Sturgeon COUNTY



AGRICULTURAL LAND

TOPIC GROUP

TOPIC	ACTION		PRIORITY
Agricultural land rules should consider the different agricultural values of land.	AL1	Improve accessibility of information for how landscape factors are considered in the subdivision review process.	High
Agricultural land subdivision policy creates uncertainty for the agricultural land base.	AL2	Improve how agricultural impacts are assessed to inform agricultural land subdivision and re-districting decisions.	High
	AL3	Review agricultural land subdivision policy to ensure allowable parcel number, size and orientation support agricultural uses.	High
Confined Feeding Operations in Sturgeon County are limited by residential developments.	AL4	Review municipal policy constraints for Confined Feeding Operation development and expansion.	Low
Public is unaware of how varying types of development are responsible for losses of agricultural land.	AL5	Inform agricultural land policy review with information on fragmentation and agricultural use.	Medium

QUESTIONS? Agriculture Services | 780-939-8349 | agricultureservices@sturgeoncounty.ca

Sturgeon COUNTY



SMALL/SPECIALTY FARMS AND VALUE-ADDED AGRICULTURE

TOPIC GROUP

TOPIC	ACTION		PRIORITY
On-farm value-added agriculture activities are difficult to start due to commercial requirements and tax implications.	SV1	Review opportunities to incentivize on-farm value-added processing investments under $20 million.	Medium
Uncertain allowable activities for agri-tourism operators.	SV2	Improve supports for current and potential on-farm value-added and agri-tourism businesses navigating County approval processes.	Low - Medium
Policy and programs may not adequately consider small farms.	SV3	Promote on-farm diversified agriculture operations in the County.	Medium
	SV4	Review subdivision policy constraints for small and specialty farms.	High
	SV5	Review current services and programs for applicability to small and specialty farms.	Low - Medium

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INFRASTRUCTURE
TOPIC GROUP

TOPIC	ACTION		PRIORITY
Development, construction, and management of drainage ways are not always adequate for flood events. Some bridge guardrails and road widths are not sufficient for wide agricultural equipment.	IN1	Develop strategy to support effective consideration of agricultural operation needs in infrastructure planning and maintenance.	Medium
Roads are at times too busy from industrial or residential traffic to safely transport agricultural products and equipment.	IN2	Identify advocacy opportunities for provincial road infrastructure enhancements that enhance agricultural transportation safety.	High
	IN3	Review opportunities to minimize traffic impacts of industrial firms operating in Sturgeon County.	Low
Field access is not always sufficient for safe transportation.	IN4	Review opportunities to enhance County vegetation management practices where sightlines have been compromised.	Medium
Water availability for crops and livestock may become a more important issue in a changing climate.	IN5	Ensure agricultural needs are considered in the development of the County's water management strategy.	Low - Medium
	IN6	Review access requirements for irrigation license holders to support long-term water access.	Medium
High speed internet access is increasingly important for farm business and farm families.	IN7	Explore opportunities to improve broadband access in rural portions of the County.	Medium
Landowner actions may alter surface drainage and negatively impact neighbouring agricultural land.	IN8	Consider policy options to address off-site flooding impacts to agricultural land.	Medium

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AGRICULTURAL AND SUPPORT SERVICES

TOPIC GROUP

TOPIC	ACTION		PRIORITY
Disconnect between Agricultural Producers and Agricultural Services offered by the County.	AS1	Review and validate County services targeting agricultural producers and improve communication and engagement opportunities.	Medium
There is sometimes conflict between agricultural uses and beaver management.	AS2	Review Drainage Master Plan and Registered Ditch Asset Plan for appropriate agricultural land considerations.	Low
	AS3	Review wildlife conflict management resourcing and protocols to ensure impacts to agricultural land are mitigated.	Medium
Farm Fire and Safety is important for the entire County community.	AS4	Enhance agriculturally-focused resources to improve awareness and resilience to wildfire.	Medium
Disposal Options for Agricultural Plastics are limited.	AS5	Consider agricultural waste management needs in the development of a County-wide Waste Management Strategy.	Medium
Rural crime is an increasing issue for farm equipment and properties.	AS6	Engage agricultural producers to develop farmyard and farm equipment crime mitigation strategies.	High

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COMMUNITY AND POLICY
TOPIC GROUP

TOPIC	ACTION		PRIORITY
Farmer and non-farmer resident conflict increases as residents' understanding of agriculture decreases.	CP1	Implement a communication strategy to improve residents' awareness and connection to agricultural operations.	Medium - High
Local and Regional Politics are sometimes not effectively informed by the agricultural community.	CP2	Review Agricultural Service Board mandate and function and identify opportunities to improve advocacy on behalf of agriculture community.	Medium
Locally applied research and demonstrations support adoption of new farm practices and technology.	CP3	Review opportunities to provide financial and/or in-kind support for locally applied research and technology extension activities applicable to Sturgeon County's agricultural context.	Low
Federal or Provincial emissions policies challenge farm activities.	CP4	Enhance agricultural producer awareness of emission reduction technologies eligible for Clean Energy Improvement Program.	Low
	CP5	Review municipal policy barriers that prevent farms from taking steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	Medium

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