



The Regional Municipality of Durham

Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee Agenda

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

7:30 PM

Courtice Room, Lower Level
Regional Municipality of Durham Headquarters
605 Rossland Road East, Whitby

Please note: The Region of Durham continues to hold electronic meetings for Advisory Committees with limited in-person attendance at this time. Members of the public may [view the Committee meeting](#) via live stream. If you wish to register as a delegate regarding an agenda item, you may submit a [delegation request form](#) in advance of the meeting by noon on the day prior to the meeting and you will be provided with the details to delegate electronically.

1. Roll Call

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

3. Adoption of Minutes

- A) Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting held on April 14, 2026
([Attachment 1](#))

4. Presentations

- A) Shannon Logan, Manager, Climate Resilience, Region of Durham - Durham Community Climate Adaptation Plan Update
B) Matt Somerville, Greater Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance – Urban Agriculture Paper

5. Discussion Items

- A) Rural and Agricultural Economic Development Update – S. Jibb
B) Agricultural Advisory Committee Clarington Update – T. Barrie
C) Durham Farm Fresh Update – J. McKay
D) Greater Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance Update – M. Scott & S. Jibb

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 2548.

- E) Durham Region Federation of Agriculture Update – M. Shiers
- F) Motion on Senator Black Soil Health Report – Committee
- G) DAAC Motion on Bill 21 – M. Scott
- H) Federal Airport Lands Discussion – M. Scott
- I) Development Charges Update – M. Scott
- J) Protecting Ontario’s Food Independence Act, 2026 – M. Scott & S. Jibb
- K) Proposal to Update the Province’s Black Bear Management Approach Update – M. Scott
- L) 2026 Farm Tour Update – D. Risebrough

6. Information Items

- A) #2026-INFO-026 - Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee Annual Presentations to Area Municipal Councils ([Attachment 2](#))
- B) Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee Comments Proposal to Update the Province’s Black Bear Management Approach ([Attachment 3](#))
- C) Correspondence from Hon. Robert J. Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Regarding Amendments to Ontario Regulation 584/06 – Stormwater Fees on Agricultural Properties ([Attachment 4](#))

7. Other Business

8. Date of Next Meeting

June 9, 2026

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.



April 21, 2026

Ministry of Natural Resources - Wildlife Section
300 Water Street
Peterborough, ON
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**The Regional
Municipality of
Durham**

Community Growth
and Economic
Development
Department

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Sandra Austin
Commissioner of
Community Growth
and Economic
Development

Re: **Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee Comments
Proposal to Update the Province's Black Bear Management
Approach**
ERO number: **025-0761**

The Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee (DAAC) advises Durham Regional Council on agricultural and rural matters, wherein its members have diverse experiences and knowledge of agricultural and rural issues. The committee is made up of farmers and citizens involved in the agricultural industry within the region.

At the March 10, 2026 DAAC meeting, ERO posting 025-0761 was discussed, and a motion was passed and carried unanimously related to the Proposal to Update the Province's Black Bear Management Approach. Please refer to Item 5.(L) of the DAAC Meeting Minutes (attached). This motion is solely the position of DAAC and has not been endorsed by Durham Regional Council.

DAAC members have noted an increase in damage to property, feed and agricultural lands as a result of bears moving into southern parts of the province.

If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact the DAAC Staff Liaison, Michael Scott, at michael.scott@durham.ca or at (905) 668-4113, ext. 2541.

Yours truly,

Michael Scott

Michael Scott, MCIP, RPP
Principal Planner

Attachment 1: Minutes from the March 10, 2026 DAAC Meeting

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact Planning Reception at 1-800-372-1102, extension 2548.

**Ministry of
Municipal Affairs
and Housing**

Office of the Minister

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Affaires municipales
et du Logement**

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234-2026-1390

April 22, 2026

Dear Head of Council:

I am writing to update you on amendments to Ontario Regulation 584/06 under the *Municipal Act, 2001* (MA) and O. Reg 595/06 of the *City of Toronto Act, 2006* (COTA) that were filed on April 17, 2026. These changes come into force on July 16, 2026.

As you know, since spring 2024 the province has encouraged municipalities designing stormwater fees and charges to ensure that there are no unintended consequences that would disproportionately impact farmers and greenhouse operators.

In the province's 2025 Fall Economic Statement, our government stressed the importance of the agri-food sector and that protecting Ontario's local agriculture and food industry is essential to ensuring a strong, self-sufficient food supply chain.

Agricultural properties generally have invested in their own stormwater-mitigating measures and have large areas of green space that contribute significantly to stormwater runoff management.

In this respect, the province is making changes to remove the authority for municipalities to impose stormwater fees and charges on portions of properties that are classified in the farm or managed forests property class, if they are not connected to a municipal storm sewer.

As we continue to work together to build up our communities, I look forward to our continued collaboration in investing in key infrastructure projects while making life more affordable for members of the agri-food sector and supporting the viability of their operations. Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert J. Flack".

Hon. Robert J. Flack
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

- c. Municipal Chief Administrative Officer and/or Treasurer
Hon. Trevor Jones, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness
Robert Dodd, Chief of Staff to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Ryan Puviraj, Chief of Staff to the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness
Martha Greenberg, Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Laurie Miller, Assistant Deputy Minister, Local Government Division,
Municipal Affairs and Housing