



The Regional Municipality of Durham

Planning & Economic Development Committee Agenda

Council Chambers
Regional Headquarters Building
605 Rossland Road East, Whitby

Tuesday, March 1, 2022

9:30 AM

Please note: In an effort to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19, and to generally comply with the directions from the Government of Ontario, it is requested in the strongest terms that Members participate in the meeting electronically. Regional Headquarters is closed to the public, all members of the public may [view the Committee meeting](#) via live streaming, instead of attending the meeting in person. If you wish to register as a delegate regarding an agenda item, you may register in advance of the meeting by noon on the day prior to the meeting by emailing delegations@durham.ca and will be provided with the details to delegate electronically.

1. Roll Call

2. Declarations of Interest

3. Adoption of Minutes

- A) Planning & Economic Development Committee meeting
– February 1, 2022

Pages 4 - 14

4. Statutory Public Meetings

- 4.1 Application to Amend the Durham Regional Official Plan, submitted by Clark Consulting Services, on behalf of Maltheb Farms 2000 Ltd., to permit the severance of a farm dwelling rendered surplus as a result of the consolidation of non-abutting farm properties, in the Township of Scugog, File: OPA 2021-008 (2022-P-1)

15 - 22

- A) Presentation

1. Vannitha Chanthavong, Planner

- B) Public Input
 - 1. Hugh Stewart, Clark Consulting Services, on behalf of Maltheb Farms

C) Report

5. Delegations

- 5.1 Sherry Colbourne, President & CEO, Spark Centre, re: Spark Centre Annual Report (2022-EDT-5) [Item 8.2 B)]

6. Presentations

- 6.1 Amanda Bathe, Senior Planner, re: Envision Durham – Identifying a Regional Natural Heritage System (2022-P-7) [Item 7.2 A)]
- 6.2 Stacey Jibb, Manager, Agriculture and Rural Economic Development, re: Agri-Food Workforce Development – Video Series (2022-EDT-4) [Item 8.2 A)]

7. Planning

- 7.1 Correspondence
- 7.2 Reports

- A) Envision Durham – Identifying a Regional Natural Heritage System (2022-P-7) 23 - 34

8. Economic Development

- 8.1 Correspondence
- 8.2 Reports

- A) Agri-Food Workforce Development – Video Series (2022-EDT-4) 35 - 38
- B) Spark Centre Annual Update and Metrics Report (2022-EDT-5) 39 - 88
- C) Response to Correspondence from the City of Oshawa Council re: “Process to Establish the City of Oshawa including the lands in Oshawa operated by the Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority as a Foreign Trade Zone” (2022-EDT-6) 89 - 96

9. Advisory Committee Resolutions

There are no advisory committee resolutions to be considered

10. Confidential Matters

There are no confidential matters to be considered

11. Other Business

12. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at 9:30 AM

13. Adjournment

Notice regarding collection, use and disclosure of personal information:

Written information (either paper or electronic) that you send to Durham Regional Council or Committees, including home address, phone numbers and email addresses, will become part of the public record. This also includes oral submissions at meetings. If you have any questions about the collection of information, please contact the Regional Clerk/Director of Legislative Services.

The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 1, 2022

A regular meeting of the Planning & Economic Development Committee was held on Tuesday, February 1, 2022 in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby, Ontario at 9:30 AM. Electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: Councillor Ryan, Chair
Councillor Joe Neal, Vice-Chair
Councillor Grant
Councillor Highet
Councillor Kerr
Councillor Lee
Councillor Yamada
Regional Chair Henry attended the meeting at 9:38 AM
***all members of Committee participated electronically**

Also

Present: Councillor Collier
Councillor Dies
Councillor Foster attended for part of the meeting
Councillor McLean
Councillor Smith
Councillor Wotten

Staff

Present: E. Baxter-Trahair, Chief Administrative Officer
B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
S. Baldie Jagpat, Manager, Administrative Services
D. Beaton, Commissioner of Corporate Services
C. Boyd, Solicitor, Corporate Services – Legal Services
P. Frizado, Director, Broadband Services
S. Gill, Director, Economic Development and Tourism
C. Goodchild, Manager, Policy Planning & Special Studies
L. Huinink, Director, Rapid Transit and Transit Oriented Development
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
S. Jibb, Manager, Economic Development, Agriculture and Rural Affairs
G. Muller, Director of Planning
G. Pereira, Manager, Transportation Planning
B. Pickard, Manager, Tourism

N. Pincombe, Director, Business Planning and Budgets
K. Ryan, Senior Solicitor, Corporate Services – Legal Services
S. Salomone, Manager, Economic Development, Business Development
and Investment
J. Severs, Manager, Economic Development, Marketing and Cluster
Development
N. Taylor, Commissioner of Finance
L. Trombino, Manager, Plan Implementation
T. Fraser, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by Councillor Lee, Seconded by Councillor Kerr,
(7) That the minutes of the special Planning & Economic Development
Committee meeting held on Thursday, January 13, 2022, be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Statutory Public Meetings

There were no statutory public meetings.

5. Delegations

5.1 Eileen Higdon, Pickering resident, re: Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) resolution regarding Inclusion of the Carruthers Creek Headwaters in the Greenbelt

E. Higdon, participating electronically, appeared before the Committee with respect to the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee resolution regarding inclusion of the Carruthers Creek Headwaters in the Greenbelt.

E. Higdon stated that the Greenbelt is the cornerstone of Ontario's Greater Golden Horseshoe Growth Plan and safeguards the vital resources that clean our air and water, reduces our flood risks, provides a home for wildlife, and ensures our communities have greenspace to explore. She also stated that land in the Carruthers Creek Headwaters has been studied by the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority in the recently adopted Carruthers Creek Watershed Plan and this shows that the site contains a tributary of Carruthers Creek, includes significant Groundwater Recharge areas and is a Priority Opportunity Restoration area. She added that the subject area is completely surrounded by the Greenbelt and in light of its hydrological sensitivity and prime agricultural designation should be added to the Greenbelt.

E. Higdon further stated that the Carruthers Creek Headwaters and adjacent lands are not a good place to build housing. She expressed concern that the private developers who own the lands are looking for a quick profit and ignoring the environmental and other benefits to the communities of Pickering and Ajax.

E. Higdon requested that the Carruthers Creek Headwaters be included in the Greenbelt, as per the resolution of the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee. She stated that this action is supported by the Town of Ajax, numerous environmental groups, and the community. She added that there is no need for this item to be referred to staff for a report.

E. Higdon responded to questions from the Committee.

5.2 Michael May, Delta Urban, on behalf of North East Pickering Landowners Group, re: Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) resolution regarding Inclusion of the Carruthers Creek Headwaters in the Greenbelt

M. May, participating electronically, appeared on behalf of the North East Pickering Landowners Group, with respect to the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee resolution regarding inclusion of the Carruthers Creek Headwaters in the Greenbelt.

M. May advised that the North East Pickering Landowners Group agrees with the recommendation to refer the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee resolution to staff for a report, for the following reasons:

1. The North East Pickering Landowners Group believes this item should be considered through the larger Municipal Comprehensive Review (Envision Durham) process so that it can be reviewed holistically with the future growth needs of the Region and to ensure that it adheres to the Provincial policies.
 - a. The North East Pickering Landowners Group believes the Northeast Pickering lands are required for growth and that the development can proceed in an environmentally responsible way.
 - b. Considering the matter outside of the Envision Durham process, would be inappropriate and undermine the large amount of comprehensive work that staff are currently completing throughout the Municipal Comprehensive Review process.
2. The recently completed Carruthers Creek Watershed Plan includes a management recommendation that any new development must demonstrate that there are no negative impacts downstream (ie. flood impacts).

- a. The scenarios used within the Carruthers Creek Watershed Plan did not consider a modern urban development scenario which requires mandatory minimum mitigation provisions that are reviewed by regulatory agencies. This includes proper stormwater management controls.
 - b. The North East Pickering Landowners Group have undertaken a hydrology assessment following the completion of the Carruthers Creek Watershed Plan and can confirm that implementing stormwater management controls in Northeast Pickering will not impact existing peak flow rates within the Town of Ajax.
 - c. The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority stated in a public letter on July 20, 2021, that “the draft Carruthers Creek Watershed Plan does not state that development in the headwaters of Carruthers Creek should not proceed. Instead, it identifies potential impacts of development and proposes a series of mitigation measures to manage those impacts should development be considered within the headwaters”.
3. The North East Pickering Landowners Group supports the principle of the Greenbelt Plan (ie. Urban River Valley designation that was implemented in the 2017 Greenbelt expansion).
- a. The Greenbelt Plan extended protection to 21 publicly owned major urban river valleys, which the Province noted “the addition of these waterways to the Greenbelt is an important recognition of the vital role the Greenbelt plays in protecting the hydrological features we rely on for clean drinking water, flood protection, and healthy ecosystems”.
 - b. Greenbelt policies state that “lands in the [Urban River Valley] designation comprise river valleys and associated lands and are generally characterized by being:
 - i. Lands containing natural and hydrologic features, including coastal wetlands; and/or
 - ii. Lands designated in official plans for uses such as parks, open space, recreation, conservation and environmental protection”.
 - c. A study is underway by the Region, City of Pickering, Conservation Authority and landowners through the Municipal Comprehensive Review process to determine the Natural Heritage system which will include the Urban River Valley’s in the Carruthers Creek Headwaters. The Natural Heritage System will be finally determined through the City’s Neighbourhood Plan and Master Environment and Servicing Plan processes. Following these processes, the lands within the

Natural Heritage System can be identified and included within the Greenbelt Plan as per the policies for Urban River Valleys.

M. May concluded by requesting that the Planning & Economic Development Committee support the recommendation to refer the resolution from the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee to staff for a report.

M. May responded to questions from the Committee.

6. Presentations

6.1 Gary Muller, Director of Planning, Simon Gill, Director of Economic Development & Tourism, and Lorraine Huinink, Director of Rapid Transit and Transit Oriented Development, re: 2022 Planning and Economic Development Department Business Plans and Budgets (2022-P-6)

N. Pincombe, G. Muller, S. Gill and L. Huinink provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the 2022 Planning and Economic Development Department Business Plans and Budgets. Highlights of their presentation included:

- 2022 Business Plans and Budgets
- 2021 Planning Accomplishments
 - Advancing Strategic Policy Initiatives
 - Improving Efficiencies
- 2022 Planning/TOD Proposed Expenditures and Financing
- 2022 Planning Strategic Highlights
- 2021 Economic Development Accomplishments
- 2022 Economic Development Proposed Expenditures and Financing
- 2022 Economic Development Strategic Highlights
- 2021 Accomplishments & 2022 Strategic Highlights Rapid Transit and Transit Oriented Development
 - Accomplishments
 - Strategic Highlights
- 2022 Business Plans and Budgets – Risks and Uncertainties
- Beyond the 2022 Business Plans and Budget – Forecasted Pressures

6.2 Simon Gill, Director of Economic Development & Tourism, re: Economic Development and Tourism Strategy and Action Plan: Update (2022-EDT-1)

S. Gill provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Economic Development and Tourism Strategy and Action Plan: Update. Highlights of his presentation included:

- 2017-2021 Economic Development Strategy and Action Plan
- Status

- Purpose of Today
- The Durham Region Data Story
 - Framing the challenge
 - Durham labour force distribution
 - Durham household turnover rate
- Work
 - Ratio of job to residents across Durham
 - Commuting trends across Durham
 - Distribution of jobs across Durham
 - There is a mismatch between the skills of Durham residents and the types of jobs available in Durham
- Study
 - Post-Secondary Institutions
 - Residents with University degree or above
- Global Drivers of Change
 - The Global Eight drivers of change over the next decade
- Strategy Discussion
 - Background Documentation
 - Engagement
 - 2031 Aspirations – For Discussion
 - Discussion: Strategic Priorities

Staff responded to questions with respect to whether the final product will be copyrighted by Hatch Limited; the warehousing/logistics sector; the GO East extension and potential office-based employment growth; potential synergies between the Thornton's Corners GO Station and Durham College Whitby Campus and Trent Durham Campus; the multi-use path on Thornton Road North; the possibility of sub-groups to discuss specific global drivers; and whether the Strategy and Action Plan will help to inform the Envision Durham process.

7. Planning

7.1 Correspondence

- A) Correspondence from Pat Valentine, Claremont resident, re: Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) resolution regarding Inclusion of the Carruthers Creek Headwaters in the Greenbelt
-

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by Councillor Yamada,

- (8) That the correspondence from Pat Valentine, Claremont resident, be referred to consideration of Item 9.1 A), Durham Environmental Advisory Committee resolution regarding Inclusion of the Carruthers Creek Headwaters in the Greenbelt.

CARRIED

- B) Correspondence from David Steele, Pickering resident, re: Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) resolution regarding Inclusion of the Carruthers Creek Headwaters in the Greenbelt

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by Councillor Yamada,

- (9) That the correspondence from David Steele, Pickering resident, be referred to consideration of Item 9.1 A), Durham Environmental Advisory Committee resolution regarding Inclusion of the Carruthers Creek Headwaters in the Greenbelt.

CARRIED

- C) Correspondence from Linda Gasser, Whitby resident, re: Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) resolution regarding Inclusion of the Carruthers Creek Headwaters in the Greenbelt

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by Councillor Yamada,

- (10) That the correspondence from Linda Gasser, Whitby resident, be referred to consideration of Item 9.1 A), Durham Environmental Advisory Committee resolution regarding Inclusion of the Carruthers Creek Headwaters in the Greenbelt.

CARRIED

- D) Correspondence from Mike Borie, re: Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) resolution regarding Inclusion of the Carruthers Creek Headwaters in the Greenbelt

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by Councillor Yamada,

- (11) That the correspondence from Mike Borie be referred to consideration of Item 9.1 A), Durham Environmental Advisory Committee resolution regarding Inclusion of the Carruthers Creek Headwaters in the Greenbelt.

CARRIED

- E) Correspondence from Kathryn Bracken, re: Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) resolution regarding Inclusion of the Carruthers Creek Headwaters in the Greenbelt

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by Councillor Yamada,

- (12) That the correspondence from Kathryn Bracken be referred to consideration of Item 9.1 A), Durham Environmental Advisory Committee resolution regarding Inclusion of the Carruthers Creek Headwaters in the Greenbelt.

CARRIED

- F) Correspondence from Louis Bertrand, Scugog resident, re: Durham Environmental Advisory Committee (DEAC) resolution regarding Inclusion of the Carruthers Creek Headwaters in the Greenbelt

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by Councillor Yamada,
(13) That the correspondence from Louis Bertrand, Scugog resident, be referred to consideration of Item 9.1 A), Durham Environmental Advisory Committee resolution regarding Inclusion of the Carruthers Creek Headwaters in the Greenbelt.

CARRIED

7.2 Reports

A) 2022 Planning and Economic Development Department Business Plans and Budgets (2022-P-6)

Report #2022-P-6 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

Staff responded to questions with respect to the proposed budget increase; the 2021 estimated actuals versus 2022 proposed budget; and whether the proposed Durham Region Local Food Logistics Hub is included in the 2022 budget.

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Highet,
(14) That we recommend to the Finance and Administration Committee for subsequent recommendation to Regional Council:

That the 2022 Business Plans and Budgets of the Planning and Economic Development Department be approved.

CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING
RECORDED VOTE:

Yes

Councillor Grant
Regional Chair Henry
Councillor Highet
Councillor Kerr
Councillor Lee
Councillor Yamada
Chair Ryan

No

Councillor Joe Neal

Members Absent: None

Declarations of Interest: None

8. **Economic Development**

8.1 Correspondence

There were no communications to consider.

8.2 Reports

A) Economic Development and Tourism Strategy and Action Plan: Update (2022-EDT-1)

Report #2022-EDT-1 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

Moved by Councillor Grant, Seconded by Councillor Lee,
(15) That Report #2022-EDT-1 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development be received for information.

CARRIED

B) Evaluating the Feasibility of Establishing a Durham Region Local Food Logistics Hub and Innovation Centre (2022-EDT-2)

Report #2022-EDT-2 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

Staff responded to questions with respect to the proposed Durham Region Food Hub concept; potential funding requirements; whether this will compete with the private sector; discussions with the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee; business case expenditures to date; comparison to Durham Farm Fresh Marketing Association; the ability to incorporate an agricultural innovation hub; the possibility of a cooperative model; and the proposed location.

Moved by Councillor Kerr, Seconded by Councillor Yamada,
(16) That we recommend to Council:

A) That the Durham Region Local Food Logistics Hub (“Durham Food Hub”) Business Case (Attachment #1 to Report #2022-EDT-2), completed by the Mallot Creek Group evaluating the feasibility of establishing a food hub in Durham Region, be received for information; and

B) That Council endorse in-principle the recommendation to pursue the development of a Durham Food Hub, as outlined in the Business Case, by seeking out suitable partnership opportunities with Durham’s Area Municipalities and members of Durham’s Local Food ecosystem, including Durham Farm Fresh, Durham College, and organizations within Durham’s agri-food private sector, and to report back to Council in the future if staff finalize a suitable structure and implementation plan.

