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**MEMORANDUM**

**APAC-C 6-2020**

**Subject: Response from The Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, respecting Chair Bradley's letter regarding Niagara's Agriculture Sector and Temporary Foreign Workers**

**Date: September 24, 2021**

**To: Agricultural Policy and Action Committee**

**From: Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk**

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On April 22, 2021, Regional Council passed a resolution outlining the impact of COVID-19 on Niagara's agricultural community and requested the Regional Chair be directed to advocate to the Federal Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship for the federal government to:

- a. Oversee (and provide the necessary financial assistance) for the mandated quarantine of migrant workers upon arriving in Canada and in the event of an outbreak;
- b. Continue to make federal subsidy funding available for farms that employ temporary foreign workers so that the costs associated with protecting their health and safety not be an exceptional burden on Niagara's local farms; and
- c. Ensure that internet access to rural farm locations continues to be a high priority.

Further to Council direction, on May 21, 2021, Regional Chair Bradley sent a letter regarding Niagara's Agriculture Sector and Temporary Foreign Workers, to The Honourable Marco Mendicino, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, attached as Appendix 1 to APAC-C 6-2021. Appendices 2 and 3 to APAC-C 6-2021 are the responses received to date.

Respectfully submitted and signed by,

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Ann-Marie Norio, BA, Dipl. M.A., CMM III  
Regional Clerk

Appendix 1 – Letter from Regional Chair Jim Bradley to The Honourable March Mendicino, May 21, 2021, respecting Niagara's Agriculture Sector and Temporary Foreign Workers.

Appendix 2 – Response from Immigration, Refugee, and Citizenship Canada to Chair Bradley's letter regarding Niagara's Agriculture Sector and Temporary Foreign Workers. (CWCD 2021-147)

Appendix 3 - Response from The Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, respecting Chair Bradley's letter regarding Niagara's Agriculture Sector and Temporary Foreign Workers.