



The Regional Municipality of Durham

Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee Agenda

Tuesday, November 9, 2021

7:30 PM

Council Chambers
Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters
605 Rossland Road East, Whitby

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) Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting held on October 12, 2021 ([Attachment 1](#))

4. Presentation

- A) Janet Horner, Executive Director, Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance – Event Barn Position Paper

5. Discussion Items

- A) Rural and Agricultural Economic Development Update – S. Jibb
B) 2022 DAAC Workplan ([Attachment 2](#)) and Terms of Reference ([Attachment 3](#)) – M. Scott

6. Information Items

- A) Report [#2021-INFO-109](#) – Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee, 2021 Virtual Farm Tour
- B) Report [#2021-P-24](#) - Decision Meeting Report – Grainboys Holdings Inc. – OPA 2021-004
- C) Durham Food Policy System Comment Request
- D) Evergreen Environmental File – 1515 Thornton Road, Oshawa – M. Scott

7. Other Business

8. Date of Next Meeting

December 14, 2021

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The Regional Municipality of Durham

MINUTES

DURHAM AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 12, 2021

A meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, October 12, 2021 in the Council Chambers, Regional Headquarters Building, 605 Rossland Road East, Whitby at 7:30 PM. In accordance with Provincial legislation, electronic participation was offered for this meeting.

1. Roll Call

Present: Z. Cohoon, Federation of Agriculture, Chair
T. Barrie, Clarington
N. Guthrie, Member at Large
G. Highet, Regional Councillor
B. Howsam, Member at Large
K. Kemp, Scugog attended the meeting at 7:52 PM
K. Kennedy, Member at Large attended the meeting at 7:45 PM
G. O'Connor, Member at Large
F. Puterbough, Member at Large
D. Risebrough, Member at Large
H. Schillings, Whitby
B. Smith, Uxbridge
G. Taylor, Pickering, Vice-Chair
T. Watpool, Brock, Vice-Chair
B. Winter, Ajax
***members of the Committee participated electronically**

Staff

Present: A. Brown, Agriculture Economic Development Program Coordinator,
Department of Planning and Economic Development
R. Inacio, Systems Support Specialist, Corporate Services – IT
M. Scott, Project Planner, Department of Planning and Economic
Development
K. Smith, Committee Clerk, Corporate Services – Legislative Services
N. Prasad, Assistant Secretary to Council, Corporate Services – Legislative
Services
***all staff except R. Inacio participated electronically**

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved by G. O'Connor, Seconded by G. Taylor,
That the minutes of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee
meeting held on September 14, 2021 be adopted.
CARRIED

4. Presentation

A) Mary Drummond, Chair, and Mary Martin, Secretary, Durham Food Policy Council – Durham Food System Report Card

Mary Drummond, Chair, and Mary Martin, Secretary, Durham Food Policy Council, provided a PowerPoint Presentation regarding the Durham Food System Report Card.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Cross-Durham Region Food System Research
- How Did We Get Here?
- Why is this Research Important?
- Purpose of this Food Systems Research for Durham Region
- Project 1 – The Food System Environmental Scan: An Analysis of Our Food System Right Now
- Project 2 – Building a Cross-Durham Region Food System Report Card
- Using a Food Sovereignty Framework
- What is Food Sovereignty?
- Food Sovereignty and its Pillars
- Inclusion Criteria for Data Collection
- Cross-Durham Region Food System Research
- How Can You Be Involved?

M. Martin stated that the Durham Food Policy Council is currently involved in two projects: the Food System Environmental Scan and the Food System Report Card. She advised that the purpose of the research is to encourage awareness; conversation; ongoing engagement; multi-sector usage; and progress.

M. Martin advised that the first project is a Food System Environmental Scan which is an analysis of the current food system and will draw on existing data across the region along with input from food system entrepreneurs. The Food System Environmental Scan will result in four reports that will describe the strengths and weaknesses of the food system relative to the vision in the Durham Region Food Charter.

M. Martin also advised that the second project is a Cross-Durham Region Food System Report Card. She provided an overview of the two phases of the Food System Report Card project and advised that the full Report Card will be launched in the spring of 2022. She advised that the project uses a food sovereignty framework with the following pillars: food is sacred; food for people; values food providers; works with nature; localizes food systems and puts control locally; and builds knowledge and skill. She advised that the consultation and survey will be posted on their website and requested that feedback from the Committee be provided to assist with the research.