CARRIED

C) Investment Attraction Metrics – Annual Activity Report 2021 (2022-EDT-3)

Report #2022-EDT-3 from B. Bridgeman, Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development, was received.

Staff responded to questions with respect to the number of leads from Toronto Global; whether any leads from Toronto Global were closed; the number of leads compared to 2020; Investment Lead No. 4 in Appendix 2 to Report #2021-EDT-3; and investment attraction metrics for Scugog, Brock and Uxbridge.

It was requested that staff provide a subtotal of jobs created for investment leads indicated as Closed Won in Appendix 2 to Report #2021-EDT-3. Staff advised that in some cases, investors either do not disclose this information or require that it remains confidential. Staff also advised that this metric is tracked internally, and a total will be provided in future reports for publicly-available data.

It was also requested that staff provide a report with investment attraction metrics related specifically to the three northern area municipalities.

Moved by Councillor Yamada, Seconded by Councillor Lee,
(17) That Report #2022-EDT-3 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development be received for information.

CARRIED

9. **Advisory Committee Resolutions**

9.1 Durham Environmental Advisory Committee

A) Inclusion of the Carruthers Creek Headwaters in the Greenbelt

B. Bridgeman responded to a question with respect to the proposed timing of a report back from staff.

Moved by Councillor Highet, Seconded by Councillor Grant,
(18) That the resolution from the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee regarding Inclusion of the Carruthers Creek Headwaters in the Greenbelt be referred to staff for a report.

CARRIED ON THE FOLLOWING
RECORDED VOTE:

Yes

Councillor Grant
Regional Chair Henry
Councillor Highet
Councillor Kerr
Councillor Joe Neal
Councillor Yamada
Chair Ryan

No

Councillor Lee

Members Absent: None

Declarations of Interest: None

10. Confidential Matters

There were no confidential matters to be considered.

11. Other Business

11.1 Envision Durham Natural Heritage System Report

Councillor Joe Neal inquired as to when a report on the Natural Heritage System is expected to be presented to the Planning & Economic Development Committee.

B. Bridgeman advised that the report is scheduled for presentation at the March 1, 2022, Planning & Economic Development Committee meeting.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled Planning & Economic Development Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at 9:30 AM in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby.

13. Adjournment

Moved by Regional Chair Henry, Seconded by Councillor Lee,
(19) That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 11:13 AM

Respectfully submitted,

D. Ryan, Chair

T. Fraser, Committee Clerk

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2564



The Regional Municipality of Durham Report

To: Planning and Economic Development Committee
From: Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
Report: #2022-P-1
Date: March 1, 2022

Subject:

Public Meeting Report

Application to Amend the Durham Regional Official Plan, submitted by Clark Consulting Services, on behalf of Maltheb Farms 2000 Ltd., to permit the severance of a farm dwelling rendered surplus as a result of the consolidation of non-abutting farm properties, in the Township of Scugog, File: OPA 2021-008.

Recommendation:

That the Planning and Economic Development Committee recommends:

- A) That Commissioner's Report #2022-P-1 be received for information, and
 - B) That all submissions received be referred to the Planning Division for consideration.
-

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 On October 27, 2021, Clarke Consulting Services on behalf of Maltheb Farms 2000 Ltd. submitted an application to amend the Regional Official Plan (ROP) to permit the severance of a dwelling rendered surplus as a result of the consolidation of non-abutting farm parcels in the Township of Scugog.

- 1.2 A “Notice of Complete Application and Public Meeting” regarding the application has been advertised in the appropriate newspaper. Notice of this meeting has also been mailed to those who own land within 120 metres of the subject site. This report was made available to the public prior to the meeting.

2. Background

- 2.1 The subject land is located at the northeast quadrant of Highway 7A and Regional Road 57, approximately 1.7 kilometers west of the Hamlet of Nestleton Station and approximately 2 kilometers north of the Hamlet of Blackstock. The property is municipally known as 3512 Regional Road 57, and is located in Part of Lot 12, Concession 7 in the Township of Scugog (refer to Attachment #1).
- 2.2 The subject site is approximately 70 hectares (173 acres) in size and is irregular in shape. The western portion of the site contains an existing dwelling, a storage building, a barn and a shed to be removed. A wooded area is located at the northeast and southerly portions of the site. The site is bisected by a former road allowance which has since merged with the subject site.
- 2.3 Maltheb Farms 2000 Ltd. also owns a livestock operation located in the City of Kawartha Lakes. In May 2021, the subject land was purchased by the applicant to expand the farm’s feed crop operation. The workable area of the site is approximately 43 hectares (106 acres). The existing dwelling located on the site is occupied by a tenant not involved in the farm operation.
- 2.4 The following land uses surround the subject site:
- a. North – agricultural lands, a wooded area, and rural residences
 - b. East – rural residences, agricultural lands, and a wooded area
 - c. South – Highway 7A, rural residences, and a wooded area
 - d. West – Regional Road 57, rural residences, and agricultural lands

3. Reports Submitted in Support of the Application

- 3.1 A Planning Rationale/Justification Report and Agricultural Assessment dated September 29, 2021, prepared by Clark Consulting Services Ltd. has been submitted in support of the application. The report concludes that the proposed amendment meets the objectives and requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement, the Greenbelt Plan, the Regional Official Plan, and the Provincial Minimum Distance of Separation (MDS) requirements.

- 3.2 An Environmental Site-Screening Questionnaire dated September 29, 2021 completed by GHD Ltd., reported the subject land has a low level of environmental concern and no further assessment is required.
- 3.3 A Total Land Inventory prepared by Clark Consulting Services Ltd. indicated Maltheb Farms 2000 Ltd. presently owns five agricultural properties, consisting of four properties in the City of Kawartha Lakes and the subject farm property (refer to Attachment #2). The total workable land area is approximately 283 hectares (700 acres). The farmlands are used to cultivate feed crops such as corn, beans, wheat, and hay.

4. Policy Context

Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) and Greenbelt Plan

- 4.1 The subject site is located within the Protected Countryside designation of the Greenbelt Plan. Both the Provincial Policy Statement and the Greenbelt Plan permit the severance of a residence surplus to a farming operation as a result of farm consolidation, provided the planning authority ensures that a residential dwelling is not permitted on the proposed retained farm lot created by the severance and will be limited to the minimum size needed to accommodate the use.

Durham Regional Official Plan

- 4.2 The subject site is designated “Prime Agricultural Areas” in the ROP. The site is also located within the Provincial Agricultural System. The north-easterly and southerly portion of the site contains Key Natural Heritage and/or Hydrologic Features. Severance applications for agricultural uses may be considered in accordance with the relevant policies of Sub-Section 9A of the ROP.
- 4.3 Policy 9A.2.10 of the ROP permits the severance of a farm dwelling rendered surplus as a result of a farmer acquiring a non-abutting farm, provided that:
- a. the dwelling is not needed for a farm employee;
 - b. the farm parcel is of a size which is viable for farming operations;
 - c. within the Protected Countryside of the Greenbelt Plan Area, the dwelling was in existence as of December 16, 2004; and
 - d. the farm parcel is zoned to prohibit any further severances and the establishment of any residential dwelling.

5. Proposed Official Plan Amendment

- 5.1 The proposed amendment to the ROP would permit the severance of a 0.85 hectare (2.11 acre) parcel on the east side of Regional Road 57, north of Highway 7A and would include the existing dwelling. A 68.95 hectare (170.49 acre) farm parcel would be retained. The subject dwelling was in existence prior to December 16, 2004.

6. Consultation

- 6.1 A copy of the proposed ROP Amendment has been circulated to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs; the Township of Scugog; the Kawartha Region Conservation Authority; the Regional Health Department; the Regional Works Department; the Ministry of Transportation; and the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee.

7. Public Consultation

- 7.1 A “Notice of Public Meeting” regarding this application has been advertised in the “The Port Perry Star” and mailed to all property owners within 120 metres of the proposed amendment. This report was also made available to the public prior to the meeting.
- 7.2 Anyone who attends or participates in a public meeting may present an oral submission and/or provide a written submission to the Planning and Economic Development Committee on the proposed amendment. Also, any person may make written submissions at any time before Regional Council makes a decision.
- 7.3 If a person or public body does not make oral submissions at a public meeting, or does not make written submissions before the proposed official plan amendment is adopted, the person or public body:
- a. Is not entitled to appeal the decision of the Region of Durham to the Ontario Land Tribunal (OLT); and
 - b. May not be added as a party to the hearing of an appeal before the OLT, as appropriate, unless in the opinion of the Tribunal, there are reasonable grounds to add the person or public body as a party.
- 7.4 Anyone who wants to be notified of Regional Council’s decision on the proposed ROP Amendment must submit a written request to:

Brian Bridgeman, MCIP, RPP
Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
Planning and Economic Development Department
Regional Municipality of Durham
Durham Regional Headquarters
605 Rossland Road East
Whitby, ON L1N 6A3

8. Future Regional Council Decision

- 8.1 The Planning and Economic Development Committee will consider the proposed ROP Amendment at a future meeting and will make a recommendation to Regional Council. Council's decision will be final unless appealed.
- 8.2 All persons who make oral submissions, or have requested notification in writing, will be given notice of the future meeting of the Planning and Economic Development Committee and Regional Council at which the subject application will be considered.

9. Previous Reports and Decisions

- 9.1 Report #2022-P-1 was to be considered at the January 11, 2022 Planning and Economic Development Committee meeting. However, due to unforeseen technical issues, this meeting was rescheduled, and the public meeting is now scheduled for March 1, 2022. Notice of the March meeting has once again been provided to meet the notice requirements of the Planning Act.

10. Relationship to Strategic Plan

- 10.1 In the processing of Regional Official Plan Amendment applications, the objective is to ensure responsive, effective and fiscally sustainable service delivery.

11. Attachments

Attachment #1: Location Sketch

Attachment #2: Maltheb Farms Ltd. 2000 LTD Agricultural Land Holdings

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

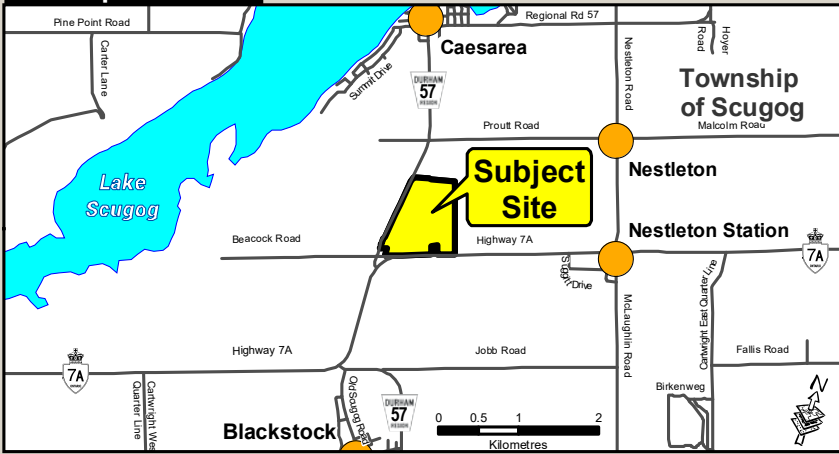
Brian Bridgeman, MCIP, RPP
Commissioner of Planning and
Economic Development

Recommended for Presentation to Committee






Original signed by

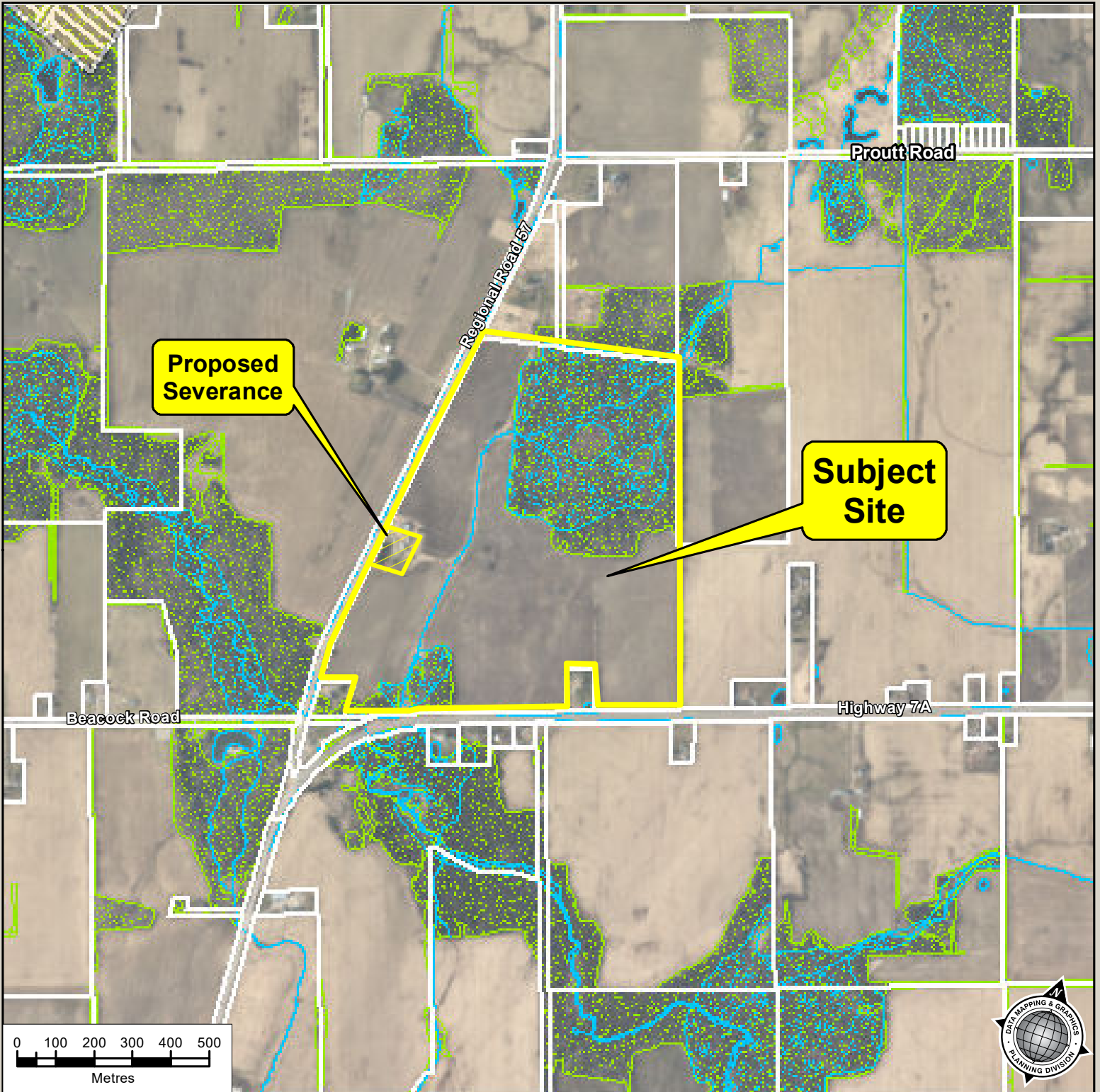
Elaine C. Baxter-Trahair
Chief Administrative Officer

