

Outline for the 2026/28 Georgian Bay Official Plan Review and Bill 98 New Framework Update

Staff Report #: 2026-168

Presentation by: Jeff Kratky



Township of
Georgian Bay
MUSKOKA

2026/28 Georgian Bay Official Plan Review & Update (“Review”)

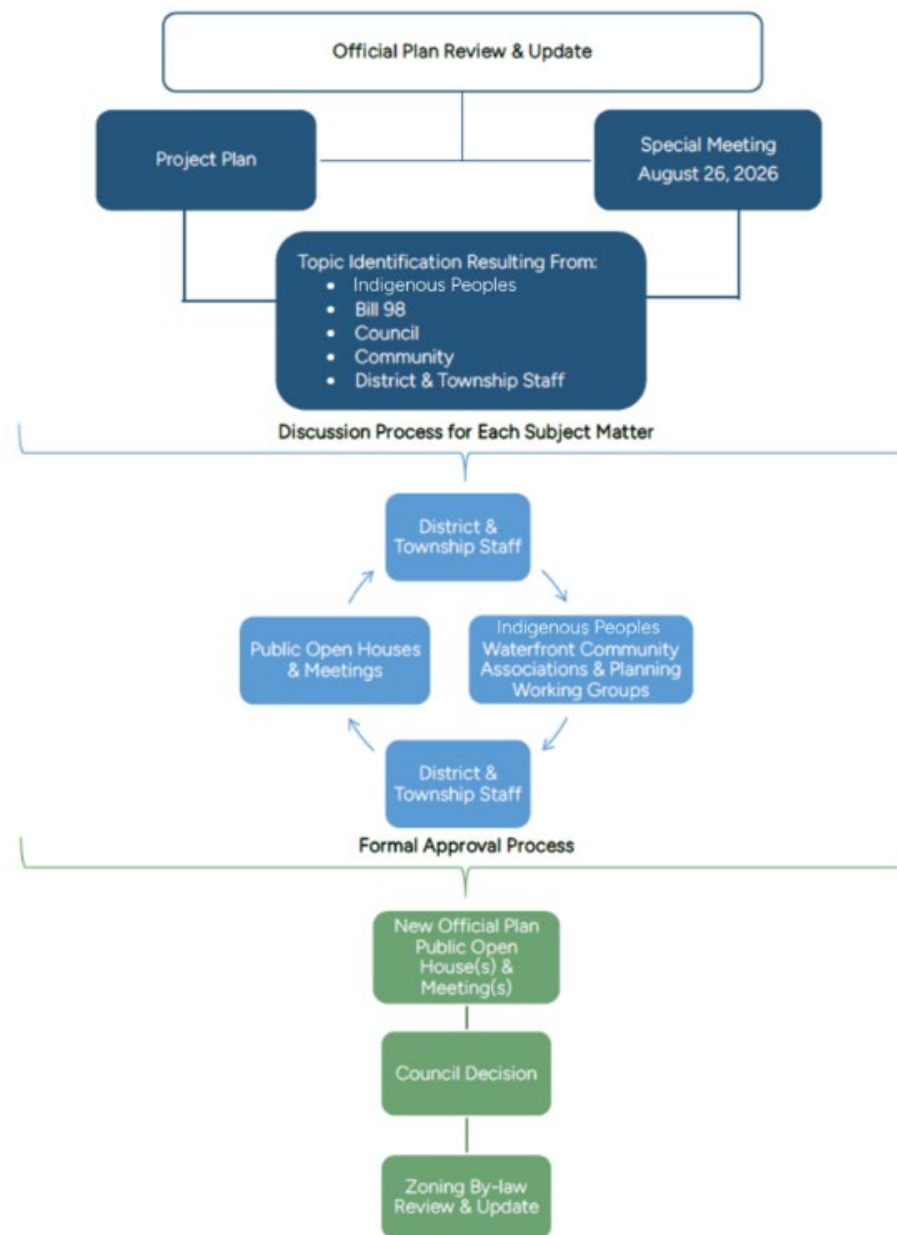
The Special Meeting held today is just the first of many public open houses and meetings to come during the next 2 years.

The purposes of the Special Meeting are to discuss:

1. How the Review takes place;
2. The “new official plan framework”; and
3. Hear from everyone.

How the Review takes place includes the planning context (e.g., PPS & MOP), chronology of Review and Bill 98, and terms of references.

Notices are electronic. **Subscribe** on the Township Website.



Preliminary Review Topics:

- Environmental protection;
- Indigenous engagement (required by Bill 98);
- New designations and schedules (required by Bill 98);
- Policies for new designations (required by Bill 98);
- MOP, Community Plans, and site/area-specific policies (discussed in Environmental Registry of Ontario Number 026-0315);
- Water access, levels (including climate change resilience), navigation, and marinas;
- Employment, commercial and resorts;
- Housing in *settlement areas*;
- Port Severn Village Centre;
- MacTier boundary;
- Recreational water quality; and
- "Big picture" shoreline accessory use, building, and structure policies.

Bill 98 amendments to the Planning Act

Bill 98 amended the **Planning Act**.

The “new official plan framework” starts on January 1, 2029.

Potential for new regulations for MOP, Waterfront Communities, and SASPs. The Review must adapt.

In addition to new policies such as those for Indigenous engagement, Figures 5a to 5f, 6a to 6c, and 7 suggest most of the existing policies in the Georgian Bay Official Plan can be in the “new official plan framework” so long as they have regard to Provincial interests, are consistent with the PPS, and conform to the MOP.

Schedule 1 **Contents of an Official Plan**

Chapters, sections and schedules of an official plan (as in Figures 2a to 2e, and 3 of 2026-168).

Land use designations to be used in an official plan (as in Figures 4a and 4b of 2026-168).

Next Steps for the Review during 2026:

1. If you have yet to subscribe on the Township Website, please do so to receive electronic notifications.
2. Planning staff will prepare a report for Council regarding what we heard at this Special Meeting under Subsection 26(3) of the **Planning Act**.
3. Another Special Meeting of Council (but not under Subsection 26(3) of the **Planning Act**) will take place in public to receive information from the Métis Nation of Ontario.

Outreach to Indigenous communities will continue at every step.

Recommendations:

Not Displayed at
Special Meeting
for unknown reasons

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council for the Township of Georgian Bay:

1. Accepts all information regarding the 2026/28 Georgian Bay Official Plan Comprehensive Review and Bill 98 New Framework Update ("Review") presented at the special meeting on August 26, 2026;
2. Refers all said information and comments to Township Planning staff for further discussion with the Indigenous communities, District staff, community groups, and anyone who commented; and
3. Township staff shall not schedule the next meeting of Council to further consider what was heard at the special meeting and the "Review" topics until after comments are addressed.