



NORTH DUMFRIES PLANNING & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Role

The Planning & Sustainable Development Advisory Committee in their role as an advisory body is to provide strategic advice and recommendations to Township Council that will facilitate and promote balanced, sustainable and integrated long term growth in the Municipality and any other issues as Council may specify.

2. Mandate and Responsibilities

The Planning & Sustainable Development Advisory Committee will:

- i) Provide advice and recommendations to Council on strategies or best management practices that could be framed through policies established in the Township Official Plan / Secondary Plans or regulations in the General Zoning By-law or other potential instruments related to:
 - the protection of key natural heritage features and Greenland system,
 - the hierarchy of land use activities to ensure opportunities for responsible and proactive residential, institutional and employment growth,
 - infrastructure, comprised of both hard services (ie: municipal water / sanitary services, storm water management, etc) and soft services (ie: schools, parks, etc),
 - transit and the hierarchy of the transportation network,
 - the provision of housing to provide a mix of housing built forms and accommodation tenure (ie: ownership and rental),
 - adaption to climate change and the ability to make adjustments going forward related to new development or redevelopment initiatives

Terms of Reference
North Dumfries Planning & Sustainable Development
Advisory Committee
December 10th, 2018

- ii) Liaise with the community to identify potential opportunities related to spheres of responsibility as noted in subsection i) above;
- iii) Provide advice and recommendations to Council on updates and amendments to the Township's Official Plan that are being sponsored and delivered by the Municipality;
- iv) Review any proposed new Plans, Policy Statements, legislation and similar initiatives from Provincial Ministries, Federal Departments and other agencies that affect land use planning issues in the Township and provide advice or recommendations to Council;
- v) Review any proposed new Plans or similar initiatives from the Region of Waterloo, the Grand River Conservation Authority, and/or the Source Protection Authority applicable to North Dumfries that affect land use planning issues in the Township and provide advice or recommendations to Council;
- vi) The Committee will not be reviewing and commenting on site-specific applications filed under the authority of the *Planning Act* by an individual, company or landowner. The Committee's focus will be on more strategic issues related to the broader theme of land use planning;
- vii) Undertake special projects and/or assignments as identified by Council associated with land use planning and other similar matters.

3. Reporting Structure and Work Plan

The Planning & Sustainable Development Advisory Committee is to serve as an advisory body to Council. The Committee does not have any delegated authority or decision making capacity. Recommendations which require Council action will be placed on the Council Agenda for consideration.

Recommendations requiring implementation and/or expenditures will be reviewed by Staff and considered by Council.

The Committee will make a presentation to Council in the form of an annual report outlining the accomplishments of the Committee for the previous year and establishing a work plan for the future year.

Typically, on business matters on the Agenda, decisions are made based upon group consensus of those members present at the meeting and would be recorded

Terms of Reference
North Dumfries Planning & Sustainable Development
Advisory Committee
December 10th, 2018

accordingly in the Minutes of Meeting. Where a Recommendation is made to Council on an action item, a Resolution carried by the voting majority will be required.

In the event of a tie vote, the motion will not carry.

4. Committee Composition and Qualifications

The Planning & Sustainable Development Advisory Committee shall be comprised of a minimum of five members with a maximum of nine members. One member of Council shall be appointed to the Committee by Council. The Mayor shall be an ex-officio member. Council shall appoint members to the Committee by By-law. The appointments to the Committee shall run concurrent with the term of Council.

The appointed members to the Committee present at the scheduled meeting will be deemed to be the voting members.

Members to the Committee will be appointed by Council from an advertised recruitment campaign. Members will be selected based upon their special expertise, experience, dedication and commitment to the Committee's mandate.

The membership of the Committee will be reviewed and evaluated annually by Council based on the ability of members to carry out their advisory duties, attendance and participation. Council has the ability to remove members from the Committee should they fail to fulfil their responsibilities to the Committee.

In order to maintain a high level of commitment and ensure business continuity, members may be required to resign if they have been absent for more than two (2) consecutive meetings without good cause.

