



THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
AGRICULTURAL POLICY & ACTION COMMITTEE
AGENDA

APAC 1-2019

Friday, February 22, 2019

9:00 a.m.

Committee Room 4

Niagara Region Headquarters

1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold ON

Pages

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

3. SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

3.1 Call for Nominations for Committee Chair

3.2 Motion to Close the Nominations for Committee Chair

3.3 Voting for the Position of Committee Chair

3.4 Call for Nominations for Committee Vice-Chair

3.5 Motion to Close the Nominations for Committee Vice-Chair

3.6 Voting for the Position of Committee Vice-Chair

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Natural Environment Work Program - New Regional Official Plan

Sean Norman, Senior Planner

3 - 12

5. DELEGATIONS

6. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 6.1 APAC-C 01-2019 13 - 14
Agricultural Policy and Action Committee 2019 Meeting Schedule

7. CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- 7.1 APAC-C 03-2019 15 - 18
Irrigation Working Group Update
- 7.2 APAC-C 02-2019 19
Agricultural Policy and Action Committee Representation for the Niagara
North Federation of Agriculture
- 7.3 APAC 1-2018 20 - 49
Agricultural Policy and Action Committee Minutes
January 26, 2018
- 7.4 APAC 2-2018 50 - 51
Agricultural Policy and Action Committee Minutes
April 20, 2018

8. OTHER BUSINESS

9. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Friday, April 26, 2019, at 9:00
a.m. in Committee Room 4.

10. ADJOURNMENT

If you require any accommodations for a disability in order to attend or participate in meetings or events, please contact the Accessibility Advisory Coordinator at 905-980-6000 (office), 289-929-8376 (cellphone) or accessibility@niagararegion.ca (email).



making our mark

NIAGARA

OFFICIAL PLAN

Natural Environment Work Program

New Regional Official Plan

February 22, 2019 – Presentation to
Agricultural Policy and Action Committee

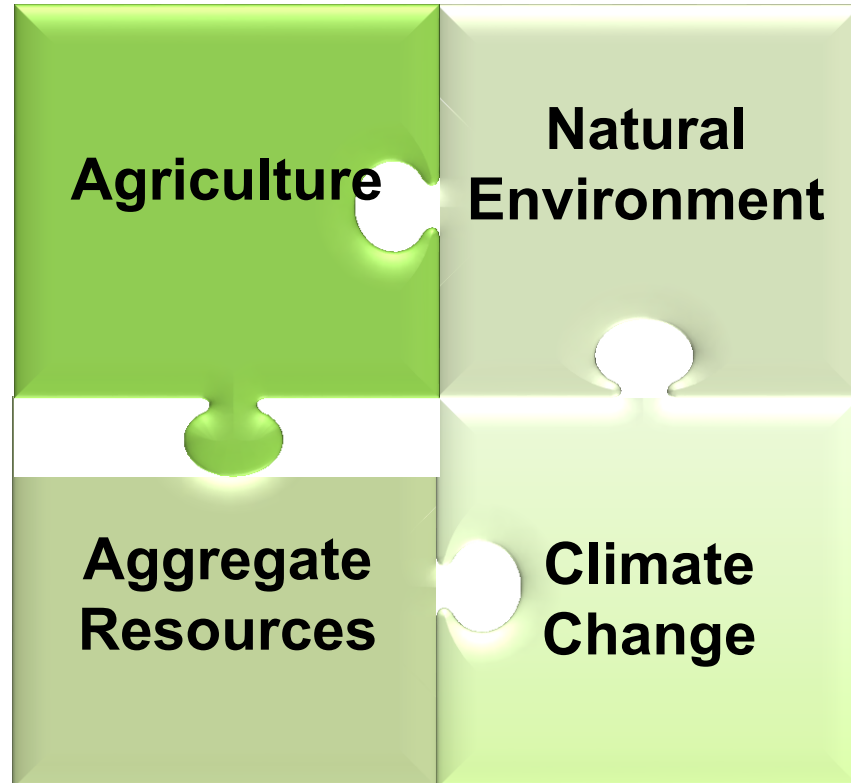


New Regional Official Plan

- Niagara Region is in the process of preparing a new Regional Official Plan (ROP)
- The ROP is a series of objectives and policies that guide the short-term and long-term physical development of all lands within the Region.
- The *Planning Act* requires municipalities to undertake regular reviews of their Official Plans to align with Provincial requirements.
- In 2016 Council endorsed the approach of the preparation of a new Regional Official Plan from start to finish rather than a series of site specific topic amendments. The new Regional Official Plan will be processed under Section 26 of the *Planning Act*, and is proposed to be finalized by the end of 2021.

Priority Background Studies

Natural Systems and Resources



Growth Management



Natural Environment Planning



An important component of the new Regional Official Plan to:

- Support the identification of areas for growth and development
- Meet Provincial requirements
- Supports a range of industries that benefit from a healthy natural environment
- Support public health, recreation, and overall well-being of residents
- Plan for climate change



Background

- **PDS 41-2017** outlined the 8 major background studies required to support the New Regional Official Plan
- **PDS 6-2018** was the project initiation report and sought direction for preliminary consultation
- **PDS 18-2018** was the project framework report



Scope for Natural Environment Work Program

| In-Scope | Out-of-Scope* |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Natural Heritage Features<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Woodlands, wetlands, habitat, habitat of endangered and threatened species, fish habitat, etc.• Hydrologic Features<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Streams, seepage areas, wetlands, etc.• Region's watercourse identification and mapping project• Water Resource Systems<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Groundwater systems• Surface water systems• Natural Hazards<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Flooding hazards, erosion hazards, and dynamic beach hazards, etc.• Wildland fires as per Section 3.1.8 of the PPS• Provincial Natural Heritage Systems<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Greenbelt Natural Heritage System and Urban River Valley designation• Growth Plan Natural Heritage System• Niagara Escarpment Plan as it relates to the municipal planning process• Watershed Planning & Stormwater Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aggregates & Petroleum Resources• Source Water Protection |

**Official Plan policy development for out-of-scope items to be addressed separately⁹*



Key Issues to be Addressed

- The implementation/interaction of the new Provincial Natural Heritage and Agriculture Systems
- A framework for watershed planning in the Region
- Setbacks, buffers, and vegetation protection zones
- Woodlands, invasive species, and climate change



Official Plan Policies

- The Official Plan is a “land-use” document. Policies are triggered by *Planning Act* application (i.e. change of use, severance of land). Policies do not apply to existing uses or normal farm practices.
- There are already some existing Provincial policies that recognize the unique agriculture in Niagara. For example policy 3.2.5.8 of the greenbelt plan allows for reduced setbacks from certain watercourses in the specialty crop area.



Upcoming Consultation and Engagement

- 1st major point of engagement - focusing on education and sharing information:
 - Planning Advisory Committee (PAC)
 - Public
 - Local Councils
 - Planning and Economic Development Committee
 - APAC
 - Agricultural community and other key stakeholders



MEMORANDUM

APAC-C 01-2019

Subject: 2019 APAC Meeting Dates

Date: February 22, 2019

To: Agricultural Policy and Action Committee

From: Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk

Attached as Appendix "A", is a list of proposed dates in 2019 that have been identified for meetings of the Agricultural Policy and Action Committee. If required, additional meetings can be scheduled at the call of the Chair.

