



**THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA  
AGRICULTURAL POLICY & ACTION COMMITTEE  
FINAL AGENDA**

**APAC 4-2019**

**Friday, November 29, 2019**

**9:00 a.m.**

**Campbell East (CE) 101**

**Niagara Region Headquarters, Campbell East**

**1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold, ON**

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	<b>Pages</b>
<b>1. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u></b>	
<b>2. <u>DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST</u></b>	
<b>3. <u>PRESENTATIONS</u></b>	
3.1 <u>Rural Broadband Expansion</u>	3 - 19
Councillor Foster, South Western Integrated Fibre Technology (SWIFT) Representative	
<b>4. <u>DELEGATIONS</u></b>	
<b>5. <u>ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION</u></b>	
5.1 <u>APAC-C 5-2019</u>	20
2020 Agricultural Policy and Action Meeting Dates	
<b>6. <u>CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION</u></b>	
6.1 <u>APAC 2-2019</u>	21 - 25
Agricultural Policy and Action Committee Minutes	
Friday, April 26, 2019	

- 6.2     APAC 3-2019     26 - 27  
Agricultural Policy and Action Committee Minutes  
Friday, September 27, 2019
- 6.3     APAC-C 6-2019     28 - 29  
Councillor Information Request - September 27, 2019

7.     OTHER BUSINESS

8.     NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Friday, February 28, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. in Committee Room 4.

9.     ADJOURNMENT

If you require any accommodations for a disability in order to attend or participate in meetings or events, please contact the Accessibility Advisor at 905-980-6000 ext. 3252 (office), 289-929-8376 (cellphone) or [accessibility@niagararegion.ca](mailto:accessibility@niagararegion.ca) (email).



SWIFT

Niagara Region / APAC

November 29 2019







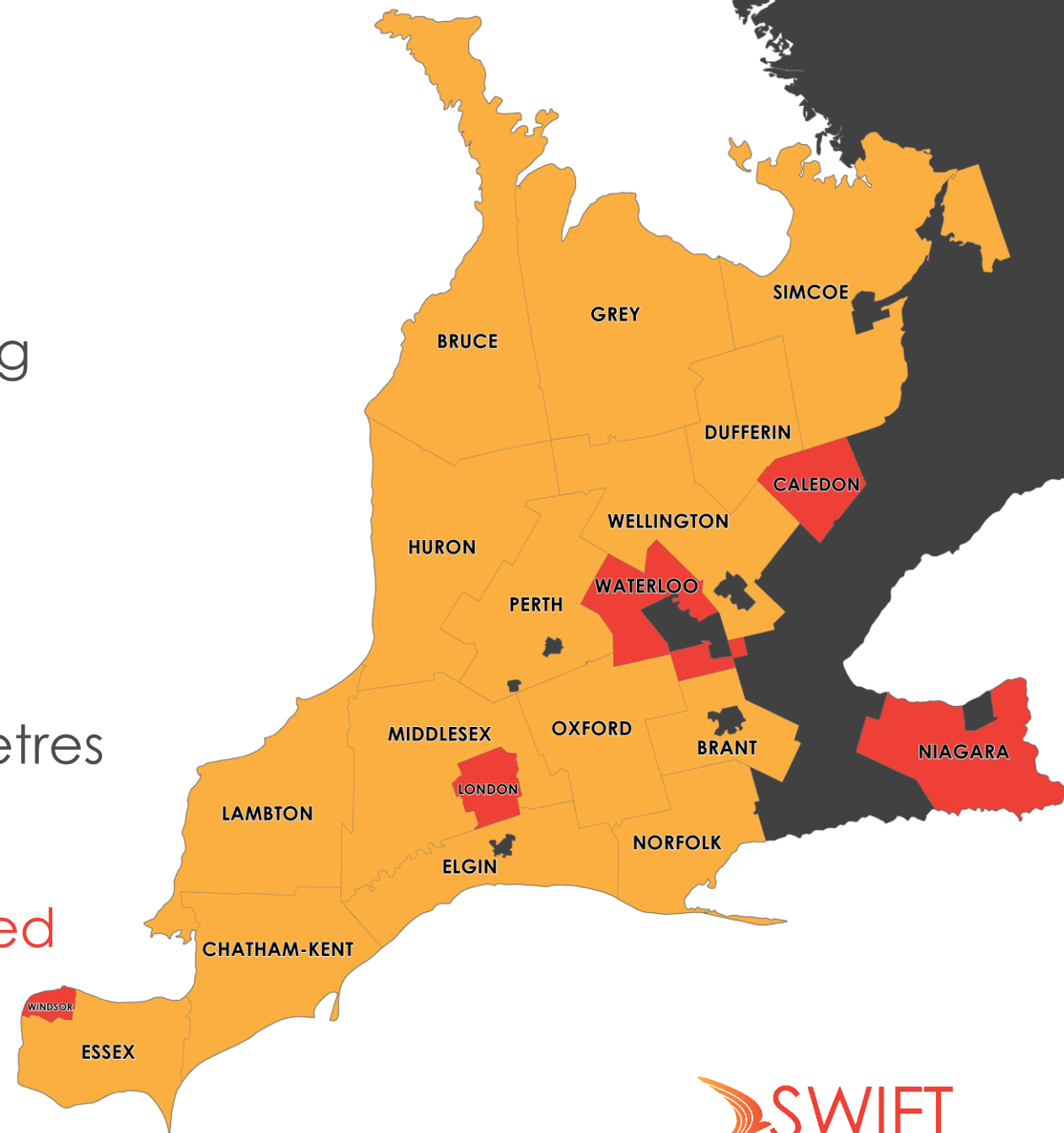
# THE SWIFT PROJECT



# THE SWIFT REGION

- 15 WOWC Members
- 5 Municipal Capital Contributing Members
  - Caledon, Niagara, Waterloo, London, Windsor
- 221,000 underserved premises
- 41,000 underserved road kilometres
- 504,000 underserved residents
- \$2.6B cost to fibre all underserved areas

