



To: Mayor and Council
From: Chrystal Fuller
Re: Official Plan Preliminary Consultation Phase
Date: March 18th, 2020

Dear Mayor Gallant and Council,

As a result of the COVID-19 recommendations from the Provincial and National levels, the upcoming preliminary engagement for the Official Plan and Zoning bylaw will not occur as originally envisaged. After a discussion with Mayor Gallant earlier this week, we have developed an alternative approach to conducting this preliminary consultation which will not involve face to face meetings. This "Plan B" approach is provided for your consideration.

The first step to consult with the community was to conduct preliminary engagement on March 30th and 31st. The purpose of the preliminary engagement is to:

- Understand future development trends and opportunities
- Develop a long term vision
- Understand environmental issues and climate change adaptation
- Understand how planning documents can support economic development in Abram-Village
- Understand the Role of Abram-Village in the broader region
- Understand future housing requirements

To get this information, the consulting team was going to:

- Hold a workshop with Council.
- Attend a Community Supper that would have included a presentation and other engagement activities to learn more about current issues and future plans.
- Conduct current land use survey to update the information from the 2003 OP
- Meet with groups or individuals identified by the Village. We had suggested meetings with a local farmer, the school, businesses and tourism operators, and community groups.
- Encourage people to complete the online survey.

Although it is not ideal to conduct consultations without face to face contact, Brighter Community Planning & Consulting believes that for the preliminary phase of consultation it can be done and allow the project to move forward. During the preliminary engagement, we identify potential changes and the future needs of the Village area. This will allow us to prepare a draft Official Plan and Land Use zoning documents for Council to review and amend.

This “Plan B” solution to conduct the preliminary phase of consultation would include the following:

- *A Webinar for Council* – This would be a workshop using GoTo Meeting software. Each Councillor could do this from their own home as long as they have a computer with a microphone and an internet connection. Our company uses this technology regularly to replace face to face meetings and it works well.
- *Phone interviews* – This would replace the meetings with key people from your community. We would require assistance to set up the meetings with community groups, farmers, businesses and others. We simply would have the meeting either over the phone or by video conference, depending on what each person wants.
- *Online survey* – We have already issued the online survey. It would be important for Council to encourage people to fill out the survey so that we could get as many responses as possible.
- *Online Conference* - We would hold a Facebook Live session where people could watch and participate using Facebook. We would have a presentation and then allow people to ask questions or provide comment feedback through Facebook. The drawback of Facebook is that it is very public and people from outside of Abram Village or even PEI could watch or participate. If Council wished to use a platform that has less visibility, we would hold an online conference where people would have to register, again using GoTo meeting. This would allow a more true workshop type environment where people would have to sign in and identify themselves when making comments or providing advice.

If the preliminary engagement occurs using the Plan B approach, then schedule as outlined below can be achieved.

Tasks	Estimated Completion Date	Status
Kick Off meeting	February 18	Complete
Document Review	March	Complete
Preliminary Consultation	March 30 th	In the Planning Stage
First Draft of bylaws	End of April	Underway
Detailed Consultation	May 12 th	Not Started
Review by Province*	May and June	Not started
Final Draft provide to Village	July	Not started

*This step is optional and will occur at the direction of Council.

Summary

We believe that we can conduct the preliminary engagement as outlined above and allow Council to continue with the OP review process. We have not identified any significant or controversial issues that would require deep consultation.