

**Ministry of Agriculture,
Food and Rural Affairs**

**Ministère de l'Agriculture, de
l'Alimentation et des Affaires rurales**



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MAR 02 2017

His Worship Nelson Santos
Mayor
Town of Kingsville
2021 Division Road North
Kingsville, Ontario
N9Y 2Y9

Dear Mayor Santos:

It was a pleasure to meet with you and your delegation during the Rural Ontario Municipal Association's Conference. I am pleased to follow up on the matters we discussed.

Thank you for sharing details of the town's new strategic plan. I look forward to receiving a copy. Please continue to work with Jeff Kinsella and other staff in the ministry's Regional Economic Development Branch as you embark on the key priorities identified within your new plan. I look forward to hearing the results of these efforts in the months and years to come.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs is proud of the tools and resources that have proven to provide tangible results in terms of strategic direction and economic results.

On January 30, 2017, Premier Kathleen Wynne announced the launch of the renewed, community-focused Rural Economic Development (RED) program. Our government is looking for evidence-based projects that will contribute to economic competitiveness in rural Ontario. The RED program supports planning and implementation projects that help communities remove barriers to economic development. With the support of the RED program, rural communities can access a range of OMAFRA's economic development programs including Business Retention and Expansion, First Impressions Community Exchange and Downtown Revitalization which use leading practices to build capacity in Ontario's rural communities.

The renewed RED program is part of a range of initiatives that address infrastructure, health care, education and other issues of importance to rural Ontario residents. Applications are welcome from rural communities, Indigenous communities and organizations, regions and not-for-profit organizations. For more information visit www.ontario.ca/REDprogram or contact your agriculture and economic development advisor, Jeff Kinsella by email at jeff.kinsella@ontario.ca or by telephone at 519-674-1335.

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Again, thank you for meeting with me.

Sincerely,



Grant Crack
Parliamentary Assistant

c: **Jeff Kinsella**
Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs



Good Things Grow in Ontario
À bonne terre, bons produits