Municipal Context



Legend

-  Subject Site
-  Woodland
-  River or Stream
-  Proposed Severance
-  Wetland



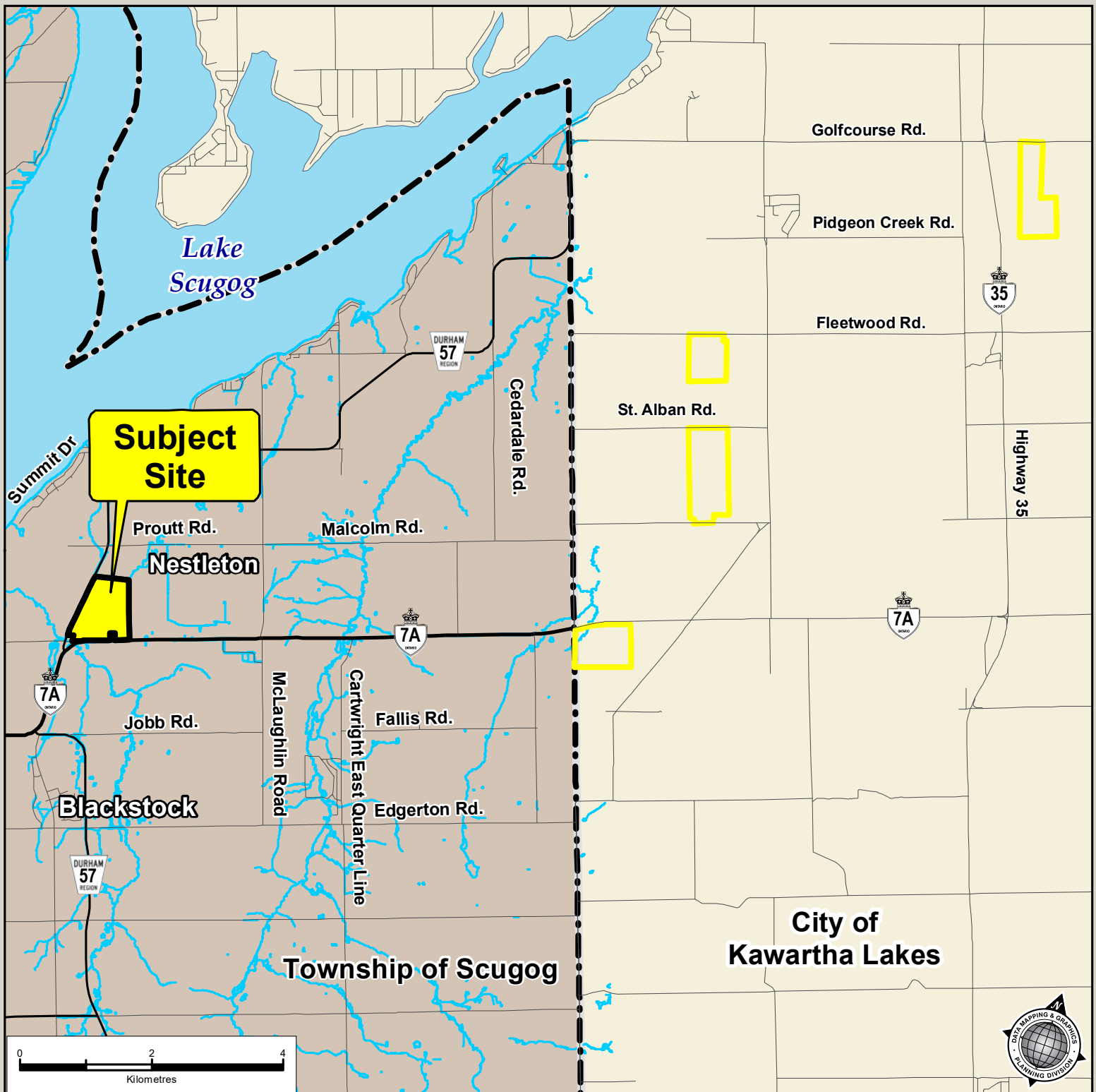
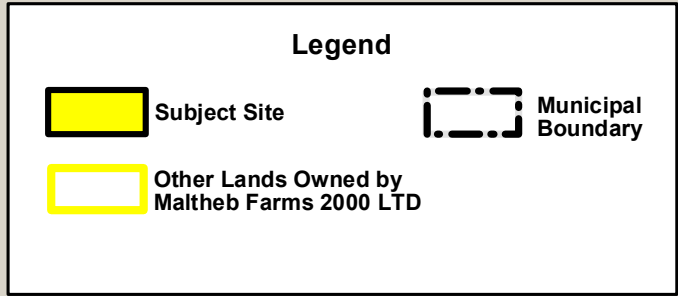
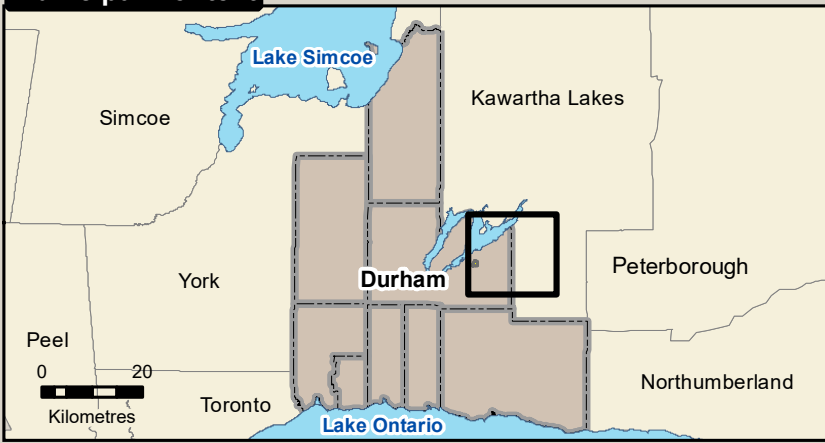
Data Sources:
PARCEL DATA: Ownership © Teranet Inc. and its suppliers. Assessment © 2018 MPAC and its suppliers.
ORTHOPHOTO: © 2018 First Base Solutions. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced without permission. This is not a plan of survey.

This map has been produced from a variety of sources.
The Region of Durham does not make any representations concerning the accuracy, likely results, or reliability of the use of the materials.
The Region hereby disclaims all representations and warranties.



Attachment #2
Commissioner's Report: 2022-P-1
File: OPA 2021-008
Municipality: Township of Scugog

Municipal Context



Data Sources:
 PARCEL DATA: Ownership © Teranet Inc. and its suppliers. Assessment © 2018 MPAC and its suppliers.
 All rights reserved. May not be reproduced without permission. This is not a plan of survey.

This map has been produced from a variety of sources.
 The Region of Durham does not make any representations concerning the accuracy, likely results, or reliability of the use of the materials.
 The Region hereby disclaims all representations and warranties.



If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2564



The Regional Municipality of Durham Report

To: Planning and Economic Development Committee
From: Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
Report: #2022-P-7
Date: March 1, 2022

Subject:

Envision Durham – Identifying a Regional Natural Heritage System, File D12-01

Recommendation:

That the Planning and Economic Development Committee recommends:

Receive for information

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is twofold:

- i. To advise Committee that the draft mapping of the Regional Natural Heritage System (NHS) for the new Regional Official Plan (ROP) is being released for public and agency comment; and
- ii. To introduce potential “Enhancement Opportunity Areas”, as proposed by Durham’s conservation authorities that would support the proposed Regional NHS.

1.2 The provincial requirement to identify a Regional NHS is one of many key components of Envision Durham, the Municipal Comprehensive Review (MCR) of the ROP. The inclusion of the NHS is required for the new ROP to be consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS), and to conform with provincial plans (the Growth Plan, the Greenbelt Plan and the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan).

1.3 Following Planning and Economic Development Committee on March 1, 2022, the draft Regional NHS will be posted to the Envision Durham [project webpage](#) through an interactive online map viewer and for convenience, is provided as Attachment #1 to this report. Those wishing to provide input may do so by commenting directly within the online map viewer or by submitting comments to EnvisionDurham@durham.ca or by mail. Comments are requested by May 2, 2022, representing a 60-day commenting window.

2. Previous Reports and Decisions

2.1 The following Regional staff reports related to the Regional NHS have been provided to Council since the launch of the MCR:

- Report [#2019-P-36](#) Envision Durham – Environment and Greenlands Discussion Paper; and
- Report [#2021-P-7](#) Envision Durham – Proposed Policy Directions.

3. Existing Policy Requirements

3.1 The PPS requires that natural features and areas be protected for the long term and that municipalities identify a “Natural Heritage System” (NHS). An NHS is defined as *“a system made up of natural heritage features and areas¹, and linkages intended to provide connectivity (at the regional or site level) and support natural processes which are necessary to maintain biological and geological diversity, natural functions, viable populations of indigenous species, and ecosystems. These systems can include natural heritage features and areas, federal and provincial parks and conservation reserves, lands that have been restored or have the potential to be restored to a natural state, areas that support hydrological functions and working landscapes that enable ecological functions to continue.”*

¹ The PPS defines *natural heritage features and areas* as features and areas, including significant wetlands, significant coastal wetlands, other coastal wetlands in Ecoregions 5E, 6E and 7E, fish habitat, significant woodlands and significant valleylands in Ecoregions 6E and 7E (excluding islands in Lake Huron and the St. Marys River), habitat of endangered species and threatened species, significant wildlife habitat, and significant areas of natural and scientific interest, which are important for their environmental and social values as a legacy of the natural landscapes of an area.

- 3.2 The PPS requires a “systems-based approach” to natural heritage planning. A systems-based approach is required, (as opposed to a “features-based approach”), since isolated features have lower ecological functioning compared to features that form part of a connected system.² Natural communities are dependent on the interchange of resources that support healthy, functioning and resilient ecosystems.³ Natural heritage planning best practice also recognizes the strategic importance of a systems-based approach to protecting, restoring and enhancing the natural environment not only by considering core natural features, but also the connections between them.
- 3.3 The Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan (ORMCP) designates Natural Core Areas and Natural Linkage Areas, which together make up the NHS on the Oak Ridges Moraine as reflected in the current ROP (see Attachment #2). Municipalities are required to protect these areas for their natural heritage and hydrologic value. The ROP has included mapping and policies for these NHS areas on the Oak Ridges Moraine for almost 20 years.
- 3.4 The Greenbelt Plan established the Greenbelt NHS in 2005 which municipalities are required to protect through policy and mapping within official plans that is reflected in the current ROP as Schedule B1 (see Attachment #3).
- 3.5 The Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe, 2020 adopts a similar definition as the PPS, and introduced an NHS for areas outside the Greenbelt and the Urban Area Boundary (i.e., in the “whitebelt”), where small areas containing natural heritage features within Pickering and Clarington have been identified (see Attachment #4). The Growth Plan requires that the Growth Plan NHS be included in official plans as an overlay and that policies be applied to maintain, restore, or enhance the diversity and connectivity of the system and its long term ecological and hydrologic functions.

4. Approach

- 4.1 The proposed NHS that is being released for public comment largely exists today in different forms and in different locations. The approach for the Region’s new official plan is to assemble the various NHS datasets in one location in the Region’s new OP, as an “overlay”. An overlay is not a land use designation. An overlay is a way

² Natural Heritage Reference Manual for Natural Heritage Policies of the Provincial Policy Statement, 2005, Second Edition, 2010.

³ Ontario Nature: Best Practice Guide to Natural Heritage Systems Planning, 2014.

of depicting information to let the reader know that any development which may be permitted by the underlying land use designation may be subject to some form of site-specific study and review to ensure the NHS is being properly addressed. The proposed NHS consists of the following:

- a. **Within the Rural Area**, the proposed Regional NHS is comprised of the Greenbelt NHS and ORMCP Natural Core and Natural Linkage Areas (as previously described);
- b. **Within the Urban Area**, area municipal datasets were used to establish the proposed Regional NHS, in consultation with area municipal staff. Where features were identified outside the area municipal NHS, area municipal staff determined if these features should be included or excluded;
- c. **Within the “whitebelt”**, the proposed Regional NHS includes the identified Growth Plan NHS areas as required by the Province, approved area municipal NHS datasets, and conservation authority datasets where appropriate, including those developed through watershed planning exercises; and
- d. For the Urban Area and the “whitebelt”, the proposed Regional NHS incorporates additional work undertaken for significant woodlands.

The data sources used to generate the proposed Regional NHS are shown in Attachment #5.

- 4.2 The Region’s conservation authority partners have also identified “Enhancement Opportunity Areas” within their respective jurisdictions to support the proposed Regional NHS. The Enhancement Opportunity Areas are not part of the NHS; rather, these are linkage areas where restoration, stewardship or other efforts would support the health of the Regional NHS, and a more resilient ecosystem in the face of ongoing climate change threats (see Attachment #1).

5. Implementation of the Regional NHS

- 5.1 While precise policy language will be presented through the draft ROP, Proposed Policy Directions identified approaches for a Regional NHS through [Report #2021-P-7](#). In general, these proposed directions include:

- objectives to promote a systems-based approach to protecting the natural environment, to achieve no net loss and to protect, enhance and restore features and areas and their ecological functions;

- that existing identified linkages, including “Open Space Linkages” and “Waterfront Links” and future linkages and enhancement areas identified through watershed plans and/or area municipal assessments be incorporated into a Regional NHS;
- that cross-jurisdictional relationships and impacts on the Regional NHS be considered, and that the importance and intent of external connections, such as Urban River Valleys within the Greenbelt Plan be recognized;
- that the completion of climate vulnerability assessments which identify the most vulnerable areas of the regional NHS and suggest enhancements and/or restoration needed to mitigate climate change impacts be supported;
- that area municipalities develop an NHS and/or refine their existing NHS policies and mapping, including the identification of enhancement areas and linkages as necessary; and
- that the Regional NHS be updated from time-to-time to reflect minor changes as a result of the newest and best available data, at the date of an official plan consolidation, without the need for an amendment to the ROP.

5.2 Once implemented, the Regional NHS and associated features maps can be used by municipalities, conservation authorities and property owners to understand what features could be impacted by development and site alteration. Once in effect, the Regional NHS would act as a screening tool for development applications such as official plan amendments, plans of subdivision, plans of condominium and consent (or land division) applications. During pre-consultation, or when applications are received, staff would determine which environmentally sensitive features, areas, functions, and/or linkages may be present based on the background data. Staff could also advise which Provincial Plan would apply and whether an environment impact study or natural heritage evaluation report, may be required.

6. Relationship to Strategic Plan

- 6.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following goals and priorities in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:
- a. Priority 1.3 under the goal of Environmental Sustainability, a Regional NHS would protect preserve and restore the natural environment, including greenspaces, waterways, parks, trails and farmlands;

- b. Priority 1.4 under the goal of Environmental Sustainability, a Regional NHS demonstrates continued leadership in sustainability and addressing climate change; and
 - c. Priority 5.3 under the goal of Service Excellence, the proposed consultation approach through Envision Durham demonstrates commitment to continuous quality improvement and communicating results.
- 6.2 Identifying a Regional NHS contributes to achieving objectives within the Durham Community Climate Adaptation Plan and is consistent with the Region’s climate emergency declaration. Protection of the natural environment can help to reduce the severity and frequency of riverine flooding and reduce ambient summer temperatures in urban areas to reduce heat stress.

7. Consultation Process

- 7.1 This report, the draft Regional NHS mapping, including instructions on how to use the map viewer, as well as a series of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) regarding Natural Heritage Systems, will be posted to the project webpage at www.durham.ca/EnvisionDurham for public and agency review.
- 7.2 Interested parties are encouraged to provide input directly within the online map viewer. Comments may also be submitted to EnvisionDurham@durham.ca or by mail and are requested by May 2, 2022. Information on the release of the draft Regional NHS map will be announced by way of:
- a. News release and public service announcement;
 - b. Social media platforms, including Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn; and
 - c. Email notifications and report circulation, as detailed below.
- 7.3 A copy of this report and an invitation to provide input through the online map viewer will be forwarded to all Envision Durham Interested Parties, Durham’s area municipalities, conservation authorities, Indigenous communities, BILD – Durham Chapter, and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Circulation will also be provided to Regional Advisory Committees (Durham Environmental Advisory Committee, Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee and Durham Region Roundtable on Climate Change) that may have interest in where and how the Region intends to protect and enhance the Regional NHS.

8. Conclusion

- 8.1 Identification of a Regional NHS is required by provincial legislation and policies.

- 8.2 The approach that is being proposed for the Region's new official plan is to assemble information contained in existing NHS datasets and to clearly depict the NHS as an overlay. The proposed NHS does not introduce any new restrictions that do not exist already.
- 8.3 Input on the draft Regional NHS is requested by May 2, 2022. Feedback received will be reviewed and will inform the preparation of the draft ROP.

