

**Sustainable Peterborough  
Future of Food & Farming  
Working Group (FFFWG)  
Notes  
May 1, 2018**

**Present:** Pat Learmonth, Dawn Berry Merriam, Bryan Weir, Judy Coward, Carolyn Doris, Cheryl Lyon,

**Regrets:** Brenda Dales, Viren D'souza, Julia Wood, Jill Bishop, Linda Slavin, Brad Appleby,

**Presentation  
on “On-farm  
Diversified  
Uses”**

**Guests:** Eleanor Rath, Jamie Hoefling & Heather Sadler, “On-farm Diversified Uses”

Background:

- Applied Research & Planning Project under Rural Economic Development (RED) Fund through OMAFRA over 2 years
- Gathering background on agricultural diversification trends in rural Ontario including agri-tourism
- Applies research to OSM as a typical agricultural community through 5 case studies
- Carrying out pilot projects to apply OMAFRA On-Farm Diversified Use policies “on the ground”

**What does the OFDU study hope to achieve?**

- Use lessons learned to identify ways and means to support on-farm diversified uses by removing systematic barriers through land use planning and/or streamlined approval mechanisms
- Make recommendations for future policy development or programs in OSM
- Develop resources to promote on-farm diversified uses in OSM and elsewhere in rural Ontario

**What are on-farm diversified uses?**

- Uses that are secondary to the principal *agricultural* use of the property, and are limited in area.
- Includes but is not limited to *home occupations, home industries, agritourism uses*, and uses that *produce value-added* agricultural

products.

**Why important?**

- Provides an opportunity for farm owners to increase their overall income
- Enables farmers to keep land in production
- Strengthens the rural economy

Note: 5 pilot projects chosen for review

**Examples:**

	Agricultural Use 	Agriculture-related Use 	On-Farm Diversified Use 
Greenhouse	✓	✓	✓
Pick-your-Own	✓	✓	✓
Machine repair shop	✓	✓	✓
Value-retention (e.g. maple syrup processing)	✓	✓	✓
Agricultural research and training centre	✓	✓	✓
Value-Added (food Processing)	✗	✓	✓
Winery, cidery, meadery	✗	✓	✓
Commercial Use	✗	✓	✓
Industrial use	✗	✓	✓
Accommodation for full-time farm labour	✓	✗	✓
Veterinary clinic	✗	✗	✓
Home-occupation	✗	✗	✓
Small-scale micro-brewery, distillery	✗	✗	✓
Agri-tourism	✗	✗	✓
Landscaping business	✗	✗	✓

### **Diversifying Uses**

- Many planning documents limit the use of farm land to traditional agricultural uses
- Where agriculture-related uses are recognized there are some additional options
- Recognising OFDU means that farm owners have a wide range of possibilities for income generation on their properties

### **Questions that led the discussion:**

- What are the opportunities for OFDU in our area?
- What challenges are limiting new OFDU businesses?
- How can OFDU contribute to farm income and strengthen the local economy?
- What is a 'reasonable' scale and how should it be measured?
- Does your group have any information that would assist us with our study?

### **Discussion ensued re**

- Importance of not reducing opportunities for future agriculture uses
- Hopefully the non-agricultural activities are undertaken in areas that are not using prime agricultural land
- Consider soil classifications re assessing appropriateness of location
- Limit of 2% of farm or 1 hectare is maximum
- Implications of using winery as a pilot re impact of event venues, traffic congestions
- Notification process for informing neighbours
- Can the pilot projects assess the economic impact of their business on the community?
- The process allows for another presentation to the FFWG at a later date
- Results of proceedings report from our Summit will provide extensive information to OSM process

**Notes from last meeting**

- Approved as circulated

<b>Updates from Task Forces:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farmland Task Force: nothing to report</li> <li>• Urban Agriculture Task Force: nothing to report</li> <li>• Local Food Month Task Force: consensus to approve the report presented by Chair Marion Burton, and previously circulated</li> </ul>
<b>Official Plan reviews</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bryan spoke to the recently released report prepared by Peterborough Public Health that provides a healthy community lens for official plan reviews</li> <li>• References other communities across Canada as well as provincial documents such as the Greater Golden Horseshoe Growth Plan</li> <li>• Report was developed for the County Official Plan process but one is now being developed for the city's process. See link: - <a href="http://www.peterboroughpublichealth.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/PPH-County-OP-submission-DESIGNED-180425-FINAL.pdf">http://www.peterboroughpublichealth.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/PPH-County-OP-submission-DESIGNED-180425-FINAL.pdf</a></li> </ul>
<b>Food &amp; Farming Summit</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Everyone is pleased with the outcome of the day and have received very positive responses to the presentations</li> <li>• Proceedings developed to ensure that all the information is available in one report</li> <li>• Agreement to circulate the report to the County, the City, the Minister and Sustainable Peterborough as well as the townships and the participants.</li> <li>• Dawn will also develop a Community Focus Bulletin to profile the results of the summit</li> </ul>
<b>Climate Change</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bryan will contact Sustainable Peterborough re presentation at the next FFFWG meeting</li> </ul>
<b>Farmers' Market</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion ensued re the article in Peterborough Examiner on May 1</li> <li>• It was noted that the research of the Working Group was referenced in a recent article in The Ontario Farmer</li> <li>• Other coverage of the local issue</li> <li>• See examples of other columns</li> </ul>
<b>Food Charter</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carolyn reported that she is working with their IT department re putting the Charter on their website</li> <li>• Shared the Charter with PKED's Ag Advisory committee and asking for endorsement</li> <li>• Working on some election questions for their all candidates' meeting for May 14<sup>th</sup></li> </ul>