It is recommended that the attached schedule of meeting dates for 2019, **BE APPROVED** by the Agricultural Policy and Action Committee.

Respectfully submitted and signed by,

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk

AGRICULTURAL POLICY AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2019 MEETING SCHEDULE

MEETING DATES

February 22, 2019

April 26, 2019

September 27, 2019

November 29, 2019 – CE101

RULES OF PROCEDURE

Proceedings must adhere to the Region of Niagara's Procedural Bylaw No. 120-2010, as amended.

Meetings are held on Fridays at 9:00 a.m. in Committee Room 4 (unless otherwise noted).

MEMORANDUM

APAC-C 03-2019

Subject: Irrigation Working Group Update and Historical Background

Date: February 22, 2019

To: Agricultural Policy and Action Committee

From: Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk

Attached is an update and historical background provided by the Irrigation Working Group for information.

Respectfully submitted and signed by,

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk

Irrigation Update and Historical Backgrounder for NAPAC meeting February 22nd, 2019

- The cycle of drought like conditions in the Niagara region appears to be occurring more frequently (2001, 2007, 2012, 2016 and in 2018 to a lesser extent).
- In early July 2016 extreme dry conditions were reported to the minister of agriculture and minister of environment.
- At that time, the OMAFRA water specialist calculated that in the Niagara region alone growers were facing a water deficit of approximately 50 mm.
- When there are drought conditions, growers with irrigation (the majority of which is overhead) are in a constant cycle of trying to keep up and are putting great strain on current water infrastructure.
- Those without any irrigation capacity truck water in or simply deal with the effects of no water for their crops (reduced yields, plant stress and in some cases plant death).
- During the 2016 drought industry asked for a streamlined approval process for those requiring emergency permits to take water.
- The 2016 drought resulted in a 15% yield reduction for tender fruit crops and a 24% reduction in wine grape yields vs. 2015.

Niagara Irrigation Strategic Action Plan

- Due to the economic impact of the drought, a funding project proposal was submitted and approved in 2017 led by the Niagara Peninsula Fruit and Vegetable Growers with cash and implementation support from Ontario Tender Fruit Growers, Grape Growers of Ontario and the Niagara Region to develop a **Niagara Irrigation Strategic Action Plan**.

- The strategy was based on the following vision.

Farms in Niagara have reliable access to
irrigation water used efficiently and safely
to sustain their productivity

- To achieve this vision, the strategy recommended the following actions:
- Recruit, engage and fund an irrigation point person for the Region as a whole for a two-year trial period with specific deliverables to be accomplished
- Raise the positive profile of irrigation in the public space
 - across the government so that (i) planning decision-makers have better understanding in order to expedite approval of irrigation projects and (ii) infrastructure funding programs are accessible to support capital costs of irrigation infrastructure
 - build public support and understanding as to why irrigation is a shared public-private responsibility with the full cost burden not falling on the grower
 - coordinate actions and influence policy under the mandates of different regulatory bodies to enable irrigation access
- Work to secure public infrastructure dollars, in the context of global climate change, to:
 - Make improvements to the capacity, reliability and efficiency of the NOTL open drainage ditch system
 - Subject to a satisfactory engineering and economic feasibility study, for systems (a) to deliver irrigation water west of the canal in west St. Catharines and (b) to provide greater security for pumping water from Lake Ontario to service farms in Lincoln
 - Enable growers to access C.A.P. funding for individual irrigation projects on-farm

- The strategic action plan was presented and endorsed by the NAPAC at their January 2018 meeting.
- In February 2018 a localized Lincoln irrigation meeting was held chaired by Lincoln Mayor Sandra Easton with participation from growers and municipal representatives from Lincoln, St Catharines and NOTL.
- At that meeting a federal grant application proposal was discussed that included the following objectives;
- To move forward on recommendations from the Niagara Irrigation Strategic Action Plan and coordinate action amongst growers, ministries and municipalities to increase domestic food security, reduce energy emissions and increase water conservation by completing the following:
 1. Formation of a volunteer "Niagara Water Resource Board (NWRB) with representation from each municipality and grower association to establish a job description and specific deliverables of the irrigation ambassador and regional water security initiatives;
 2. The NWRB will design and implement an emergency response system for low water occurrences resulting in a cohesive system for the entire region;
 3. The NWRB will develop and disseminate communication materials to the public to increase awareness of the need to ensure local food sustainability and the strategies growers will use to ensure efficient use and conservation of water resources;
 4. The Irrigation Ambassador will build relationships, conduct surveys and assessments and make recommendations that will ensure the sustainability of the agricultural sector environmentally and economically.

Ambassador Deliverables:

1. Ambassador will work with growers in Zone B, the City of St Catharines and OPG to contract a feasibility assessment of conveying water from sources above the escarpment at Decew Falls to the farmland at lower elevations. The assessment will include the best way to store water centrally for distribution during high demand. The goal is to reduce energy costs and environmental emissions and minimize risk of ground water depletion by finding alternate sources to help replenish aquifers. The work will result in an organizational model for the construction and management of such a system. Grower buy in and acreage involved to be solidified.
2. Ambassador will work with NOTL Drainage System Superintendent and the NOTL irrigation committee on improving the capacity, reliability and coverage areas of the open irrigation system in Zone C.
3. Ambassador will work with growers involved in independent existing water systems in Area A (Lincoln) to determine synergies and efficiencies that could be realized with possibly one common intake, one common pumping system and the additional coverage that could be serviced.
4. Ambassador will assess and make recommendations on what tools are needed to strengthen the profile and priority given to irrigation needs in planning and legislation. Coordination of meetings and presentations with all stakeholders.
5. All stakeholders will work together to design and implement an Emergency Response Plan across the region that will ensure the protection of water sources while establishing a cohesive water rationing system with equal access to growers in the region to increase the security of agricultural production.

- A project proposal was submitted for these deliverables to the Federal EcoAction Plan program in the summer of 2018 with cash support from the Region, municipalities of Niagara on the Lake, Lincoln and St Catharines and the tender fruit and grape growers' organizations.
- Funding for the above project was not approved.
- A preproposal was sent to the Disaster Mitigation and Adaptation Fund was submitted by the Niagara on the Lake Irrigation committee in 2018 to upgrade their infrastructure but they were not asked to submit a full proposal.

Current Funding Environment

- Provincial programs for agriculture are on hold with no indication of when they will open.
- A Federal program has just recently been launched. The Canadian Agricultural Strategic Priorities Program (CASPP) which is an investment of \$50.3 million over five years.
- Funding available through this program will help facilitate the sector's ability to address emerging issues and capitalize on opportunities. **Program website - <http://www.agr.gc.ca/eng/programs-and-services/canadian-agricultural-strategic-priorities-program/?id=1549325740130>**

MEMORANDUM

APAC-C 02-2019

Subject: Agricultural Policy and Action Committee Representation for the Niagara North Federation of Agriculture

Date: February 22, 2019

To: Agricultural Policy and Action Committee

From: Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk

The Clerk's Office received notification from the Niagara North Federation of Agriculture that Chris Mullet Koop and Arden Vaughn have been chosen as representatives for the Agricultural Policy and Action Committee. The alternate representative is Mike Chechalk.

