

August 13, 2019

The Honourable Doug Downey, Attorney General of Ontario  
Ministry of the Attorney General  
720 Bay Street, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Toronto On M7A 2S9

**Re: Resolution Regarding Enforcement for Safety on Family Farms**

Please be advised the Council of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent at its regular meeting held on August 12, 2019 endorsed the following resolution from the Township of Warwick:

WHEREAS agriculture is the second largest industry in Ontario, contributing \$13.7 billion annually to Ontario's GDP and is essential for putting food on the tables of millions of people here and around the world;

AND WHEREAS in recent months there has been a steady increase in harassment of farmers and livestock transporters by activists opposed to animal agriculture and the consumption of animals;

AND WHEREAS the protests have become blatantly illegal in nature with extremist groups trespassing onto private property, unlawfully entering into buildings and removing animals without fear of prosecution and even promoting and publishing their crimes on social media;


AND WHEREAS maintaining proper biosecurity is essential to ensure the health and well-being of the animals cared for on these agricultural operations;

AND WHEREAS the recent attacks on farmers homes and businesses have resulted in no criminal charges laid, leaving farmers feeling unprotected by the Ontario legal system and afraid for the welfare of themselves, their families, their employees and the animals they care for;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of Chatham-Kent requests that Hon. Doug Downey work with his fellow MPP's and agricultural leaders to find a better way forward to ensure stronger enforcement of existing laws - or new legislation - to ensure the safety of Ontario's farm families, employees and animals.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Judy Smith at 519-360-1998 Ext # 3200.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Judy Smith', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Judy Smith, CMO  
Director Municipal Governance  
Clerk /Freedom of Information Coordinator

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The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario  
The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General  
The Honourable Ernie Hardeman, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)  
Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA)