

Durham Agricultural Advisory Committee



AGRICULTURE 101 TRAINING



ABOUT DAAC



DAAC provides advice to the Region of Durham on agricultural matters and rural matters as they relate to agriculture.

- Matters, projects and consultations can be referred/presented to DAAC for information or to gather feedback.
- DAAC **provides agricultural perspectives** and shares the impacts or benefits to agriculture related to the topic.
- DAAC has **17 members** including members at large, a **representatives from each local municipality**, Durham Region Federation of Agriculture and Durham Farm Fresh. There are also 3 non-farming representatives on the committee.

Snapshot of Brock Agriculture

- Agriculture is a **leading economic driver** in Brock.
- Wide **diversity of agricultural products** are produced ranging from livestock and grains, to apples and vegetables , and more.
- Brock is well above the national average for concentration of agricultural jobs in businesses. This shows a big sector **advantage and opportunity** for the Township of Brock.
- 98% of farms are family farms (Ontario).



Brock Farms by the Numbers (2021)

Farm Type	Number of Farms	Percent of Total Farms
Beef cattle	57	25.1%
Grain and oilseed	52	22.9%
Dairy cattle and milk	30	13.2%
Poultry and egg	12	5.3%
Sheep and goat	8	3.5%
Greenhouse, nursery and floriculture	7	3.1%
Vegetable	3	1.3%
Other agriculture	57	25.1%

Food Pricing

- Price for the farmer is usually determined on the commodity market which is based on supply and demand (with the exception of supply managed commodities like poultry and dairy)
 - Farmers are price takers, not price setters
- Factors impacting food price
 - Inflation, labour shortage, supply chain disruptions, changes in purchasing patterns, poor weather in growing regions, tariffs, higher input costs, wage increases, etc.
- For every dollar spent on food the farmer receives on average between 7-17 cents

Agriculture & Our Community

Agricultural businesses are essential.

Brock agri-businesses are leaders in providing food for our community and beyond. Beyond just producing food, agriculture brings a diversity of other benefits to our community.



Our Agriculture

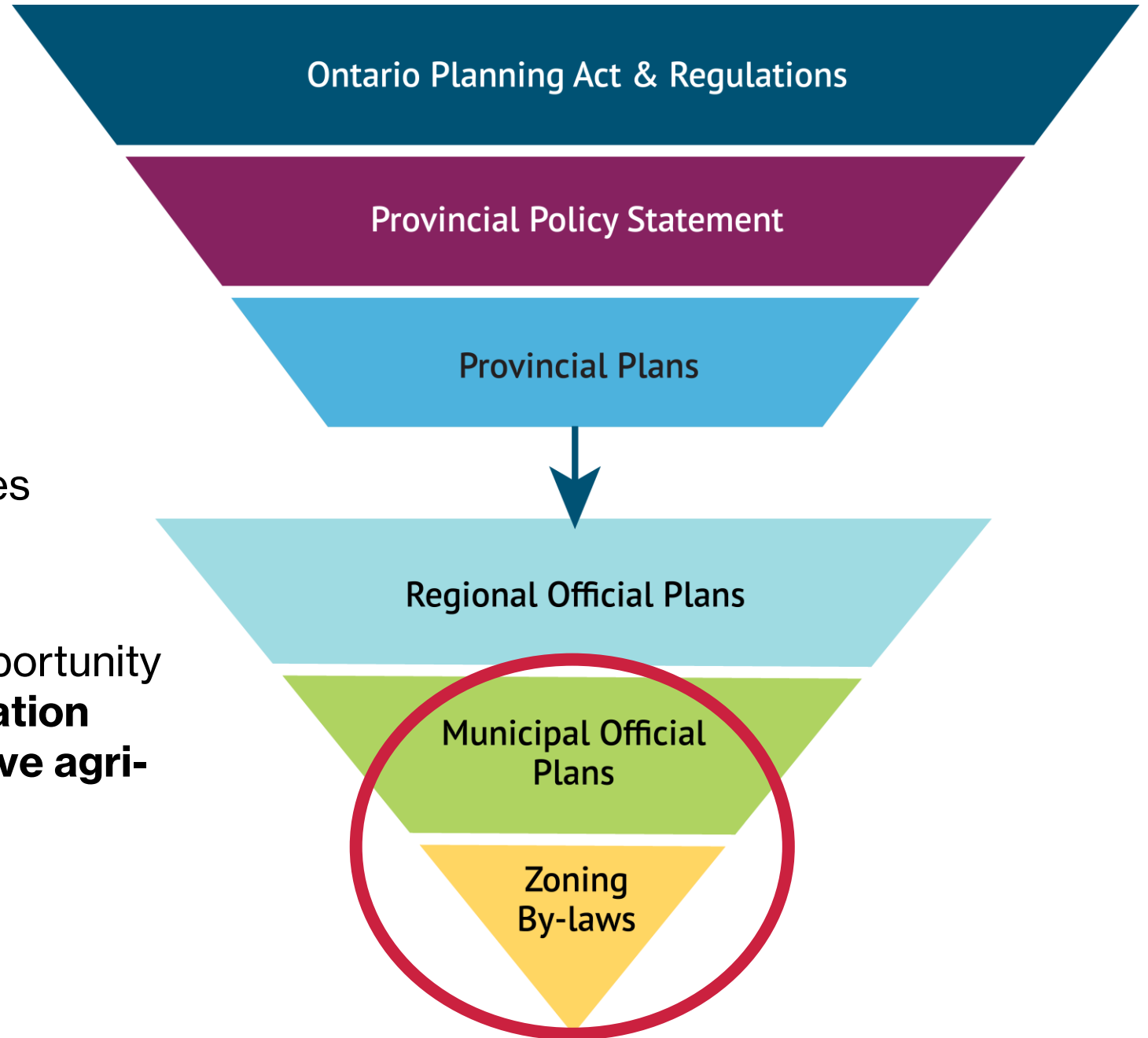
Brock's agricultural landscape is quickly evolving to meet the needs of our community

