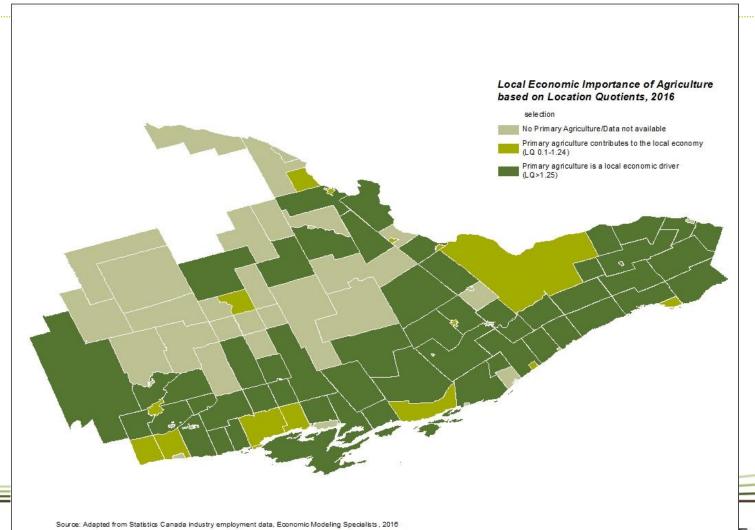


## Agriculture as an Economic Development Opportunity

Katie Nolan and Michel Moisan Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Ontario East Municipal Conference 2017

### **Agriculture in Eastern Ontario**



# The Role for Municipal Staff and Community Leaders

- Shifting municipal responsibilities in economic development
- Understanding what a municipality can and cannot realistically take on

It's not just a municipal responsibility, it takes a village!



# Your Role in Agriculture Economic Development



Promoter

Local Food Map

Community Agriculture Profile

Local/Regional Branding Initiatives



Connector

Local Food Conference

Dinner on the Farm

Value chain analyses



Educator

Evaluating Value-Added Opportunities (EVAO) Workshop

Food-E Entrepreneurship Seminars

On-Farm Familiarization Tours



# Your Role in Agriculture Economic Development



Enabler

- Agriculture / Rural Community Improvement Plans (CIP)
- Official plan updates: language supporting onfarm value-added processing
- One-window municipal services



Organizer

- Agriculture Economic Development Strategic Planning
- Local/ Regional Farmers Market
- Agriculture Advisory Committee



# Agriculture Economic Development: A Process



#### STAGE 1: PLANT

Preparing your community to take action on agriculture economic development



#### STAGE 2: GROW

Getting to know your agriculture system



#### STAGE 3: HARVEST

Harvest the good ideas and take action



#### Stage 1: Plant

- 1. Assessing Community Readiness
- 2. Building a Snapshot of Local Agriculture
- 3. Identify and organize community leadership



### **Assessing Community Readiness**

- 1. Knowledge and Awareness
- 2. Leadership
- 3. Regional Collaboration
- 4. Resources
- 5. Stakeholder Engagement

