



# 2015 Co-ordinated Review of the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, Greenbelt Plan and Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan

Presentation to  
**Regional Council**

**Valerie Shuttleworth**

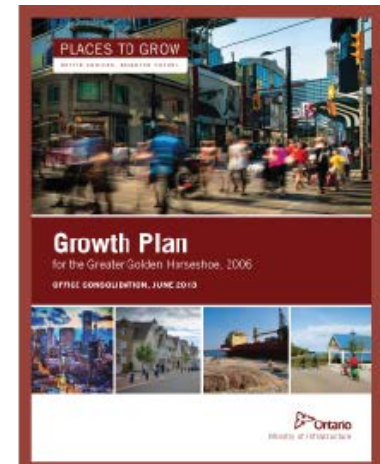
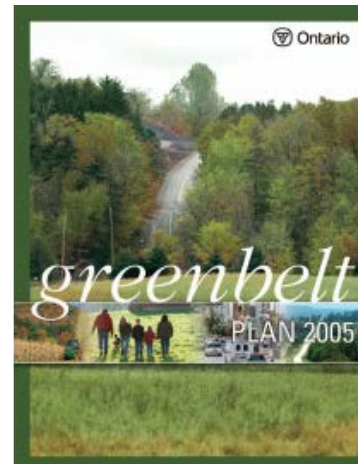
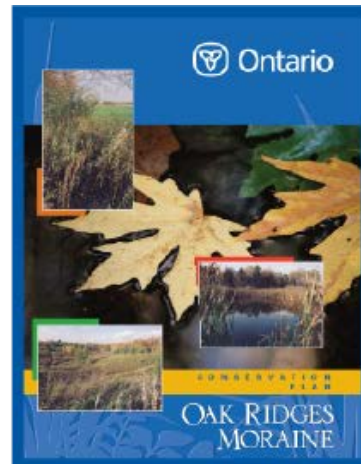
May 21, 2015



