professional Standards.
- The accreditation process for the university planning programs and the certification process for Candidate Members would not change as a result of passage of this proposed Bill.

Status and Next Steps

We are hoping that early in the fall session, MPP Peter Milczyn will introduce a Private Member's Public Bill regarding the proposed *Ontario Professional Planners Institute Act, 2016*.

MPP Peter Milczyn's sponsorship of the Bill is the result of lengthy consultations with many MPPs from all three political parties and their staff. In the coming months, OPPI will be continuing its outreach and hopes to meet with other MPPs.

OPPI representatives have also met stakeholders, such as the regulators of related professions and associations and has received positive responses. The Institute will continue to liaise with these organizations.

We are hoping after first and second reading that the Bill will be referred to committee for further consideration and then be reported back to the House for third reading and passage.

Questions?

If you have questions about the proposed Bill, please feel free to contact the Registrar, Brian Brophy, at standards@ontarioplanners.ca or 416-483-1873 x 229.

[HTTP://WWW.ONTARIOPLANNERS.CA/WHO-WE-ARE/PROFESSIONAL-REGULATION](http://www.ontarioplanners.ca/who-we-are/professional-regulation)