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IN THIS ISSUE

Here's What You Need to Know Right Now

OPPI Continuous Professional Learning

- ICYMI: Sudbury's Community Readiness in Focus
- Access the Expert Community on Housing (ECOH) CMHC Webinars

Legislative Corner Updates

- Federal Government Announces Wage Subsidy Program
- Federal Government Announces New Canada Student Emergency Benefit
- Regulations Open for Comment

Frequently Asked Questions

- Will OPPI Relax the Required Minimum of 9 Organized and Structured CPL Units During the Pandemic?

Member Resources

- Changes in Land Use Planning and Development in Ontario Including Planning Act Timelines in the Face of an Emergency
- Register for Accessibility Services Canada's "Managing Your Mental Health" 3-Part Webinar Series

Other OPPI News

- OPPI Announces 2020-2021 Student Delegate
- OPPI Announces 2020 Scholarship Recipients

Share Your Home Office Setup/Happy Place

OPPI Job Postings

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

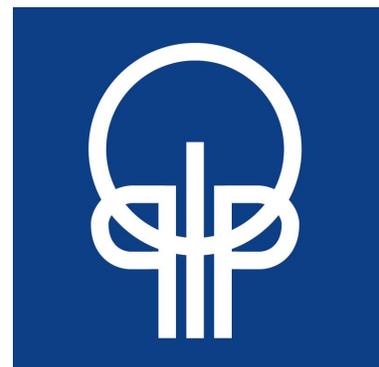
You are receiving this eblast as OPPI has switched its monthly *The Planner* newsletter to a weekly eblast. We will share the most important information and resources with members every Tuesday. If you have any questions, suggestions and ideas, please contact us at info@ontarioplanners.ca.

Here's What You Need to Know Right Now

Member Updates for the Week of April 28

Here is what OPPI members need to know this week:

- **Our municipal survey is out! The deadline to provide feedback is April 30 at 5:00 p.m.** As a reminder - while [this survey](#) is geared towards municipal planners, OPPI encourages all members, especially those who have municipal clients, to complete the survey and provide their feedback.
- **Thank you for attending the Bill 189 and LPAT Webinar!** OPPI would like to thank members for



participating in the *Bill 189: The Coronavirus Support and Protection Act, 2020 and LPAT Update: All in an Hour* webinar led by OPPI's legal counsel, Denise Baker and Raj Kehar of WeirFoulds. OPPI is working to provide the webinar recording on our [Digital Learning portal](#) as soon as possible. In the meantime, for those who missed it, the webinar can be [viewed here](#).

- **OPPI participated in a briefing held by MMAH officials.** Members received an eblast outlining the briefing on April 23. OPPI would like to thank Ministry staff for the invitation and answering member questions. A summary can be found on OPPI's [resource webpage](#) - under the Member Resources section - for more information.
- **OPPI has tentatively scheduled a webinar on May 7 with our HR provider, Pivotal Integrated HR Solutions.** This webinar will highlight the benefits found within the Canada Emergency and Response Plan. Stay tuned for more information in the coming days.
- **Keep your contact info up-to-date!** With many members working from home during this period, OPPI recommends that members keep their contact information and member profiles up-to-date to ensure you receive timely communications from OPPI.

OPPI wants to thank members for your assistance and patience during this time as we focus on providing the information you need to do your jobs. If you have any questions and suggestions about this weekly eblast, please contact OPPI at info@ontarioplanners.ca.

[BACK TO TOP ▲](#)

OPPI Continuous Professional Learning

ICYMI: Sudbury's Community Readiness in Focus



As members start to think about what recovery could look like, resiliency and readiness will be the central themes for many communities now and post-pandemic.

OPPI would like to share previous webinars and Conference sessions to access during this

pandemic period starting with the "[Sudbury's Community Readiness in Focus](#)" panel discussion that kicked off OPPI18 in Sudbury.

The City of Greater Sudbury, Ontario's seventh largest municipality by area, is familiar with uncertainty, economic opportunity and the need to reinvent itself. What was once a major mining and timber town has now expanded its resource-based economy and focus into key areas such as health, retail, education and arts and culture. Throughout its history, Sudbury has proven itself to be a resilient city able to do what is needed to ensure its community stays ready for any challenges and opportunities that come its way. But what does community readiness look like in Sudbury today?

Log in to our Digital Learning portal to view this and many other webinars, listen to podcasts...and so much more!

[VISIT DIGITAL LEARNING AND WATCH NOW](#)

Access the Expert Community on Housing (ECOH) CMHC Webinars



Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation is offering access to free webinars for OPPI members to earn CEUs/CPL through their Expert Community on Housing (ECOH).