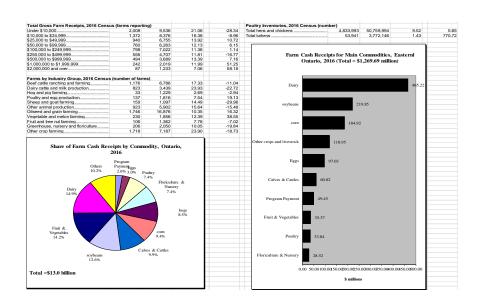


### **Building a Snapshot of Local Agriculture**



### **Agriculture Census County Profiles**

Eastern Ontario	Regit	טוו מנ מ	Gianic	- ZU	10				
	Fastern		Percent of	Percent		Fastern		Percent of	Percent
Item	Ontario	Province	province	from 2011	Item	Ontario	Province	province	from 2011
Farms, 2016 Census (number)					Major Field Crops, 2016 Census (acres)				
Total	7.257	49 600	14.63	-9.37	Winter wheat	24 228	1.080.378	2 24	106.2
Under 10 acres	366	3.051	12.00	21.59	Oats for grain	11.852	82.206	14.42	-0.2
10 to 69 acres	1.367	12.625	10.83	-3.39	Barley for grain.	20.361	103,717	19.63	-10.6
70 to 129 acres	1,347	10.742	12.54	-15.07	Mixed grains	8.313	92.837	8.95	-5.4
130 to 179 acres	658	4.592	14.33	-16.92	Corn for grain	336,944	2.162.004	15.58	7.8
180 to 239 acres	727	4.282	16.98	-13.96	Corn for silage	50.311	295,660	17.02	4.0
240 to 399 acres	1.140	6.008	18.97	-13.77	Hay	410.001	1.721.214	23.82	-22.1
400 to 559 acres	648	3.093	20.95	-12.31	Sovbeans	413,423	2.783.443	14.85	25.0
560 to 759 acres	412	1,990	20.55	-5.72	Potatoes	953	34.685	2.75	-50.0
760 to 1 119 acres	322	1,593	20.70	-0.72	1 otatoes	333	54,000	2.73	-50.0
1.120 to 1.599 acres	145	801	18.10	2.11	Major Fruit Crops, 2016 Census (acres)				
1.600 to 2.239 acres	82	457	17.94	17.14	Total fruit crops	1.576	51.192	3.08	-8.9
2.240 to 2.879 acres	21	168	12.50	-4.55	Apples	559	15.893	3.52	-9.2
2.880 to 3.519 acres	12	88	13.64	100.00	Sour Cherries.	8	2.121	0.38	0.0
3.520 acres and over	10	110	9.09	42.86	Peaches	×	5 232	0.00	0.0
o,ozo doloo dila oloi	10	110	0.00	42.00	Grapes	Ŷ	18,718		
Land Use, 2016 Census (acres)					Strawherries	517	2 915	17.74	-24
Land in crops	1.326.560	9.021.298	14.70	-0.58	Raspberries.	155	680	22.79	-32.6
Summerfallow land		15.885	19.56	-21.26					02.0
Tame or seeded pasture		514.168	20.63	-18.71	Major Vegetable Crops, 2016 Census (ac	ros)			
Natural land for pasture		783.566	28.01	-22.87	Total vegetables	3.348	135.420	2 47	-4.2
Christmas trees woodland & wetland		1.542.637	24.73	-7.03	Sweet com	1.060	22 910	4.63	-16.7
All other land		470,909	19.42	-3.23	Tomatoes	175	15,744	1.11	-3.8
Total area of farms		12.348.463	17.23	-5.76	Green peas	47	16.268	0.29	-21.6
	2,.20,	12,010,100			Green or wax beans	179	9.732	1.84	-30.8
Greenhouse Area, 2016 Census (squa	re feet)								
Total area in use	2,050,622	158,511,328	1.29	-25.88	Livestock Inventories, 2016 Census (nur	nber)			
					Total cattle and calves	253.794	1.623.710	15.63	-15.5
Farm Capital Value, 2016 Census (farm	ns reporting)				Steers	9.729	305.514	3.18	-17.3
Under \$200.000		2.142	22.32	-27.25	Beef cows	46.346	236.253	19.62	-21.1
\$200.000 to \$499.999		7.433	23.76	-36.88	Dairy cows	75.251	311,960	24.12	-9.9
\$500.000 to \$999.999		12,500	16.12	-5.58	Total pigs	85,630	3.534.104	2.42	-14.2
\$1.000.000 and over		27.525	10.89	23.99	Total sheep and lambs	43.117	321,495	13.41	-19.4





Questions	2011	2016	Trend?
What is the total # of farms?			
What is the total # of farm operators?			
What is the average size of farm?			
What is the average farm income and farm receipt?			
What kind of agriculture is most prominent?			
What is the total employment in your local agrifood industry?			
What is the percent provincial employment in agri- food?			
Other interesting facts identified from the Profile?			