Respectfully submitted and signed by,

Ann-Marie Norio
Regional Clerk

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
AGRICULTURAL POLICY & ACTION COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**APAC 01-2018
Friday, January 26, 2018
Committee Room 4
Niagara Region Headquarters
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold ON**

Committee: Councillors Baty, Easton, Hodgson (Committee Chair), Joyner; G. Janes, J. Kikkert, B. Schenck (Committee Vice Chair), J. Schonberger, L. Troup, A. Vaughn, A. White

Absent/Regrets: Caslin (Regional Chair), Councillors Darte, Jeffs; R. Bator, K. Wiens

Staff: E. Acs, Senior Planner, K. Lotimer, Administrative Assistant, K. Provost, Economic Development Officer

Others Present: N. Gill (Ontario Federation of Agriculture), C. Hamilton (Niagara South Federation of Agriculture), H. Swierenga (OFA Member Service Representative), M. Wiley, A. Witteveen (West Niagara Agricultural Society)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Hodgson called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m.

2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

3. PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Irrigation Strategy Update

James Farrar, President, Jayeff Partners, provided an update on the Niagara Region Irrigation Strategy Plan. Topics of the presentation included:

- Chair's Message - Niagara's Strengths
- Water's natural ups and downs
- Zones below the escarpment
- Getting policy and practice alignment
- Strategic Vision, Principles and Actions
- Next Steps

A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.

Moved by B. Schenk
Seconded by A. Vaughn

That the Irrigation Strategy Update presentation **BE RECEIVED**; and

That the Agricultural Policy Action Committee **ENDORSE** the Niagara Irrigation Strategic Action Plan.

Carried

3.2 Proposed Regional Natural Heritage System & Agricultural System for the Greater Golden Horseshoe

Erik Acs, Senior Planner, Planning and Development Services, provided an overview of the Proposed Regional Natural Heritage System & Agricultural System for the Greater Golden Horseshoe. Topics of the presentation included:

- Proposed Regional Natural Heritage System
- Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Growth Plan - Proposed Regional Natural Heritage System
- Niagara Region's Comments
- Draft Agricultural Land Base
- Niagara Region: OMAFRA Agricultural System Data Review
- Niagara Region's Comments

A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.

Moved by B. Schenk
Seconded by A. White

That the Proposed Regional Natural Heritage System & Agricultural System for the Greater Golden Horseshoe presentation **BE RECEIVED**.

Carried

4. **DELEGATIONS**

There were no delegations.

5. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

5.1 **APAC-C 01-2018**
2018 Meeting Schedule

Moved by Councillor Baty
Seconded by Councillor Easton

That APAC-C 01-2018, being the 2018 Meeting Schedule, **BE AMENDED**
to remove the February 16, 2018 meeting date.

Carried

6. **CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

6.1 **APAC 3-2017**
Moved by Councillor Baty
Seconded by Councillor Easton

That Report APAC 3-2017, being the minutes of the Agricultural Policy
and Action Committee meeting held on September 22, 2017, **BE**
RECEIVED for information.

Carried

7. **OTHER BUSINESS**

There were no items of other business.

8. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Friday April 20, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in Committee
Room 4.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

Councillor Hodgson
Committee Chair

Kelly Lotimer
Administrative Assistant

Frank Fabiano
Acting Regional Clerk



Niagara Region Irrigation Strategy Action Plan

PRESENTATION TO AGRICULTURE POLICY & ACTION COMMITTEE
FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2018

Acknowledgments

The funding for this strategy has been provided by:

- Growing Forward 2 delivered by the Agricultural Adaptation Council
- Niagara Peninsula Fruit & Vegetable Growers' Association
- Ontario Tender Fruit Growers
- Grape Growers of Ontario
- Region of Niagara

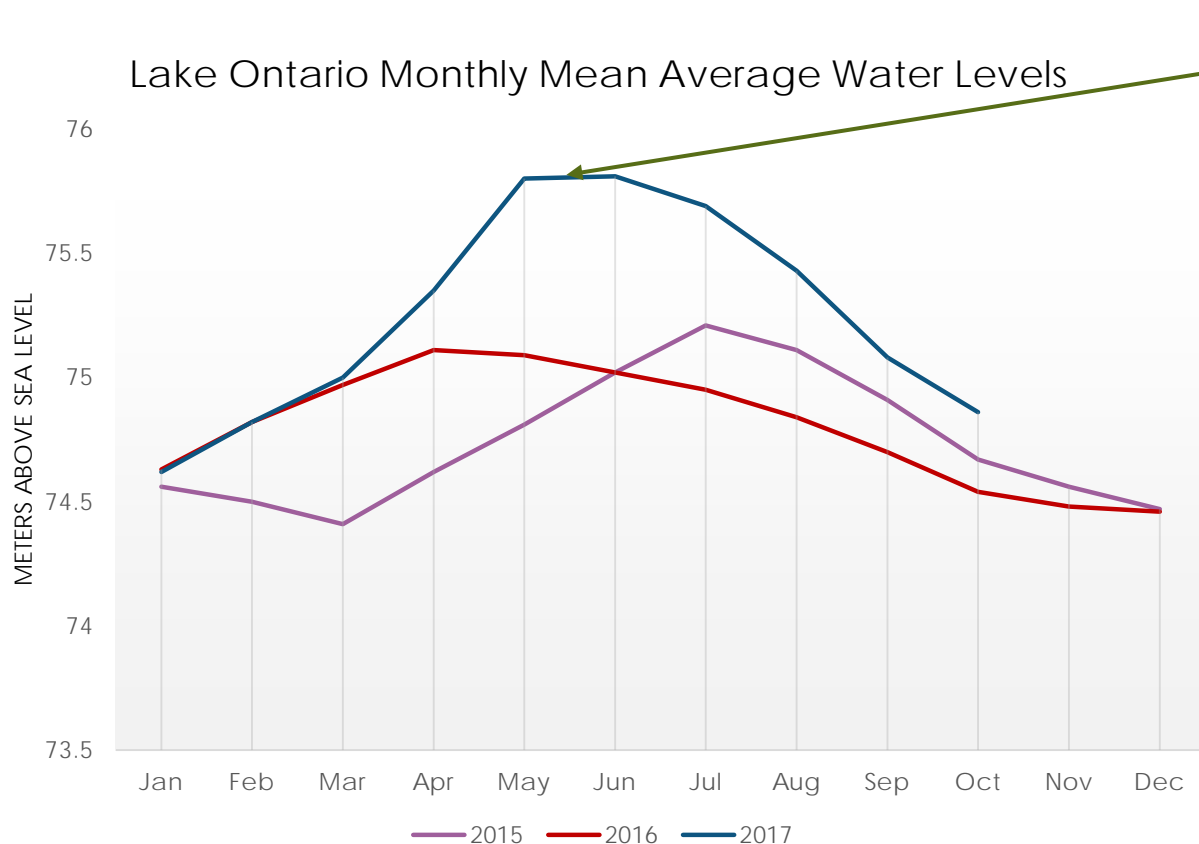
► Growers, OMAFRA staff, municipal government staff and other water users have been willing and helpful in meeting with the consultants [James Farrar, Charles Lalonde, Erik Lockhart and Tiffany Svensson] and providing²⁵ their insights and experiences

Chair's message – Niagara's strengths

- ▶ Abundance of good quality surface water
- ▶ Proven public-private partnership for irrigation water management (Niagara-on-the-Lake municipality-grower model)
- ▶ Recognition by governments that mitigating climate change is a high priority

“Together we can implement this strategy and make a positive difference to the future of agriculture in Niagara” – Bill Schenck

Water's natural ups and downs



Lake Ontario reached its highest level in 2017 in one hundred years

“It is a case of getting the water to the farms where it is needed for irrigation reliably and cost effectively.”

