

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
REVISED OFFICIAL PLAN
MUNICIPALITY OF WHITESTONE**

Council's of Municipalities are required to update their official plan every 5 years.

Official Plan updates are required to be in accord with provincial policy and have regard to matters of provincial interest.

The philosophy of the official plan will appear to be dominated by the direction of provincial interest. However, beyond these matters of provincial interest the Municipality will be able to govern and regulate the use of land.

The province will compel the Municipality to govern lot densities. Any lots proposed that are less than 1.0 hectares (2 ½ acres) will require a ground water study.

The plan continues to consider limited new waterfront lots on private rights-of-way although the province maintains strong opposition to this policy. The Municipality feels that there are sufficient tools to logically allow infilling on the many hundreds of kilometres of private roads in the municipality.

The new official plan adds a map schedule entitled Natural Heritage Features. Any development proposed within or adjacent to Natural Heritage Features will be required to carry out Natural Heritage studies as a condition of development.

The Plan will adjust the lot creation policy in the Rural areas of the municipality to allow a sequential or second application so long as the proposal complies with the balance of the plan's policies.

Pits and quarries are no longer under the strict jurisdiction of the Municipality. In 2007, the regulation of pits and quarries came under the Aggregate Resources Act so that all pits must be licensed by the M.N.R. Any new pits or quarries will be required to undertake a number of upfront studies on the environment, impact analyses and public consultation.

The new plan includes a number of policies intended to protect the shoreline areas of the municipality. These policies include best practises for good shoreline stewardship including maintaining natural vegetation and taking measures to limit erosion into the lake.

The Plan also recognizes that certain lakes are at capacity for new lot creation. Lorimer Lake and Fairholme Lake are not available for new lot creation.

The new official plan has a number of changes to the language of the document to reflect current conditions. While these changes are too numerous to list in this summary, they are included in the consolidated copy of the plan available on line or at the municipal office during regular office hours.