9. Attachments

- Attachment #1: Draft Regional Natural Heritage System and Enhancement Opportunity Areas
- Attachment #2: Existing Regional Official Plan Schedule B – Map B3 – Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan Land Use Designations
- Attachment #3: Existing Regional Official Plan Schedule B – Map B1 – Key Natural Heritage and Hydrologic Features and Greenbelt Natural Heritage System
- Attachment #4: Growth Plan Natural Heritage System Areas in Durham
- Attachment #5: Draft Regional Natural Heritage System – Source Data Table

Respectfully submitted,

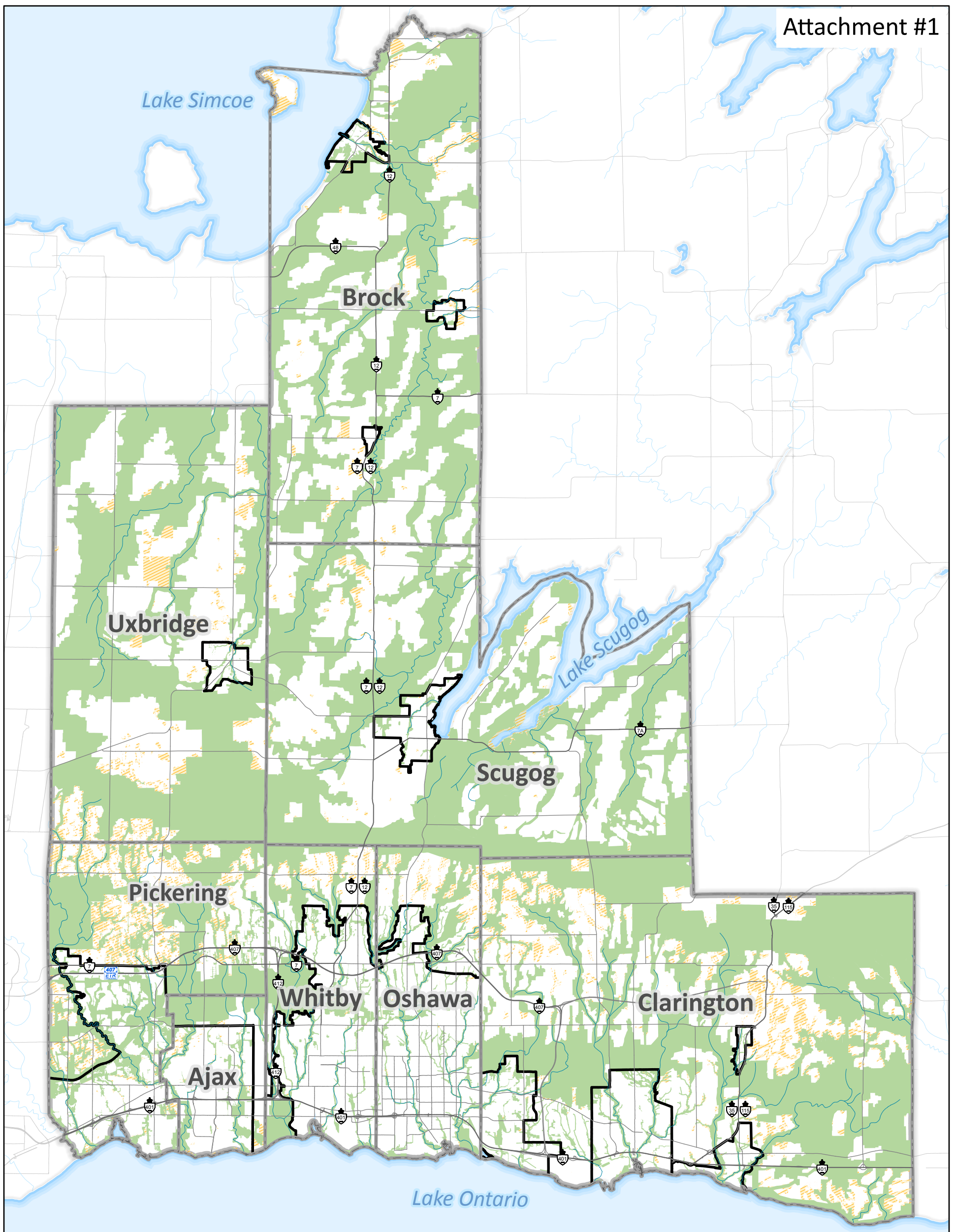
Original signed by

Brian Bridgeman, MCIP, RPP
Commissioner of Planning and
Economic Development




Recommended for Presentation to Committee

Original signed by

Elaine C. Baxter-Trahair
Chief Administrative Officer



Draft Regional Natural Heritage System

-  Draft Regional Natural Heritage System Overlay
-  Enhancement Opportunity Areas
-  Urban Area Boundary

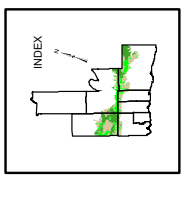


This map has been produced from a variety of sources. The Region of Durham does not make any representations concerning the accuracy, likely results, or reliability of the use of the materials.

The Region hereby disclaims all representations and warranties.

Digital cartography by The Regional Municipality of Durham, Planning and Economic Development Department, 2022.

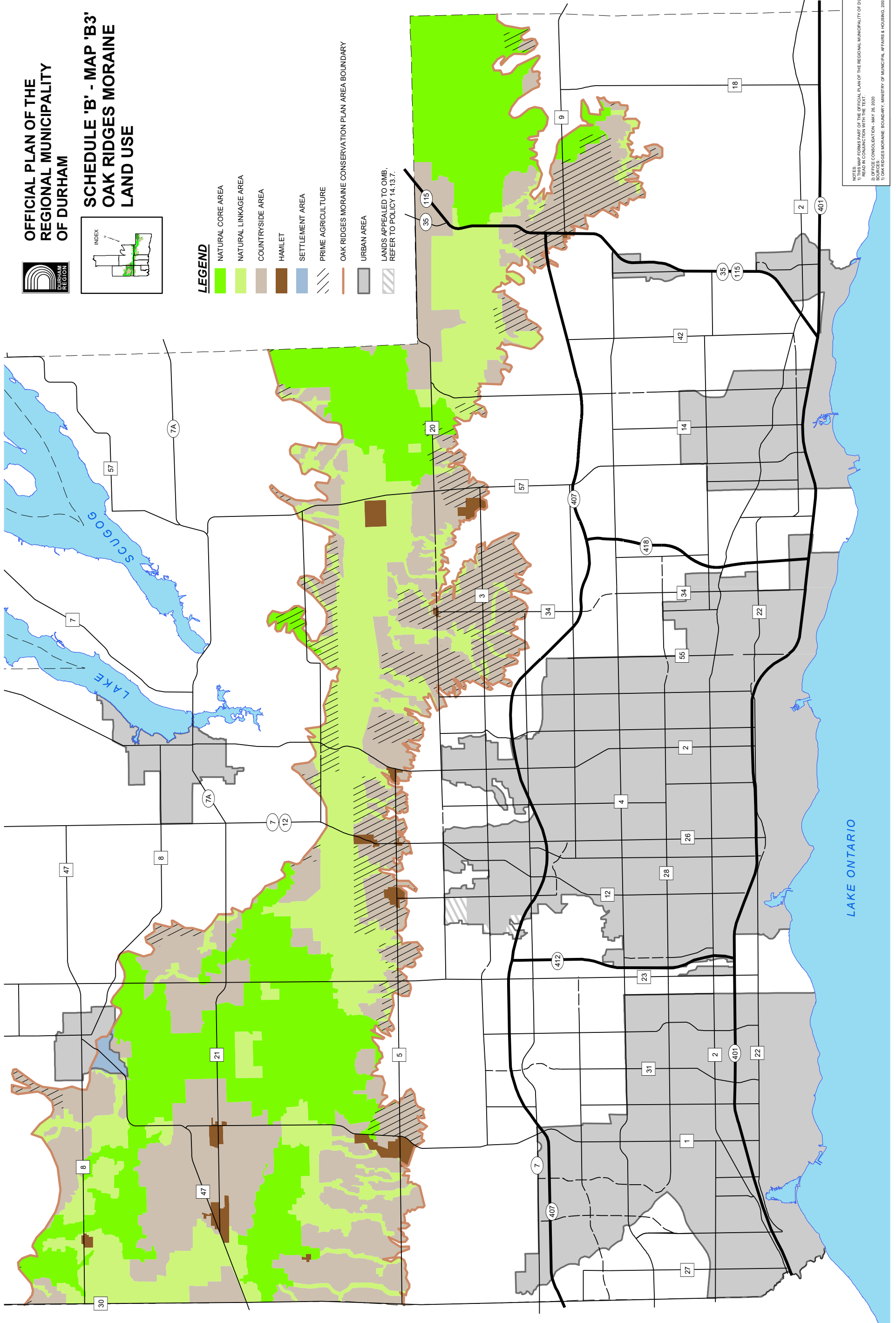
All rights reserved.
May not be reproduced without permission.



**SCHEDULE 'B' - MAP 'B3'
OAK RIDGES MORaine
LAND USE**

LEGEND

- NATURAL CORE AREA
- NATURAL LINKAGE AREA
- COUNTRYSIDE AREA
- HAMILET
- SETTLEMENT AREA
- PRIME AGRICULTURE
- OAK RIDGES MORaine CONSERVATION PLAN AREA BOUNDARY
- URBAN AREA
- LANDS APPEALED TO OMB,
REFER TO POLICY 14.13.7.



NOTES:
1) THIS MAP FORMS PART OF THE OFFICIAL PLAN OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF DURHAM AND MUST BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE TEXT.
2) OFFICE CONSOLIDATION - MAY 26, 2020
3) OAK RIDGES MORaine BOUNDARY, MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS & HOUSING, 2002, 1:100,000

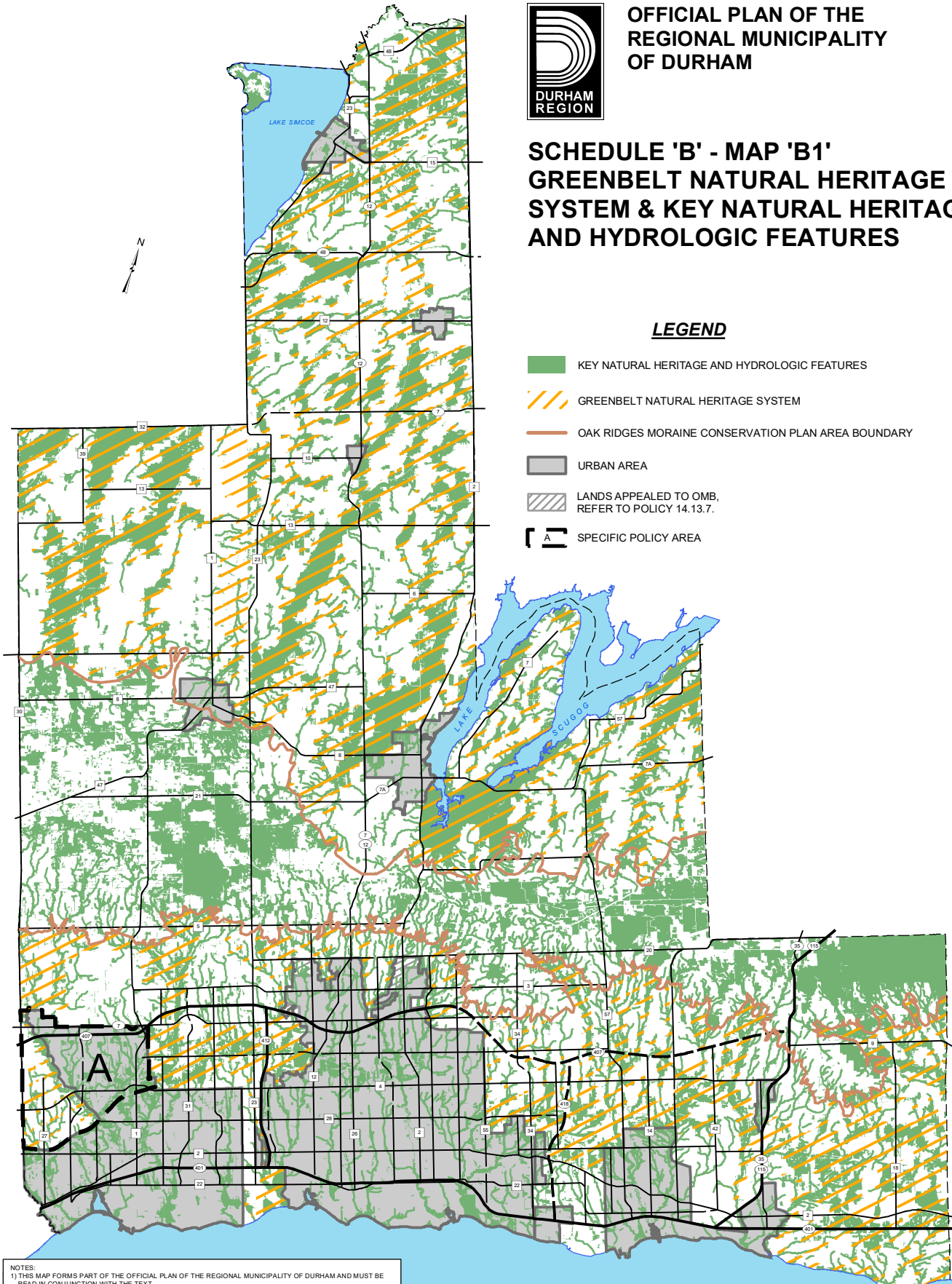


**OFFICIAL PLAN OF THE
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
OF DURHAM**

**SCHEDULE 'B' - MAP 'B1'
GREENBELT NATURAL HERITAGE
SYSTEM & KEY NATURAL HERITAGE
AND HYDROLOGIC FEATURES**

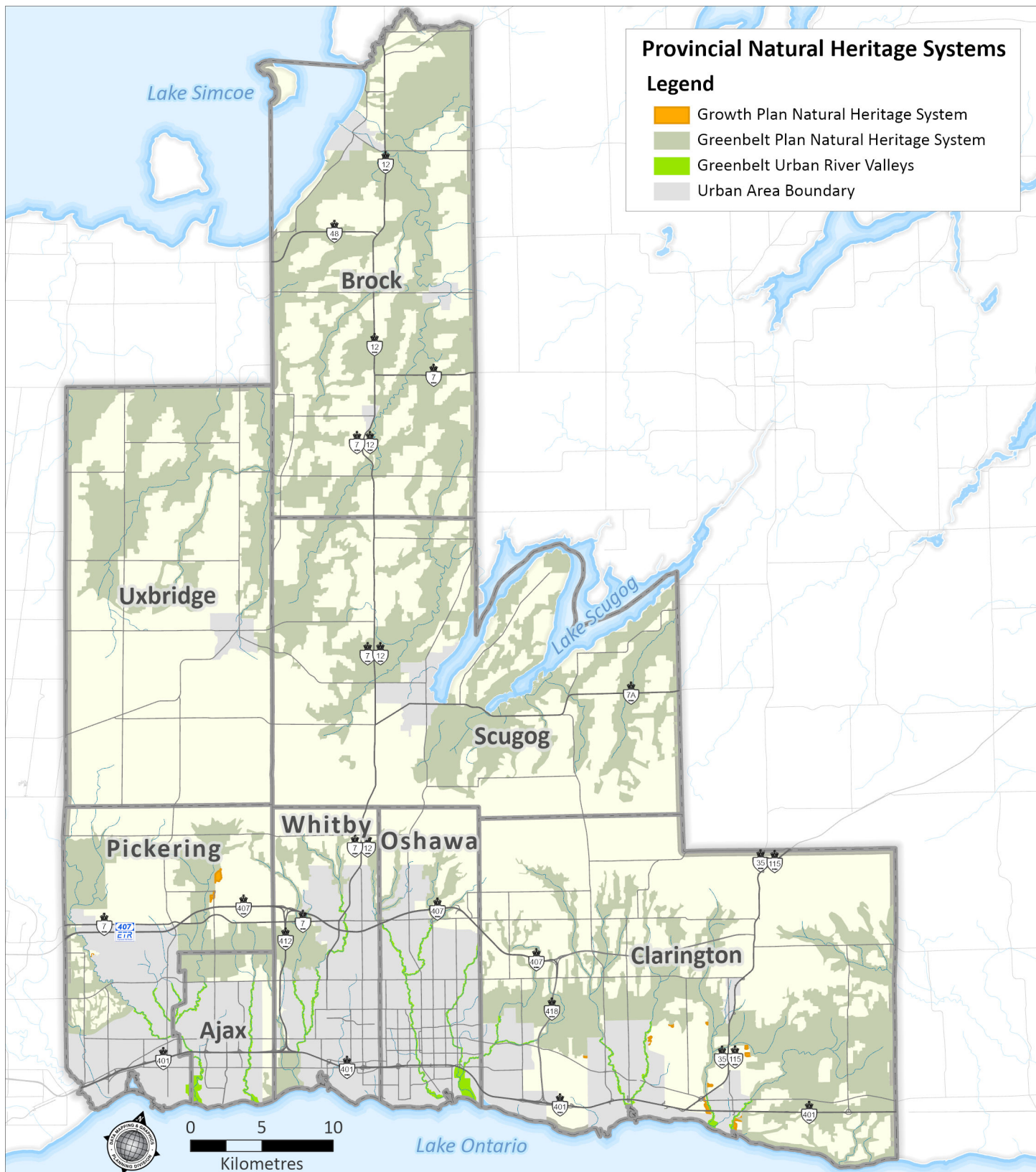
LEGEND

- KEY NATURAL HERITAGE AND HYDROLOGIC FEATURES
- GREENBELT NATURAL HERITAGE SYSTEM
- OAK RIDGES MORaine CONSERVATION PLAN AREA BOUNDARY
- URBAN AREA
- LANDS APPEALED TO OMB,
REFER TO POLICY 14.13.7.
- SPECIFIC POLICY AREA



NOTES:
 1) THIS MAP FORMS PART OF THE OFFICIAL PLAN OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF DURHAM AND MUST BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE TEXT.
 2) ROADS ARE FOR REFERENCE PURPOSES ONLY.
 3) OFFICE CONSOLIDATION - MAY 11, 2017.
SOURCES:
 1) OAK RIDGES MORaine: BOUNDARY, MINISTRY OF MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS & HOUSING, 2002, 1:100,000.
 2) NATURAL HERITAGE FEATURES: MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES, 1:10,000.
 3) CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES.
 4) GREENBELT PLAN: © QUEEN'S PRINTER FOR ONTARIO, 2005. REPRODUCED WITH PERMISSION.