WOWC Members    Capital Contributing Members

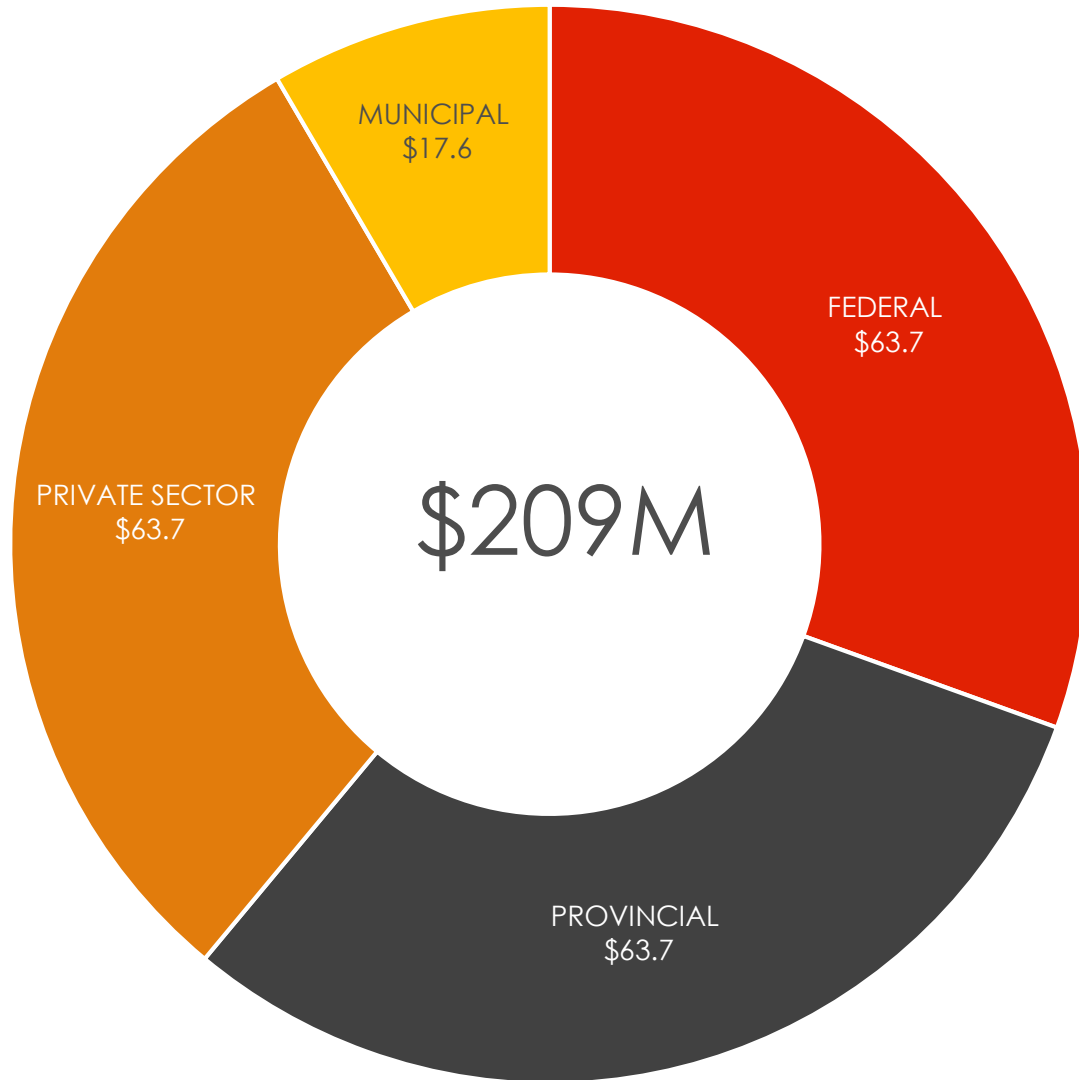


# SCF PROJECT PHASES



- SWIFT is funded under the Small Communities Fund (SCF)
- 3 Phases have been defined and relate to 3 Contribution Agreements with the province
- 3 Phases
  - Phase 1 (CA1) – Business Case Development
  - Phase 2 (CA2) – Projects in Norfolk, Wellington and Lambton
  - Phase 3 (CA3) – Remaining SCF and non-SCF Projects