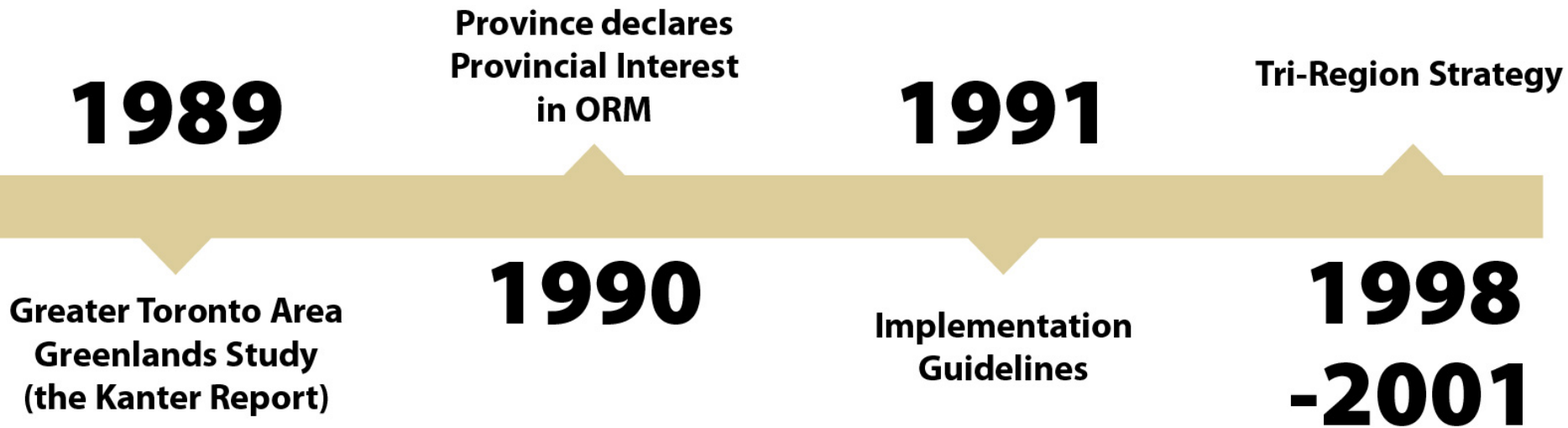
*York Region*

# Overview

- Background
- The Region's Review Process
- Key Issues & Opportunities

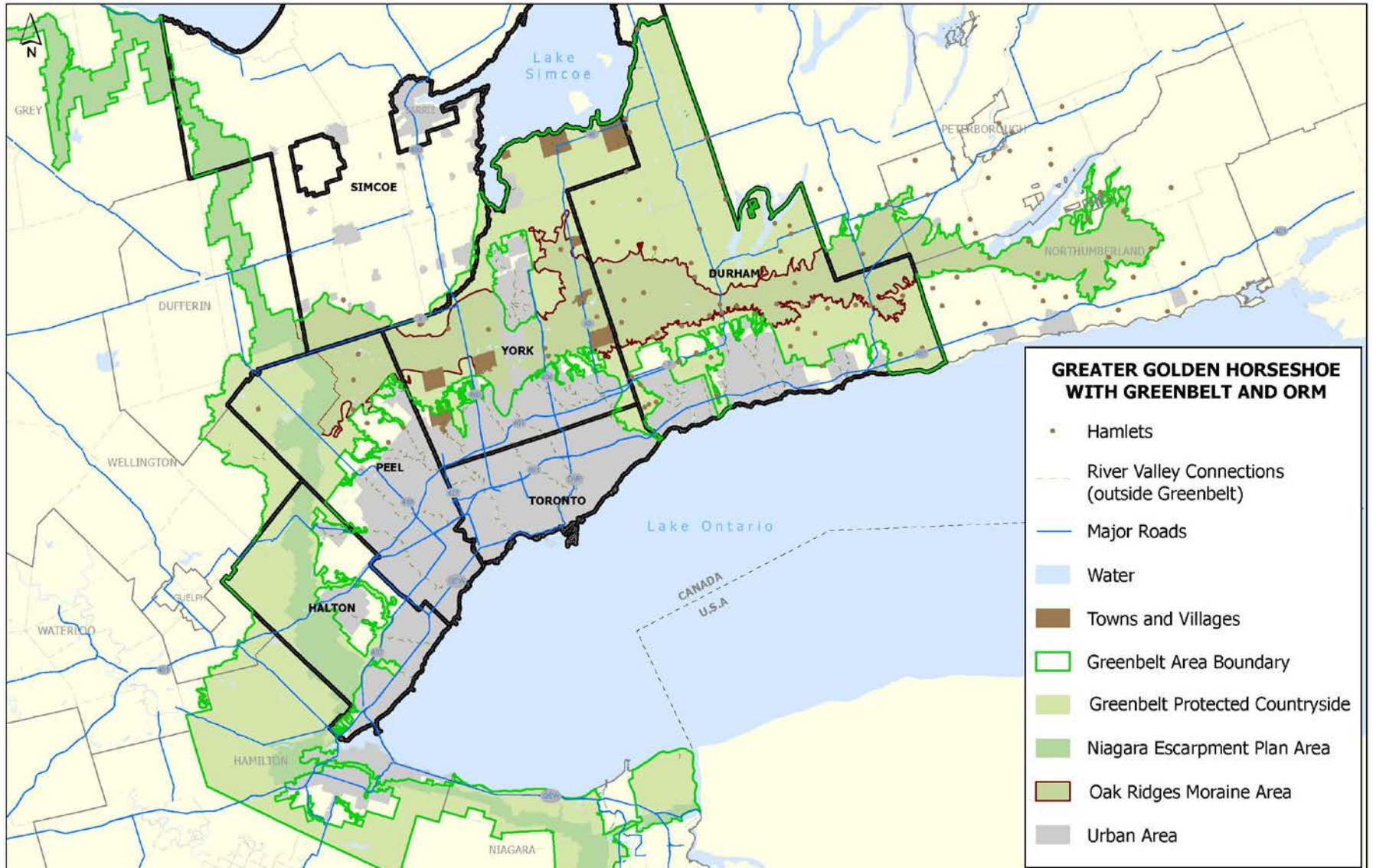


# Background



The Region has a strong history leading to the development of the ORM, Greenbelt and Growth Plans

