



INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Chair and Members, Agriculture & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	September 9, 2019
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Revised Terms of Reference - Agriculture & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee (PED19173) (Wards 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 15)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	Wards 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 15
PREPARED BY:	Brian Morris (905) 546-2424 Ext. 5602 Joanne Hickey-Evans (905) 546-2424 Ext. 1282
SUBMITTED BY:	Glen Norton Director, Economic Development Planning and Economic Development Department
SIGNATURE:	

COUNCIL DIRECTION

Not Applicable.

INFORMATION

Following Amalgamation, Hamilton City Council formed The Agriculture & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee in late 2001 to provide advice to Council on matters related to agricultural and rural affairs. Subsequently, the Agriculture & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee Terms of Reference (TOR) were first established by Council on August 14, 2002 via Item 19 of Committee of the Whole Report 02-029 (see attached Appendix "A" for original Terms of Reference of the Agricultural Advisory Committee). Much has changed in agriculture, rural Hamilton and the City in general since that time. However, with the exception of the reporting structure, the TOR for the Committee have largely remained unchanged. While the Committee, and much of the mandate, remains as relevant today as when the Committee was first struck, the terms of reference should be updated to reflect the present state of affairs.

Coincidentally, a recent report published by the Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation and the Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance titled "Agricultural Advisory

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

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Committees - Recognizing the Value of Agriculture in the Golden Horseshoe” (refer to Appendix “B” of Report PED19173) provides a timely examination of Agriculture Advisory Committees across the Golden Horseshoe and a best practice review for consideration.

Drawing on the lessons learned from the above-noted report, as well as a review of other TOR for similar communities outside of the Golden Horseshoe region in Ontario and the historic context of Hamilton’s Agriculture Advisory Committee, staff have drafted a revised TOR for the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee for its review, consideration and input (Appendix “C” to Report PED19173). Despite some changes to reflect Hamilton’s current non-urban environment, the intent is to continue to provide a forum for advice, consultation and direction to Council and staff on matters pertinent to agriculture and rural citizenry.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix “A” – Planning and Development Volunteer Co-ordinating Committee 02-001 – Original Terms of Reference for the Agricultural Advisory Committee

Appendix “B” – Agricultural Advisory Committees - Recognizing the Value of Agriculture in the Golden Horseshoe

Appendix “C” – Draft Revised Terms of Reference for the Agriculture & Rural Affairs Advisory Committee

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