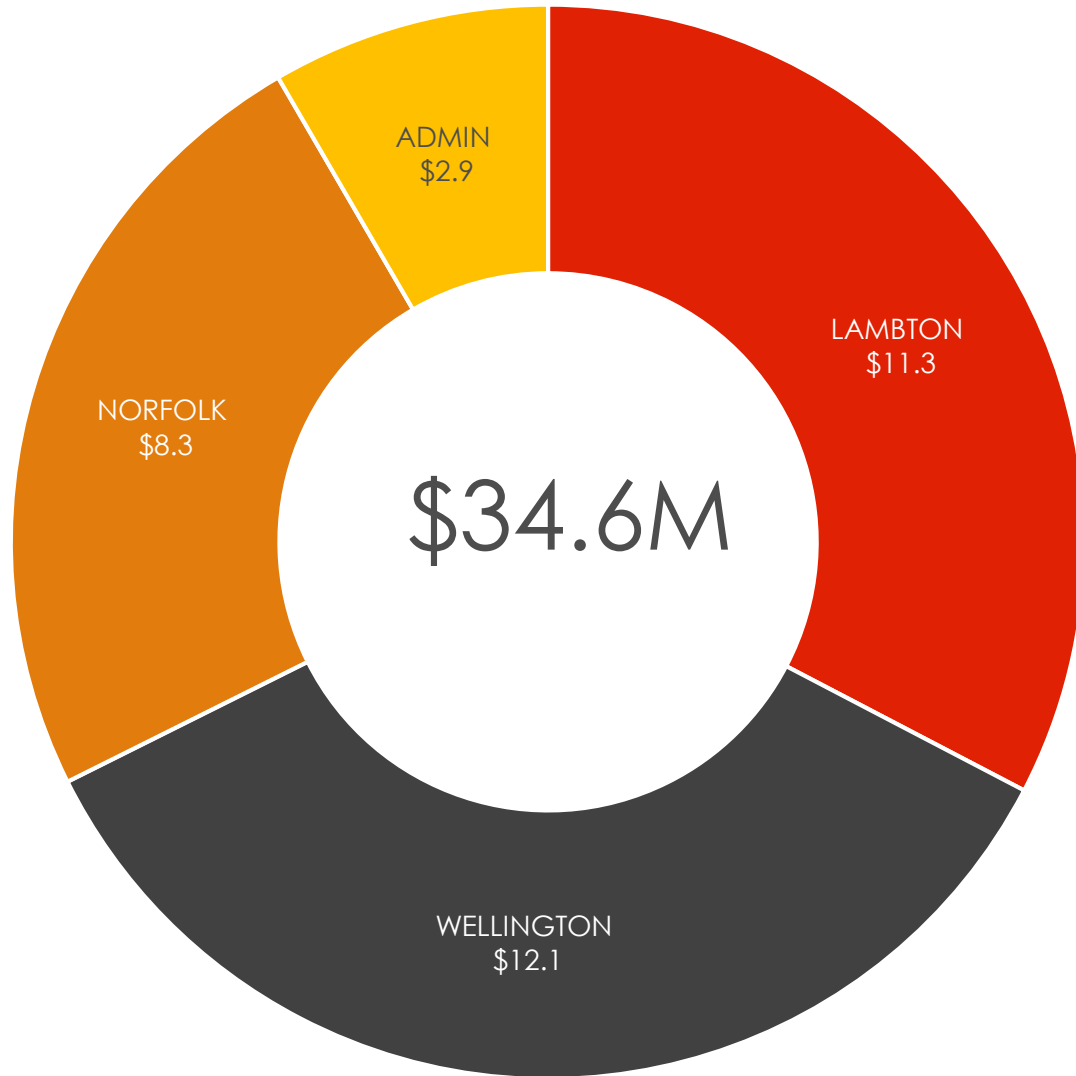
# SOURCES OF FUNDING



- Federal and Provincial matching contributions
- Private Sector – 1/3 of Fed/Prov contribution (minimum)
- Municipal funding covers overheads, admin and non-SCF eligible projects

Note: Funding values represent maximum funding available and assumes successful Pilot Project.