LAKE ONTARIO



Data Sources and Disclaimer
 Growth Plan and Greenbelt NHS: MNR, March 2018.
 This map is part of the Envision Durham/MCR process and is for illustrative purposes only. This map has been produced from a variety of sources. The Region of Durham does not make any representations concerning the accuracy, likely results, or reliability of the use of the materials. The Region hereby disclaims all representations and warranties. Digital cartography by The Regional Municipality of Durham, Planning and Economic Development Department, 2019. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced without permission.

Draft Regional Natural Heritage System – Source Data

1. Rural Area

- Greenbelt NHS (MNRF, 2017)
- Natural Core Areas and Natural Linkage Areas on the Oak Ridges Moraine (MNRF, 2017)

2. Urban Area and Whitebelt

- Growth Plan NHS (MNRF, 2017)
- Pickering – area municipal NHS (2018), conservation authority NHS (2018), environmental datasets, Seaton NHS and Carruthers Creek Watershed Plan Enhanced NHS (Existing NHS), 2021
- Ajax – area municipal NHS (2018), environmental datasets and Carruthers Creek Watershed Plan Enhanced NHS (Existing NHS), 2021
- Whitby – area municipal NHS (2020) and environmental datasets
- Oshawa – area municipal NHS (2019) and environmental datasets
- Clarington – area municipal NHS (2018) and environmental datasets
- Uxbridge – area municipal NHS (2018), conservation authority NHS (2019) and environmental datasets
- Scugog – area municipal EP zoning (2021) and environmental datasets
- Brock – conservation authority NHS (2019) and environmental datasets

3. Environmental Datasets

- Fish Habitat – CLOCA, 2019/LSRCA, 2018/TRCA, 2019/MNRF, 2019
- Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest – MNRF, 2019
- Sand Barrens, Savannahs, Tallgrass Prairies and Alvars – CLOCA, 2019/GRCA, 2013/KRCA, 2015/LSRCA, 2017/TRCA, 2018
- Permanent and Intermittent Streams – CLOCA, 2021/KRCA, 2018/LSRCA, 2016/TRCA, 2010 and 2018/MNRF, 2020
- Provincially Significant Wetland – MNRF, 2019
- Wetlands – CLOCA, 2019/GRCA, 2013/KRCA, 2015/LSRCA, 2017/TRCA, 2018
- Significant Woodlands – North South Environmental Inc., 2021
- Significant Valleylands – Matrix Solutions Inc., 2021

4. Enhancement Opportunity Areas

- CLOCA, 2021, GRCA, 2018, KRCA, 2012, LSRCA, 2019, TRCA, 2021



The Regional Municipality of Durham Report

To: Planning and Economic Development Committee
From: Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
Report: #2022-EDT-4
Date: March 1, 2022

Subject:

Agri-Food Workforce Development – Video Series

Recommendation:

That the Planning and Economic Development Committee recommends:

That this report be received for information.

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the agri-food career video series project that was completed by the Economic Development and Tourism Division's Agriculture and Rural Economic Development Section.

1.2 This report will be accompanied by a staff presentation and a screening of some of the video components of the project for members of Committee.

2. Background

2.1 The agri-food sector is a top economic driver for the region. Supporting the sector in its ability to access a talented workforce is important both to enable growth in the sector, as well as to continuing to meet the growing demand for local food.

- 2.2 It is estimated that the need for food globally will more than double by the year 2050. It is also estimated that the agri-food industry in Canada will face the prospect of over \$2 billion in lost revenue due to widespread labour shortages in the industry, according to the Canadian Agricultural Human Resource Council.
- 2.3 To address some of these challenges, an agri-food career video series was developed to raise awareness and build interest in the variety and diversity of career opportunities available in the agri-food industry in the region.

3. Previous Reports and Decisions

- 3.1 In 2019, the [Local Food BR+E](#) project was completed listing several recommendations to support the growth of the agri-food industry, including engagement and education around workforce development.
- 3.2 The Local Food BR&E Action Items were reprioritized in October 2020 ([#2020-EDT-8](#)) due to evolving industry needs resulting from the pandemic. A subsequent implementation status update was delivered to Planning and Economic Development Committee in October 2021 ([#2021-EDT-6](#)).

4. Agri-Food Careers Video Series

- 4.1 The main objective of the video series is to encourage youth, specifically Grade 10 students, to consider careers in the agri-food industry in Durham.
- 4.2 Through a series of 8 videos, Durham's local agribusinesses and their employees highlight the diverse opportunities available in agriculture, including:
- i. Farming
 - ii. Farm finance and lending
 - iii. Post-secondary programming (e.g. Durham College)
 - iv. Crop agronomy
 - v. Agriculture equipment technician
 - vi. Animal nutrition and sales
 - vii. Precision agriculture and agri-tech
- 4.3 The videos each feature either a business located in the region or individuals who operate a farm operation in Durham region, and who have a multi-dimensional career in the industry.

- 4.4 To accompany the video content, a [webpage](#) was launched on the Invest Durham site. Alongside the videos is a suite of information including agri-food career resources, sector specific information, and a link to a survey that students and teachers are encouraged to complete.
- 4.5 The videos will be featured in grade 10 Civics and Careers classes and have been distributed to five school boards and directly to six relevant secondary school contacts. These contacts will circulate the videos and associated information to guidance counsellors and feature them in their course curriculum. The videos and associated resources are intended to align with the educational curriculum.
- 4.6 In addition to schools and school board contacts, the videos and resources have been shared widely with agri-food partners and stakeholders across the region for their use and re-distribution.

5. Relationship to Strategic Plan

- 5.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following strategic goals and priorities in the Durham region Strategic Plan:

- a) Goal 3: Economic Prosperity
- Item 3.5: Provide a supportive environment for agriculture and agri-food industries.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The Ontario Agriculture College reports that there are 3-4 jobs available for every graduate from an agriculture and food-focused post-secondary program, meaning that the demand of the sector outpaces the availability of talented workforce.
- 6.2 This project shines a light on the diverse career opportunities that exist in the agri-food industry. It encourages youth who may not have previously considered a career in agri-food, especially if they did not grow up on a farm, to learn about the variety of exciting career options available.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Brian Bridgeman, MCIP, RPP
Commissioner of Planning and
Economic Development

Recommended for Presentation to Committee

Original signed by

Elaine C. Baxter-Trahair
Chief Administrative Officer



The Regional Municipality of Durham Report

To: Planning and Economic Development Committee
From: Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
Report: #2022-EDT-5
Date: March 1, 2022

Subject:

Spark Centre Annual Update and Metrics Report

Recommendation:

That the Planning and Economic Development Committee recommends:

That this report be received for information.

Report:

1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Committee with an update on the activities of Spark Centre and supply the performance metrics received from Spark Centre in their 2021 Annual Report.
- 1.2 This report will be accompanied by a delegation from Sherry Colbourne, CEO of Spark Centre, with an annual update to Committee.

2. Background

- 2.1 Spark Centre was founded in 2014. Located in Downtown Oshawa, Spark Centre is Durham Region's local Regional Innovation Centre (RIC). The mandate of RICs is to help Ontario's entrepreneurs and innovators succeed in international markets by helping them work through the challenges of developing their ideas to make them marketable and attract talent, capital and customers. Spark Centre is mandated to

provide these services to technology entrepreneurs in both Durham Region and Northumberland County.

- 2.2 Spark Centre is funded primarily by the Province of Ontario through the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation, and Trade (MEDJCT), and is additionally supported through annual core funding by the City of Oshawa and Durham Region Economic Development and Tourism.
- 2.3 Durham Region Economic Development and Tourism has been providing core funding to Spark Centre annually since 2014 through the Region's Annual Business Plan and Budget. Durham Region Economic Development and Tourism provided \$50,000 in funding to Spark Centre in 2021, and \$50,000 has been included in the 2022 Annual Business Plan and Budget.
- 2.4 The Region of Durham and Spark Centre are parties to a funding agreement, and regular reporting on the activities of Spark Centre to Committee and Council is a requirement of that funding agreement. Spark will appear before Committee to report on inquiries and referrals, affected sectors, investment, employment impact, patents pending and issued, and more generally on Spark's business plans, work plans, and achievements.

3. Previous Reports and Decisions

- 3.1 A Spark Centre update is provided annually.

4. 2021 Annual Report and Annual Metrics

- 4.1 Spark Centre produces and circulates an annual report which can be reviewed in Attachment #1.
- 4.2 Using the Annual Report, Durham Region Economic Development and Tourism collects, tracks, and reports the metrics provided by Spark Centre on an annual basis. These annual metrics are below:

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Jobs Created	29	38	51	24	67	57	34	33
Student Placements	37	30	34	0	86	19	15	0
Client Equity Investments	0	27	34	0	23	88	17	23
Active High Potential Clients	20	20	20	66	63	99	32	29
Clients Served	161	184	187	139	124	99	110	86
New Clients	128	164	142	85	205	50	43	21
Clients Helped Since Inception	524	546	785	1001	1027	1077	1120	1141

- 4.3 Spark Centre has a staff compliment of 13 FTEs, as well as engagements with external advisors specializing in marketing, finance, commercialization, sales, and investment. Spark Centre functions include: Marketing (5 FTEs) - showcasing client products/accomplishments and Eastern Ontario as an innovation destination; delivering the Start-Up Visa Program (2 FTEs) - a program that expedites visas for foreign technology entrepreneurs seeking to relocate to Canada; an Eastern Ontario Innovation Corridor project (3 FTEs) - an initiative to coordinate programming delivery across eastern Ontario including Kingston and Ottawa; and, delivering client services for Durham-based technology entrepreneurs (3 FTE + external advisors) - to provide them the tools, skills and knowledge necessary to secure venture capital and reach commercialization.
- 4.4 A wholly-owned for-profit subsidiary to the Spark Centre, named Synergy Lab Inc., has been established, and CEO Sherry Colbourne joined their staff as President, in addition to her role leading Spark Centre. Considerable Board, staff, and consultant time and effort is being dedicated to growing this business, with a mandate to provide market-entry services for a fee to international technology entrepreneurs looking to establish themselves in Canada, in advancement of innovation in Durham and across Eastern Ontario.
- 4.5 The Region will ensure that the 2022 Spark Centre funding agreement will contain sufficient protections to ensure the Region's core funding will only be used to support the core activities of the Spark Centre, and not those of Synergy Lab Inc, and that the terms shall be to the satisfaction of the Regional Solicitor.

5. Relationship to Strategic Plan

5.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following strategic goals and priorities in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:

a. Goal 3: Economic Prosperity

- 3.1 Position Durham Region as the location of choice for business.
- 3.2 Leverage Durham's prime geography, social infrastructure, and strong partnerships to foster economic growth.
- 3.4 Capitalize on Durham's strengths in key economic sectors to attract high-quality jobs.

6. Conclusion

6.1 The Economic Development and Tourism Division partners with organizations in Durham Region that support, engage, and mentor start-up and innovative businesses in order to support and facilitate the growth of our innovation community.

6.2 Spark Centre, as Durham Region's Regional Innovation Centre, has a mandate to support local technology entrepreneurs in reaching commercialization, and to play a central role in Durham's innovation ecosystem.

7. Attachments

Attachment #1: Spark Centre 2021 Annual Report

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Brian Bridgeman
Commissioner of Planning and Economic
Development

Recommended for Presentation to Committee

Original signed by

Elaine C. Baxter-Trahair
Chief Administrative Officer



ANNUAL REPORT

a year in
PIXELS



the new
NORMAL

The pandemic created a new normal in how we live and work, and for many of us that meant an entire year of Zoom calls, computer screens and pixels.

That said, we thought we'd carry on with this year's "new normal" by taking our Annual Report digital as well! With events having gone virtual and an absence of in-person photography, we've decided to have a little fun!

We hope you enjoy this new approach!



meet you on **ZOOM?**

ZOOM MEETING SCHEDULE

1:00-1:05

Waiting for the host to start the meeting



1:06

The group discovers virtual backgrounds and the skin smoothing filter



1:07

Someone is struggling with audio

1:09

"Let me try my other headphones."

1:10

Everyone holds up their cats

1:15-1:25

Actual meeting



1:30

"Stay safe...byeeee!"
(everyone waves)

a letter from

SHERRY COLBOURNE

PRESIDENT & CEO



A year in pixels...indeed it was. But like the old saying, “a picture paints a thousand words”, Spark Centre made the most of our pixelated existence and leveraged our “new normal” to say more, do more, and impact more clients, partners and stakeholders. FY2021 is sure to be remembered, not by the existence of COVID, but by the impact we made in spite of it.

On the heels of hosting our first virtual AGM, Spark Centre began the work of setting the foundation for the development of the Eastern Ontario Innovation Corridor (EOIC). The EOIC is an expansive, multi-hub region that spans Durham Region to the Quebec border. Established on the vision of creating a leading, forward-thinking innovation district within Canada, the EOIC aims to connect the broad spectrum of innovation centres, business resources, academic institutions and supporting stakeholders that exist in regions across Eastern Ontario, into one all-encompassing support system for entrepreneurs. Whether entrepreneurs wish to launch, scale, re-establish business resilience or break into international markets, through the EOIC, they will be equipped with a vast network of resources and support to propel them to success.

Recognizing the diverse economic region that the EOIC spans, one might rightly ask, “why would an entrepreneur ►

choose the Eastern Ontario Innovation Corridor?" Here are some reasons why:

- ▶ **We have a diverse and vibrant network with over 1.3 million residents, 200+ communities and a wide range of businesses.**
- ▶ **We are home to world-class educational institutions that provide and support the growth of a highly skilled workforce as well as leading-edge research.**
- ▶ **In comparison to other locations in Ontario, we have competitive operating costs to help support businesses within the region.**
- ▶ **We have exceptionally valuable resources and expertise throughout the corridor that can be leveraged by businesses providing them greater opportunities to develop, grow, and break into new markets, both nationally and internationally.**

The success of the EOIC initiative will be predicated by the region's ability to attract and retain entrepreneurial talent both from within Canada and around the world. As part of enabling our reach to extend beyond our borders, Spark Centre, as the orchestrator of the EOIC initiative, utilizes our unique position as a Start-up Visa designate to attract the world's best emerging startups and established businesses to the region. Together, with our founding EOIC partners; Launch Lab, Queen's, and PARO, and many more in the queue, we are forging a new narrative for Eastern Ontario. This collective of collaborators shares a desire and vision to drive innovation forward. ▶

- The phrase “it takes a village” is at the heart of the EOIC.
- ⌋ While other parts of the province tend to concentrate their supports within their own respective regions, the
- EOIC is an initiative that enables communities across Eastern Ontario to build upon and combine their existing
- strengths to create a stronger, more robust support and resource network for entrepreneurs. It also provides a forum for Eastern Ontario communities to discuss additional ways in which to support their innovation ecosystems and to cross-promote successes stemming from each district. Not only does this unified network provide

“FY2021 is sure to be remembered, not by the existence of COVID, but by the impact we made in spite of it.”

entrepreneurs with broader access to supports and resources, it also positions Eastern Ontario as the place to be for entrepreneurs to grow and succeed, attracting entrepreneurs and innovators — both local and from abroad — to the corridor.

Speaking of international entrepreneurs, in mid FY2021, SparkCentre spun out our sister company, Synergy Lab Inc., to manage what had become our internal innovation outreach machine...the Pioneer Program. What started out as a 3-cohort soft-landing program in pilot mode, grew wings and demanded a dedicated team to manage the intake and onboarding of hundreds of international founders wishing to learn more about how to do business in Canada. Enticed by the mass exodus from Toronto, and Oshawa being named the fastest growing ►

city in Canada, foreign founders were emboldened by COVID to make the break from their country of origin and set plans in place to immigrate to the region once COVID restrictions lifted. In FY2021 alone, the Pioneer Program was responsible for attracting 89 global companies to our virtual soft-landing program. Spark Centre has since supported 82 on their journey to become residents of this growing innovation corridor. If there is any question about how these entrepreneurs will aid in our post- COVID recovery, consider these facts:

- ▶ **Number of international companies supported by Spark Centre in FY2021 – 68**
- ▶ **Capital they will bring to the region – \$7,442,472 (430% increase over FY2020)**
- ▶ **Contribution to GDP – \$43,411,010 (445% increase over FY2020)**
- ▶ **Number of international companies supported by Spark Centre from inception – 151**

Building this economic engine has been no small feat and has required the full commitment of the Board of Directors, our funding stakeholders and our many innovation partners. But, here we are, with an aggressive recovery plan in place and with the will to continue on this path until Durham Region is a recognized region of innovation in Canada.

While FY2021 brought unexpected surprises like COVID-19, it also brought pleasant surprises like Digital Main Street funding. Supported by both the province (through area BIAs) and the federal government (FedDev), Digital Main ▶

Street provided much needed resources to downtown centres disrupted by COVID-19. Spark Centre was tapped to deliver two community collaboration projects that would assist our mainstreet stakeholders weather the storm of COVID. With funding from the Toronto Association of Business Improvement Areas (TABIA), we chose to join hands with the Region of Durham and the Durham Task Force to support the ShopDurham initiative. [The Shop Durham Region Online Marketplace](#) — which now has more than one thousand listings from Durham-based retailers and vendors — offers a single, streamlined shopping experience where consumers can safely explore and purchase products from multiple vendors in a single transaction. Moreover, this initiative enabled Durham's small businesses to transition from a bricks and mortar existence into today's environment of online shopping, bringing together a community that supports one another and showcasing the collaborative spirit that exists in Durham Region.

