

Minutes

Agriculture and Agri-Food Advisory Committee

March 19, 2025
Electronic Meeting

Members: N. Davison, A. Eek, K. Empringham, A. Gomes, B. Hebor,
L. Jittoo, P. Lubberts, S. Paisley, J. Pegg

Staff: E. Ali, C. Banfield, K. Doyle, M. Hassanali, N. Mohammed,
J. Wheatle

A. Call to Order

The York Region Agriculture and Agri-Food Advisory Committee meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m. with Councillor Eek as Chair.

B. Land Acknowledgement

"We acknowledge that York Region is located on the traditional territory of many Indigenous peoples including the Anishinaabeg, Haudenosaunee, Huron-Wendat and Métis peoples and the treaty territories of the Haudenosaunee, Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and Williams Treaties First Nations.

Today this area is home to many diverse Indigenous Peoples, and we recognize their history, spirituality, culture and stewardship of this land.

We also acknowledge the Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation as our closest First Nation community."

C. Disclosures of Interest

None

D. Presentations

D.1 Climate Change Impacts on the Agriculture and Agri-Food Industry in York Region

The Committee received the presentation by Ally Karmali, Partner, Nicole Taylor, Manager, ESG, and Ellen Ferguson, ESG Consultant, KPMG.

D.2 2024-2027 Agriculture and Agri-food Sector Strategy Updates

The Committee received the presentation by Meena Hassanali, Program Manager, Rural and Agri-Food Initiatives, Nadia Mohammed, Rural and Agri-

Food Business Specialist, and Eman Ali, Communications Advisor, Economic Strategy.

E. Deputations

None

F. Communications

None

G. Other Business

G.1 Member Roundtable Updates

Members discussed ongoing initiatives and updates related to the Agriculture and Agri-food industry.

Announcements:

- Trever Jones, MPP has been appointed the new Minister of Agriculture.
- The York Region Federation of Agriculture will be hosting a farm safety day in Mount Albert on April 17th, 2025. The flyer will be shared when available.
 - Topics will include:
 - Occupational Health & Safety compliance
 - Machine and material handling and
 - Tractor starter

The following topic was raised to be discussed at a future meeting:

- Invite the Golden Horseshoe Food and Farming Alliance to present on local food procurement.

H. Adjournment

The York Region Agriculture and Agri-Food Advisory Committee meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m.