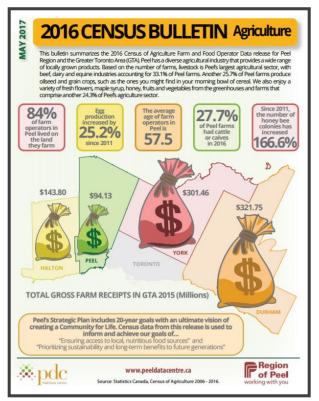
# What's Growing (and declining) in Eastern Ontario in 2016?

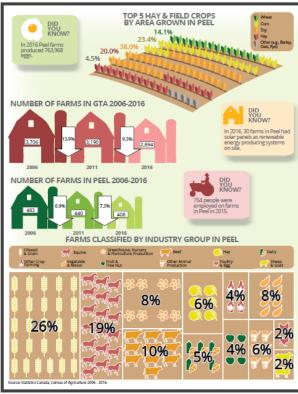
Major Field Crops, 2016 Census (acres)	% of Province	% change from 2011
Winter wheat	2.24	106.21
Oats for grain	14.42	-0.22
Barley for grain	19.63	-10.65
Mixed grains	8.95	-5.47
Corn for grain	15.58	7.85
Corn for silage	17.02	4.01
Hay	23.82	-22.19
Soybeans	14.85	25.04
Potatoes	2.75	-50.03

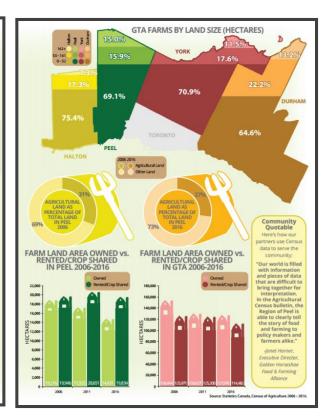
Livestock Inventories, 2016 Census (number)	% of Province	% change from 2011
Total cattle and calves	15.63	-15.50
Steers	3.18	-17.34
Beef cows	19.62	-21.11
Dairy cows	24.12	-9.91
Total pigs	2.42	-14.25
Total sheep and lambs	13.41	-19.42

Poultry Inventories, 2016 Census (number)					
	% of Province	% change from 2011			
Total hens and chickens	9.52	5.65			
Total turkeys	1.43	770.72			

### Agriculture Census Bulletin: A Planning Tool for Peel Region









# Identify and Organize Community Leadership



### Partners in Municipal Agriculture Economic Development

#### Potential partners include:

- Local Chapters of Farm Organizations
- Regional Agriculture Advisory Committees
- Local Agriculture Societies, Buy Local, Farm Fresh organizations
- Commodity groups or sector Specific organizations

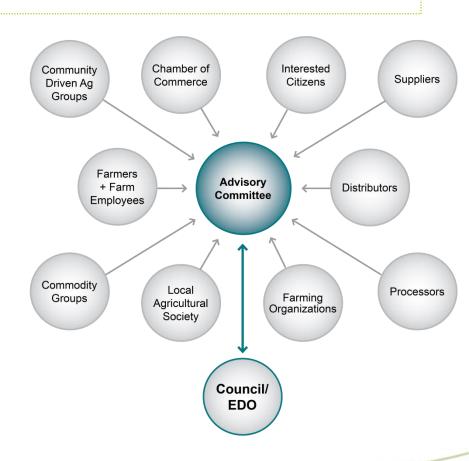
- Farmers and farm employees
- Suppliers equipment and crop inputs
- Distributors
- Processors
- Community driven agriculture groups
- Local Health Unit
- Conservation Authorities
- Financial lending institutions



### **Agriculture Committees of Council**

#### **Advisory vs. Action Oriented**

- Advisory: Brings agricultural issues front and centre in community decision making
- Action: Volunteer committees build capacity in smaller communities to take action on agricultural issues





## Building Connections: Eastern Ontario Local Food Conference



- Sector in need of more networking
- Various locations and hosts since 2011

Has influenced investment, jobs, capacity



### **2017 Bring Food Home**





- October 26-29 in Ottawa
- Early Bird Deadline Sept 29
- Broad look at food systems
- www.bringfoodhome.
   com



