



THAT The Town of the Blue Mountains Agricultural Advisory Committee receives the August 26, 2016 correspondence from Lisa Thompson, MPP Huron-Bruce entitled "Private Member's Bill on Certified Crop Advisors", and supports the Private Members Bill, as written, and recommends that Council pass the recommendation below:

THAT Council of The Town of the Blue Mountains receives the August 26, 2016 correspondence from Lisa Thompson, MPP Huron-Bruce entitled "Private Member's Bill on Certified Crop Advisors", and on recommendation from the Town of The Blue Mountains Agricultural Advisory Committee, Council of The Town of the Blue Mountains supports the Private Member's Bill on Certified Crop Advisors as follows:

WHEREAS, Ontario-grown corn, soybean and wheat crops generate \$9 billion in economic output and are responsible for over 40,000 jobs; and

WHEREAS, Ontario farmers are stewards of the land and understand the importance of pollinators to our environment and ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, the Ontario government is implementing changes to ON Reg. 63/09 that would prevent any Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) from carrying out a pest assessment if they receive financial compensation from a manufacturer or retailer of a Class 12 pesticide; and

WHEREAS, Ontario's 538 Certified Crop Advisors are capable of and willing to conduct pest assessments will be reduced to 80 should the proposed changes to the definition of professional pest advisor be implemented in August 2017; and

WHEREAS, the reduction in CCAs would force corn and soybean farmers to terminate the relationships that they have built with experts that understand their unique crop requirements, soil types, and field conditions, placing undue delays on planting crops;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Council of The Town of the Blue Mountains supports the efforts of the Member of Provincial Parliament for Huron-Bruce to eliminate barriers to employment opportunities for CCAs, and allow Ontario farmers the freedom to engage in business with the expert of their choice, Carried.

#### **B.1.2** Adjournment

**Moved by:** James McKinlay      **Seconded by:** Al Lockhart

THAT this Committee does now adjourn at 2:55 p.m. to meet again in November, 2016, Carried.