



Niagara Region

Planning & Development Services

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Virtual Public Information Centre NIAGARA OFFICIAL PLAN

**Comments and Typed Response Questions
Growth Management
Oct. 7, 2020 6:00 - 8:00pm**



Question and Comments

The following is a table which documents all questions which were answered by panelists in typed form through the Q&A function on the Zoom platform, as well as all comments received from the Oct. 7, 2020 Virtual Public Information Centre. The project team response is included. For a record of all questions that were asked and answered live - a recording of the PIC is available on the website for the new Official Plan. <https://www.niagararegion.ca/official-plan/>

Question/Comment:	Project Team Response:
Are these current webinars available for future viewing?	All Official Plan webinars held this fall will be recorded and made available on our website.
How is Specialty agriculture defined?	Hi ---, Specialty crop are lands that are identified as class 1 through 3 in the Canada Land Inventory data. Prime agricultural areas are inclusive of classes 1-3 as well as 4-7. Please join us on Oct. 20th for our presentation on the agricultural work program to date.
When the Niagara Region in the past was determining if any urban boundary expansion in the past, it determined this on a region wide basis. It seems that now already it has been determined that certain municipalities based on their own needs will need expansion. This seems to be a negation of region based planning. It seems to preclude encouraging filling in urban boundaries in municipalities like Fort Erie and Port Colborne before any urban boundary expansion takes place in Niagara.	Comment received. Thank you for your input.
There is an area known as Douglas Town in Fort Erie, which I believe has a lot of land for potential urban expansion. This is because a court over ruled municipal efforts to restrict growth here. Since land owners appear to have a right already to develop here, it would appear that watershed studies are urgently needed to restrain it in an orderly way. This area could also be a good alternative to urban expansions which would permit new site alterations on farmland and natural habitats.	Comment received. Thank you for your input.
We feel the lower level tiers of municipal govt are being resisting development that is needed to meet affordable housing needs	Comment received. Thank you for your input.
With respect to my question.... Well I presented these concerns to the regions over a DECADE ago!!!! A lot of property owners have. What is the hold up with respect to getting some traction on this?	Comment received. Thank you for your input.



Question/Comment:	Project Team Response:
Jobs is what matters!!	Comment received. Thank you for your input.
there are aggressive needs, the province has dictated this we have to meet the needs as dictated this is a great need to meet the needs of the community	Comment received. Thank you for your input.
The Ontario Human Rights Commission has targeted NIMBY communities that refuse to allow 'undesirable' residents. This needs to change and we need to be inclusive	Comment received. Thank you for your input.
Thank you everyone. Excellent webinar.	Comment received. Thank you for your input.