FY2021 was also a great year for introspection. Global pandemics have a way of making us more present, even as we have to social distance and adhere to strict lockdown procedures. In FY2021, Spark Centre continued our work with the [Innovation Economy Council \(IEC\)](#) and collaborated with our partners on the publication of a number of insightful papers that take an inward look at Canada's innovation economy. The work of the IEC is instrumental in informing Canada's key policymakers as they extract novel insights and encourage critical discussion about how, together, we can strengthen the Canadian innovation economy. I encourage all that share my passion for Canada's innovation ecosystem to get acquainted with the work of the IEC. ▶

If FY2021 was about anything, it was about adapting. Adapting to our “new normal” and charting a course for recovery. Small and large companies alike embraced digitalization in order to survive, they learned to work efficiently in an online world and realized that human connection can be achieved with as little as the will to do so. That said, recovery from the pandemic will require a heightened commitment to embracing all that Industry 4.0 can deliver and the renewed support of innovators, funders, partners and stakeholders to forge this bold, new world.

As we look ahead to FY2022, I am encouraged by the strides that have been made. I am encouraged by the heightened level of collaboration that exists between stakeholders in Durham Region, the resilience of our small and medium businesses, and the willingness to support the broader community of Eastern Ontario as we take on the ambitious goal of making Eastern Ontario a leading, forward-thinking innovation district within Canada.

Thank you to our funders, our supporters, our partners and, most importantly, our clients for persevering and finding the silver lining in a disrupted world. We forge ahead into FY2022 perhaps a little bruised, but certainly stronger for the opportunity to refocus our efforts and stand in the knowledge that we have each other’s back.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Solbourne". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'S'.



“

*Hello? I think
you're frozen...*

”

meet the **TEAM**

The staff and advisors at Spark Centre are a collective of professionals with a wide range of expertise in various fields. What's the one thing we all have in common? A fierce dedication to helping entrepreneurs launch and grow their business.

EXECUTIVE TEAM



SHERRY COLBOURNE

PRESIDENT & CEO

Sherry Colbourne is an entrepreneur with decades of experience in Ontario's high-tech sector. As CEO, Sherry guides the direction and growth of Spark Centre and advocates for an international approach to the development of our entrepreneurial ecosystem. Sherry is a strong believer that entrepreneurship brings diverse cultures together and that the opportunity for Durham Region lies in its roots as an innovative and diverse region.



MICHELLE SHURLAND-JADOO

DIRECTOR, CLIENT SERVICES & OPERATIONS

Michelle directs and manages Client Services, delivering growth-generating services that accelerate clients' progress through advisory, education, and networking. Michelle provides clients with opportunities for funding, connections, and development. She generates reporting for funders and internal use, manages the budget and strategy, and assists with Spark Centre operations.



KRISTINA SVANA

DIRECTOR, MARKETING

Kristina manages the overall marketing strategy for Spark Centre and provides direction, guidance and leadership to the marketing department. She oversees the organization's marketing efforts and is the Publisher of Spark Centre's business and innovation magazine, *The Spark*. Kristina is helping to grow the organization and is responsible for building the Spark Centre brand as the catalyst of Durham Region's innovation culture.

CLIENT SERVICES TEAM



CARA WITVOET
CLIENT SERVICES
COORDINATOR



SAMANTHA YORKE
GLOBALIZATION
COORDINATOR



NELLA MAURO
GLOBALIZATION
COORDINATOR



CATHY IRELAND
EOIC, BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT MANAGER



AIMEE SLATER
EOIC LEAD

MARKETING TEAM



MELANIE MARLER
DESIGN LEAD



SUNDAY LEK
DESIGN SPECIALIST



MELISSA NOWAKOWSKI
COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST



KAILEE SOMERS
EVENT SPECIALIST



*“ I can't hear you...
you're on mute! ”*

meet our

BOARD of DIRECTORS

Behind every great organization is a team of amazing professionals with a commitment to ensuring that organization thrives.

We'd like to introduce you to our Board Members and the expertise that they bring to the Spark Centre table.



GARY JAROSZ
CHAIR
SEMI-RETIRED

Gary Jarosz has over thirty years of progressive experience in the ICT, electronics and manufacturing industries. He was most recently, Vice President at Global Emissions Systems Inc., a leader in emission control technologies, President and CEO of PowerCart Systems Inc., a provider of mobile power solutions, Senior VP, North American Sales and Marketing for Mobile Computing Corporation, a wireless mobile software solution provide, VP Operations for Sharp Electronics of Canada Ltd., and VP/General Manager for eAssist Global Solutions Canada Inc. He held senior leadership roles at Xerox Canada Ltd., and IBM Canada Ltd.

He holds a Bachelor of Business Management from Ryerson University with postgraduate studies at Harvard Business School, Richard Ivey School of Business and IMD in Lausanne, Switzerland.

He has served as a Board Director for Bridgepoint Health Foundation, Ontario Chamber of Commerce, and the Business Advisory Centre Durham where he was Chair of the Board for multiple terms and volunteered as a member of the Cabinet of the United Way of Greater Toronto for five campaigns. He is currently a Board Director for Synergy Labs Inc., YRSCC1445 and Chair of the Board for the Spark Innovation and Commercialization Centre.

**JOHN RUSSELL
SECRETARY-TREASURER
AND VICE-CHAIR
RBRO SOLUTIONS**



John Russell is a serial entrepreneur with over 20 years of leadership experience. He is the current Co-owner, Co-founder and Chairman of RBRO Solutions Inc., a software and consulting services company. John is also in early-stage development with his latest venture, Liivin Inc., a software company and Liivin Construction Dev. Inc. focused on the residential real estate development market. He is heavily involved in the business community, sits on several boards including the Spark Centre (RIC), and was past chair of Rouge Park Terraces' (RPT) condominium development. He spends much of his time connecting organizations with solutions that help to enhance and facilitate day-to-day operations.

As a trained architectural technologist, John has provided exceptional architectural designs and insights to top Canadian architectural and interior design firms, such as Rice Brydone, Cecconi Simone, Kiia Architecture, Brookfield, and Cadillac Fairview.



CHRISTOPHER ALEONG
DIRECTOR
ENDOCEUTICS, INC.

Christopher is a global life sciences leader with strategic cross-functional and cross-divisional experience in mature and emerging markets. He has a demonstrated ability to lead diverse teams in achieving ambitious targets and shaping work environments to improve operational efficiencies. He also has experience working in both Regional and multi-country roles, in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries.



DROR NIR
DIRECTOR
SOLO GELATO CANADA

Dror is a Senior Executive with over two decades of progressive leadership experience in the IoT wireless space. He is responsible for leading high-performance technical organizations and supporting state-of-the-art technology in globally scaled organizations. Dror excels at identifying, analyzing and capitalizing on growth opportunities. Dror brings a long-standing track record of success in international business development, lean thinking and change management initiatives.



**ROGER PAN
OBSERVER**

**MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
JOB CREATION AND TRADE**

Roger Pan is Senior Advisor in the Commercialization and Scale-up Networks Branch of the Ministry. He oversees various initiatives that help Ontario's innovators to grow their ventures through commercializing new technologies and accelerating the flow of innovative new products and services to the marketplace. He has had lead roles in developing the Regional Innovation Centre network (RIC) as well as a number of other significant technology commercialization initiatives.

“The purpose of the governing body, or Board of Directors, is to direct and guide the organization in the right direction.”

Pearl Zhu

THOMAS JANKOWSKI
DIRECTOR
TRYBE INC.



Thomas has over two decades of firsthand CxO experience in fintech, travel, media and technology verticals. As one of the first Chief Digital Officers in Canada, his operational oversight often includes some combination of sales, marketing, technology, product, R&D, strategy and innovation. He has been responsible for major growth at Fortune 500 enterprises, such as NCR or Postmedia and internationalization at Growth 500 companies, such as FlightNetwork and Coinsquare (which has been named Canada's #2 startup by LinkedIn). He's currently the CEO of Trybe Inc., a Toronto based social media startup with backing from Nickelback and Avril Lavigne. Thomas holds an Honours Bachelor of Arts from the University of Toronto and Master of Arts (summa cum laude) from the University of Sunderland in the U.K. He has served as a Board Director to Factory Incubator, ERA Accelerator, and several international startups as well as the i-Advance Program National Review Board and Adobe Inc. He currently serves as a Board Director for Synergy Labs Inc., Spark Innovation and Commercialization Centre and Patch of Green Inc.



SIMON GILL
OBSERVER
REGION MUNICIPALITY
OF DURHAM

Simon Gill is a strategic leader, speaker and innovator and is the Director of Economic Development with the Region of Durham. His focus is on building international and local relationships to foster economic growth, innovation, and diversification for Durham's economy. Simon holds a certificate in Economic Development and a Bachelor of Commerce degree from Queen's University. Prior to joining Durham Region, Simon was a leader in the global solar industry holding senior-level management positions at Ontario Power Generation and SunEdison.



HAILEY WRIGHT
OBSERVER
CITY OF OSHAWA

Hailey Wright is the Director of Economic Development Services at the City of Oshawa and was appointed to the position in June 2021. Previous to joining the City, Hailey held a number of positions at Trent University Durham GTA for more than a decade, most recently as Manager, Community Relations and Articulation. Hailey is a Trent University alumni and is an experienced leader with extensive knowledge in areas of management, relationship cultivation and sector development.

meet our

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

INTRODUCING...



HARI SAMBASIVAM
DIRECTOR

Hari brings a deep knowledge of North American financial markets, life sciences and institutional investor perspectives. For over 17 years, he focused on the in-depth financial and strategic analysis of North American biotechnology companies with leading Global and Canadian investment banks. In his role as the Bank of Montreal's Associate Director of Equity Research for the past decade, Hari managed all aspects of a large team of Equity Research Associates, and led the development of differentiated, high-value products. Hari holds a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from the University of Toronto, and has completed the Board of Directors Corporate Governance Program at Northwestern University Kellogg School of Management, and ESG for Boards at UC Berkeley.

INTRODUCING...



NIKKI STONE
DIRECTOR

Nikki Stone is a Mom, Wife, and Executive, with a passion for the outdoors. Growing up in the Niagara Region until the age of 17, she then moved to Toronto and shortly after to Australia for University. Currently she resides in Durham Region, in a country setting, which supports her love of long walks in the woods.

Her record of accomplishment mostly derived from spearheading and managing the launch of innovative new companies and divisions, adding incremental revenue streams, with customer and company success in mind.

Recognized for employee satisfaction and engagement, mentoring, and leading by example is always at the forefront of Nikki's leadership style, personally and professionally. Her values are around living a grateful life and remembering to enjoy the journey.

“We cannot become what we want
by remaining what we are.”

Max Depree



INTRODUCING...

JOHN DYNES
DIRECTOR
CASCADIA EQUITY PARTNERS

John is a respected leader and investment strategist with a proven strength and passion for identifying unique investment opportunities and strategic paths to create value. He brings 20 years of experience in investment management, capital markets and consulting to the Board, in both public and private markets. John is the Managing Partner of Cascadia Equity Partners, focusing on deal origination and capital sourcing for Canadian mid-market opportunities. In conjunction with this, he is a Partner at Cascadia Consulting, working with businesses across a variety of industries, bringing his expertise in the areas of financial strategy and analysis. Prior to Cascadia, John spent 16 years on Bay Street as a Partner and Portfolio Manager at JC Clark.



“Many of life’s failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up.”

Thomas Edison



meet our
ADVISORS

We've all been virtually captivated by our advisors' know-how over the past year! Our advisors are an integral part of the education and knowledge our clients receive. With expertise in a wide range of fields, our advisors have been guiding our clients down the right paths for achieving success!

MARIE WIESE
ECOMMERCE

CHRIS GIANTSOPOULOS
MARKETING

ROBERT WEESE
SALES

JASON GAMBLER
INVESTMENT

GARRY INNANEN
AI/TECHNOLOGY/SALES

LEN KLEINE
HEALTH SECTOR

RICK MCCUTCHEON
DIGITAL SALES

DR. LUBNA TIRMIZI
HEALTHCARE

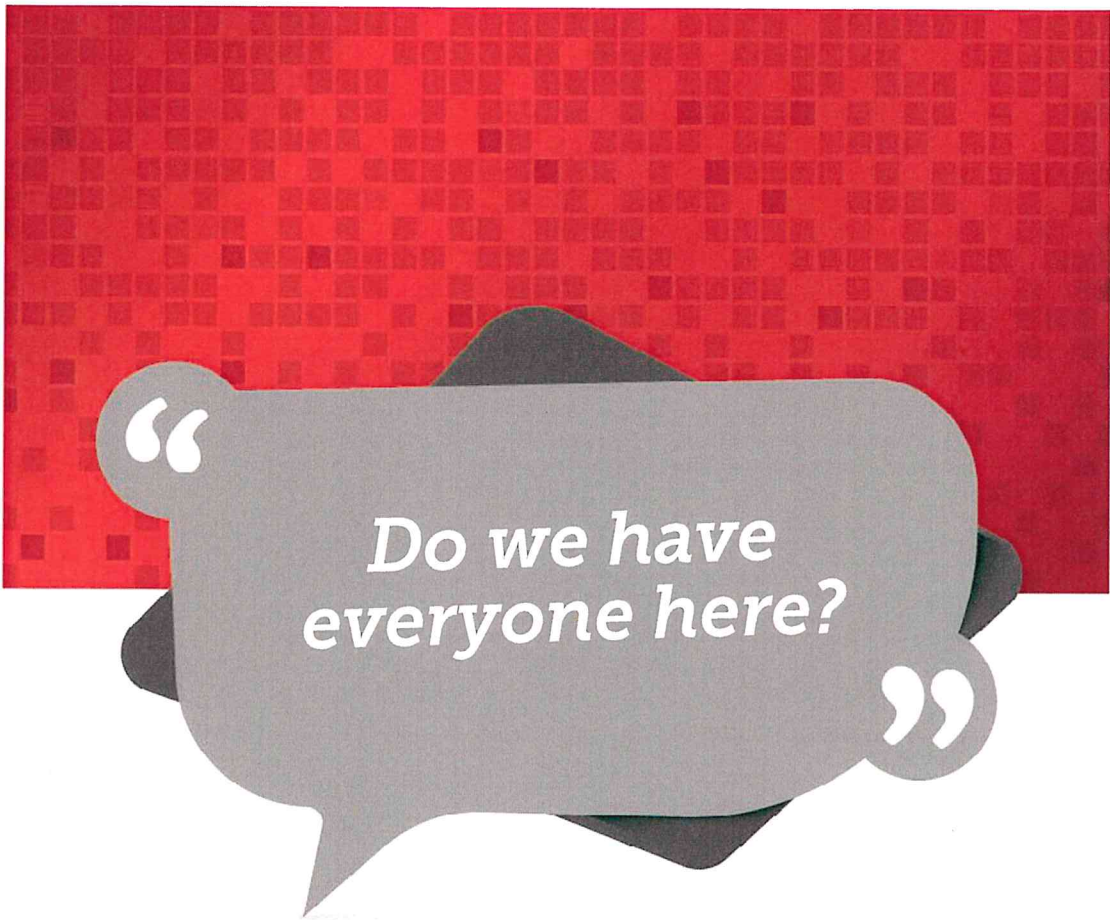
KEVIN SMITH
MARKETING

NANCY POST
FOOD INDUSTRY

PETER MANDL
FINANCE

SAYANI SAIPHOO
FINANCE

Click here to read full bios of our amazing team!



our valued
PARTNERS

Our partners provide a thriving innovation economy and strong support system for entrepreneurs in Durham Region, Northumberland County and the Eastern Ontario Innovation Corridor (EOIC), creating opportunity for prosperity, employment and collaboration.

FEATURED SUPPORTERS



MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, JOB CREATION & TRADE

The Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade supports world-class research, commercialization and innovation taking place across Ontario through a range of programs and services like the Ontario Research Fund, Innovation Demonstration Fund, Ontario Venture Capital Fund and the Ontario Network of Entrepreneurs. The Ministry is the primary funder of Spark Centre.



CITY OF OSHAWA

The City of Oshawa is the largest municipality in the Durham region both in terms of population and concentration of business activity. The City benefits from its diverse economy balanced between value added services such as health care, information technology and education along with a stable base of advanced manufacturing activity. The city has also seen historic levels of physical growth setting development records in each of the last five years. The City of Oshawa is a crucial partner, funder and supporter of Spark Centre.