M. Martin responded to questions with regards to the indicators looked at; how sustainability will be defined and whether it will be from the community or an agriculture perspective; and the follow up work to be done once the projects are completed.

5. Discussion Items

A) Rural and Agricultural Economic Development Update

A. Brown provided the following update:

- With regards to the Food Hub Project, staff has received a 2nd draft from the consultant and the next step is to obtain feedback from the project steering team.
- With regards to the Agriculture Career Video Series, staff has received final drafts of each career feature from the videographer and is working on creating a section on the regional website that will focus on agriculture workforce development, which will showcase the videos as well as accompanying resources.
- Staff is working with the Regional Chair's office to create messaging around normal farm practices. The goal is to raise awareness about various agriculture practices such as farm equipment on the roads, manure spreading/spraying, etc.
- Ontario Agriculture Week was October 4 to 10, 2021 and staff shared promotional material around agriculture in Durham. There was also a video address done by the Regional Chair as well as a promotional banner on the regional website.
- The Rural Economic Development (RED) grant application has been paused. Staff felt that more work needed to be done between the Region and the municipal partners to submit a solid project plan and the application will be revisited in the next couple weeks

- The Agriculture Strategy will focus more on an action-oriented plan. Staff will wait until the harvesting period is done and will then reach out to Committee members for feedback.

B) DAAC Farm Tour

Z. Cohoon advised that the 2021 Farm Tour was well received. He also advised that the Committee has received a letter of success from the Planning and Economic Development Department.

M. Scott advised that the Tour was viewed by 126 people. He advised that the video is on the Region's website and he will provide further statistics to the Committee in about a week. He also advised that the survey results and feedback have been positive and stated that people especially liked the question and answer portion of the tour.

C) Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance – Event Barn Position Paper

M. Scott advised that the Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance has created a draft policy report on event barns. They are looking for comments by mid-January 2022. It was suggested that they provide a presentation at the next Committee meeting.

6. Information Items

A) Report #2021-INFO-97 – Envision Durham – Growth Management Study – Release of Employment Strategy Technical Report

A copy of Information Report #2021-INFO-97 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development regarding Report #2021-INFO-97 – Envision Durham – Growth Management Study – Release of Employment Strategy Technical Report, was provided as Attachment #2 to the Agenda and received.

B) Report #2021-INFO-100 – Envision Durham – Growth Management Study – Release of Community Area Urban Land Needs Technical Report

A copy of Information Report #2021-INFO-100 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development regarding Envision Durham – Growth Management Study – Release of Community Area Urban Land Needs Technical Report, was provided as Attachment #3 to the Agenda and received.

C) Report #2021-EDT-6 – Local Food Business Retention and Expansion Project: Annual Implementation Update

A copy of Report #2021-EDT-6 of the Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development regarding Local Food Business Retention and Expansion Project: Annual Implementation Update, was provided as Attachment #4 to the Agenda and received.

D) 2021 Municipal Agriculture Economic Development & Planning Forum – Regional Municipality of York and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA)

M. Scott advised that the 13th Annual Municipal Agriculture Economic Development and Planning Forum is scheduled for November 3 and 4, 2021 and will be held online. Any members interested in attending were encouraged to advise him.

6. Other Business

A) Application to Amend the Durham Regional Official Plan, submitted by Bridgebrook Corp. to redesignate lands from Special Study Area #6 to Living Areas to facilitate the development of a 588-unit plan of subdivision, in the Township of Uxbridge, File: OPA 2021-005 (2021-P-20)

D. Risebough inquired and requested that the Application to Amend the Durham Regional Official Plan, submitted by Bridgebrook Corp. be brought to the Committee for comment.

B) 2022 DAAC Farm Tour

Z. Cohoon requested that Committee members start thinking of ideas for the 2022 Farm Tour and be prepared to discuss at the next Committee meeting.

C) Property at Raglan Road and Harmony Road North

H. Schillings expressed concerns with a property at Raglan Road and Harmony Road North that is being used for the dumping of yard waste. It was requested that M. Scott look into and provide any information on this property.

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee will be held on Tuesday, November 9, 2021 starting at 7:30 PM.

8. Adjournment

Moved by K. Kemp, Seconded by D. Risebrough,
That the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 PM.

