



## Minutes

### Agriculture and Agri-Food Advisory Committee

December 6, 2023

Electronic Meeting

Members: A. Eek, K. Empringham, A. Gomes, B. Hebor, L. Jittoo,  
M. Pearson, J. Pegg

Staff and Others: C. Banfield, M. Hassanali, N. Mohammed, B. Switzer, I. Soneji,  
K. Kapitan (Wilton Consulting)

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#### A. Call to Order

The York Region Agriculture and Agri-Food Advisory Committee meeting was called to order at 4:12 p.m. with Councillor Eek as Chair.

#### B. Land Acknowledgement

Councillor Eek provided the following acknowledgement:

"We acknowledge that York Region is located on the traditional territory of many Indigenous peoples including the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Huron-Wendat and Métis peoples and the treaty territories of the Haudenosaunee, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and Williams Treaties First Nations.

Today this area is home to many diverse Indigenous Peoples, and we recognize their history, spirituality, culture and stewardship of this land.

We also acknowledge the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation as our closest First Nation community."

#### C. Disclosures of Interest

None

**D. Presentations**

**D.1 Development of New Agriculture and Agri-Food Sector Strategy - Overview**

Members provided suggestions and feedback regarding the development of the York Region Agriculture and Agri-food Sector Strategy 2.0 as outlined by Krista Kapitan from Wilton Consulting. Suggestions were made regarding the current strengths, successes and key long-term opportunities for York Region's agri-food sector. Members were further encouraged to participate through the various engagement consultation methods such as the agri-food business survey, stakeholder interviews, and focus groups to be conducted in 2024.

The Committee received the presentation from Meena Hassanali, Program Manager, Rural and Agri-Food Initiatives, and Krista Kapitan, Project Manager, Wilton Consulting Group.

**E. Deputations**

None

**F. Communications**

None

**G. Other Business**

**G.1 Member Roundtable Updates**

Members had the opportunity to share ongoing initiatives and updates related to the Agriculture and Agri-food industry.

**H. Adjournment**

The York Region Agriculture and Agri-Food Advisory Committee meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.