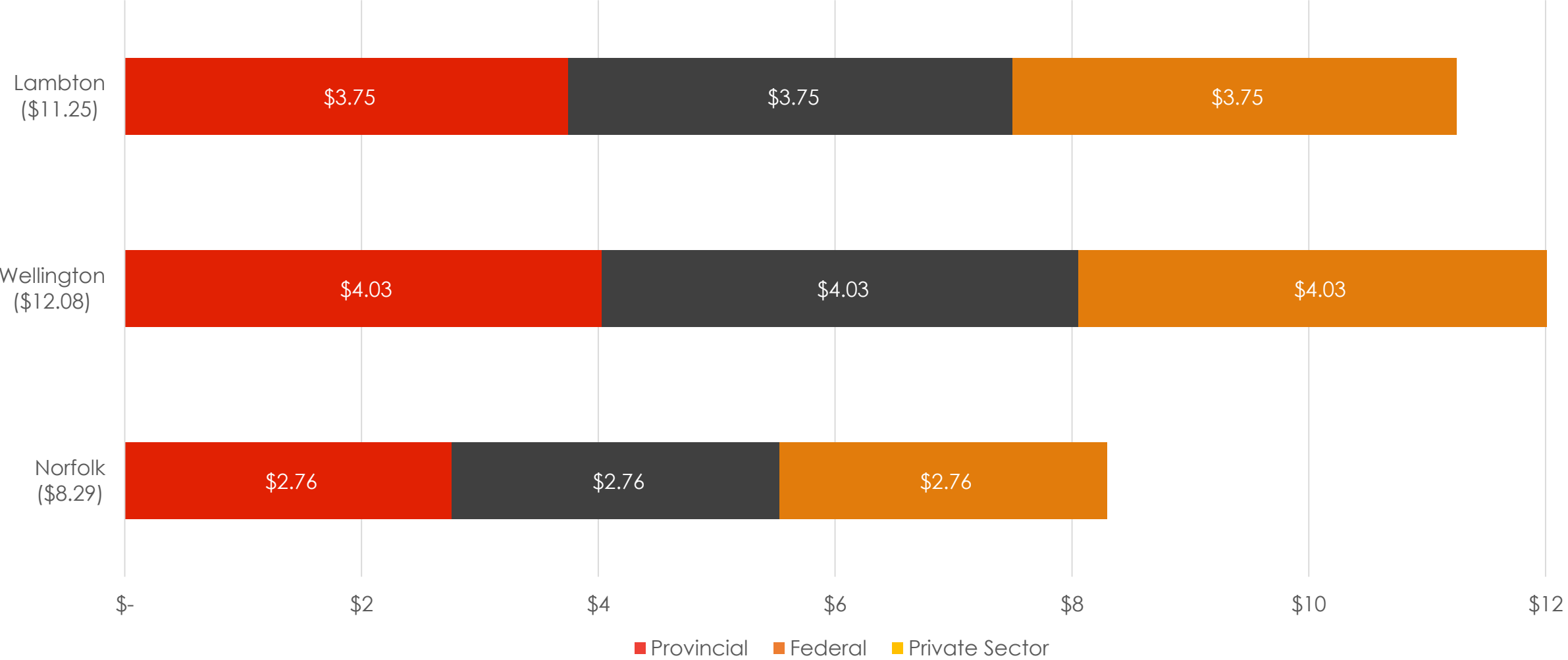
# PHASE II PROJECTS



- 3 projects approved to date
- Remaining projects to be approved based on success of pilots
- Procurement evaluation and assessment completed with contract negotiation underway
  - Contract executions planned for the end of November
- Construction expected in 2020



# PHASE II PROJECTS



# VENDORS OF RECORD



More than 42 VORs to-date

 Bell Canada	 Beyond Air Networks Limited	BH Telecom Corp.	 Bluewater Regional Networks	 Brant Municipal Enterprises	 Brooke Telecom Co-Op
 Bruce Telecom	 Cogeco Connexion Inc.	 Distributel Communications	 Eastlink	 Eh!tel Networks Inc.	 Entegrus
 Envi Networks Ltd.	 Execulink Telecom Inc.	 Frontline 360 Inc.	 GB TEL Incorporated	 Gosfield North Telecom	 Hay Communications
 HCE Telecom	 HuronTel	 Hydro One Telecom Inc.	 Internet Access Solutions	 KWIC Internet	 Lakeland Energy Ltd.
 MPV WiFi	 Mornington Communications	 Multiboard (Start.ca)	 Nexicom Inc.	 NRBN	North Frontenac Telephone Company, Elgin Corp.
 Olds Fibre Ltd.(O-Net)	 Quadro Communications	 Rogers	 Silo Wireless Inc.	 TekSavvy Solutions Inc.	 TeraGo Networks Inc.
 NFTC	 Tuckersmith Communications	 Vianet Inc.	 Wightman Communications	 Xplornet Communications	 Zayo Group LLC

# TECHNOLOGY CHOICES



- Small Communities Fund is focused on 50/10 service, not technology choices
- Technology Choices
  - FTTH
  - HFC
  - DSL
  - Wireless Broadband
- Preference given to 'scalable' technologies

SWIFT is **technology agnostic** and will allow bids that include any standards based technologies so long as they meet the 50/10 target





# PROCUREMENT



# PROCUREMENT APPROACH



- Total funding budget determined per region
- Anonymized 50/10 service coverage provided by SWIFT
- Areas with current 50/10 service are ineligible for funding
- ISPs will decide which areas and technologies to propose
- SWIFT Evaluation Committee will evaluate proposals focussing on outcomes
- Board Procurement Advisory Committee validates / approves