# Geographic Extent of the Plans



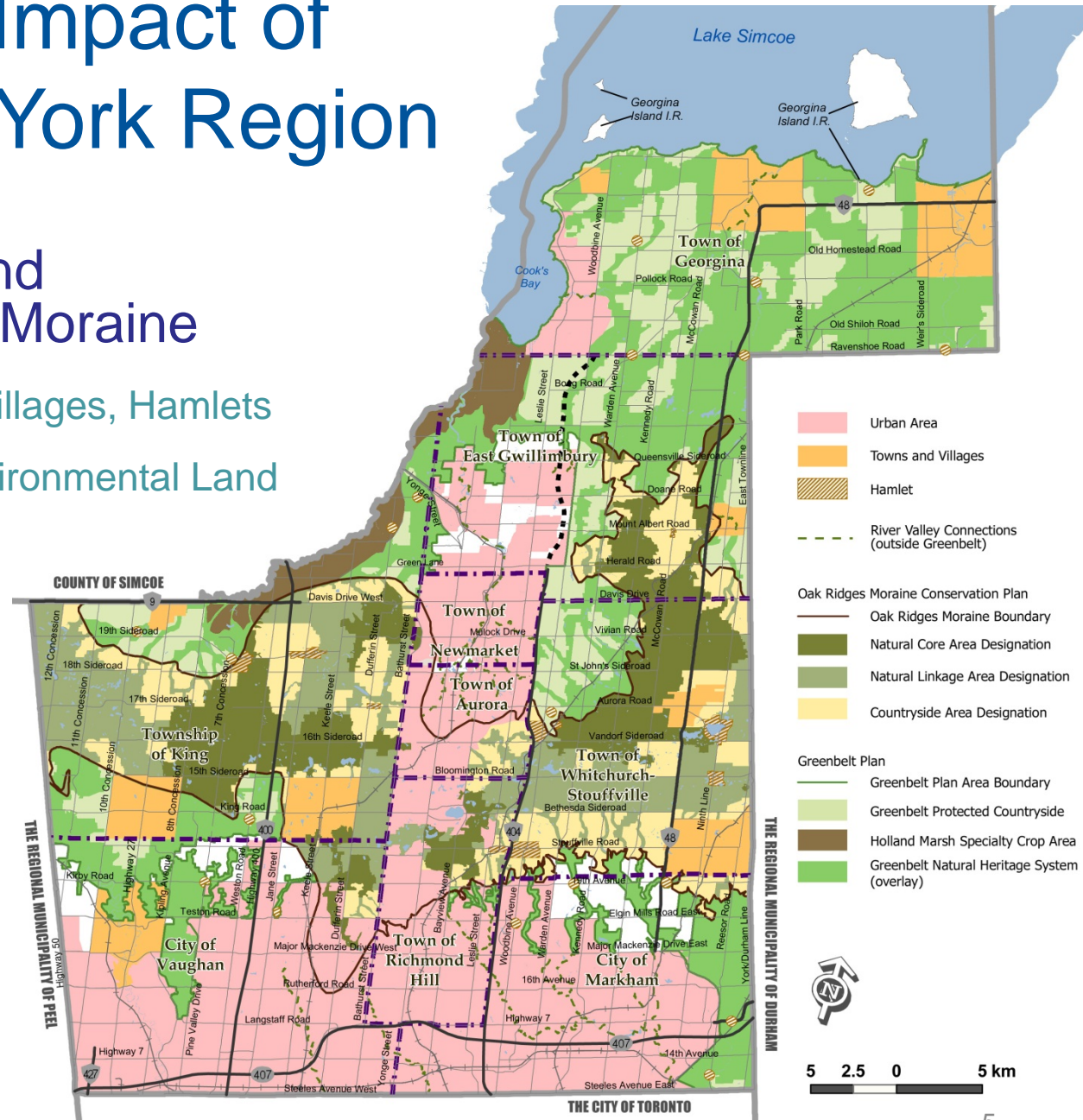
# Geographic Impact of the Plans in York Region