ECOH is a virtual community of practice. The community has been created to share housing knowledge and to contribute to the development of housing solutions. The National Housing Strategy's priority areas and groups are the primary focus for the Community.

ECOH hosts monthly webinars to share current housing practices and most webinars are presented by community members themselves. Previous webinars can be viewed on the ECOH portal hosted on Microsoft Teams (registration required). Recent webinars have included:

- Helpseeker and COVID-19 community responses
- Modular Construction for Sustainable, Affordable Housing
- Social Innovation Approaches to Canada's Housing Challenges

To register to join ECOH, please [sign up here](#). The CMHC webpage describing ECOH can be found [here](#). For questions and inquiries, please reach out to the Innovation team at CMHC at innovation-research@cmhc.ca.

[BACK TO TOP ▲](#)

Federal Government Announces Wage Subsidy Program



The Federal Government recently announced the creation of the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) for employers, covering 75% of an employee's wages. Beginning April 27, applications for CEWS are being accepted by the Federal Government. For more information on this program and to apply, please visit the [Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy webpage](#).

Federal Government Announces New Canada Emergency Student Benefit

The Federal Government recently announced the creation of a new Canada Emergency Student Benefit as part of a \$9 Billion package of measures aimed at helping young people. The benefit will see eligible postsecondary students receive \$1,250 a month from May to August, and if you are taking care of someone else or have a disability, that amount increases to \$1,750 monthly.

College and university students currently in school, planning to start in September, or who graduated in December 2019 are eligible. As well, working students earning less than \$1,000 per month can apply.

For more information on this new program and package, please visit the [Government of Canada's website](#).

Regulations Open for Comment

Ontario's Environmental Registry website has posted an [important notice](#) temporarily exempting ministries from the minimum 30-day consultation requirements to post proposals for acts, regulations, policies and instruments to the Environmental Registry. OPPI will continue to monitor the registry website and provide items open for comment, when available.

We know members are busy working through other priorities, but for those who can provide comments the following regulatory items are open for public comment (deadlines in brackets):

- [Early Access to Land for Environmental Studies on Transmission Project \(April 30, 2020\)](#)
- [Proposal to identify and protect a corridor of land for future electricity infrastructure in the Greater Toronto Area \(May 7, 2020\)](#)
- [Proposed agricultural land use amendment for Hearst and Kapuskasing \(May 15, 2020\)](#)
- [Proposed amendments to Ontario Regulation 244/97 and the Aggregate Resources of Ontario Provincial Standards under the Aggregate Resources Act \(May 15, 2020\)](#)
- [New Statement of Environmental Values for Ministry of Infrastructure \(May 25, 2020\)](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

Each week we will share questions received from the membership with answers (if we have them). When we don't have the answer, we will open it up to you to share any best practices and solutions you've found that work. We will share all of these answers, solutions and everything else with members and a complete list can be found on our [resource webpage](#) in the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section.

Q: Will OPPI Relax the Required Minimum of 9 Organized and Structured CPL Units During the Pandemic?

A: We've heard from members who are concerned that with CPL moving primarily online they will not be able to reach the required minimum of 9 Organized and Structured CPL Units this year. Organized and Structured Learning Units are easier to claim than you think!

Online courses, virtual conferences/webinars/etc. may count as Organized & Structured Learning Units. Page 8 of the [CPL Program Guide](#) contains a handy table which outlines what could be counted under Organized & Structured, and Independent & Self-Directed Learning Units. In fact, it states explicitly, "*webinars, courses, videos of in-person seminars, lectures, etc. – especially if on the OPPI Digital Learning page.*"



[BACK TO TOP ▲](#)

Member Resources

Each week we will share resources with members for your benefit and interest. If you have any resources, best practices or guides you would like to share with members, please contact OPPI at info@ontarioplanners.ca and we will feature it in this weekly newsletter and add it to our resource list.

Changes in Land Use Planning and Development in Ontario Including Planning Act Timelines in the Face of and Emergency

WeirFoulds has published a summary related to the recent COVID-19 legislative changes in Ontario and how they impact the planning profession. Members can read the [Changes in Land Use Planning and Development in Ontario Including Planning Act Timelines in the Face of and Emergency](#) article on WeirFoulds' website.

Members can also visit [OPPI's COVID-19 resource webpage](#) for a complete list of resources and information, including this article.

