

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

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# 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

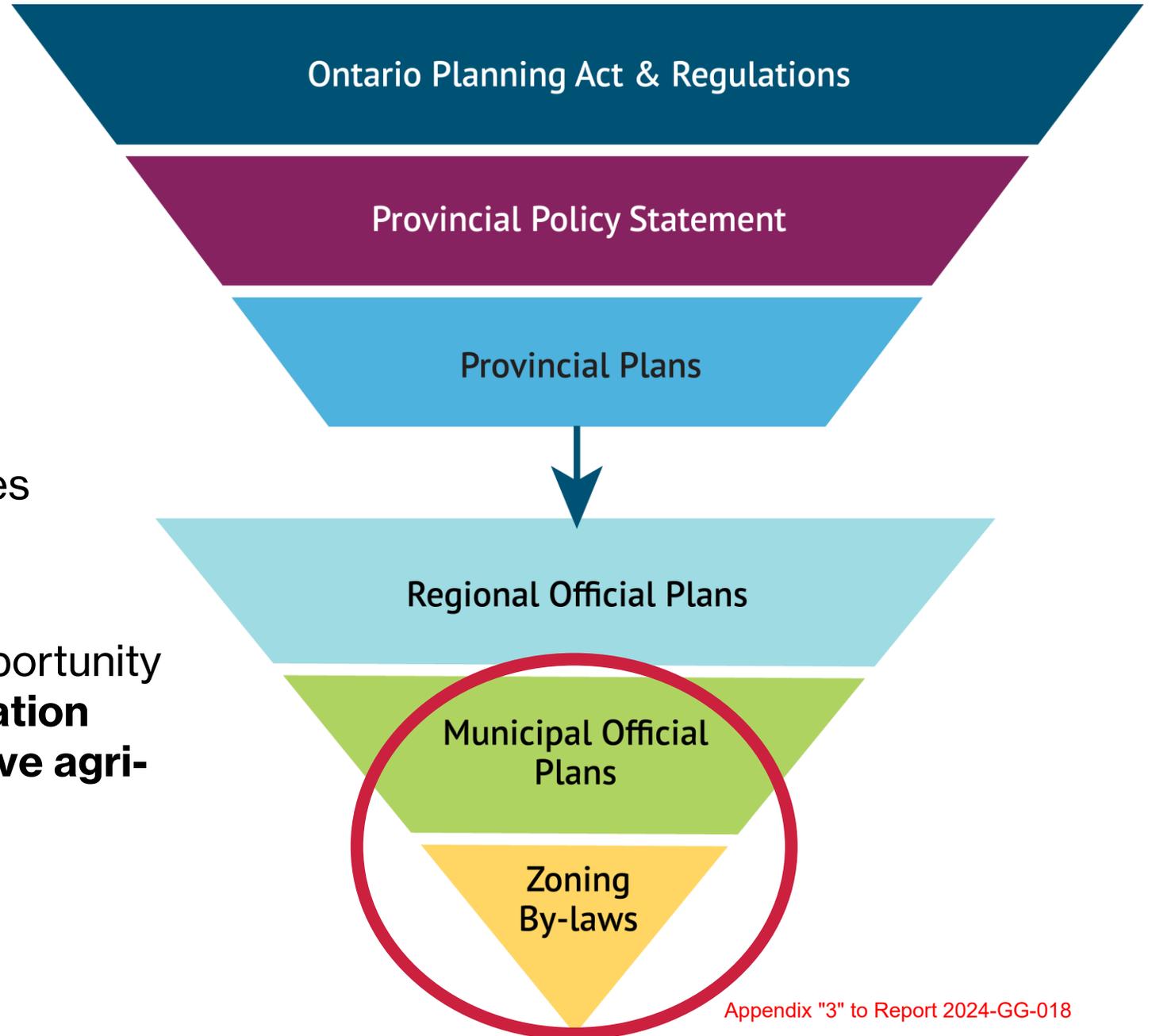
**Brock's agricultural landscape is quickly evolving to meet the needs of our community**

<b>Primary Agriculture</b>	<b>Agriculture-Related and Supportive Agri-Business</b>	<b>Diversified Agriculture – New and In-Demand</b>
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.



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# 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





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# 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](mailto:daac@durham.ca)

[agriculture@durham.ca](mailto:agriculture@durham.ca)