INVEST DURHAM – DURHAM REGION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

Invest Durham leads, facilitates and supports various investment attraction and expansion initiatives. Our goal is to create and retain jobs, increase non-residential assessment and promote the region as the best place to live, work and invest. Invest Durham is a division of the Regional Municipality of Durham and is a significant supporter and funder of Spark Centre.

ELITE PARTNER SHOWCASE

Bereskin
& Parr

BERESKIN & PARR LLP



**FINANCE WITHOUT
BORDERS**

MNP

**MNP – ASSURANCE AND
ACCOUNTING SERVICES**



**RJM LAW
CORPORATE LAWYERS**



**ROUGHLEY INSURANCE
BROKERS LTD.**



**SURESH LAW PROFESSIONAL
CORPORATION**

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT





“

*I have to jump
on another call!*

”

by the
NUMBERS

Our Key Performance Indicators serve as a reminder of how far we've come. Seeing the growth in both our clients' businesses and within our own organization, pushes us forward, challenges us to reach new heights and are a cause for celebration!

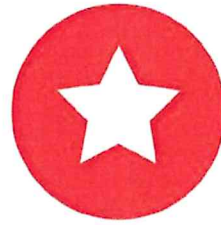


1818 TOTAL ADVISORY
HOURS



33

FEMALE
FOUNDERS



86

NUMBER OF
UNIQUE CLIENTS



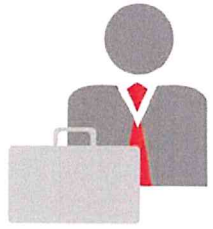
\$3.5M

CLIENT FUNDING
RAISED

23

CLIENTS
FUNDED
+35%





33

**PAID
JOBS CREATED**



94

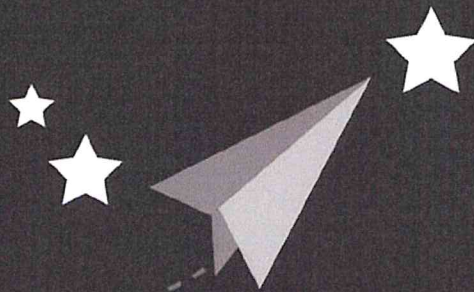
**FOREIGN
FOUNDERS**



**TOTAL
EVENTS**

134

**97%
INCREASE**



Includes: Meetups, Events, Workshops & Socials



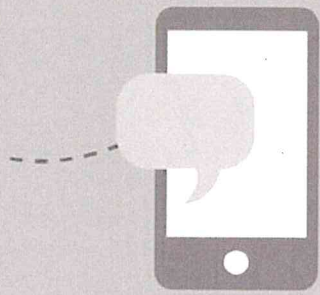
2553

**TOTAL
ATTENDEES**

44%

INCREASE

12K NEW WEBSITE
USERS 



89%

INCREASE
SOCIAL MEDIA
FOLLOWERS



131%

INCREASE
SOCIAL MEDIA
ENGAGEMENT

THE SPARK MAGAZINE
READERSHIP

25K



264% INCREASE

CREATIVE
spark 

\$8,325
REVENUE

24% INCREASE



Start-Up Visa PROGRAM

300

FY2021

OF APPLICANTS



175%

INCREASE



244

**LETTERS OF
SUPPORT**



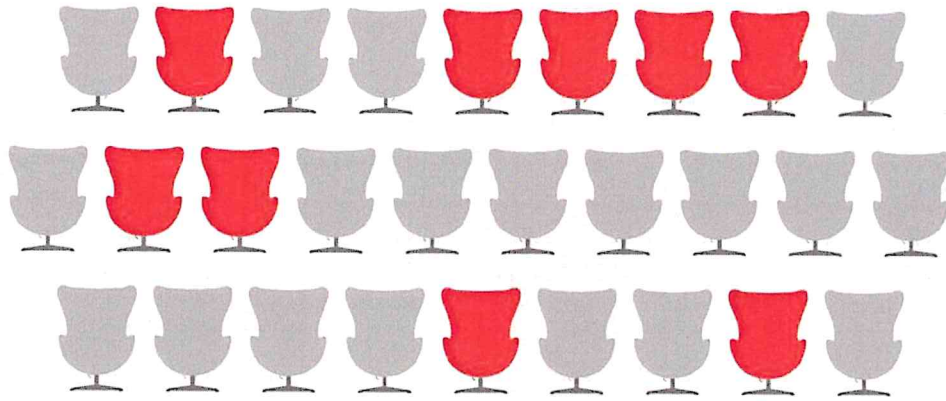
467% INCREASE



72

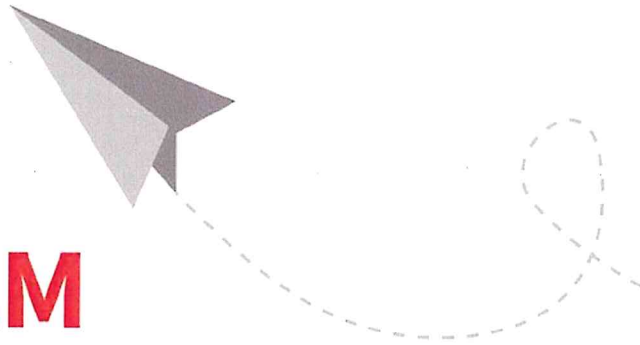
**NUMBER OF
ANTICIPATED SUV
RESIDENTS**

FY2022



TOP **3** APPLICANT COUNTRIES

IRAN
CHINA
VIETNAM



\$7.4M CAPITAL

Companies who received a LOS in FY2021

430% INCREASE



**\$44.8M CONTRIBUTION
 GDP FY2021**

567% INCREASE

pixelated EVENTS

Spark Centre is great at mixing business and fun for an enjoyable work culture and engaging events! From business updates, holiday fun and celebrations, to inspiring events like Startup Grind and TechEx, we've had plenty of opportunity for virtual networking...and screenshots!



Spark Centre's virtual Christmas event.

Startup Grind with Katie Zeppieri and Katherine Homuth, CEO & Director, Sheertex.



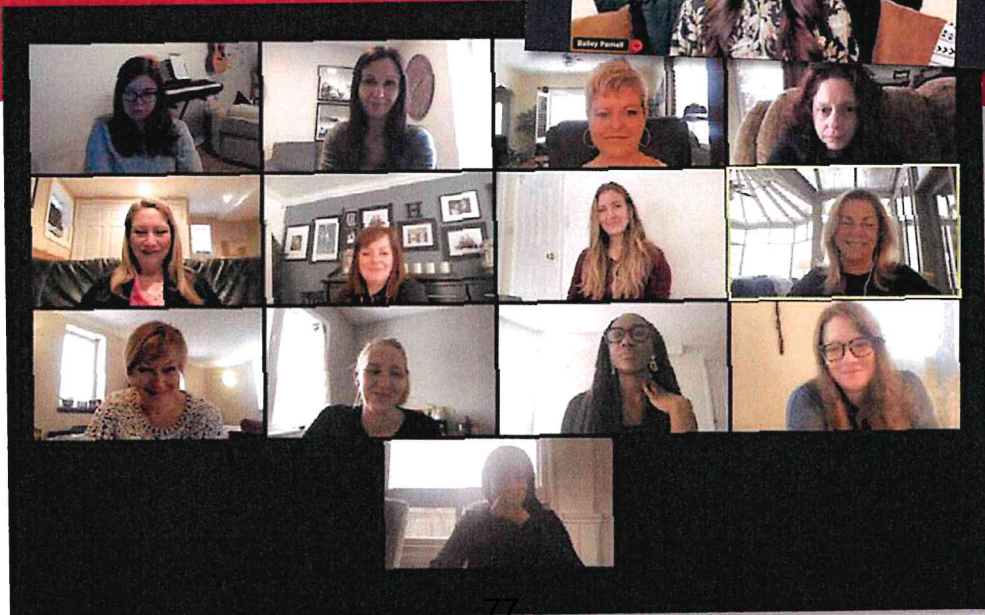
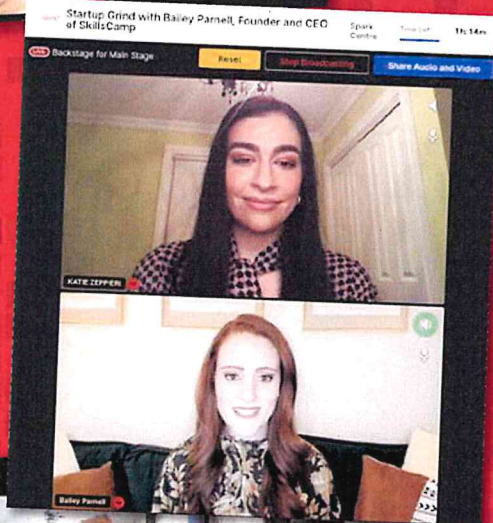
NOT-TO-FORGET EVENTS

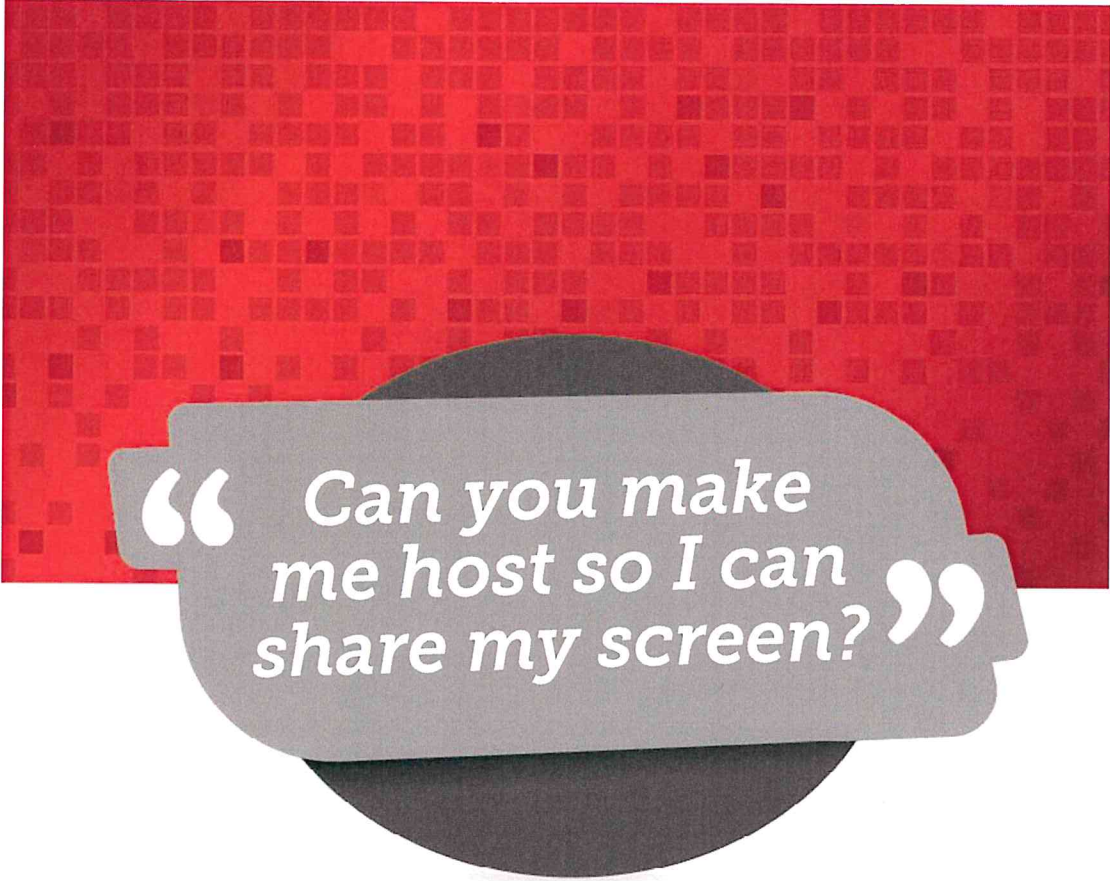
Our clients meet with Minister Prabmeet Sarkaria.



Startup Grind with Katie Zeppieri and Bailey Parnell, Founder and CEO of SkillsCamp.

Let's catch up! Our regular Tuesday morning meeting.





*“ Can you make
me host so I can
share my screen? ”*

top client
SHOWCASE

Our clients have been achieving some amazing successes! In the next few pages you'll meet three up-and-comers whose innovations are revolutionizing their industries and creating change for the future.

1 top client showcase

HOP IN

**LOGISTICS SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS FOR
TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY BARRIERS**



What is Hop In Technologies?

Hop In Technologies is a logistics software company that designs solutions for transportation and mobility barriers for organizations and their employees. This software curates commuter lines to support connectivity in areas which may be underserved by public transit or as needed/ requested by an organization. Hop In Tech increases employers access to talent, supports workplace retention, expands access to hiring pools and supports worker lifestyles due to reduced commutes.

Why was Hop In Technologies created?

Founders Erich Ko and Boyd Reid were unhappy with their commute experiences with regards to comfort, duration, cost and carbon footprint and thought that there had to be many others with similar transit stories. In trying to find solutions for their own poor commutes, they decided to also create a solution for the community.

Poor commutes have a direct correlation to economic barriers faced by people from underserved com-

munities, increased carbon emissions, and slow development of urban growth centers & cities. From trial and error they determined that logistics-based technology and B2B models were optimal to address these issues.

Milestones

- First official ride using Hop In Tech's software in June 2019.
- Hop In Tech's COVID Initiative launched in May 2020 leading to over 150 kilometres in trips for Frontline Health Care Worker and over 25,000 masks donated across Canada.
- First new client in July 2020 following pandemic pivot. Zero cases of transmission while operating during the pandemic.
- Announcement in April 2021 of partnership with Eco Drive to offset all the carbon emissions through Hop In Tech's platform.
- Surpassed 10,000 rides in August 2021.



BOYD REID | CO-FOUNDER & COO

Boyd Reid is a Communications and French Studies graduate with a background in sales management, tech, business growth/networking and corporate advisory.



ERICH KO | CO-FOUNDER & CEO

Erich Ko is a Law and Business graduate with a background in Government Public Relations, Startup Advisory and Organic Growth/Partnerships.

2 top client showcase

IAPOTHECA

**EASY-TO-USE PHARMACY DELIVERY
SOFTWARE - ECONOROUTE**



Streamlining Pharmacy Operations

Who is iApotheca?

iApotheca empowers independent pharmacies across Canada with its innovative, easy-to-use Pharmacy Delivery Software, EconoRoute. With EconoRoute, pharmacies can increase revenue, save time and fuel, and seamlessly manage their delivery operations — from automatically planning delivery routes and managing multiple teams on one interface, to creating a paperless audit trail at their fingertips and receiving payment at the door with Square integration.

Why do pharmacies need iApotheca?

Convenience is a priority for many Canadians and with that comes an expectation of having virtually anything delivered to your doorstep, including pharmaceuticals. In fact, pharmacy deliveries have grown rapidly, especially during the pandemic, and pharmacies are struggling to meet the demand for local deliveries. Expensive delivery options, time consuming searches for drivers and complex operation management are

just a few of the challenges that pharmacies face. iApotheca's platform helps pharmacies manage the entire delivery operation from scheduling and route optimization (handling over 100 addresses in a fraction of a second), to outsourcing delivery providers, real-time tracking and more.

Milestones

- Currently have over 900 pharmacy customers across Canada.
 - Recent expansion into the United States.
 - Successfully raised \$470K to expand the delivery software platform.
-



SPENCER TURBITT | CO-FOUNDER

As a former owner of one of Ontario's largest College Pro Painting Franchises, Spencer applies his sales expertise to the operations and sales of iApotheca's products within the pharmacy industry.



RACHELLE SMERHY | CO-FOUNDER

Rachelle is co-founder of iApotheca with years of expertise in copywriting, project management and SEO.



DAVID HALLIN | CO-FOUNDER

David is co-founder and senior-level full-stack software developer with iApotheca armed with years of programming languages and healthcare technology experience, having worked with pharmacies, hospitals and at Abbot Point of Care.

3 top client showcase

KEVARES AUTONOMOUS SERVICES

**SUPPORTING SUSTAINABILITY AND
THE EVOLUTION OF HUMAN LABOUR BY
PROVIDING AUTONOMOUS ROBOTS**



Who is Kevarès?

Kevarès uses autonomous mobile robots for clients for a wide range of services including inspections, lawn mowing, litter collection and more. It assumes all integration needed in complex R&D so that clients only pay per use for turnkey services. As their robots are electric, Kevarès not only contributes to reducing carbon footprint but also increases efficiency by enabling clients to allocate staff to more important tasks, leaving repetitive or hazardous responsibilities to Kevarès' robots.

What inspired you to create Kevarès?

Kevarès believes that we live in an age where sustainability and community growth must take priority over profit and that robotics and AI can play a major role in reducing our carbon footprint in day-to-day operations. As transportation represents only a fraction of human

existence, “life electrification” can go far beyond what cars can do in reducing our carbon footprint. Kevaris was created to support sustainability and contribute to the evolution of human labour by providing autonomous robots to handle hazardous and low-value tasks, freeing human ingenuity to shape what matters most.

