

Belcarra Official Community Plan Review

In December, the Village of Belcarra launched a seven-month planning process to draft a new **Official Community Plan (OCP)** for the community. The Village's existing OCP was adopted in 2011 and much has changed within the community and the surrounding areas since that time.

What is an Official Community Plan?

- An OCP describes the **long-term vision** of a community
- Includes **goals**, **objectives**, and **policies** that guide planning and land use management
- Presents the **long-term development plans** for a community
- Addresses matters like transportation, housing, sustainability, and climate change
- Outlines how a local government plans to exercise its powers
- Municipalities have the authority to develop OCPs under the *Local Government Act*

**Once adopted, all bylaws enacted (or works undertaken) must be consistent with the OCP.*

What does an Official Community Plan include?

- Residential development to meet anticipated housing needs for the next 5+ years
- Existing and proposed land uses (i.e., residential, recreational, institutional etc.)
- Existing and proposed public facilities (i.e., parks, schools, waste treatment sites etc.)
- Sand and gravel deposits suitable for future extraction
- Phasing of major road, sewer, and water systems
- Restrictions on the use of land with hazardous conditions or environmental sensitivity
- Housing policies for affordable housing, rental housing, and special needs housing
- Targets and policies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions

Official Community Plans may also include the following:

- Policies related to social needs, social well-being, and social development
- Policies related to the preservation, protection, restoration and enhancement of the natural environment, its ecosystems and biological diversity
- A regional context statement (if the plan is within a regional growth strategy area)
- OCPs may designate areas that require special treatment for certain purposes i.e., hazard protection areas, revitalization areas, and objectives related to built form and character



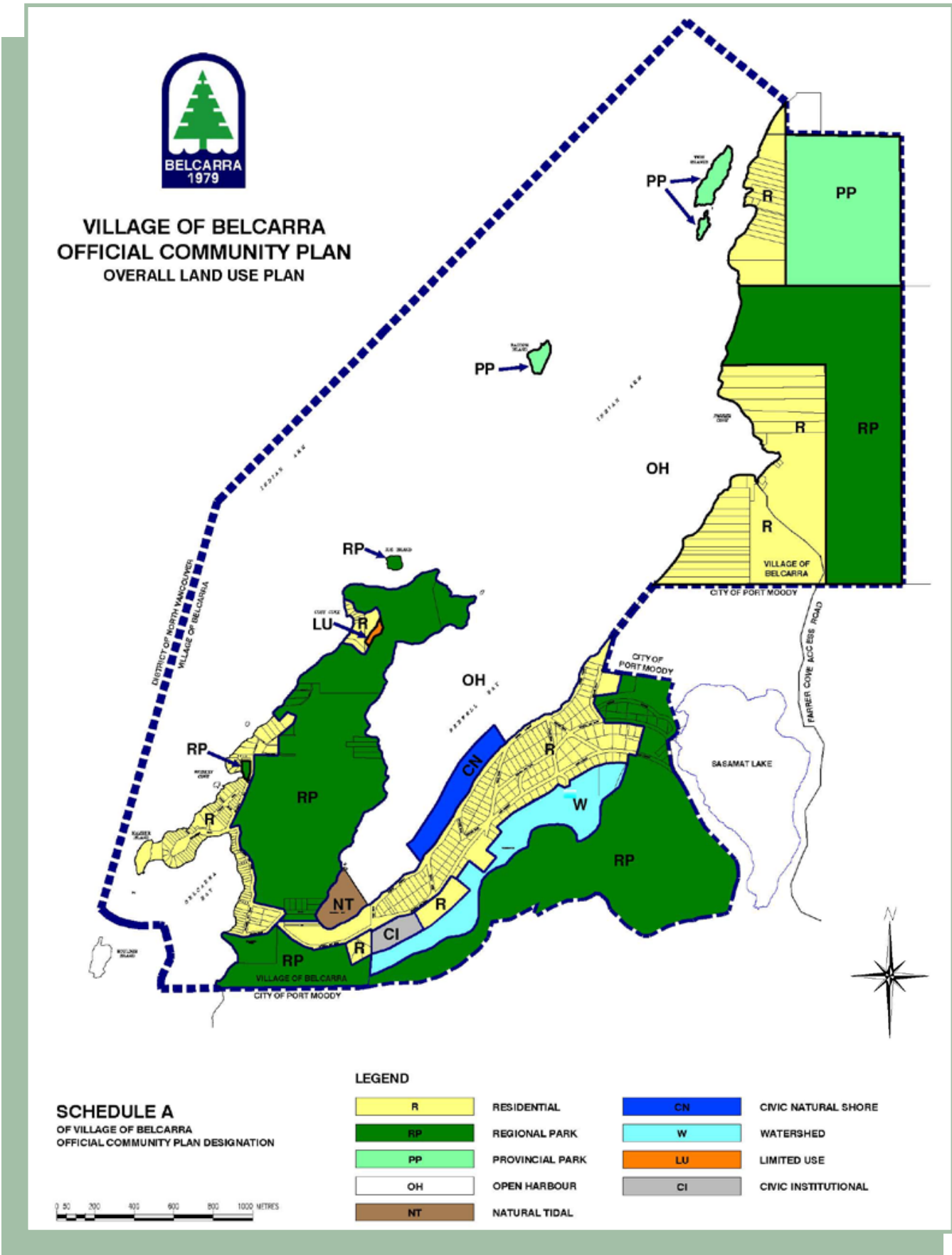
To learn more about the OCP Review process visit:
<https://belcarra.ca/municipal-hall/2022-ocp-review-committee/>



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The long-term vision and development plans of a community are expressed through **policies** and **land use maps** in OCPs. Together, OCP policies and land use maps guide municipal councils in decisions about land use bylaws, servicing, and capital expenditures to accommodate change. Schedule A below is the **Overall Land Use Plan** in the existing **Village of Belcarra OCP**.

Village of Belcarra Official Community Plan Overall Land Use Plan



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OCP Review Committee

In December, Village Council established an **11-member committee** to provide recommendations to Council regarding revisions and updates to the Village of Belcarra OCP. The Committee will help gather and disseminate information, assess priorities, determine objectives, and provide feedback throughout the planning process. The Committee will help educate the public about the planning process and spread the word about public engagement opportunities in the community. The Committee will serve until the OCP is adopted (Summer 2022).

Ian Devlin
Committee Chair

Ralph Drew
Committee Vice-Chair

Councilor Carolina Clark
Council Representative

Community Survey

We invite **all residents** of Belcarra to complete a **short survey** to help us better understand your community aspirations and community priorities. The survey results, combined with other feedback received through the engagement process, will be **used to draft a vision statement** for the new OCP. Your feedback will also help us **develop a set of goals** that will inform more specific policies.

The survey is available until March 15th on the Village of Belcarra OCP Review Committee webpage.

Virtual Open House

We invite all residents of Belcarra to attend a Virtual Open House on **Thursday March 10th at 6:00 pm**. Participants are asked to **register in advance** by clicking on the link on the Village of Belcarra **OCP Review Committee webpage**. Upon registration, you will be emailed a Zoom link for the meeting.

Please contact amiller@urbansystems.ca should you require assistance registering for the open house.

The open house will consist of an overview presentation and a series of small break-out room discussions. These small group discussions will revisit some of the survey questions in a more meaningful way by enabling us to better understand **why you feel the way you do** about your community.



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