Resignation of a member during the term must be given in writing to the Township Clerk. Township Council will review and consider whether to undertake a recruitment campaign to backfill the vacancy, however, at no point will the membership of the Advisory Committee be less than five (5) members.

5. Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair

The Chair of the Committee shall be a member of Council appointed to the Committee by Council. The Vice-Chair shall be elected by a voting majority by the appointed members. The Chair and Vice-Chair positions will be for the term of Council.

The Chair shall be responsible for conducting the meeting in accordance with the relevant Township By-laws and procedures and will facilitate the discussion at each

**Terms of Reference
North Dumfries Planning & Sustainable Development
Advisory Committee
December 10th, 2018**

meeting pursuant to the published meeting Agenda and the Committee's mandate. The Vice-Chair will act in the capacity of the Chair in the absence of the Chair.

The Chair will work with the Recording Secretary to prepare meeting Agendas and the circulation of material to the Committee in advance of the meeting date.

6. Committee Administration

A Recording Secretary will be provided from a pool of Township Staff. The Recording Secretary will provide support with Agenda preparation, taking of Meeting Minutes, and, will provide organizational and procedural support to the Committee.

Technical support on Agenda items may necessitate from time to time the presence of Staff to appear before the Committee at scheduled meetings. Technical support and the requested presence of Staff will be coordinated through the Reporting Secretary and the appropriate Department Head.

Staff resource liaison and support to the Committee do not have voting privileges. All Committee Agendas and Minutes of Meeting will be posted by the Recording Secretary on the Township's website.

The Committee Meeting Schedule will be posted on the Township's website.

Agendas will be circulated to the Committee and posted on the Township's website a minimum of six (6) calendar days prior to the scheduled meeting date.

7. Sub-Committees and Working Groups

The Planning & Sustainable Development Advisory Committee may form sub-committees and working groups as may be necessary to complete specific tasks related to the Committee's mandate and work plan. These sub-committees and working groups must be comprised of Committee members.

8. Conduct

The action of all appointed members of the Committee shall be governed by the Code of Conduct for Employees & Volunteers.

Where not otherwise specified in these Terms of Reference, conduct and procedures of the Committee will be governed by the relevant sections of the Township's Procedural By-law.

9. Meetings

It is expected that the Committee will meet at least four (4) times a year on a quarterly basis. Meetings for the year will be established at the beginning of each calendar year during the term. The Committee may choose not to hold meetings during the summer months (July / August) or if there are insufficient Agenda items requiring consideration with regard to the workplan.

All Committee meetings are open to the public and are subject to the provisions of Section 239 of the *Municipal Act*.

Meetings of the Committee shall not conflict with regular meetings of Regular Council, Council Committee of the Whole, or, Council – Planning Meeting.

The Chair may call additional meetings to discuss urgent or time sensitive matters, but must give a minimum of eight (8) calendar days Notice to members and to the Public.

All regular meetings of the Committee will be scheduled for a weeknight (Monday to Thursday), commencing no earlier than 6:30 pm

10. Quorum

The calculation of quorum to conduct business of the Planning & Sustainable Development Advisory Committee is a simple majority of members in good standing.

If quorum is not present at the advertised time of the circulated meeting agenda, then the members shall wait an additional fifteen (15) minutes. If quorum is not achieved after the lapsing of fifteen (15) minutes then the Chair will declare the meeting adjourned until the next regularly scheduled Committee meeting and the Recording Secretary will record the names of the Committee members present.

11. Renumeration

Members of the Planning & Sustainable Development Advisory Committee serve without remuneration. Compensation for any expenses related to carrying out their duties as a Committee member must be pre-approved by the Chief Administrative Officer and is contingent upon funds available in the Department's operating budget.

12. Review of Terms of Reference

With the commencement of the term of Office by Council, the Terms of Reference will be reviewed. Council at any time during the term of Office may review and amend the Committee's Terms of Reference.