Milestones

- World-class staff consisting of 9 technical staff with Graduate, Masters and Ph.D.
- Two-year \$240K R&D project with Ontario Centre of Innovation and Queen’s University with 2 fellow researchers in robotics and AI.
- Secured \$50K worth of AI training data centre in Canada’s most powerful supercomputing environment at the University of Toronto.
- MITACS Global Internship Project: approved a project for up to five global interns to test autonomous lawn mowing and litter collection by Spring of 2022.
- Defining terms for the first autonomous sidewalk inspections project with the City of Oshawa and Oshawa Teaching City.



JOEL NASCIMENTO | FOUNDER & CEO

An entrepreneur for over fourteen years, Joel holds an MBA and Bachelor Degree in Computer Science and has twenty-five years of experience with global project/program/operations management.



MICHELLE LIU | CO-FOUNDER & CFO

With an MBA and a wide international business network, Michelle has over fifteen years of experience in investment banking.



AcreageWay is revolutionizing commercial real estate investments with its unique platform that utilizes blockchain technology and AI to democratize real estate investment opportunities and make these hard-to-reach opportunities available for the average, hardworking Canadian.

- Receiving Exempt Market Dealer license by the Ontario Securities Commission to distribute Blockchain based securities.
- Expanding registration to Alberta, British Columbia and Manitoba regions.
- Launched Industrial Flex opportunity worth \$5M on the platform. Signed engagement for another \$7.5M residential.



First 30 helps businesses engage and onboard new on-site or remote employees more quickly with a web-based platform that hosts all onboarding and orientation content and resources in one place. They also offer outplacement services for companies who are laying off employees.

- Launched onboarding platform.
- Set to double revenue in 2021.
- Launched Coffee N' Law Q&A series that has attracted over 200 prospects to each session, growing their lead list from 400 to 2400.



FPrimeC Solutions is shaping the future of civil infrastructure with its advanced Non-Destructive Testing services (NDT) and innovative products, like Impact-Echo and iPile, for rapid, accurate and cost-effective evaluation of a wide range of structures.

- Successfully launched new product, Impact-Echo.
- Was pre-approved for the Innovative Solutions Canada Grant.
- Successfully secured key clients in energy and mining.

**GROUNDLEVEL
INSIGHTS**



GroundLevel Insights is a proprietary artificial intelligence platform that tracks the physical movement of customers by aggregating anonymous, privacy-compliant data, giving clients a clear understanding of both their customers and competitors, enabling them to grow, respond and win.

- Achieved 800% growth in revenue year-over-year.
- Launch of free CANATRACE contact tracing platform has gained over 9000 clients including Starbucks, OLG Casinos and Amazon Prime, and CANATRACE QR codes have now been scanned over 392 million times across Canada.
- Raised \$1.5M in investment capital to fuel operations and growth and won a Local Business Award from the City of Pickering.



Longan Vision combines augmented reality, technology with intelligent systems to provide smart support to first responders such as the Fusion Vision System (FVS), a revolutionary, augmented reality wearable device that enhances firefighters' vision during operations.

- Successfully raised additional seed round investment led by 15th Rock Venture and joined by OCI.
 - Completed live fire pilot testing with the Lambton Fire School.
 - Successfully secured two contracts with the Department of Defence.
-



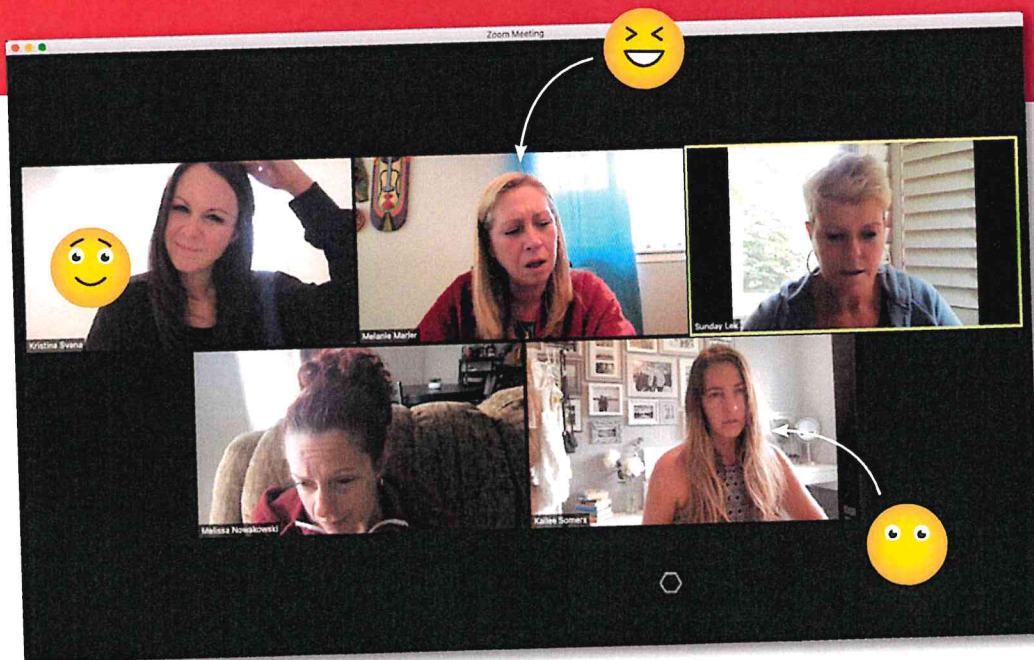
Oombo designs and develops advanced safety products like Castor Beacon, a modular signalling beacon, for the safety and well-being of workers in safety/emergency management who are exposed to hazardous and high-risk environments.

- Reduced their cost of goods (reduced cost/unit by approximately \$14).
- Confirmed design of the product by two professional engineers.
- Ordered materials for initial units for testing.

thank you for **READING**

We hope you enjoyed our new digital Annual Report. Our team is looking forward to a new year full of exciting new events and entrepreneurial adventures (hopefully in-person).

And finally...a pic of that awkward moment when everyone looks for the leave button.



sparkcentre.org

Leave Meeting



The Regional Municipality of Durham Report

To: Planning and Economic Development Committee
From: Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development
Report: #2022-EDT-6
Date: March 1, 2022

Subject:

Response to Correspondence from the City of Oshawa Council re: “Process to Establish the City of Oshawa including the lands in Oshawa operated by the Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority as a Foreign Trade Zone”.

Recommendation:

That the Planning and Economic Development Committee recommends:

That this report be received for information.

Report:

1. Purpose

1.1 Oshawa City Council, at its meeting on March 29, 2021, passed a resolution, “*That the City of Oshawa, Region of Durham, and the Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority be requested to work jointly together to investigate the work necessary to apply with the Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario to establish the appropriate area in Durham Region including the City of Oshawa and the lands in Oshawa operated by the Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority (HOPA) as a Foreign Trade Zone Point*” [emphasis added]. In May of 2021, the City’s resolution was before the Planning and Economic Development Committee as an item of correspondence and was referred to staff for a report. This report responds to the correspondence.

2. Background

- 2.1 In the second half of 2021, staff from the Region's Economic Development and Tourism Division worked in collaboration with staff from the City of Oshawa and the Hamilton-Oshawa Port Authority (HOPA) to investigate the work that would be required to obtain a Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) designation in the region. This investigation also included stakeholder consultation.
- 2.2 Collectively, the group (Region, City, HOPA) concluded that the benefits of the FTZ designation are modest as explained below, and further concluded that the Durham Regional border (as opposed to a smaller geographic boundary) would be needed to meet the eligibility requirements, if a designation were to be pursued. Any of the three parties could act as the lead proponent for an FTZ application.
- 2.3 The paragraphs below provide an overview of the FTZ Point designation and the eligibility criteria and process to obtain the designation.

What is a Foreign Trade Zone Point?

- 2.4 A Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) Point, in Canada, refers to a specific geographic area where businesses can access specialized trade-related advice from various government agencies through a single point of contact. Jurisdictions with the designation typically have large sectors of their economies which are heavily involved in international trade and export. The Canadian designation differs from foreign trade zone designations in other countries which typically confer some form of unique advantages for tariff and tax exemption eligibility for trade activity.
- 2.5 Canada's FTZ designation also differs from free trade zones and customs bonded warehouses, which are common in many international jurisdictions. Generally, a free trade zone or bonded warehouse applies to a specific area, building, or facility where goods can be shipped, handled, manufactured, and re-exported without the involvement of customs agencies.
- 2.6 In effect, all of Canada is a Foreign Trade Zone, in that all FTZ programs are available to businesses anywhere in the country. The designation of an FTZ Point does not confer any unique financial advantages to businesses within the boundary, in terms of eligibility or exemption for tariffs, duties, or tax benefits with respect to the import or export of raw materials, components or finished goods. Trade and export rules and tax advantages apply equally to all businesses across Canada.

- 2.7 Functionally, an FTZ Point refers to a designated location in Canada where businesses can seek information and support from an organization with a mandate to promote local trade (in many cases, an Economic Development Organization), which is in turn uniquely supported by an FTZ Task Force. The FTZ Task Force facilitates support and access to existing programs and includes representatives from: Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA); Canada Revenue Agency (CRA); Transport Canada; Global Affairs Canada; Federal Ministry of Innovation, Science and Economic Development; and Export Development Canada.
- 2.8 Currently, Canada's FTZ programs include:
- a) [Duties Relief Program](#) – upfront relief of duties
 - b) [Drawback Program](#) – refund duties for exported goods
 - c) [Customs Bonded Warehouse](#) – Defers/relieves duties and taxes
 - d) [Export Distribution Centre Program](#) – upfront relief of GST/HST on certain imports and domestic purchases
 - e) [The Exporters of Processing Services Program](#) – upfront relief of GST/HST on certain imports.
- 2.9 To date, there have been 16 FTZ designations granted across Canada including five in Ontario. FTZ Points in Ontario include: Niagara (2016); Windsor-Essex (2017); Hamilton (2020); Sault Ste. Marie (2021); and Sarnia-Lambton (2021).
- 2.10 Organizations that have been designated as FTZ Points are responsible for implementing FTZ programs and marketing.
- 2.11 Businesses which are not in an FTZ Point designated jurisdiction are not eligible to access the FTZ Point Task Force, but can still access programming and support through regular channels through contacting municipal economic development teams, or the appropriate federal agencies.
- 2.12 There are two primary benefits associated with the designation: i) marketing and promotion for the purpose of investment attraction; and ii) improved service offering to local companies in the resources, manufacturing, wholesale and logistics/distribution sectors to improve their global competitiveness.
- 2.13 Regional staff, working in concert with City of Oshawa and HOPA staff, consulted with the following organizations:
- a) Durham Region's Area Municipalities, through the Durham Economic Development Partnership (DEDP)

- b) Oshawa Executive Airport
- c) FedDev Ontario
- d) Invest Windsor-Essex
- e) Niagara Region
- f) City of Hamilton
- g) Durham Regional Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade
- h) Ontario Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation, and Trade (MEDJCT)
- i) Durham's Advanced Manufacturing Sector business community.

3. FTZ Point Application and Eligibility Requirements

- 3.1 The application process to become an FTZ Point typically takes between 12 to 18 months, during which time the applicant must demonstrate they meet the eligibility requirements through the preparation of a comprehensive application package.
- 3.2 Proponents must demonstrate capacity to take on the responsibilities of the designation and are assessed based on ten eligibility considerations. The ten eligibility considerations are:
- i) An economic priority for the region (as identified by local/provincial governments);
 - ii) Private sector leadership and commitment;
 - iii) Dedicated governance body (through legislation/incorporation or otherwise);
 - iv) Securing local and provincial government support to participate in the task force;
 - v) Favourable business environment;
 - vi) Available land;
 - vii) High quality infrastructure;
 - viii) Active participation in connection to global supply chains;
 - ix) Access to a skilled labour force; and
 - x) Access to a multimodal transportation system.
- 3.3 Staff have consulted with other jurisdictions that successfully received the designation, and were advised the application process requires considerable staff time, expertise, and support from other organizations. The following are examples of the approaches taken by other jurisdictions for the application process:
- a) Partnering with private sector champions to pursue the application, including for example a port authority and international airport authority;

- b) Using consultants to advise, undertake stakeholder consultation, and draft the application; and
 - c) Dedicating municipal economic development staff resources to the preparation of the application.
- 3.4 An FTZ Point is typically supported by a single resource with a governance body that has a mandate for promoting investment and international trade. For some jurisdictions that have successfully secured the designation, applications have been led by their economic development organization, or by the municipality's internal economic development division/department.

4. Resources Required

- 4.1 Typically, there is at least one staff person who acts as the FTZ Point lead, providing international trade/export services and advice to businesses, responding to inquiries, marketing the available FTZ programming, and liaising with the FTZ Task Force on complex projects and queries to support local businesses optimize their trade operations.
- 4.2 In the 12-to-18-month period preparing and submitting the application, certain activities are required. These activities include professional services to support the data analysis and business case development, materials development, website design, and collateral for marketing and program launch – including promotional videos, and media procurement.
- 4.3 On an ongoing annual basis, there would be resource requirements related to the delivery of the program, including marketing, business outreach, workshops and seminars, and general program delivery overhead. While not mandatory, a full-time staff person would be needed in order to realize the desired benefits and outcomes of the FTZ.

Discussion

- 4.4 As mentioned previously, there are no financial advantages to businesses located in an FTZ Point, as the programs are available to organizations across Canada regardless of their geographic location. The tangible benefits to local businesses are the streamlined access to federal FTZ Programs through the designated Task Force and local dedicated resource (a "one-stop-shop" for trade advice).

- 4.5 FTZ Points are solely responsible for the cost and obligation to market the federal FTZ programs and services. This marketing and promotion of FTZ programs and services could be done without the need to establish the formal designation. The Task Force and specialized internal staff with expertise in trade/export would not be available, but the federal programs themselves are still accessible to Durham businesses.
- 4.6 HOPA has advised that it would be supportive of Regional efforts to pursue a designation and would offer the Region and/or City assistance in supporting the preparation of the application. Should the Region not pursue the designation, HOPA will remain an enthusiastic partner in Durham's economic development goals, particularly in coordination to respond to inbound investment inquiries, developing and delivering investment promotion content, and showcasing Durham's unique and high valuable supply chain assets.
- 4.7 City of Oshawa staff worked closely with Regional staff in these investigatory activities and advised that should the Region choose to pursue the FTZ Point designation, City staff would support the application within the parameters directed by City Council.
- 4.8 Through the consultation process, the Oshawa Airport representatives advised they would be supportive of efforts to pursue a designation. The Chambers of Commerce, Boards of Trade, Area Municipal Economic Development teams were also consulted. There was an expressed desire to see assistance for businesses to increase export capacity, however there are other available programs offering this more basic service.
- 4.9 Advanced manufacturing organizations in Durham that were consulted as part of the review had mixed feedback about a FTZ Point for Durham Region. Some companies did express a strong interest in the FTZ Point, while others did not see value since the FTZ Programs were available regardless of location. Only a select number of businesses deemed ideal clients for the service were consulted, and interest was moderate.

- 4.10 In recent years, various economic development staff at the Region and Area Municipalities have organized and promoted free trade and export seminars with expert presentations by the Province and federal agencies. Attendance and interest in these have been very limited, in each case attracting only one to three businesses.
- 4.11 Based on analysis and consultation, staff believe the total value of services delivered to the local business community through a designation would be limited, and most of the value would be as a marketing and investment promotion tool.
- 4.12 When considering the opportunity cost of this project against other marketing and investment promotion opportunities, there are likely higher potential economic returns from investments in marketing activities such as promoting vacant serviced land, promoting our history of innovation, increasing awareness of our competitiveness attributes among key GTHA Realtor/developer audiences, and generating prospective investment leads in high potential clusters such as: laboratory, pharmaceutical, agri-tech/food-tech, e-gaming / e-security, additive manufacturing, applied AI, food and beverage, automation, professional services in the energy sector, nuclear / isotopes / clean energy, and AV/EV technologies.

5. Relationship to Strategic Plan

- 5.1 Alignment was assessed against the Region's Strategic Plan. As a marketing tool, an FTZ designation would support the strategic priorities of positioning Durham Region as the location of choice for business, and to capitalize on Durham's strengths in key economic sectors to attract high-quality jobs.

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 While the FTZ Point designation could be a useful tool as part of a broader international trade and import/export economic development strategy, to-date, promotion of international trade has not been identified as a strategic priority for the Region, or by its area municipalities. For this reason, an FTZ designation is not being pursued at this time. Enthusiastic cooperation will continue between the Region, HOPA, the City of Oshawa and other area municipalities, on programs and initiatives to promote the Region for investment and in support of growing the logistics, manufacturing, and energy sectors.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

Brian Bridgeman, MCIP, RPP
Commissioner of Planning and
Economic Development

Recommended for Presentation to Committee

Original signed by

Elaine C. Baxter-Trahair
Chief Administrative Officer