**New Comprehensive Zoning By-law program**

The Municipality of West Nipissing is pleased to be starting the preparation of a new Comprehensive Zoning By-law for the municipality. The new Zoning By-law will amalgamate and update the existing Zoning By-laws in effect in various parts of West Nipissing into one Comprehensive Zoning By-law applicable to the entire municipality. The goal of this process is to create a Zoning By-law, with new mapping and text, which will provide for consistency across the municipality and will be user friendly, easily understood and simple to use.

The Municipality has retained the services of Planscape Inc., planning consultants based in Bracebridge, Ontario to undertake this project. The project is anticipated to be undertaken over a period of approximately 12-14 months, and will include the preparation of a series of Discussion Papers, digital mapping, public consultation and various drafts of the Zoning By-law, ending in the passage of a new Comprehensive Zoning By-law by Council.

The various documents will be posted on the website as they are produced.

**What is a zoning by-law?**

A Zoning By-law is used by the municipality to regulate the use of land. It is intended to provide the municipality with a way to co-ordinate lands uses, protect areas by preventing incompatible uses and establish appropriate standards for development. Basically, a Zoning By-law identifies how properties can be used and how they can be developed.

**Public Consultation**

Both West Nipissing and Planscape understand that public consultation is vital to the success of this project. As such, we encourage the public’s participation throughout this process, and will provide for numerous opportunities for the public to provide comments through public open houses, formal public meetings, stakeholder meetings, and being available to meet at the municipal offices.

Watch this page for notices of future meetings and the distribution of additional documents. In the meantime, if you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact either Melanie Ducharme, Clerk & Planner at mducharme@westnipissing.ca or directly to Planscape at the following:

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