Z. Cohoon, Chair, Durham
Agricultural Advisory Committee

N. Prasad, Assistant Secretary to
Council



DURHAM AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (DAAC) 2022 WORKPLAN

1. Advice on Policy Development and Implementation

a. Provide advice on:

- Proposed amendments to the Durham Region Official Plan.
- Agricultural and rural related planning matters, with a view to:
 - sustaining the viability of farming;
 - protecting and preserving agricultural land as a first priority; and
 - ensuring adequate separation between agricultural land uses and activities and urban residential areas.
- Envision Durham Regional Official Plan Update – Municipal Comprehensive Review.
- Implementation of the Regional Broadband Strategy.
- Durham Community Climate Adaptation Plan—ongoing implementation of the Agricultural Sector Climate Adaptation Strategy.
- Regional Cycling Plan Update.
- Durham Agricultural Strategy Update.
- Vibrant North Durham Plan Update.
- Local Food Business Retention & Expansion Action Plan.
- Long Term Waste Management Plan.

2. Communicate/Outreach/Educate

a. Host the 2022 Farm Tour that will:

- assist Local and Regional Councillors, Provincial and Federal government officials as well as Conservation Authorities (including staff), to understand the concerns, opportunities and challenges of the agricultural community;
- reach key industry stakeholders whose mandate may impact the agricultural community;
- assist the educational sector (institutions, boards/superintendents), to understand the opportunities and challenges of the agricultural industry and community;
- emphasize the benefits of the agricultural industry to the Regional economy and the need for succession farming in the industry.

b. Continue to work with Regional Departments including Planning and Economic Development, Works, Finance and Police Services where

necessary to ensure agricultural interests are considered.

- c. Encourage participation of the Durham agricultural youth organizations.
- d. Investigate other outreach opportunities as they arise.
- e. Municipal representatives on the Committee will continue to dialogue with their respective municipalities including presentations to area municipal Councils on matters of interest where appropriate.
- f. Continue to establish a working relationship with the Durham Environmental Advisory Committee and other Regional Committees.

3. Economic Development and Tourism

- a. Continue to promote the agricultural sector and development of related industries in the Region.
- b. Assist in the update and implementation of the Region of Durham Agricultural Strategy Action Plan.
- c. Continue to promote the development of research and implementation strategies to assist Durham's agricultural/farming sector in achieving higher profitability, thereby ensuring its survival and long-term sustainability.
- d. Participate in the implementation of the Local Food Business Retention & Expansion project.

4. Issues of Interest

- Federal Pickering airport lands.
- Federal Oshawa Port.
- Alternative energy (e.g. solar farms, biomass, wind).
- Farm safety.
- Provincial and federal legislation and policy affecting agriculture (e.g. species at risk, provincial land use plans).
- Commercial fill.
- Aggregate matters, including aggregate pit rehabilitation.
- Implementation of source water protections plans.
- Farmland assessment and taxation.
- Farm animal health and wellness (e.g. DRPS).
- Natural Heritage System protection and construction of new farm infrastructure.
- Minimum Distance Separation Formulae.
- Water and waste water master planning.

- Biosecurity, trespassing and vandalism.
- Municipal Class EA's.
- Regional road projects.
- Conservation Authority matters.
- Energy-from-Waste implementation and monitoring.
- Region's waste diversion programs.
- Highway 407 East construction.
- Local food strategy.
- Agricultural training and employment, through continued work with the Durham Workforce Authority (DWA), Durham College, and Ontario Tech University.
- Activities of the Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance.
- Land use planning matters.
- Other matters affecting the agricultural industry (e.g. Municipal Fire Regulations, By-laws and Permits).
- COVID-19 impacts and recovery.
- Rouge National Urban Park.
- Clean Fuel Standards.

5. Meeting Schedule

- a. DAAC has scheduled 10 regular meetings for 2022. An additional meeting may be held in August, at the call of the Chair. Resources (Planning and Clerks) will be provided to accommodate this schedule and workload.

- January 11, 2022
- February 8, 2022
- March 8, 2022
- April 12, 2022
- May 10, 2022
- June 7, 2022
- September 13, 2022
- October 11, 2022
- November 8, 2022
- December 6, 2022



Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee (DAAC)

Terms of Reference

Revised March 2020

1. Goal

- 1.1 To provide advice to the Region of Durham on agricultural matters and rural matters as they relate to agriculture.