Zones below the escarpment

5

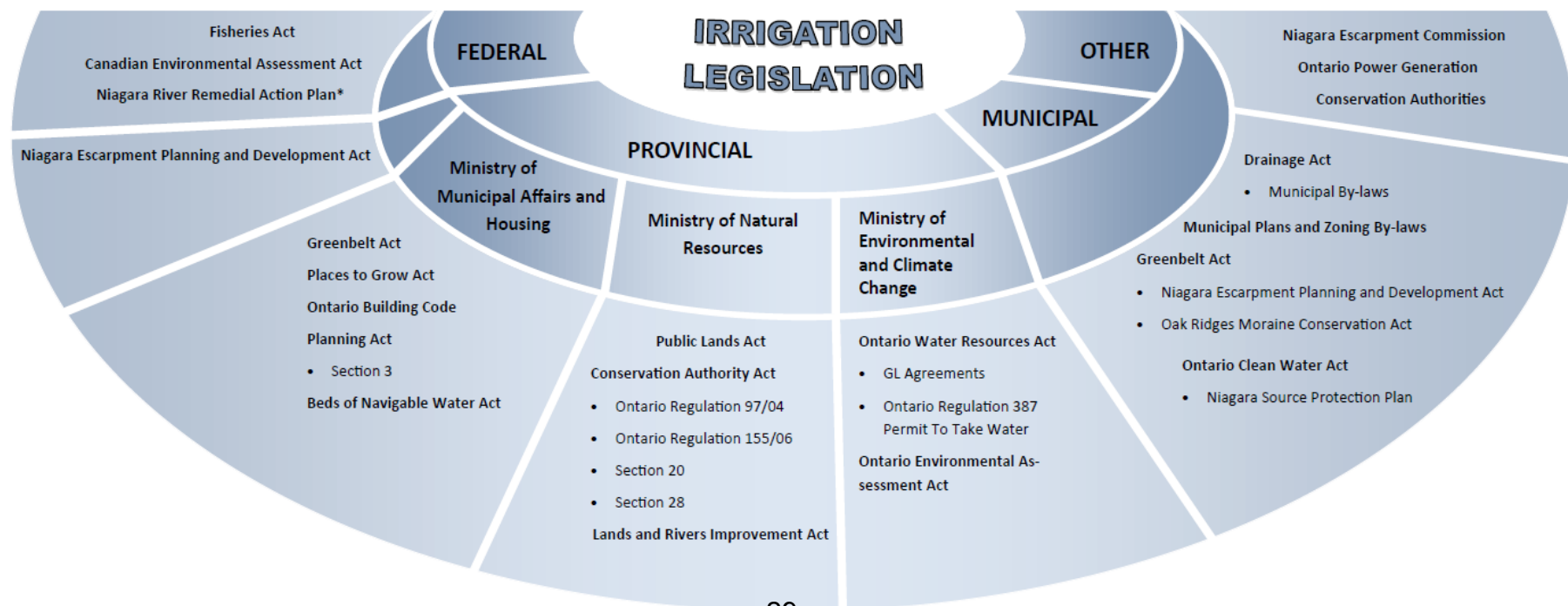


Lincoln

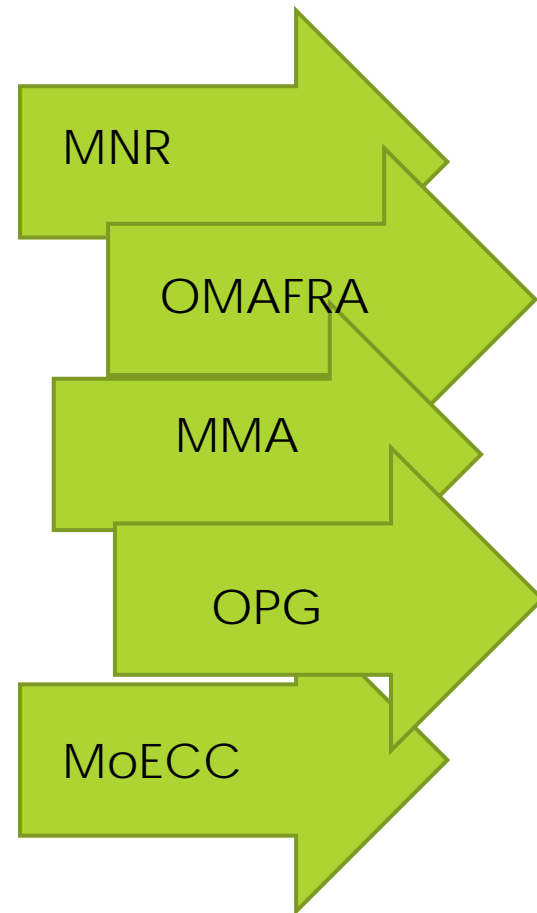
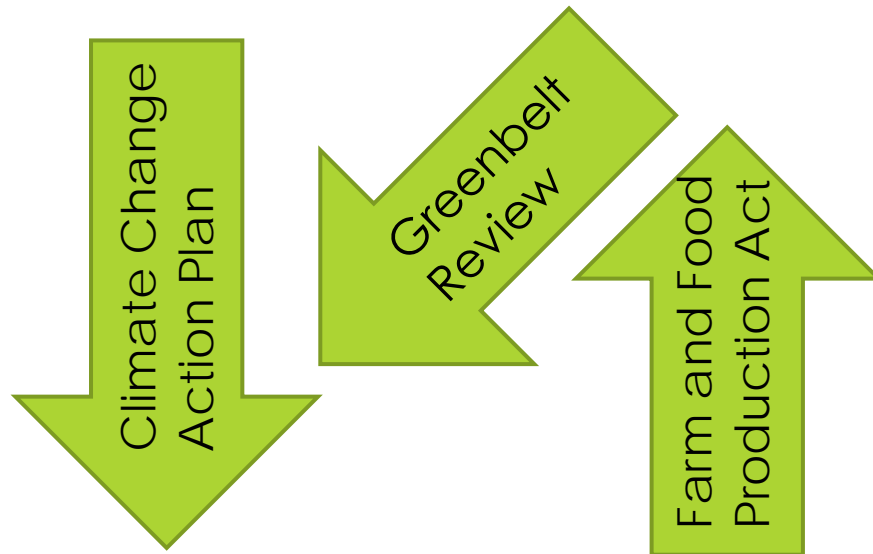
St. Catharines

Niagara-on-the-Lake

Many regulatory bodies have influence on water for irrigation



Getting policy and practice alignment



FROM TO

Reducing conflict and achieving congruent goals

“The objective of the permitting agency may be the enhancement of the *natural* environment or ecology which the regulator may perceive to be at cross purposes with *human* farming activity.”

Nearly half of those who participated in the grower session on October 30 reported that they had been denied water for irrigation at a critical time.