# STAFF EVALUATION TEAM

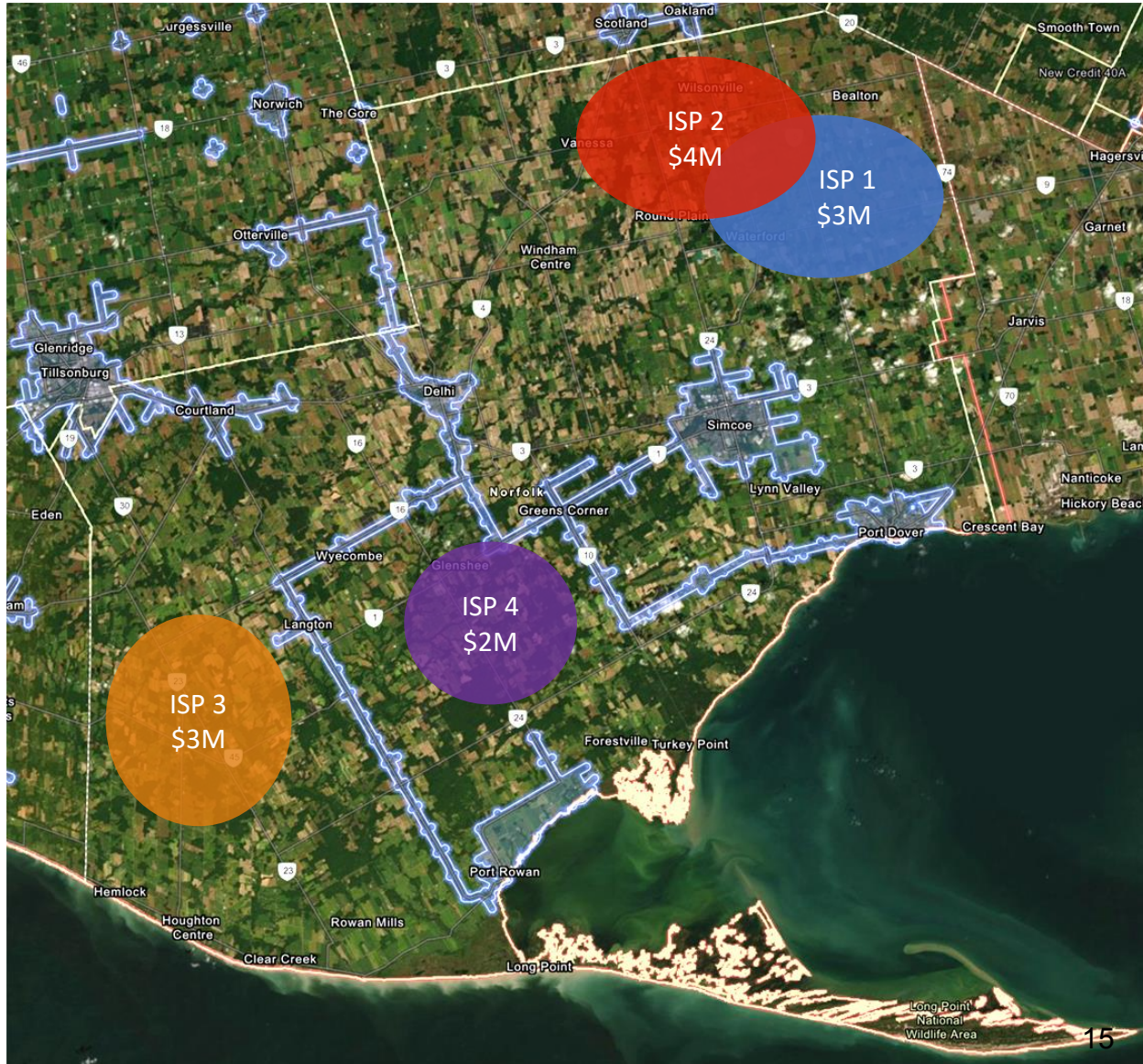


- Evaluation based on pre-determined criteria
- Team Members (equal weight)
  - SWIFT ED
  - SWIFT Technical Manager
  - SWIFT Operations Manager
  - SWIFT Finance
  - Municipality Member (TBD)

Proposal evaluation and contract awards to be approved by SWIFT board of directors Procurement Approval Committee



# PROCUREMENT EXAMPLE



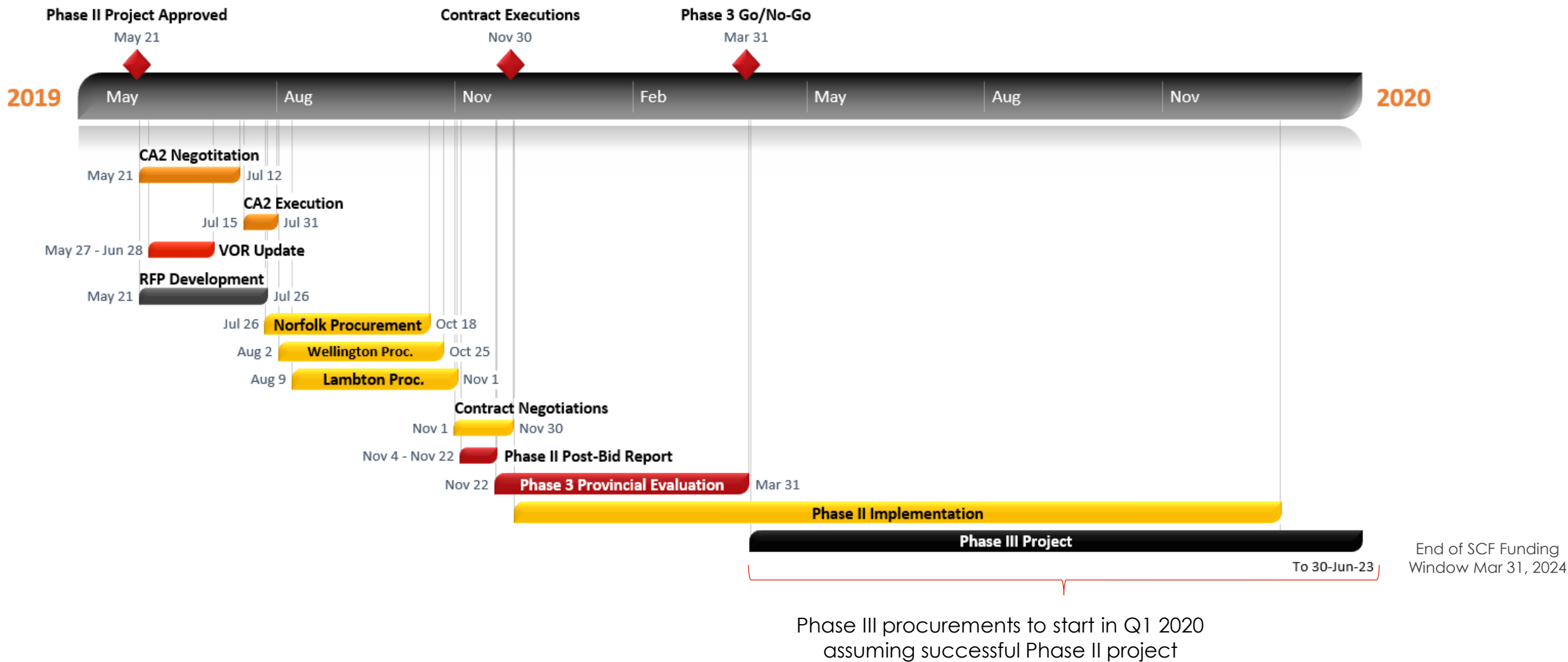
- \$8M Project Budget (\$4M max bid)
- Round 1 Results
  - #1 – ISP 2 ✓
  - #2 – ISP 1 ✗ (overlap with ISP 2)
  - #3 – ISP 3 ✓
  - #4 – ISP 4 ✗ (no funding left)
- \$6M spent
- \$2M remains
- 2nd Round of procurement would address remaining budget
- Round 1 projects would be considered exclusion zones



