



REGIONAL OFFICIAL PLAN

Amendment

Niagara  Region

Statutory Public Meeting

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ROPA 15: Exemption Policies

Presented by:

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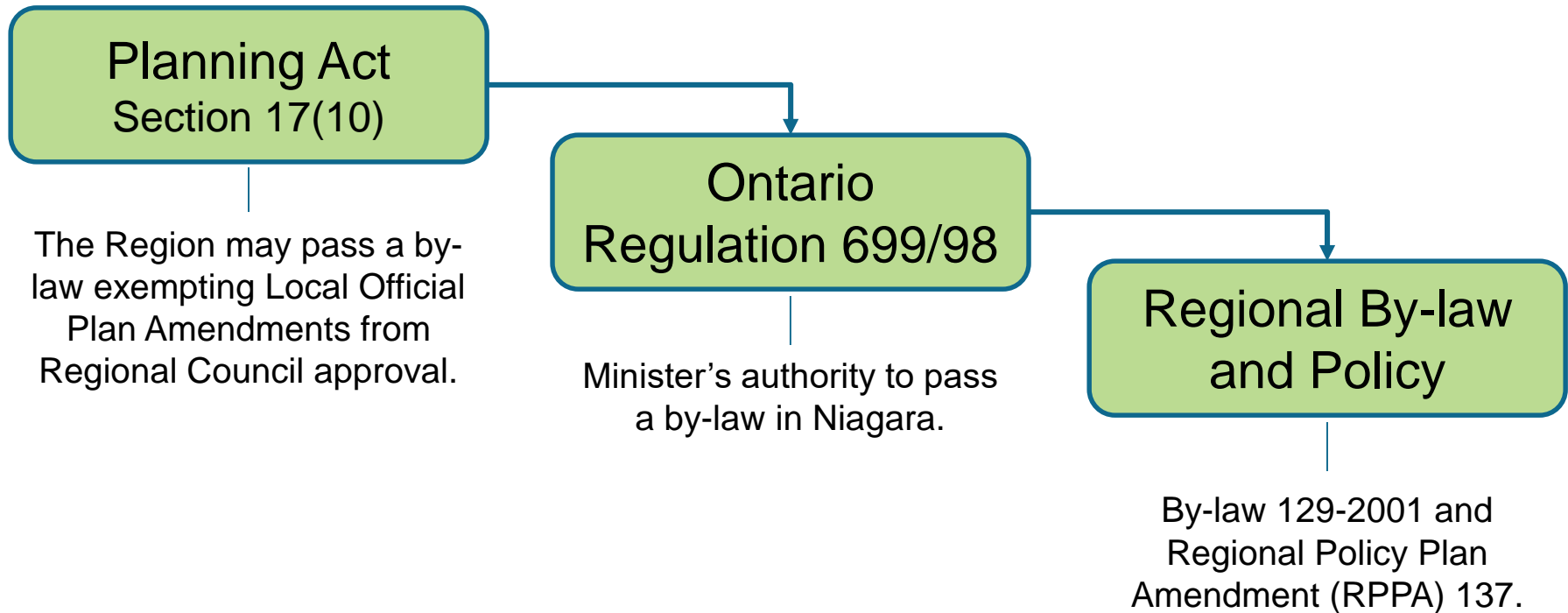
Associated report:

PDS 5-2019

Purpose of the Amendment

- Review of the existing exemption policies in Section 14.E.6-14.E.9 of the Regional Official Plan.
- Proposed amendment will provide more clarity and certainty to the exemption process.
- Review done in conjunction with an update to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Region and the local area municipalities.

Legislative framework



Timeline: Niagara's exemption policies

Exemption by-law 129-2001 passed with RPPA 137

2001

Amended exemption policies through RPPA 5-2013

2014

ROPA 15 adopted into the Regional Official Plan

2019

2002

Exemption by-law 43-2002 for delegation authority

MOU created and reviewed

2018

Regional Official Plan Amendment (ROPA) 15 commenced

Existing v. proposed policy

Existing Policy

- 14.E.6** Decision-making timing in the review of local official plans and amendments.
- 14.E.7** Comprehensive amendment exemptions.
- 14.E.8** Exemptions for amendments of local significance.
- 14.E.9** Conformity with Regional Official Plan.

Proposed Policy

- Deletes existing policies 14.E.6 & 14.E.9.
- Combines existing policies into a two part policy:
 - Part A:** minor amendments with no concerns to Regional & Provincial interest.
 - Part B:** comprehensive amendments requiring collaboration to identify and address matters of Regional interest.
- Combines and summarizes the list of criteria where an amendment may not be exempt.

Protecting Regional & Provincial interests

New Policy 14.E.7

Provides a clear and concise Regional mandate:

- Protecting Regional and Provincial planning interest and matters;
- significant impacts to Regional infrastructure/investment; and
- cross-boundary impacts.

Enables collaboration between the Region and the local municipality to address matters.

Region would retain approval authority where resolution is not met.

Exemption by-law



To align with ROPA 15, the existing exemption by-law will be repealed and replaced.



The new exemption by-law will reflect and implement the updated policy.



The new by-law will be presented to Committee with the recommendation report for ROPA 15.

Expected outcomes

- ✓ Enhanced efficiency when reviewing local amendments for exemption.
- ✓ Strengthened support and collaboration between the Region and its local municipal partners.
- ✓ Improved clarity enabling consistent interpretation and application of exemption policy.

Next steps

- Collect comments from Committee, the public, and agencies.
- Evaluate input and make any required changes.
- Recommendation report.
- Approval & appeal period.