Register For Accessibility Services Canada's "Managing Your Mental

Health" 3-Part Webinar Series (May 8-22)



It is more important than ever to invest in your own mental health and/or the mental well-being of your organization's employees. The majority of Canadians are finding that the COVID-19 pandemic is having a negative impact on their mental health. 58% of Canadians report feeling overloaded by the multiple roles they are juggling while working from home.

Participants in this three-part webinar series will learn strategies for stress management, how to positively respond to change, and how to work productively from home while balancing the needs of home life and family commitments. To register and learn more about this 3-part webinar series, please visit [Accessibility Services Canada's website](#).

[BACK TO TOP ▲](#)

Other OPPI News

OPPI Announces 2020-2021 Student Delegate

OPPI is pleased to announce Regan Zink as our 2020-2021 Student Delegate, succeeding Catherine Tran, for a one-year term.

Regan graduated from the University of Waterloo School of Planning in June 2019. She holds a specialization in urban design and is particularly interested in agri-food systems, rural planning, ecosystem services, and the integration of local, traditional, and emic knowledge systems.

Her work experience ranges from planning, to farming, graphic design, climate change modeling, and public affairs. Regan draws from a diversity of international experiences to challenge notions about what settlements should look like, the role of community, and the ways in which we can improve life.



Regan is currently working towards her MSc at the University of Guelph under the supervision of Dr. Silvia Sarapura and Dr. Wayne Caldwell. Her current research includes work with the Greenbelt Foundation and the International Potato Centre in Lima, Peru.

As OPPI's Student Delegate, Regan will chair the [Student Liaison Committee](#), which serves as a leadership network linking students across the six accredited planning schools to OPPI. The SLC meets throughout the school year, and working with their student colleagues, Regan and the SLC will promote the benefits of membership in OPPI and events and programs targeted to students: OPPI's student scholarships, participation in our annual event, the Student Case Competition, and nominations for student representatives and our next Student Delegate.

Please join OPPI in thanking Catherine Tran for her volunteer service over the past year and welcoming Regan Zink onboard as OPPI's Student Delegate. We look forward to working with Regan and the SLC this year!

OPPI Announces 2020 Scholarship Recipients

OPPI is pleased to announce and congratulate the recipients of our 2020 scholarships:

- **2020 Ronald M. Keeble Undergraduate Scholarship - Jessica Nguyen** - Jessica is a third-year candidate for an Honours Bachelor of Environmental Studies in Planning at the University of Waterloo.
- **2020 Gerald Carrothers Graduate Scholarship - Emily Sousa** - Emily is a first-year masters student in the Rural Planning and Development Masters of Science Program at the University of Guelph.
- **T.P. Jason Ferrigan 2020 President's Scholarship - Angela Asuncion** - Angela is a masters student in the Rural Planning and Development Masters of Science Program - International Stream at the University of Guelph



Please visit [OPPI's website](#) for more information on the scholarships and our winners.

[BACK TO TOP ▲](#)

Share Your Home Office Setup/Happy Place with OPPI

Each week we want to share a little bit of good news with members. OPPI is asking members to snap photos of their work space (at home or elsewhere) or of their happy place and provide a sentence or two describing what makes your space or happy place so great. Please email your photos and information to communications@ontarioplanners.ca and we will share it each week. Selected members will receive some OPPI swag as a thank you once the office reopens.

This week's photos come from OPPI's Governance Coordinator, Steph Panini-Gautreau. *"My home office is right next to the balcony and big beautiful windows of the apartment my husband and I share. With a big comfy pink chair, and my dog Molson at my feet, it is a bright and airy workspace for this time at home"*



[BACK TO TOP ▲](#)

OPPI Job Postings

Targeted to planners, search the [OPPI Job Ads](#) to save you time and effort when looking for a new position. Please see the current active postings below:

- Junior and/or Intermediate Urban Planner/Designer - RG Consulting Inc. (full time)
- Urban Planner - Sajecki Planning (full time)
- Land Use Planner - UrbanSolutions Planning & Land Development Consultants Inc. (full time)
- Planner - Municipality of Hastings Highlands (full time)
- Intermediate Planner (Natural Environment) - Halton Region (contract)
- Director of Planning and Development - Municipality of Brighton (full time)
- Municipal Specialist Planner - FONTUR International (contract)
- Senior Urban Planner - DIALOG (full time)
- Manager of Planning - Thames Valley District School Board (full time)
- Intermediate Planner - Toronto Lands Corporation (full time)
- Senior Planner - Development - City of Burlington (full time)
- Land Use Planner/Project Manager (full time)

[BACK TO TOP ▲](#)

FOLLOW OPPI ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow OPPI for updates and information related to COVID-19.



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