Primary Agriculture	Agriculture-Related and Supportive Agri-Business	Diversified Agriculture – New and In-Demand
Growing and Harvesting of Crops	Food Processing – Abattoirs, Mills	Value-Added Agriculture
Raising of Livestock - Meat and Textile	Grain Elevators – Receiving Grain from Surrounding Farms	Agri-Tourism
Greenhouse	Farm Equipment Repair Shop	On-Farm Events
Pick Your Own	Aggregation and Distribution – Trucking	Distillery, Brewery

Planning for Brock Ag

The planning framework regulates the types of activities and uses permitted on farms

Local government has the opportunity to balance **farmland preservation** while also **allowing progressive agri-businesses** to operate in our communities.



AGRI-BUSINESS IN BROCK



On-Farm Diversified Uses

Agri-Tourism, On-Farm Food Processing, Ag-Education, Home Industries, etc.

Benefits

- Economic potential for rural areas
- Additional revenue stream for the farm
- Balances farmland preservation with supporting the family farm

How you can help

- Supportive planning and development policy to support these uses/businesses





Crop Input and Feed Supply

Grain Elevators, Fertilizer Depots, Seed Dealers, Feed Supply, etc.

Benefits

- Rural employment
- Vital to the success of the surrounding agricultural businesses/farmers

How you can help

- Rural servicing
- Quicker processing for development applications, permits, and approvals

Innovation

Robotic Milking, Field Mapping, Efficient Crop Input Application, Herd Health Monitoring Tags, etc.

Benefits

- Increases business competitiveness
- Reduces on-farm labour requirements
- Increased environmental sustainability

How you can help

- Rural high-speed internet
- Understand the social and environmental benefits



Vertical Farming

Growing crops in a controlled indoor environment within the urban area.

Benefits

- Food can be produced locally in the urban area
- Food can be produced year-round (out of traditional season)

How you can help

- Encourage vertical farming in urban and employment areas where servicing is available
 - Update zoning-by laws to permit vertical farms



On-Farm Business Infrastructure

Farm businesses often require supportive infrastructure for business operations

- Office space
- Housing for farm workers
- Equipment repair shops
- Farm-product processing
- Storage facilities (cold storage, equipment, crop inputs, etc.)

How you can help

- Recognize supportive infrastructure and buildings as part of the farm business
- Quicker turn around on development applications, permits and approvals



Road Maintenance

Consultations and conversations with DAAC when planning for:

- Road maintenance schedules
- Intersection planning - for large equipment
- Ditches, drainage, tree trimming, etc.
- Farm equipment road safety and public awareness



Why go to DAAC

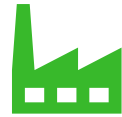
- Gather an agricultural perspective on new projects, strategies and more.
- Ensure local decisions consider the impacts to Brock's agriculture businesses
- Liaise between the Township of Brock and agricultural businesses



Example of where DAAC provides feedback

- Regionals and Local Strategies or Plans
- Planning Matters (policy directions or amendments)
- Works Departments Matters (roundabouts, intersections, ditches, roadwork, etc.)

Why does Durham Agriculture Matter to me?



**Top Goods
Producing
Industry in
Durham**



**Leading
Economic
Driver and
Regional
Employer**



**Essential
Industry – We
all need to eat**



**Providing
Local Value
Chain Stability**



**~80% of the
Region is with in
the Greenbelt – Ag
is here to stay**

THANK YOU

Contact any DAAC members to have a conversation about agriculture in Durham.

We welcome you to attend an upcoming DAAC meeting

daac@durham.ca

agriculture@durham.ca