# PROJECT SCHEDULE



# PHASE II SCHEDULE



- Actual construction dates will be provided by ISPs in their proposals





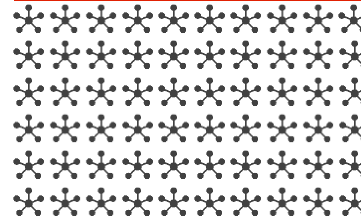
## BY THE NUMBERS

All figures based on the SWIFT SCF project  
and with the Province of Ontario

## TARGETED OUTCOMES

3,095,000  
**FIBRE**  
METRES

600 POPs/POIs

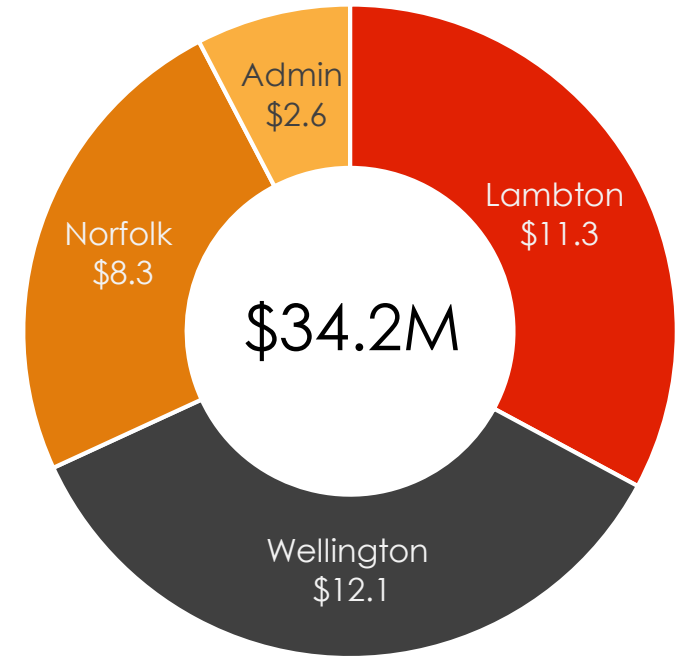


125,000 Residents Impacted

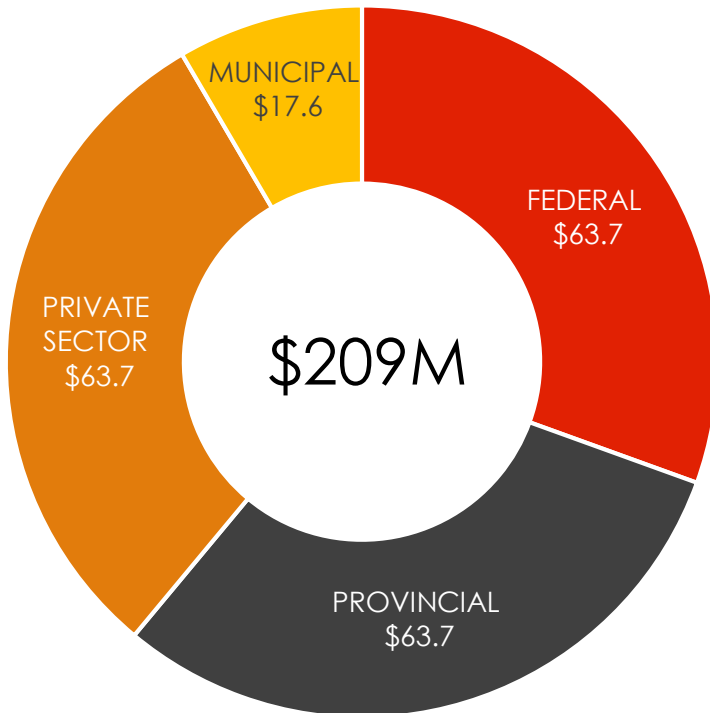


50,000  
Premises  
Passed

## PILOT PROJECTS



## SOURCES OF FUNDING

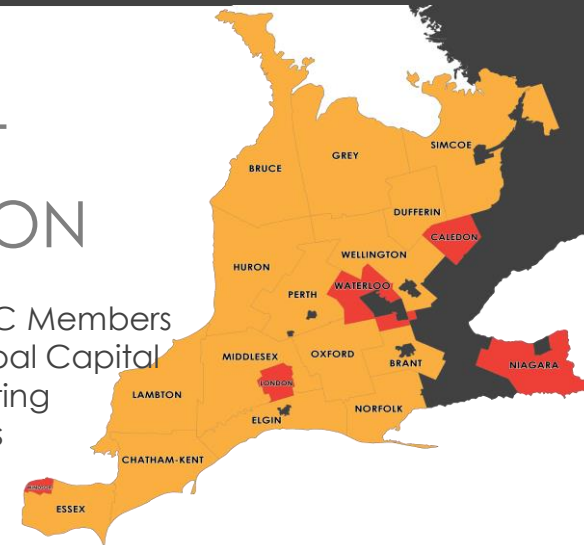


## KEY DATES

Phase 2 Approval	21-May-19	✓
VOR List Updated	28-Jun-19	✓
RFP Developed	12-Jul-19	✓
Norfolk RFP Issued	26-Jul-19	✓
Wellington RFP Issued	02-Aug-19	✓
Lambton RFP Issued	09-Aug-19	✓
CA2 Execution	31-Aug-19	✓
Phase 3 Go/No-Go Decision	31-Mar-20	
SCF Funding Window Closes	31-Mar-24	