69% Greenbelt and Oak Ridges Moraine

11% Urban, Towns & Villages, Hamlets

58% Agricultural & Environmental Land

31% Outside



# 2015 Plan Reviews - Scope

## Oak Ridges Moraine Act and Greenbelt Act:

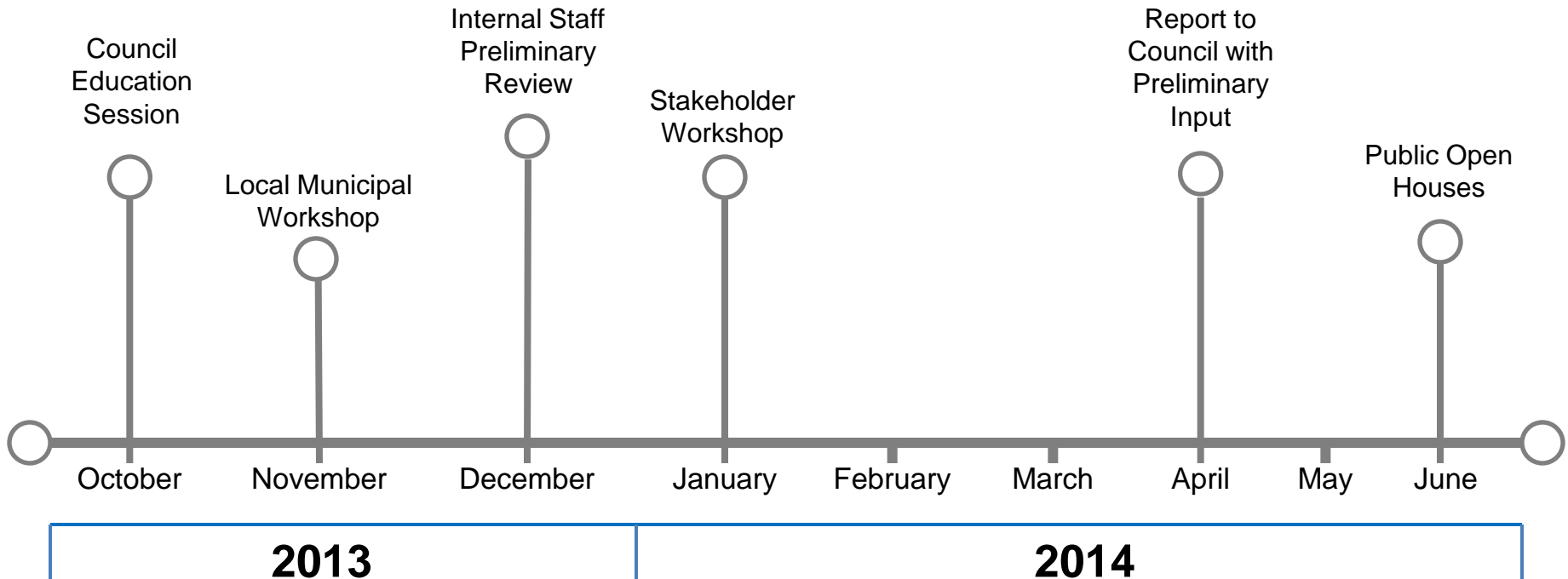
- Assess effectiveness of Plans
- Determine if any revisions should be made
- Include consultation
- Cannot remove land from Natural Core Areas or Natural Linkages Areas of ORM
- Cannot reduce the total land area of the Greenbelt Plan

## Places to Grow Act:

- Determine whether the Plan should be revised
- Consult with Provincial Ministries, municipalities and the public

