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Resolution

February 22, 2013

Moved by: Jamie McGarvey, Mayor, Town of Parry Sound

Seconded by: Rick Milne, Deputy Mayor, Town of Tecumseh

Whereas several Ontario municipalities are home to food manufacturing and agricultural businesses, and in recognition that Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM) supports local manufacturing and agricultural businesses;

And Whereas Canada's food processors provide high quality, safe, and affordable food, using local agricultural products;

And Whereas the federal government has announced that they will repeal regulations that will require local food processors to adopt American size and format packaging which will require local processors to spend money to re-fit their production lines to accommodate this change;

And Whereas since 2007 there have been plant closures in communities resulting in the loss of some 13,000 jobs across Canada due to plants moving to lower cost jurisdictions;

And Whereas the single streamed deregulations may result in the creation of an un-level playing field for Canada's existing food processors, putting at risk thousands of direct jobs as well as other associated supplier spin off jobs;

And Whereas the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) have adopted resolutions supporting the concerns of local municipalities;

Therefore Be It Resolved that OSUM supports the Mayors' Alliance call for the federal Minister of Agriculture to consult with industry and community leaders on this subject;

And Further, that an independent Economic Impact Study be conducted to analyze and understand the full impact of this deregulation on the local, provincial and national economies,

And Furthermore, that municipalities in Ontario support this resolution and copy their local Member of Parliament.

CARRIED

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