



DURHAM AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (DAAC) 2018 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.
- Rouge National Urban Park, Draft Management Plan.
- Regional Official Plan Update – Municipal Comprehensive Review.
- Regional Broadband Strategy.
- Durham Region Tree By-law.
- Climate Adaptation Plan – Commercial Agriculture Task Force.

2. Communicate/Outreach/Educate

a. Host the 2018 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 Planning, 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.
- 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 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 development and implementation of the Local Food Business Retention & Expansion project. This may include assisting with writing interview questions and conducting interviews.

4. Issues of Interest

- Federal Pickering airport lands.
- 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. role of OSPCA).
- 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 University of Ontario Institute of Technology.
- Activities of the Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance.
- Land use planning matters.
- Other matters affecting the agricultural industry.

5. Meeting Schedule

- a. DAAC has scheduled 10 regular meetings for 2018. 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 16, 2018
- February 13, 2018
- March 20, 2018
- April 10, 2018
- May 8, 2018
- June 12, 2018
- September 11, 2018
- October 9, 2018
- November 13, 2018
- December 11, 2018