

In accordance with the notice and submission deadline requirements of Sections 18.1(b) and 11.3, respectively, of Niagara Region's Procedural By-law, the Regional Clerk received from Councillor Huson a motion to be brought forward for consideration at the July 18, 2019 Council meeting respecting establishing an Agribusiness Strategic Planning Workgroup

WHEREAS Niagara's Agribusiness sector was the focus of a recent policy brief conducted by the Niagara Community Observatory;

WHEREAS Agribusiness is one of Niagara's top economic sectors contributing \$1.41 billion towards GDP, 215,000 acres of farmland, and almost 20,000 jobs in Niagara;

WHEREAS gaps have been identified in the sector's production, processing, distribution chains, and value-added opportunities;

WHEREAS economic trends indicate that the agribusiness sector in Niagara is growing;

WHEREAS Niagara's agribusiness sector would benefit from an established network for strategic visioning and planning that incorporates and aligns with a variety of stakeholders from across the Region including farmers, entrepreneurs, workers, industry associations, political representatives and relevant educational representatives;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That Regional Council **DIRECT** Planning and Economic Development staff to initiate a meeting with relevant stakeholders to determine the potential for establishing an "Agribusiness Strategic Planning Workgroup".