The Region is one of many stakeholders in these reviews

# Phase 1: Proactive Consultation



Extensive preliminary consultation was conducted on the Greenbelt Plan and ORMCP

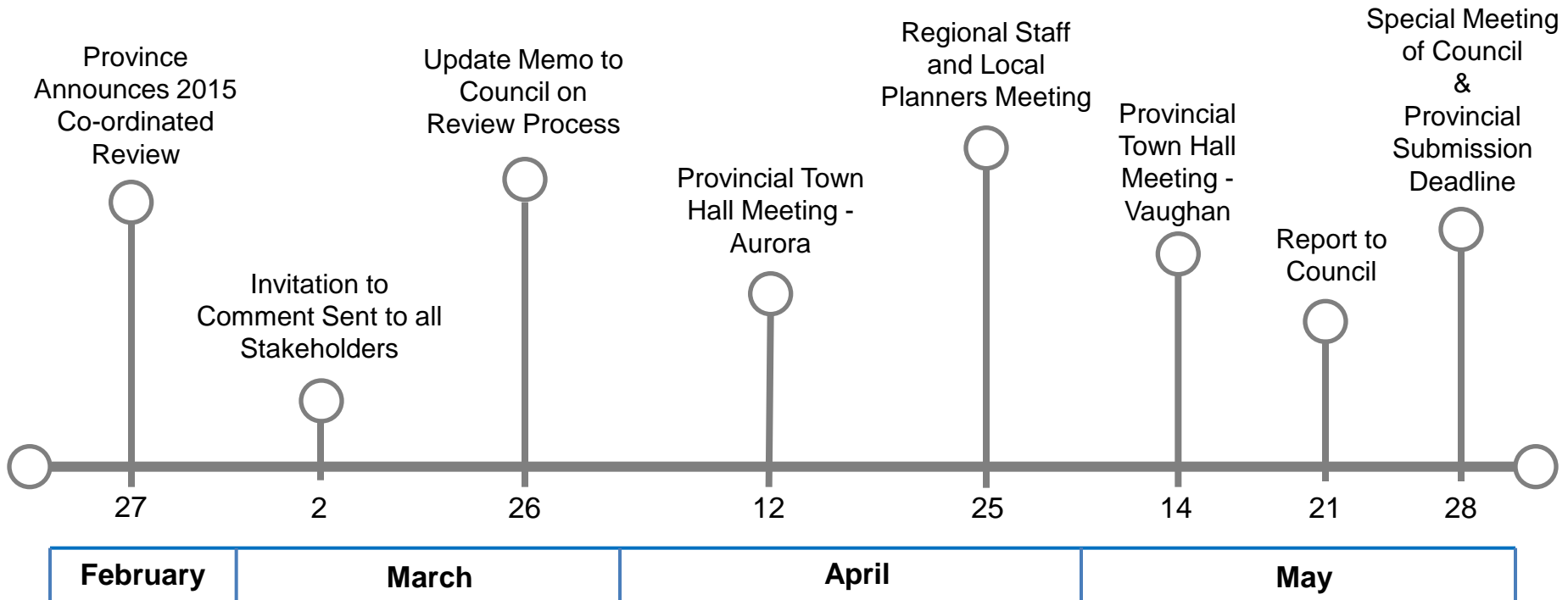
# Phase 1: Preliminary Input

- The Region requested that the Province:
  - Co-ordinate the review of the Growth Plan with the ORMCP and Greenbelt Plan
  - Conduct comprehensive consultation
- The following areas were identified for Provincial review in 2015:





# Phase 2: Responding to the Provincial Process



The Region is committed to conducting a balanced review of the Provincial Plans

# Phase 2: Key Issues & Opportunities



Consultation  
Process



Supporting  
Environmental  
Principles



Supporting  
Agricultural  
Viability



Accommodating  
Long-term  
Growth



Boundaries



Implementation  
and Monitoring

A number of concerns brought forward prior to adoption of the *Greenbelt Plan* in 2005 remain unchanged after 10 years

# Consultation Process

- Staff participated in a wide range of consultation activities
- Regional staff ensured awareness and involvement of community members and stakeholders throughout review
- A comprehensive consultation process is requested for Phase 2

Consultation confirmed support for areas identified through proactive consultation

# Supporting Environmental Principles

- ‘Stay the Course’ by maintaining integrity of Plans, including protecting Natural Core and Natural Linkage areas
- Recognize the importance of significant woodlands and urban forest canopy cover, and take a no-net loss approach



# Supporting Agricultural Viability

- Enhance the Plans' ability to further promote agricultural viability and a strong rural economy
- Address compatibility challenges at the interface between urban and rural agricultural land uses



# Accommodating Long-Term Growth

- Consider a process to allow municipalities to access strategically located employment lands
- ‘whitebelt’ lands should be reserved for long term growth (beyond 2031)
- Accommodating community facilities



# Boundaries

- The Region received site-specific requests for 51 properties regarding boundary adjustments or additional permissions



# Categories of Landowner Requests

- **Process for Employment Lands**

The Province is requested to develop a process allowing access to strategic employment lands in certain circumstances

- **Process for Boundary Confirmation/Adjustment**

The Province is requested to develop a process to confirm or correct boundaries

- **Input Received**

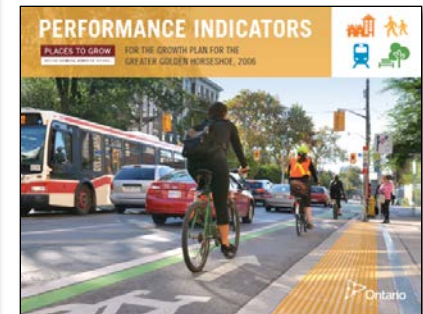
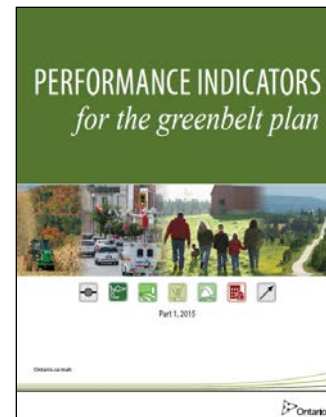
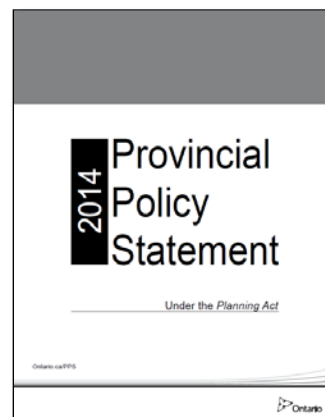
These requests are provided to the Province as input received throughout our review process

The nature of site-specific requests is varied



# Implementation & Monitoring

- Consistency with the PPS 2014 and across all provincial plans and Ministries
- Consider imposing a sunset clause for applications transitioned by the Plans
- Place more emphasis on monitoring and reporting



# Recommendations

- Regional Council endorse the staff recommendations contained in this report as the Region's formal response to the Environmental Bill of Rights (EBR) posting No. 012-3256
- This report and attachments be forwarded to the M.M.A.H.
- This report be circulated to local municipalities and to the York Region Agricultural Advisory Liaison Group