# TOWN OF AMHERST POLICY

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# **DEPARTMENT:** PLANNING AND DEVELOMENT

## TITLE: POLICY FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION and NOTIFICATION

Minutes reference date: May 25, 2015

#### PURPOSE:

To establish a policy for public participation, and notification for the adoption of the Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS), Subdivision By-law, Land Use By-law (LUB), Development Agreements, Variances, Site Plans, and amendments thereto.

### **AUTHORITY:**

This policy carries out MGA section 204 that requires Council to adopt a public participation policy concerning the preparation and administration of planning documents. This policy also provides for public notification where required under MGA sections: 205 (Requirements for adoption of planning documents), 206 (Public hearings), 210 (LUB amendments), 221 (Notifications and costs), 230 (Adoption or amendment of development agreement), 232 (Site-plan approval), 236 (Variance procedures), and 237 (Variance appeals and costs).

### POLICY:

### Public Participation Session

- 1. A public participation session will take place at a meeting of the Planning Advisory Committee, prior to making a recommendation to Council. Notification of the session shall adhere to the Procedure for Public Participation and Notification.
- 3. A summary of the public participation session will be provided to all members of the Planning Advisory Committee and Council prior to First Reading.

### Public Hearing

- 1. A public hearing will generally take place prior to a meeting of Council, and prior to giving second reading of the planning document, Development Agreement, or amendment thereto.
- 2. Advertisement and notification of the public hearing shall adhere to the Municipal Government Act, and the Procedure for Public Participation and Notification.

#### Documentation and Coordination

Documentation and coordination shall adhere to the Procedure for Public Participation and Notification.