



Minutes

Agriculture and Agri-Food Advisory Committee

May 22, 2024
Electronic Meeting

Members: N. Davison, J. Bartley, A. Eek, K. Empringham, B. Hebor, L. Jittoo, S. Paisley, M. Pearson, J. Pegg

Staff: E. Ali, B. Antic, C. Banfield, C. Goodeve, M. Hassanali, N. Mohammed, B. Switzer, J. Wheatle, M. Zukowski

Other: C. Puterbough (OMAFRA)

A. Call to Order

The York Region Agriculture and Agri-Food Advisory Committee meeting was called to order at 4:03 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 Roads Operations Roadway Drainage Maintenance Program

The Committee received the presentation from Barbara Antic, Manager, Road Operations and Matthew Zukowski, District Supervisor, Roads Maintenance.

D.2 Development of New Agriculture and Agri-food Sector Strategy - Update

The Committee provided feedback and suggestions regarding the draft pillars and goals of the new Agriculture and Agri-food Sector Strategy.

The Committee received the presentations from Meena Hassanali, Program Manager, Rural and Agri-Food Initiatives, Nadia Mohammed, Rural and Agri-Food Business Specialist, Eman Ali, Communications Advisor, Economic Strategy, and Bronwynne Wilton, Principal and Lead Consultant, and Krista Kapitan, Project Manager, Wilton Consulting Group.

E. Deputations

None

F. Communications

None

G. Other Business

G.1 Call for Volunteers - Agriculture and Agri-Food Sector Strategy Review Working Group

The following Members expressed an interest in participating on the Agriculture and Agri-Food Sector Strategy Review Working Group:

- Kim Empringham
- Brandon Hebor
- Scott Paisley (*Dependent on meeting dates/availability*)
- Janice Bartley (*Dependent on meeting dates/availability*)

G.2 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 6:04 p.m.