

Amendment Information Sheet

Request: To amend the Municipal Planning Strategy and Subdivision Bylaw to allow for a reduction in lot area, frontage, and setback requirements for places of worship/former places of worship subdividing from cemeteries.

Proposal: The proposed amendments come from a Council motion after Municipal staff received inquiries from rural congregations interested in selling their former places of worship while retaining ownership of the cemeteries. Many of these buildings are very close to the associated headstones, often by 2-3 metres making it difficult to maintain traditional setback requirements.



The example shown in the photo is St. Paul's United Church in the North Noel Road community. The headstones and building are just under 3 metres apart.

Details: Most of the congregations dealing with this issue are in the Rural Use North (RU-2) Zone. However, the amendments would apply to all places of worship/former places of worship, regardless of their zone. The amendments would allow for a reduction in lot area, frontage, and setback requirements for the subdivided properties. These reductions would be on the condition that both properties have deeded access. This could be through private driveway or a right-of-way easement.

The amendments, if approved, would allow for the reuse of former places of worship and allow for congregations and community groups to continue maintaining cemeteries.

To keep up-to-date on the application and for further information on the proposal, including staff reports, please visit easthants.ca/planning-applications.

Community:
North Noel Road

Current Generalized Future Land Use Designation:
Rural Use North (RU-2)

Current Zone:
Rural Use North (RU-2)

For further information, please contact Darby Sullivan, Community Planner I, 902-883-0345, dasullivan@easthants.ca

