



News Release

Great Plans Need Great Planners

Planning in the Public Interest

First Reading Given to Legislature to Introduce Bill to Regulate Planners

April 12, 2017, Toronto – The Ontario Professional Planners Institute (OPPI) is pleased to announce that First Reading was given today for the *Registered Professional Planners Act, 2017*, and is scheduled for Second Reading by MPP Peter Milczyn on May 4, 2017. This legislation will raise further awareness about the importance of planning and the role of the planning profession in creating and fostering healthy communities — putting the public interest first.

Since 1994, when the *Ontario Professional Planners Institute Act* was passed, the planning landscape has changed dramatically and become much more complex. This private legislation was the first in Canada to protect the title “Registered Professional Planner/RPP,” however, many other provinces have since passed public legislation regarding the regulation of the planning profession that goes well beyond the OPPI Act. Where we were once at the forefront, we are now quite behind.

“It is time to bring Ontario back to the forefront of the planning profession in Canada. If passed, this legislation will better reflect the public’s confidence in professional planners and the significant role they play in building and shaping Ontario’s communities.”

Peter Milczyn, MPP, Etobicoke-Lakeshore

“Great plans need great planners. OPPI members have knowledge, experience and the independent professional opinion needed to address issues in a variety of complex situations, all the while keeping the public interest clearly in focus.”

Andrea Bourrie, RPP, OPPI President

Planning in Ontario has far-reaching implications for our communities and should have more current legislation that better protects the public. The timing of this proposed legislation is particularly important given that OPPI members are instrumental in implementing the upcoming changes to Provincial planning legislation.

About the Ontario Professional Planners Institute (OPPI)

OPPI is the recognized voice of the Province's planning profession. Our almost 4,500 members work in government, private practice, universities, and not-for-profit agencies in the fields of urban and rural development, urban design, environmental planning, transportation, health, social services, heritage conservation, housing, and economic development. Our Members meet strict practice requirements and are accountable to OPPI and the public to practice ethically and to abide by a Professional Code of Practice. Only Full Members are authorized by the Ontario Professional Planners Institute Act, 1994, to use the title "Registered Professional Planner" (or "RPP").

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For more information, please contact:

Loretta Ryan, RPP Director, Public Affairs

416-668-8469 or l.ryan@ontarioplanners.ca

Sarah Snowdon, Manager, Communications

416-483-1873, x 228 or s.snowdon@ontarioplanners.ca

Twitter: @OntarioPlanners

Facebook.com/OntarioProfessionalPlannersInstitute

Linkedin.com/company/ontario-professional-planners-institute

Website: www.ontarioplanners.ca

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