## THE SWIFT REGION

- 15 WOWC Members
- 5 Municipal Capital Contributing Members



# QUESTIONS?



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## MEMORANDUM

APAC-C 5-2019

**Subject: 2020 Agricultural Policy and Action Meeting Dates**  
**Date: November 29, 2019**  
**To: Agricultural Policy and Action Committee**  
**From: Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk**

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The following is list of proposed dates in 2020 that have been identified to hold meetings of the Agricultural Policy and Action Committee:

**February 28, 2020**  
**April 24, 2020**  
**September 25, 2020**  
**November 27, 2020**

A resolution of Committee is required to approve the meeting dates. Suggested wording is as follows:

That the Agricultural Policy and Action Committee meetings **BE HELD** on Fridays at 9:00 a.m. on the following dates in 2020:

February 28, April 24, September 25, and November 27.

Respectfully submitted and signed by

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Ann-Marie Norio  
Regional Clerk



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

**APAC 02-2019  
Friday, April 26, 2019  
Committee Room 4  
Niagara Region Headquarters  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold ON**

Committee: Councillors Easton, Jordan, Steele, Witteveen (Committee Chair); G. Janes, C. Mullet Koop, B. Schenck (Committee Vice Chair), J. Schonberger, L. Troup, A. Vaughn, K. Wiens

Absent/Regrets: Bradley (Regional Chair), Councillors Butters, Disero; J. Kikkert, A. White

Staff: E. Acs, Manager, Community Planning, K. Lotimer, Legislative Coordinator, K. Provost, Economic Development Officer

Others Present: Councillor Junkin, C. Hamilton, Niagara South Federation of Agriculture, S. Marshall, Ontario Tender Fruit, H. Swierenga, Ontario Federation of Agriculture

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Councillor Witteveen, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

**2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

**3. PRESENTATIONS**

**3.1 Phragmites Overview**

Adam Bouden, Planning Ecologist, Planning and Development Services, provided Committee members with information respecting Phragmites Overview. Topics of the presentation included:

- Phragmites Characteristics
- Biodiversity and Habitat Loss
- Habitat Preference
- Historical/Predicted Distribution
- Control Methods

**4. DELEGATIONS**

There were no delegations.

5. **ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

There were no items for consideration.

6. **CONSENT ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

6.1 **Phragmites Presentation**

Phragmites australis - Canada's Most Invasive Plant:  
Concerns and Control Options  
Presentation to Niagara-on-the-Lake Council, April 1, 2019

Moved by J. Schonberger  
Seconded by Councillor Steele

That the presentation, respecting the Phragmites australis-Canada's Most Invasive Plan presentation to Niagara-on-the-Lake Council, dated April 1, 2019, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**Carried**

6.2 **Niagara Economic Development Strategy 2019 - 2024**

Kelly Provost, Economic Development Officer, provided Committee members with a brief overview of the Niagara Economic Development Strategy 2019-2024.

Moved by B. Schenck  
Seconded by K. Wiens

That the Agricultural Policy and Action Committee **RECOMMENDS** to the Planning and Economic Development Committee:

1. That Regional Council **CONSIDER** funding an Agricultural Ambassador to move the Niagara Irrigation Plan forward and address water infrastructure needs in rural areas.

**Carried**

Moved by J. Schonberger  
Seconded by K. Wiens

That the presentation, respecting Niagara Economic Development Strategy 2019 – 2014, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**Carried**

6.3 Asset Mapping

Asset Mapping - Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance

Kelly Provost, Economic Development Officer, provided Committee members with a brief overview of the Asset Mapping provided by the Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance.

Moved by B. Schenk  
Seconded by Councillor Jordan

That the Asset Mapping - Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance presentation, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**Carried**

6.4 APAC 1-2019

Agricultural Policy and Action Committee Minutes

February 22, 2019

Moved by J. Schonberger  
Seconded by Councillor Steele

That APAC 1-2019, being the Agricultural Policy and Action Committee Minutes of the meeting held on Friday, February 22, 2019, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**Carried**

6.5 APAC-C 4-2019

Motion from the Planning and Economic Development meeting of Wednesday, April 17, 2019, regarding regulations, policies and enforcement of Cannabis and Greenhouse Industry.

Moved by K. Wiens  
Seconded by Councillor Easton

That Memorandum APAC-C 4-2019, dated April 26, 2019, respecting a motion from the Planning and Economic Development meeting of Wednesday, April 17, 2019, regarding Regulations, Policies and Enforcement of Cannabis and Greenhouse Industry, **BE RECEIVED** for information.

**Carried**

**7. OTHER BUSINESS**

**7.1 Niagara Region Water Course Mapping Committee**

Kai Wiens, Committee member, enquired if the Water Course Mapping Committee was still in existence. Erik Acs, Manager, Community Planning, informed Committee members that the Water Course Mapping Project that was funded by Niagara Region and the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority was completed approximately two years ago. Mr. Wiens requested that staff contact the Niagara-on-the-Lake representative to ensure that all information pertaining to the Water Course Mapping Project had been received.

