

October 29, 2021

County of Essex Municipalities

## **Re: Resolution of County Council – Agricultural Community Liaison**

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The Warden of the County of Essex was contacted by members of the Executive of the Essex County Federation of Agriculture, who were seeking a forum to discuss ongoing concerns and challenges the local agriculture community face, as a result of municipal decisions they feel are being made without adequate consultation with agriculture representatives.

It was recognized that, within the County, there are already a number of established Committees, comprised of administrative professionals from the various municipal service areas who meet regularly, such as meetings of the area Planners, Infrastructure Departments, CWATS, Drainage Superintendents, etc. Organizers of these regional administrative Committees are being requested to extend an invitation to the ECFA to attend meetings which contain items of potential impact to local agriculture.

Additionally, to ensure that the ECFA is aware of all scheduled public open houses, public information sessions, public surveys, etc. which are scheduled by municipalities within Essex County for the purpose of public consultation, the Communications and/or Clerks departments of each municipality are being asked to advise the ECFA of best practices for ensuring they receive notification of such events within their municipality. Many municipalities provide the option of subscribing to receive automatic notifications or utilize social media to reach interested individuals and organizations.

Essex County Council, at its Wednesday, October 20, 2021 meeting, adopted the following resolution:

### **219-2021**

**Moved By** Tom Bain

**Seconded By** Larry Verbeke

That Essex County Council support improved communication and engagement of the agriculture sector within the region;

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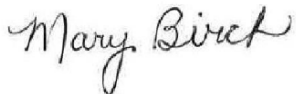
And further that, County Administration be directed to circulate a copy of report number 2021-1020-CCS-R009-MB to the local municipalities within the region, requesting cooperation in ensuring the Essex County Federation of Agriculture be given the opportunity to consult with administrative committees and notified of opportunities for public consultation on matters affecting the agriculture sector, as recommended in the said Report.

**Carried**

Your cooperation in distributing this request to the appropriate people within your municipal Administration is appreciated.

Should any further information be required, please contact the undersigned.

Regards,



Mary Birch  
Director of Council and Community Services/Clerk  
Encl.

Cc: Anne Anger, Essex County Federation of Agriculture  
Rebecca Belanger, Planner, County of Essex  
Allan Botham, Director of Infrastructure Services, County of Essex