2. Mandate

- 2.1 The Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee (DAAC) is a volunteer Advisory Committee established by Regional Council in accordance with these Terms of Reference. Committee members are guided by these Terms of Reference.
- 2.2 The Terms of Reference provide for a balance between activities referred from the Planning and Economic Development Department or the Regional Planning and Economic Development Committee or Regional Council and an allowance for the DAAC to be proactive and advise on matters identified on its own initiative.
- 2.3 Matters may be referred to the DAAC from the Regional Planning and Economic Development Department, the Regional Planning and Economic Development Committee, or Regional Council. The DAAC may report directly to the Regional Planning and Economic Development Committee on substantive matters as determined by the Planning and Economic Development Committee. Otherwise, the DAAC shall report through the Regional Planning and Economic Development Department.

3. Scope of Activities

- 3.1 The scope of the DAAC may include activities such as:
 - a) Providing advice on issues and concerns of the agricultural community;
 - b) Providing advice on the implementation of Provincial and Federal legislation, policies, and guidelines related to the agricultural industry;
 - c) Providing advice on agricultural and rural policy directions pursued by the Region. This may include providing advice on Regionally-initiated official plan amendments related to agricultural matters; on Regional agricultural matters through an official plan review; or, other policy directions pursued by the Region;

- d) Providing advice on the identification and implementation of programs which encourage public awareness and education of agricultural and related rural issues; and
- e) Providing advice on matters as they arise, at the request of the Region.

4. Composition

- 4.1 The DAAC will be comprised of sixteen members in total. Fourteen members will be private individuals who do not represent their respective employers or advocacy groups in their capacity as a DAAC member. An additional member will represent the Durham Region Federation of Agriculture. The above fifteen members shall not hold elected office (municipal, provincial or federal). Of these fifteen members, twelve will be bona fide farmers who are directly involved in the agricultural industry¹; and three will be residents who are not directly involved in the agricultural industry. The final member will be a representative of the Planning and Economic Development Committee whose role is to act as liaison.
- 4.2 Membership for regular members shall correspond with the term of Regional Council. At the end of each term, members will be asked to consider their interest in remaining for an additional term. If a member chooses to resign, a replacement will be sought in accordance with Section 5. However, members shall continue to serve until their replacements are appointed by Regional Council.
- 4.3 At the discretion of the DAAC, non-attendance of three consecutive meetings will be sufficient grounds **to recommend** replacement.

5. Membership Selection

- 5.1 For regular members, the Regional Planning and Economic Development Department will place a newspaper advertisement and/or issue a public service announcement to media within each area municipality requesting expressions of interest from individuals willing to volunteer for appointment to the DAAC. Interested individuals will be required to provide a brief resume and statement of interest. Responses from the advertisement will be forwarded to each respective area municipality with a request that the local Council nominate one representative from the applicants who are bona fide farmers directly involved in the agricultural industry². The Regional Planning and Economic Development Department, from the remaining resumes received, will nominate three additional members at large who are bona fide farmers; and three members at

¹ Note: Where an interested bona fide farmer cannot be found to represent an area municipality, as an exception, a non-farm rural resident may be substituted.

² Same note as above.

large who are not directly involved in the agricultural industry, to bring the regular member complement to fourteen.

- 5.2 The Regional Planning and Economic Development Department will formally request the Durham Region Federation of Agriculture (DRFA) to nominate one person to represent the DRFA.
- 5.3 The Regional Planning and Economic Development Committee will recommend individuals for appointment to the DAAC by Regional Council.
- 5.4 Regional Council shall appoint a representative and an alternate to the DAAC from the members of the Planning and Economic Development Committee.
- 5.5 In nominating members to the DAAC, excluding the representative of the Planning and Economic Development Committee, regard shall be given to achieving a diversity of members engaged in varied disciplines of the agricultural industry and members living in the rural community with knowledge of agricultural and related rural issues. Availability to attend meetings will also be considered. All residents of Durham Region are eligible for membership.
- 5.6 In the case of a regular member vacancy, the approach described in Sections 5.1, 5.2 and 5.3 will generally be followed.
- 5.7 An elaboration of the selection criteria is provided in Appendix 1.

6. Officers

- 6.1 A chair and two vice-chairs (first and second) will be elected annually by the membership of the DAAC. The Planning and Economic Development Committee representative will chair the inaugural DAAC meeting.

7. Support Services

- 7.1 The Commissioner of Planning and Economic Development or designate, shall serve as staff liaison to the DAAC. The liaison will provide administrative, procedural and technical support to the DAAC.
- 7.2 The liaison will co-ordinate all requests for advice from the DAAC, through meeting agendas and addenda to meeting agendas. DAAC responses to such requests shall be co-ordinated by the liaison to the Planning and Economic Development Department.
- 7.3 The Region will provide secretarial and other support services. Regional Council will provide a budget to cover the operational expenses of the DAAC, and this budget will be administered by the Planning and Economic Development Department.

8. Meetings

- 8.1 Regularly scheduled meetings of DAAC will be held at the Durham Regional Headquarters, unless otherwise stated. The DAAC, will establish a meeting schedule taking into account the business needs and the schedule of Council and the Planning and Economic Development Committee. The Planning and Economic Development Committee will be provided with a schedule of DAAC meetings each December for the following year. Special meetings may be held at the call of the Chair. The Planning and Economic Development Committee is to be kept informed of such meetings.
- 8.2 All meetings will be open to the public. As a formal advisory Committee to the Region, the DAAC is subject to the Regional Procedural By-law, unless otherwise specified in the Terms of Reference.
- 8.3 Quorum shall consist of a majority of the sitting members.

9. Delegations of Committee Meetings

- 9.1 Any person(s) wishing to appear before the DAAC as a delegate must submit a request to delegations@durham.ca, advising of the topic or item to which they wish to speak, which will then be forwarded to the staff liaison in the Regional Planning and Economic Development Department. All requests for delegations must be received at least one week prior to the meeting to ensure that the delegation is included on the agenda. Any person wishing to address the DAAC as a delegate, who has not previously arranged to do so, may be granted permission to do so only by Committee resolution.

10. Minutes and Agenda

- 10.1 The minutes of each DAAC meeting will be amended as necessary and approved at the following meeting. The unapproved minutes will be circulated to members of Council as part of the Council Information Package (CIP) prepared by the Clerk. When approved, any amendments will be forwarded to the Planning and Economic Development Committee. The DAAC agendas will be prepared by the staff liaison and the DAAC chair or vice-chair with input from other DAAC members. Agendas will be distributed the week prior to the meeting.

11. Committee Resolutions

- 11.1 The DAAC will seek to achieve consensus on decisions. Recommendations are "carried" if supported by a majority, unless otherwise specified in these Terms of Reference or Regional Council Rules of Procedure. Only resolutions as they appear in the adopted Minutes may be considered as officially representing the position of the DAAC.

12. Annual Reports and Workplan

- 12.1 An annual report summarizing the activities completed in the previous year shall be prepared by the DAAC. The annual report shall be forwarded to the Planning and Economic Development Committee.
- 12.2 An annual workplan with an estimate of the resources necessary and any suggested revisions to the Terms of Reference for the coming year shall also be prepared by the DAAC for consideration and approval by the Planning and Economic Development Committee and Council.
- 12.3 An annual review of the DAAC by the Planning and Economic Development Committee will be completed to examine the effectiveness of the Committee and to ensure continued improvements.

Appendix 1: Membership Eligibility Criteria

To facilitate the nomination and appointment of new members to the DAAC, the following criteria will be considered. The aim is to achieve a diversity of members engaged in varied disciplines of the agricultural industry and community representation with knowledge of agricultural and related rural issues.

1. Residency

Members should reside in Durham Region³.

2. Agricultural Expertise and Knowledge

Applicants engaged in the agricultural industry having the following attributes would be considered as an asset:

- Demonstrated knowledge of agricultural and rural land use issues;
- Relevant farm experience;
- Involvement with activities of the agricultural community;
- Technical training in an agriculture-based field; and
- Knowledge of properties and farm operations within Durham.

3. Rural Experience

For applicants from the non-farm rural community consideration will be given to the duration of residency in the community and the individual's level of knowledge of agricultural related rural issues. The relevance of their interests to the mandate of the DAAC will also be an important consideration.

4. Availability

It is important that an applicant be able to attend as many DAAC meetings as possible and undertake work outside of the regular monthly meetings. An applicant should be able to be contacted or reached during the day in order for meetings to be arranged.

³ Note: Where person who resides in Durham cannot be found, a farmer who owns land in Durham Region may be substituted.