**7.2 Niagara Farm Day**

Henry Swierenga, Member Service Representative, Ontario Federation of Agriculture, advised members of the Niagara North Federation of Agriculture's Niagara Farm Day event, taking place on Saturday May 11, 2019, at 10:00 a.m., at the West Niagara Agricultural Centre and Fairgrounds in West Lincoln.

**7.3 Regional Farm Tour**

Henry Swierenga, Member Service Representative, Ontario Federation of Agriculture, advised Committee members of the Niagara North Federation of Agriculture's Niagara Region Farm Tour Day taking place on Thursday, June 20, 2019. The bus will be leaving Niagara Region Headquarters at 9:00 a.m. sharp.

**7.4 Regional Building Development Fees**

Sarah Marshall, Ontario Tender Fruit, enquired if there are building development fees for agricultural purposes, including help houses.

**8. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Friday, September 27, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. in Committee Room 4.



9. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

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Councillor Witteveen  
Committee Chair

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Kelly Lotimer  
Legislative Coordinator

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Ann-Marie Norio  
Regional Clerk

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

**APAC 03-2019  
Friday, September 27, 2019  
Committee Room 4  
Niagara Region Headquarters  
1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, Thorold ON**

Committee: Disero, Witteveen (Committee Chair), G. Janes, B. Schenck (Committee Vice Chair), J. Schonberger, L. Troup, A. Vaughn, K. Wiens

Absent/Regrets: Butters, Easton, Jordan, Steele, C. Hamilton, J. Kikkert, C. Mullet Koop

Staff: E. Acs, Manager, Community Planning, M. Evely, Legislative Coordinator, V. Kuhns, Acting Director, Economic Development, K. Lotimer, Legislative Coordinator, K. Provost, Economic Development Officer, K. Young, Planner

Others Present: L. Ashton (Manager, Food & Beverage, Niagara College), T. Humphrey (Vineland Research Innovation Centre), S. Marshall (Ontario Tender Fruit), H. Swierenga (OFA Member Service Representative)

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Chair Witteveen called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

**2. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest.

**3. PRESENTATIONS**

**3.1 Niagara's Agribusiness Sector**

Councillor Huson provided Committee members with information respecting Niagara's Agribusiness Sector. Topics of the presentation included:

- Key Policy Issues
- Current Gaps & Challenges
- Agribusiness Strategic Planning Workgroup
- Niagara Agribusiness Strategic Plan

**Councillor Information Request(s):**

Provide information respecting a potential membership for a Niagara Agribusiness Sector Working Group. Councillor Huson.



### 3.2 Phragmites Update

Brett Ruck, Drainage Superintendent, Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake, provided Committee members information respecting Phragmites Update. Topics of the Presentation included:

- Vegetated Buffers & Invasive Species (Phragmites)
- Meeting with Minister's Office Staff at AMO Conference
- Method of Phragmites Control
- Phragmites, Invasive Species and Buffer Management

At 9:53 a.m. Committee Chair Witteveen advised Committee members that pursuant to Section 22.12 of the Procedural By-law 120-2010, as amended, that as quorum was lost during the meeting and was not regained within fifteen minutes, the meeting would stand adjourned until the date of the next meeting.

The Chair apologized 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.

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Councillor Witteveen  
Committee Chair

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Mark Evelyn  
Legislative Coordinator

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Ann-Marie Norio  
Regional Clerk

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## MEMORANDUM

**APAC-C 6-2019**

**Subject: Councillor Information Request – September 27, 2019**  
**Date: November 29, 2019**  
**To: Agricultural Policy and Action Committee**  
**From: Erik Acs**

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The purpose of this memorandum is to seek the disposition of Planning and Economic Development Committee relative to the establishment of a working group of APAC.

At the September 27, 2019 meeting of the Agricultural Policy and Action Committee (APAC), Councillor Huson requested that staff “provide information respecting a potential membership for a Niagara Agribusiness Sector Working Group”

The above direction was in relation to a presentation made by Councillor Huson, based on a policy brief prepared by the Niagara Community Observatory titled “*Niagara’s Agribusiness Sector: Towards a More Resilient Innovation Cluster*” (NCO Policy Brief #40, June 2019).

With respect to the above request, the terms of reference for APAC outline the use of working groups to deal with specific issues or projects as they arise. The terms of reference also provides guidance on the membership of potential working groups. Below are some considerations for APAC working groups:

- The working groups will meet, as needed, to review specific issues referred to them by APAC;
- Working groups are considered to be time-limited, project specific sub-committees of the APAC in that they are convened to accomplish a specific task (or tasks) in a narrowly defined time period;
- Working groups must be comprised of at least two members of the APAC
  - Working groups may include community members and other individuals with relevant knowledge and expertise.
  - Local municipal participation should be sought depending on the nature of the work being undertaken.
- Working groups shall be chaired where possible by a voting member of the APAC and shall provide regular updates to the APAC regarding recommendations on assigned projects.

- Minutes of the meetings of the working group shall be recorded and submitted to the APAC for proper directing through the approval process.
- Working groups may meet at a time and place as decided by the members of the working group.

The Committee should decide if a working group is necessary to address the Councillor Information Request resulting from the Sept 27, 2019 presentation noted above. If deemed necessary, the Committee could appoint members from the existing APAC membership, or invite other members, as per the terms of reference.

Respectfully submitted by

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Erik Acs, MCIP, RPP  
Manager, Community Planning