<b>Request for questions for candidates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linda requested input from members of the FFFWG re questions to be posed to the candidates</li> <li>• It was agreed that individuals could provide input to Linda but that questions could also be drawn from the proceedings of the summit</li> </ul>
<b>updates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dawn stated that as a member of Sustainable Peterborough’s Co-ordinating Committee she has been working on a committee to evaluate the outcomes of the original plan</li> </ul> <p>Carolyn reported on the upcoming meeting of Basic Income pilot project in Lindsay. <a href="https://www.odph.ca/centsless">https://www.odph.ca/centsless</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Judy reported on the changes that must occur in government leading up to the June 7<sup>th</sup> election. She also reported on the upcoming Teeny Tiny Summit in Tweed on June 14<sup>th</sup> – registrations are still be accepted. (see attached poster)</li> <li>• Pat reported on the two farm stewardship events held in Lindsay and Alderville with over 90 participants, by the East Central Farm Stewardship Collaborative. Also Farms at Work hosted a third local farm networking event in Whitby on April 10, with the Rhizome Institute.</li> <li>• Cheryl stated that Dandelion Day is May 27</li> </ul>
<b>Next Meeting</b>	<p>Tuesday, June 12 at 1:30 p.m. Committee Room at the County Courthouse</p>

# Program supports food banks

The Zimmerman show has been a supporter of the Plant a Row program for more than 20 years.

BY JEFFREY GURNER  
Gatineau, Ontario

Just as Zimmerman is serving the underserved through the Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Convention in February, he'll be working to sustain a profit. Since her husband's death, she has been supporting the Plant a Row program since 2005.

The a non-profit organization that grows and distributes food products to donate their excess to the local food bank. While Plant a Row is a one-day program, Zimmerman focuses on the Niagara Region where she runs a vegetable and crop business that supports the Plant a Row network.



Juliegh Zimmerman

"As long as the donor puts on at least a 10-cent profit, we had farmers bring in things like squash to our food bank in St. Catharines." Last year, more than 20,000 pounds of produce donated to the Community Care Food Bank serving St. Catharines and Thorold area. Among the contributors

were the Zimmerman family and her who have a backyard garden.

The effort is more than just about food. Zimmerman said there are educational components that are not always highlighted. Fresh produce like squash and tomatoes can be used for

food banks, but also can be used to grow their own food in community gardens with monthly 50 plants donated to the Community Care food bank.

The Plant a Row One a Row program was started by Tom and Blanka O'Donovan in 1995 after the couple decided they had grown up in their garden than their family could consume. The couple donated to the Winthrop Street Food Bank.

The service more than 200 Ontario farms.

breaks?

"Eating, drive, support, go down and beyond. This fundamental relationship with the public," said the father, which also came that "Vendor that does not comply with the design and a guideline will be in compliance with FOPBA, rule and regulations. This could result in the suspension or termination of membership."

The Ontario FOPBA also acknowledged that survey respondents felt that the origin of produce and products need to be clear for the public so they can be more informed when they shop.

FOPBA said it is now signs are "all-inclusive" meaning that everyone... must support such thing, including the business that support Ontario farms and farmers by bringing

their produce to sell for customers to enjoy."

The FOPBA requires vendors to disclose the location of their business through their own digital or printed, with the retailer.

The retailer adds the organization's intention to contribute to the sustainability of agriculture by enhancing access to fresh, local Ontario produced goods."

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## MAXIMIZING PROFITABILITY ON YOUR FARM INFORMATION SESSION

**THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2018 | 9:30-2PM**  
ROCKSTONE COMPLEX | 31821 TALBOT LINE, SHEPPEN, ON

**TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 2018 | 9:30-2PM**  
ST. JOHN'S PARISH HALL | 1762 BRIDE ROAD SE, WOODBINE, ON

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2018 | 9:30-2PM**  
COLLEEN COMMUNITY CENTRE | 10227 ILBINGTON RD, WILKESBORO, ON

**FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 2018 | 9:30-2PM**  
WILKESPORT COMMUNITY CENTRE | 1432 BAYT LINE, WILKESPORT, ON

**PRESENTATIONS FROM:**

- ✓ **Peter Johnson**  
General Manager - Colborne Sugar Products CO-OP  
\*Update on CSPE Showers Co-Op Producing Colborne Sugar!

- ✓ **Karon Cowan**  
AgTech COI  
\*Agricultural Software & Mapping Tools!
- ✓ **David Buurma**  
Owner of LaSalle Agri  
\*The Value to the Fertilizer!

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Image: Tuesday, March 20, 2018 - Get farm news updates at ONTARIOFARMER.COM





# TEENY TINY ★ SUMMIT ★

**Registration for the 2018  
Teeny Tiny Summit is now  
OPEN !**

*Teeny Tiny Summits are focused on unlocking the community and economic potential of our smallest places: villages, hamlets, and areas dominated by rural geography. At this year's summit, hosted by the Municipality of Tweed, we will explore the theme "Creating our Future: Finding the*

*Extraordinary in the Ordinary". Community volunteers, support organizations, municipal staff, elected officials, and interested parties are all welcome to attend.*

*Click on the Teeny Tiny Summit logo for more details regarding the agenda.*

***Please forward to others who may wish to attend.***

*We look forward to seeing you there!*

*Teeny Tiny Summit Planning Team*

