



Golden Horseshoe Agriculture & Agri-Food Strategy

Food & Farming: An Action Plan 2021



Possibility grows here.

Streamlining Process and Approaches to Agricultural Applications in Municipalities and Conservation Authorities

Friday September 26, 2014

Scugog Library, 231 Water Street, Port Perry ON

Hosted by the Region of Durham

Challenge: As farm operations change and evolve within the Golden Horseshoe, growth is often necessary for the operation to expand or redevelop the farmstead in order to continue to be viable. Municipal planning staff are dealing with Agricultural Applications on many levels – with the Building Permit, the Planning Department, the Zoning By-laws and MDS. In addition, Conservation Authorities add a layer of environmental oversight to the process if the application occurs in a watershed area.

In the name of due- diligence, frustration and cost can mount as the farm operator seeks to begin the expansion in a timely and cost-effective manner. While it is important that growth occurs according to Official Planning processes, flexibility and common sense must still prevail when these applications are processed. Without a clear roadmap to move through the approval process, staff and clients often experience confusion and inertia.

Goal: Showcase the best practices and processes of selected municipalities as well as the experience of farmers in order to enable municipal staff and conservation authority staff to implement more effective approaches to handling Agricultural applications.

Who Should Attend: Municipal planners, economic developers and building department staff in the Golden Horseshoe/Greenbelt Region (and other areas too!)

There is no cost to attend, but you must register in advance.

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/streamlining-processes-and-approaches-to-agricultural-applications-workshop-tickets-12670807727>

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Agenda

- 9:30 - 10:00 Registration & Refreshments
- 10:00 - 10:10 **Welcome** – Nancy Rutherford – Host – Durham Region
- 10:10 - 10:45 **“Agricultural Applications – How are they different from Commercial or Industrial Applications”**
Hugh Fraser - Agricultural Engineer, OMAFRA
- 10:45 - 11:45 **Table Talk – Challenges at the Municipal Level – Reducing Wait Times and Frustration**
Moderator – Janet Horner – Executive Director, Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance
Participants will be asked to share their experiences of handling difficult agricultural applications and how they were resolved. What are some of the solutions to a successful outcome?
- 11:45 - 12:30 **Client Perspective - It's not easy to try something new and different**
Facilitator – Jamie Reaume – Chair, Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance &
Executive Director – Holland Marsh Growers Association
- Hubert Schillings – White Feather Farm – Durham Region
 - Heatherlea Farms – Pat McArthur – Peel Region
- 12:30 - 1:00 Lunch
- 1:00 - 2:30 **It Takes the Team – Successful Approaches to Facilitating Agricultural Applications**
FASTTRACK – Lisa Hausz – Manager of Business Development and Marketing, Town of Ajax
Kelly Maloney – Economic Development, Kawartha Lakes and Conservation Authority
Bill Hodgson – Mayor, Town of Lincoln
- 2:30 - 3:15 **Wrap-up – Table Discussion – What can we do locally to make this process easier for staff and applicants?**
- 3:15 - 3:30 Next Steps & Evaluations