



### **C. Strategic Plan**

By reviewing input on rural issues will enable the Town to plan and meet the following goal:

*“Managing Growth to ensure the ongoing health and prosperity of the community”.*

### **D. Budget Impact**

Staff time would be involved in setting up the Committee and attending meetings. Room rental required for meetings at approximately seven (7) meetings in 2008 (hall rental @ approx. \$90.00 = \$630.00). There are funds in the Planning Department’s operating budget for meeting expenses (Account No. 62020).

### **E. Attachment**

1. Agricultural Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

Respectfully submitted,

---

Peter Tollefsen, Director of Planning  
26 Bridge Street, PO Box 310  
Thornbury, ON NOH 2PO  
Phone: 519-599-3131 ext.247  
Fax: 519-599-3018  
E-mail: [ptollefsen@thebluemountains.ca](mailto:ptollefsen@thebluemountains.ca)

February 04, 2008

**AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE BLUE MOUNTAINS  
TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**1.0 Goal**

- 1.1 To identify, review, discuss and make recommendations to staff on agricultural related issues.

**2.0 Mandate**

- 2.1 The Agricultural Advisory Committee of the Town of The Blue Mountains (AAC) is a volunteer advisory committee established by the Municipality in accordance with these Terms of Reference. Committee members are bound by these Terms of Reference while providing advice to the staff of the Town of The Blue Mountains.

**2.2 Scope of Committee Activities**

The scope of the Committee shall include activities such as:

- a) Providing advice, comments and recommendations on issues and concerns of farmers and agricultural organizations.
- b) Reviewing and commenting on proposed Official Plan Policy and any Zoning By-law Amendments that affect the agricultural area.
- c) Identifying key issues of concern for farmers which can be addressed by municipal government.
- d) Providing advice, comments and recommendations on economic strategies, development plans or studies dealing with agriculture and a wide range of other rural issues.
- e) Advising Town staff of changes and key issues within the agricultural industry.
- f) Identifying and recommending programs which encourage

public awareness, land stewardship and education of agricultural and rural issues.

### **3.0 Committee Composition**

- 3.1 The Agricultural Advisory Committee of the Town of The Blue Mountains shall consist of eight (8) voluntary members who are appointed by Council for a term ending November 30, 2010, to coincide with the term of Council. A majority of the membership, five (5), shall constitute a quorum.
- 3.2 Members of the Committee to be appointed should represent as many of any of the following groups as possible:
  - a) Grey Cattlemen's Association (1)
  - b) Georgian Bay Fruit Growers Association (1)
  - c) Christian Farmers (1)
  - d) National Farm Union (1)
  - e) Ontario Federation of Agriculture (1)
  - f) Young Farmers (1)
  - g) Organic farming (1)
  - h) Sheep Producers/Dairy Farmers (1)
- 3.3 The members shall possess expertise, experience and willingness to devote the necessary time to the Committee. Members will be selected to provide an appropriate representation of various agricultural interests (dairy, beef, apple, tender fruit, greenhouse, cash crops, commodity groups, etc.).
- 3.4 Openings for membership shall be publicly advertised. All of the farming public and any nominated representative of an organization involved in agricultural and rural issues are invited to apply. Applicants must live in the Town and will submit the attached application form to the Town of The Blue Mountains Clerks Department. Applicants shall possess knowledge of agricultural issues within The Blue Mountains and a Farm Business Registration (FBR) Number, preferable (but not mandatory). Applicants may also possess relevant farm experience, technical training in an agriculture-based field, and/or current involvement in agricultural activities. Members will be formally appointed by Town Council.

- 3.5 Resource People to Attend Meetings will include appropriate Town staff.
- 3.6 A Chair and Vice-chair shall be selected by the Committee and both must be a member of the Committee.

#### **4.0 Meetings and Reporting**

- 4.1 The Town of The Blue Mountains shall schedule the location and frequency of meetings. It is anticipated an average of once a month. Committee members, if absent for three consecutive meetings without a reason being given at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting, will be considered to have lost interest in the Committee and will be informed of his or her being removed from the Committee. If any member is removed from the Committee or resigns from the Committee, the Clerk of the Town of The Blue Mountains shall be informed and a new member shall be appointed by Council.
- 4.2 The Committee, by resolution or through its Chair, may invite any individual, interest group, agency or staff to appear at a meeting as a delegation or to submit or present information that will assist the Committee in carrying out its mandate.

#### **5.0 Communicating with the Municipality**

- 5.1 Recommendations from the Committee shall be submitted to appropriate Town staff for inclusion in reports to Council.