#### Stage 2: Grow

# Grow your understanding of the local agriculture sector

- Inventory the components of your community's agriculture system
- Gather primary data: start a conversation with the agriculture community & associated partners



# Community Exercise: Agriculture Asset Inventory

#### **Components:**

- 1. Land Base and Agricultural Activity
- 2. Agriculture Support Network
- 3. Agriculture Economic Development Underway



## **Inventory Worksheet**

Assets and Infrastructure	Describe the Asset/ Infrastructure	Who is Responsible?	Gaps – What is Missing?
Regional Infrastructure (e.g. roads, ports, grain dryers, cold storage facilities)			
Agricultural services and suppliers (feed mills, veterinarians, dealers)			
Distribution channels			
Processors (e.g. wineries, factories, abbatoirs)			
Retail and Direct Sales			
Agricultural Partners			



### **Community Agriculture Survey**

- 4 Components to the Survey:
- 1. Contact Information
- 2. "Boiler Plate" Information
- 3. Assessing Business Needs
- 4. Discussion Questions



### **Sample Community Agriculture Survey**

	Strongly Agree			Strongly Disagree
Statements	1	2	3	4
Agriculture and agri-businesses are strongly valued in my community				
I work closely with other businesses along the agriculture value chain				
I source the majority of my supplies and/or products services locally				
Raising the profile of my business in the community is important to me				
I would like to source more local products to support my current business				
I would like to sell more product into the local community/ agri-food sector				



# Local Food First Impressions Community Exchange



- Matches
   communities with
   similar goals,
   features
- Volunteer teams
   assess local food
   offerings and provide
   feedback
- Can help ID assets, build strategies



#### **Make Your Plan**

- Make a list of your community's top priorities
- Identify long term initiatives vs. quick wins
- Learn from other communities' "best practices"
- Work with local/regional partners to take action!



#### Stage 3: Harvest

# Harnessing Good Ideas and Taking Action Some examples:

- Training and education
  - Aquaculture and Aquaponics Workshop
  - Selling Food to Ontario
- New infrastructure (Food Hubs)
- Making Business Connections (Metro Local Food Counters)
- Recognizing businesses (Premier's Award)



## GETTING STARTED IN AQUACULTURE AND AQUAPONICS WORKSHOP



#### Marketing Poster/Agenda

An event attended by 80 people! Montreal – Toronto – Ottawa triangle.

REDB involvement in the delivery of leading edge information and awareness of Ministry programs, resources and services.

Overal 89% of participants either satisfied or very satisfied.

93% of respondants indicated that they would attend a more advanced workshop if it were offered.

- As a result of growing interest in aquaculture and aquaponics in the region, it was determined that there was a need for a workshop in the East.
- Resources required: Aquaculture Specialist; OMAFRA staff; appropriate venue and A/V equipment; catering; marketing/promotion plan; EOEDC; OMAFRA partners, stakeholder contacts; and lots of enthusiasm!
- Together with our Aquaculture Specialist: selected the North Grenville Community Centre in Kemptville.; selected a date; put together an agenda and invited speakers.



North Grenville Community Centre - March 6th, 2017



### **Selling Food to Ontario**

- Workshop designed for food businesses looking to expand their market channels
- Regulatory and marketing information, customized to the group
- Hosted by local organizations
- Hundreds of participants in Eastern Ontario



#### **Food Hubs**







- Connecting farms and buyers of all sizes
- Providing access to equipment, facilities, education for producers and processors
- Helping to grow the value chain throughout the region



# Eastern Ontario Agri-Food Network Local Food Counters

- Idea developed by a group of stakeholders in ED, processors and producers with the vision – offering products grown and produced locally;
- Identifiable by « Prescott and Russell Local Products;
- Metro Casselman / L'Orignal Packing / St-Albert Cheese Cooperative
- Partners include UCPD,PRCDC, OMAFRA, Metro.





## Premier's Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence Winner - Champion Mushrooms







### Premier's Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence Winner – Cassel Brewery Limited







## Remember Your Role in Agriculture Economic Development





### Thank you!

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