Strategic Vision

Farms in Niagara have reliable access to irrigation water used efficiently and safely to sustain their productivity



Strategic Principles

1. Growers have a responsibility to bear a share of the costs for irrigation delivery systems
2. It is a public responsibility to contribute materially towards the capital cost of major irrigation infrastructure in Niagara Region
3. There is a compelling need to raise the positive profile of irrigation in the public space and obtain recognition as a high priority
4. Irrigation water sources that rely on gravity for distribution are preferable over ones that rely on externally supplied energy
5. Irrigation needs to be integrated into all public works and private infrastructure planning in Niagara

Strategic Actions

1. Formation of a Niagara Irrigation Locus For Coordination and Action
2. Increase Public Awareness of the Need For and Value of Niagara Irrigation
3. Request Climate Change Funding For
 - Public Irrigation InfrastructureRequest C.A.P. Funding
 - Individual Grower Projects On Farm

#1 Year 1 - A Locus for Coordination and Action

- ▶ A full time position is recommended for a three year trial period to be the irrigation point person for Niagara irrigation
 - ▶ Assess the feasibility of providing water to the St. Catharines farmland zone in consultation with the growers, municipality and OPG
 - ▶ Work with NOTL Municipal staff to improve the capacity, reliability and coverage area of the open ditch drainage system
 - ▶ Work with Lincoln Municipality and growers to assess the option for a common intake from the Lake
 - ▶ Be the irrigation “ambassador” for Niagara with (a) representative bodies to work tirelessly for irrigation water policy alignment and (b) municipal staff to ensure that irrigation is considered in all public works and planning decisions

1 Year 2 “Watering Niagara from Root To Fruit”

1. Develop and deliver communication and education projects to reach a broader public audience to build public support
2. Build a complete irrigation profile of farms in Niagara below the escarpment
3. Contingency planning for and execution of mitigation measures in time of irrigation water crisis

2 - Increase Public Awareness of the Need For and Value of Irrigation

This recommendation is based on positive results gained when this approach was followed in the Holland Marsh, Innisfil Creek watershed, and Waterloo Region

- ▶ Survey public thinking to establish a baseline for “moving the needle”
- ▶ Test key messages to change public thinking in a positive way
- ▶ Finalize appropriate messages and ways for delivering them
 - ▶ Organize information tours and open houses
 - ▶ Make wise use of social media connectivity

#3 Make the Case for Public Funding To Address Irrigation Needs

1. For major public infrastructure spending, position the need for capital in the context of funds earmarked by government(s) for global climate change action plan measures
2. For private infrastructure needs on-farm, it is recommended to position the Canadian Agricultural Partnership joint federal-Ontario program delivered by Ontario (OSCIA) as one priority program for individual projects, either drip or overhead, that are consistent with OMAFRA's BMPs

Next Steps

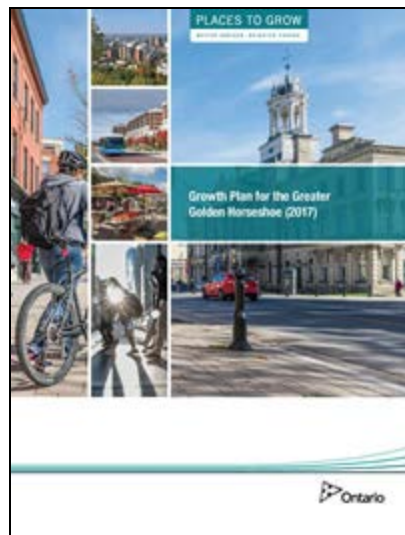
- ☑ Finalize and release the strategy report (December)
- ☐ Generate debate and discussion on implementation (early 2018) to move forward with recruiting for the recommended position



Thank you for participating this morning

Proposed Regional Natural Heritage System & Agricultural System for the Greater Golden Horseshoe

Agricultural Policy and Action Committee:
January 26, 2018

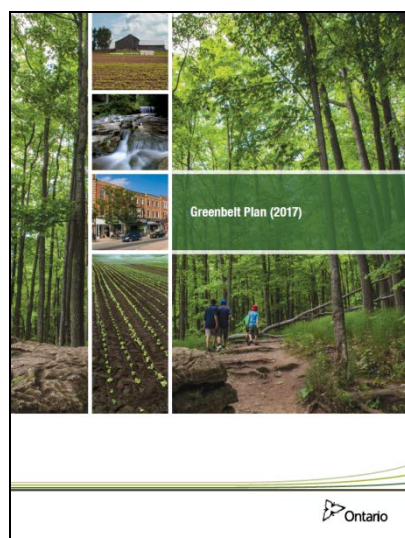


4.2.2 Natural Heritage System

1. The Province will map a *Natural Heritage System* for the GGH to support a comprehensive, integrated, and long-term approach to planning for the protection of the region's natural heritage and biodiversity. The *Natural Heritage System* mapping will exclude lands within *settlement area* boundaries that were approved and in effect as of July 1, 2017.

4.2.6 Agricultural System

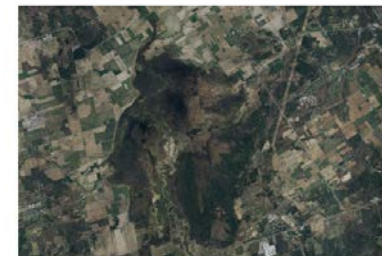
1. The Province will identify an *Agricultural System* for the GGH.



Agricultural System

Means the system mapped and issued by the Province, comprised of a group of inter-connected elements that collectively create a viable, thriving agricultural sector. It has two components:

- a) an agricultural land base comprised of *prime agricultural areas*, including *specialty crop areas*, and *rural lands* that together create a continuous, productive land base for agriculture; and
- b) an *agri-food network*, which includes *infrastructure*, services and assets important to the viability of the agri-food sector.



Development of the Proposed Regional Natural Heritage System for the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe

Summary of Criteria and Methods
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
Natural Resources Conservation Policy Branch
June 28, 2017

Implementation Procedures for the Agricultural System in Ontario's Greater Golden Horseshoe

DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION

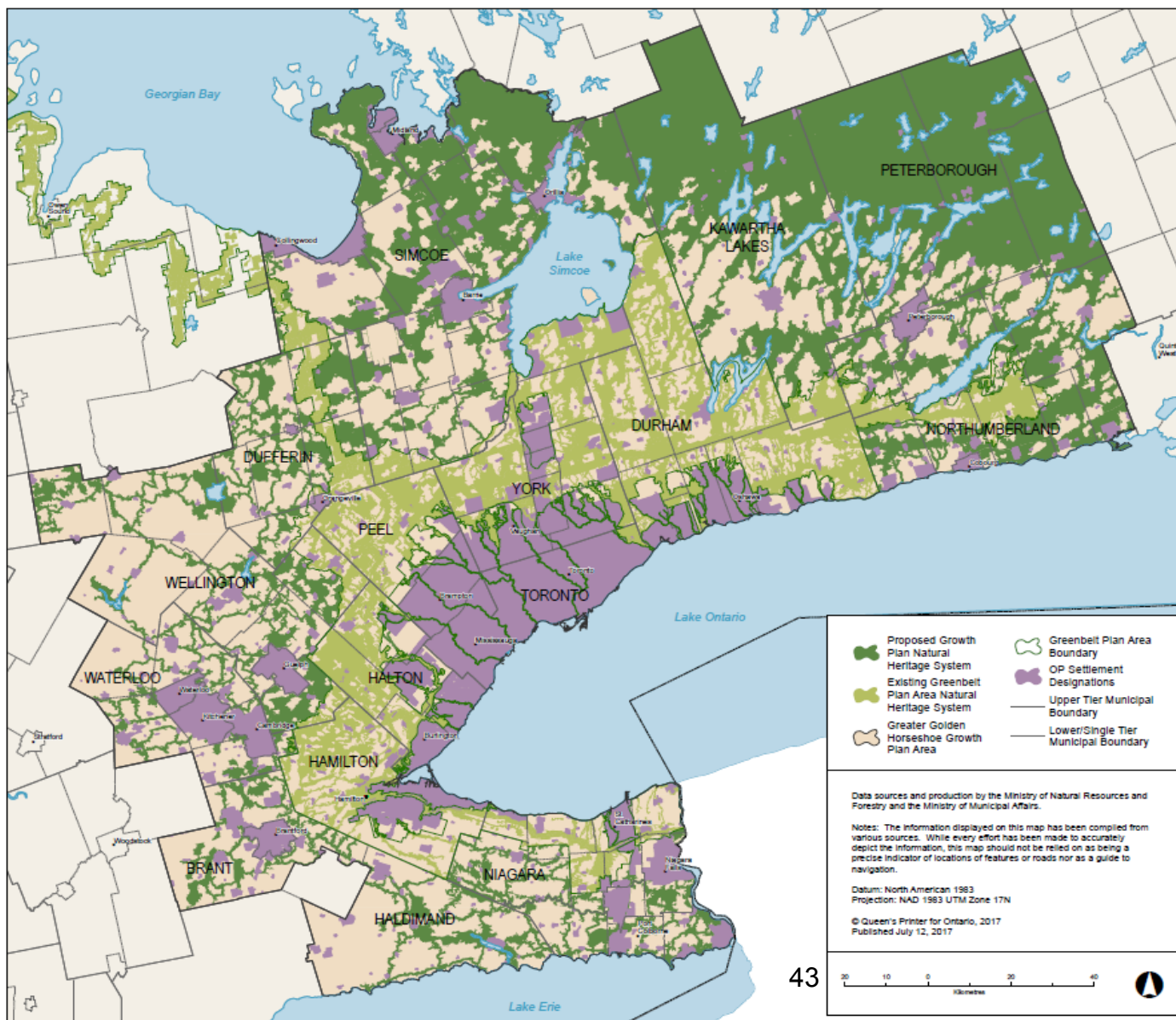
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
07/06/2017

This document, the agricultural land base map, and the Agricultural System Portal are drafts for consultation. Input is welcome on how best to strengthen our agri-food sector by approaching agriculture as a functional system involving land use planning and economic development.

Natural heritage system: means a system made up of natural heritage features and areas, and linkages intended to provide connectivity (at the regional or site level) and support natural processes which are necessary to maintain biological and geological diversity, natural functions, viable populations of indigenous species, and ecosystems. These systems can include natural heritage features and areas, federal and provincial parks and conservation reserves, other natural heritage features, lands that have been restored or have the potential to be restored to a natural state, areas that support hydrologic functions, and working landscapes that enable ecological functions to continue. The Province has a recommended approach for identifying natural heritage systems, but municipal approaches that achieve or exceed the same objective may also be used.

Proposed Regional Natural Heritage System

Note: The information displayed on this map is not to scale, does not accurately reflect approved land-use and planning boundaries, and may be out of date. For more information on precise boundaries, the appropriate municipality should be consulted. For more information on Greenbelt Area boundaries, the Greenbelt Plan should be consulted. The Province of Ontario assumes no responsibility or liability for any consequences of any use made of this map.



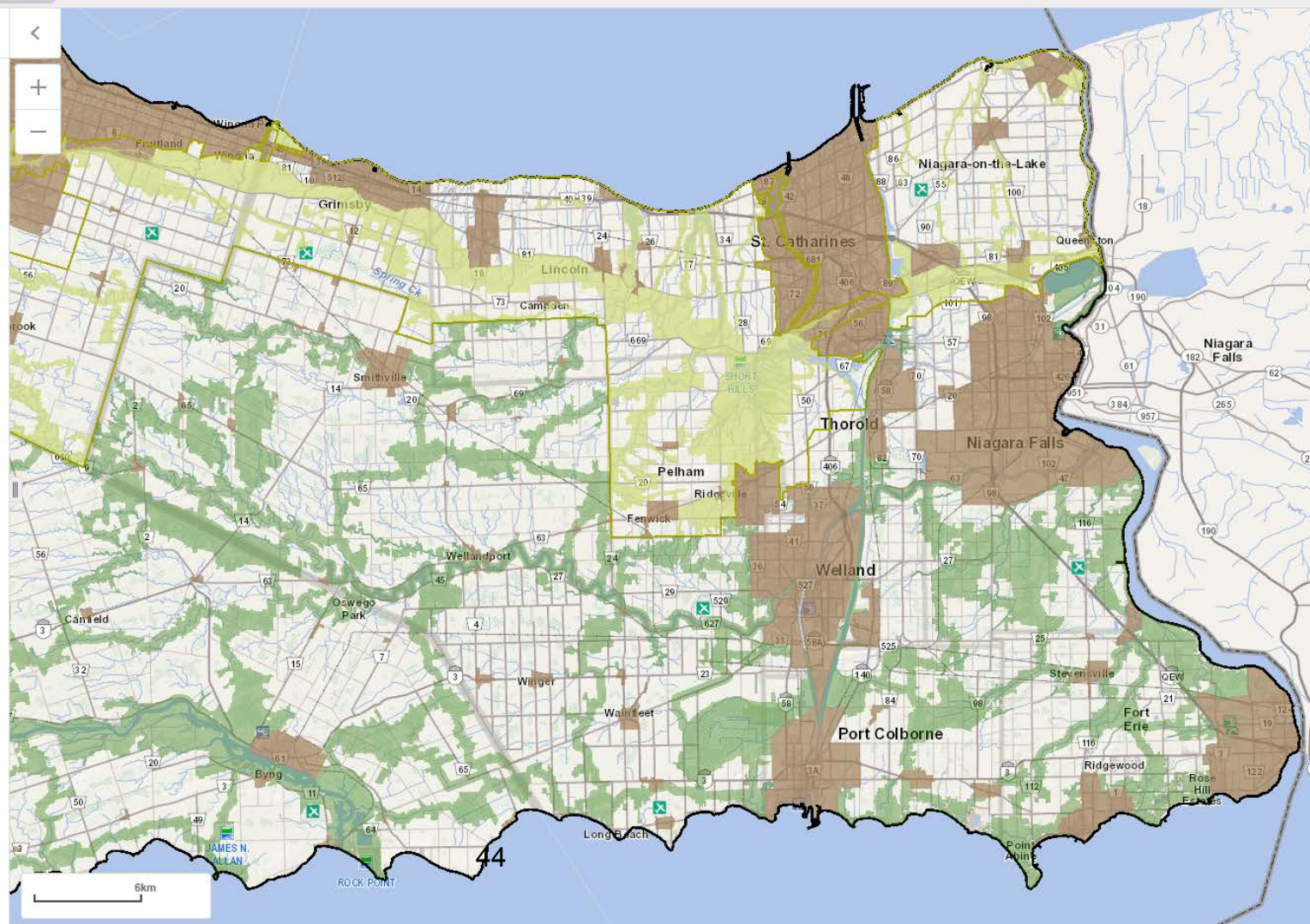
About

Growth Plan - Proposed Regional Natural Heritage System

This map viewer displays the Proposed Regional Natural Heritage System for the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe in association with Environmental Registry posting [EBR# 013-1014](#) (comment period: July 06, 2017 to October 04, 2017). In addition, the existing natural heritage system for the Greenbelt Plan area and settlement areas (as designated in official plans) can be displayed. The Greenbelt Plan area natural heritage system is not part of the proposal currently posted on the Environmental Registry. The viewer also displays topographic base information such as roads, rivers, woodlands, wetlands and municipal boundaries. You can zoom in and out, and turn information on and off.

The information provided in this application is illustrative only. Users should not rely on its content as a precise indicator of travel routes, ownership, location of features, or as a guide for navigation. Some of this content is only available at certain scales. This application and its content are temporary. It will only be accessible online until October 04, 2017. For technical assistance, please send us an email at naturalheritage@ontario.ca.

Note: The technology to convert the maps on this page to an accessible format is not currently available. These maps may not be compatible with screen reader software. If you are unable to access these maps please contact naturalheritage@ontario.ca.

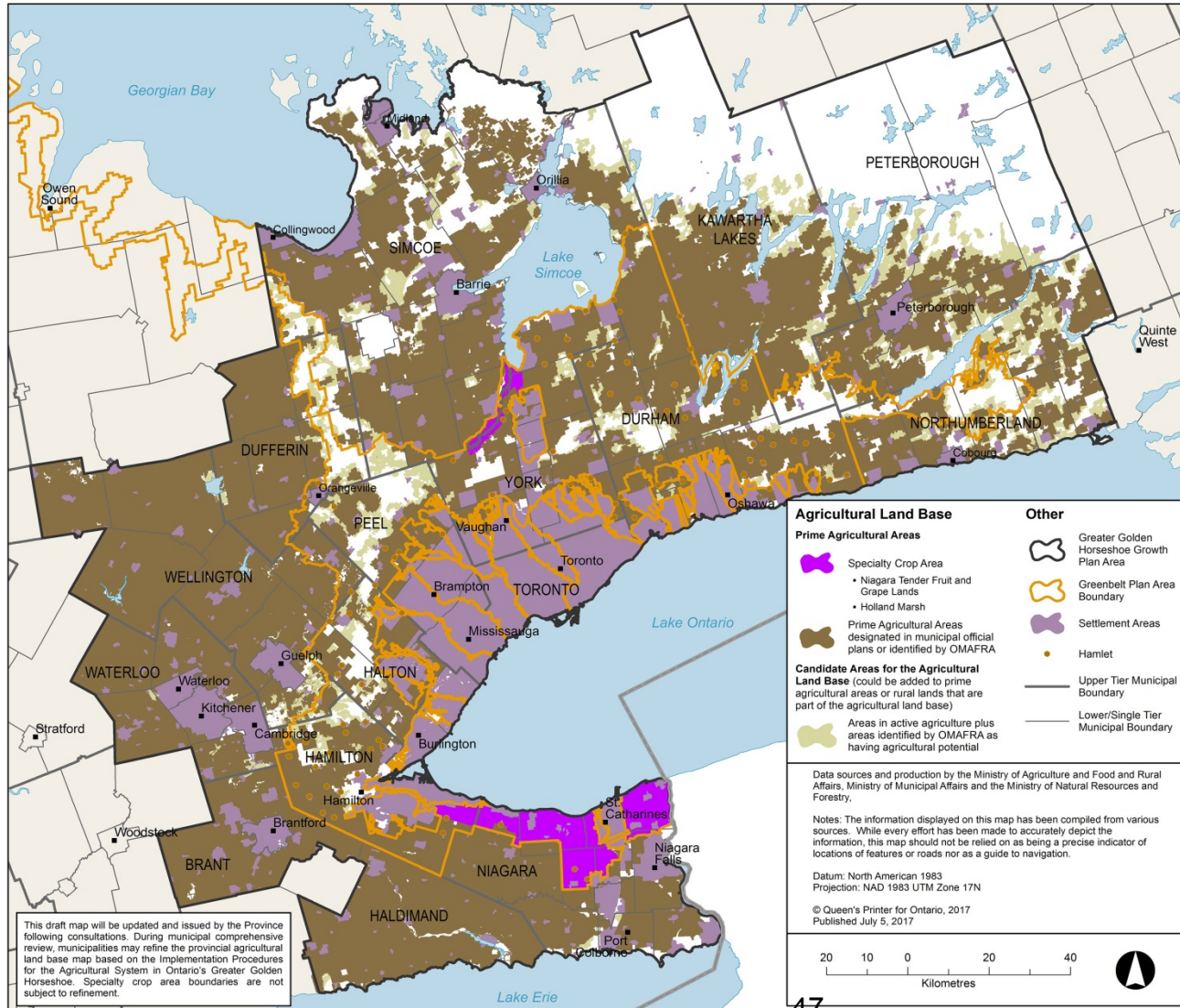


Niagara Region's Comments

- Gateway Economic Zone
- Core Area Composition (50% Veg. Cover)
- Provincial Lands
- Core Area Size (100ha vs. 500/1000ha)
- Core Area Holes (250ha)
- Linkage Methodology
- Data Sources (Ag Canada Mapping)
- Refinements
- Settlement Area Expansions (Do policies still apply)

Agricultural system: The system mapped and issued by the Province in accordance with this Plan, comprised of a group of inter-connected elements that collectively create a viable, thriving agricultural sector. It has two components:

1. An agricultural land base comprised of prime agricultural areas, including specialty crop areas, and rural lands that together create a continuous productive land base for agriculture;
2. An agri-food network which includes infrastructure, services, and assets important to the viability of the agri-food sector. (Greenbelt Plan)

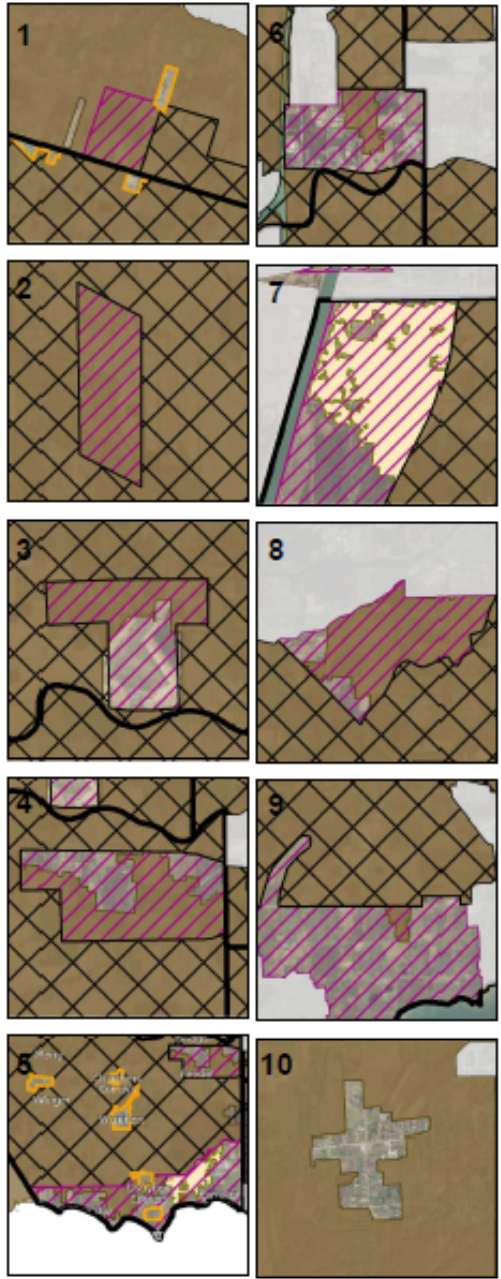
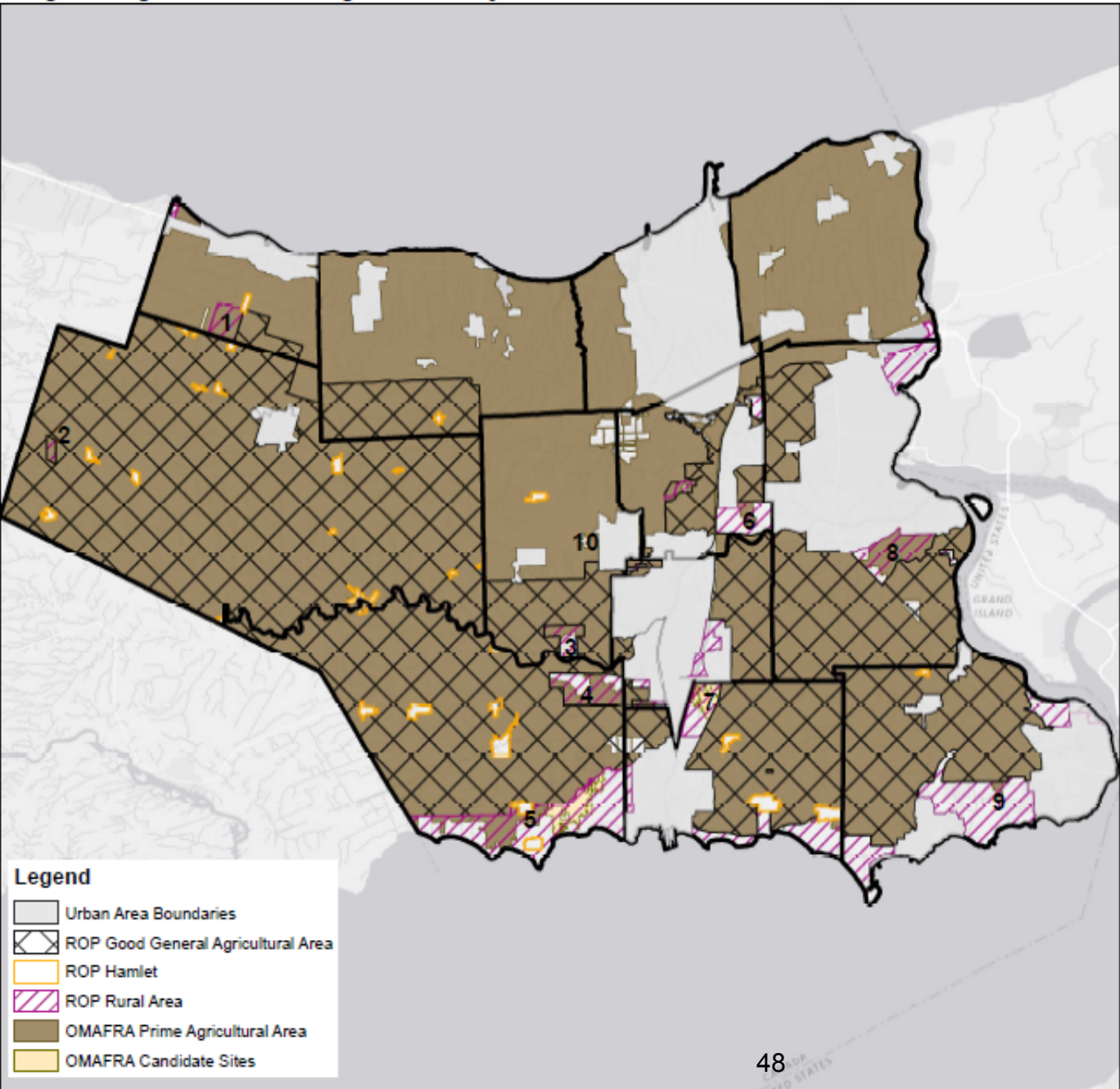


PLACES TO GROW

GROWTH PLAN FOR THE
GREATER GOLDEN HORSESHOE, 2017

Draft Agricultural Land Base

Note: The information displayed on this map is not to scale, does not accurately reflect approved land-use and planning boundaries, and may be out of date. For more information on precise boundaries, the appropriate municipality should be consulted. For more information on Greenbelt Area boundaries, the Greenbelt Plan should be consulted. The Province of Ontario assumes no responsibility or liability for any consequences of any use made of this map.



Niagara Region's Comments

OMAFRA approach is different than NHS...

- OMAFRA LEAR is not aligned with Regional mapping
- Several minor settlement area discrepancies
- Site specific policies are not reflected
- Assets identified are inaccurate

**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
AGRICULTURAL POLICY & ACTION COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

**APAC 2-2018
Friday, April 20, 2018
Committee Room 4
Niagara Region Headquarters
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold ON**

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Committee: | Darte, Hodgson (Committee Chair), J. Schonberger, L. Troup, A. Vaughn, K. Wiens |
| Absent/Regrets: | Baty, Caslin (Regional Chair), Easton, Jeffs, Joyner, R. Bator, G. Janes, J. Kikkert, B. Schenck (Committee Vice Chair), A. White |
| Staff: | E. Acs, Policy Planner, B. Landry, Economic Research & Analysis Manager, K. Lotimer, Administrative Assistant, K. Provost, Economic Development Officer |
| Others Present: | N. Gill (Ontario Federation of Agriculture), T. Humphrey (Vineland Research Innovation Centre), S. Marshall (Ontario Tender Fruit), K. Reep (Vineland Research Centre, OMAFRA), H. Swierenga (OFA Member Services Representative), A. Witteveen (West Lincoln Agricultural Society) |

1. CALL TO ORDER

At 9:30 a.m. Committee Chair Hodgson advised Committee members that pursuant to Section 22.11 of the Procedural By-law 120-2010, as amended, that as a quorum was not present within thirty (30) minutes after the time set for the meeting, the Clerk would record the names of the members present and the meeting would stand adjourned until the date of the next meeting.

The Chair apologized to members for the inconvenience and stated that outstanding agenda items may be brought to a future meeting subject to consultations between the Committee Chair and staff.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Due to a lack of quorum, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Councillor Hodgson
Committee Chair

Kelly Lotimer
Administrative Assistant

Ann-Marie Norio
Acting Regional Clerk