



**Northumberland County
Agriculture Advisory Group Meeting
Minutes
January 28, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.**

Zoom Conference Technology

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83511935721?pwd=s5lkyUKVmyCcWe5gclQldDYNJGCmt8.1>

Meeting ID: 835 1193 5721

Passcode: 791199

855 703 8985 Canada Toll-free

Present:

P. Burnham, A. Carruthers, S. Jibb, L. Meekes, M. Opsteen, B. Crews, A. Botha

Staff Present:

D. Campbell – Acting Director Economic Development, Tourism & Land Use Planning

D. Marshall – Director Public Works

T. Mellor – Manager Agri-Food

J. Moore – CAO

M. Nitsch – Director Finance/Treasurer

M. Stergios – Executive Assistant to the CAO

1) Welcome

2) Approval of the January 28, 2025 Agenda

- January 28, 2024 agenda approved

3) Approval of the September 24, 2024 Minutes

- September 24, 2024 minutes approved

4) Action Items and Follow Up from Previous Meeting

- Dwayne reached out to a contact at Ganaraska Conservation to get more information on changes to the Conservation Authority Act. grca.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/grca_legislative-changes-jun-20-2024-2.pdf

5) Communications

a) Open Surveys/Consultations

- Northumberland Next Official Plan Update
- 310 Division St. Modernizing shelter services to address community need
- Northumberland County Climate Action Strategy

6) New/Other Business

a. Urban Boundary Expansion

- Dwayne drafting a letter to Minister Calandra, approved by a resolution of County Council requesting the Ministry to modify and approve Official Plan Amendment No. 1 in substantially the form as endorsed, noting that the spatial extent of the Northumberland Natural Heritage System is not recommended to change.
- In May, Northumberland County presented updated maps and policies related to long-term growth and land needs in Northumberland at an Open House and Public Meeting. Feedback gathered from community members during these sessions informs the development of a Growth Management Amendment to the County's Official Plan.
- In June, a hybrid public meeting of the Economic Development, Tourism, Land Use Planning Committee took place to discuss the same.
- Final recommendations for Phase 1 of the Growth Management Amendment will be presented to the Economic Development, Tourism and Land Use Planning Committee for their consideration on March 5, 2025. If recommended for adoption by Committee, the final recommendations will be considered by County Council on March 19, 2025.
- This group is encouraged to attend the Committee and Council meeting.

b. Internet Infrastructure Updates

- Report going to committee next month regarding the broadband project
- With the finalization of key partnerships underway, focus is turning to the physical installation of the network.
- Drafting of the installation plan is proceeding, and although a detailed construction schedule has not been determined, construction is expected to begin in mid-March 2025. The goal is to connect over 11,000 underserved and unserved households by the end of 2025 – a key condition of the public funding.

7) Next Meeting Date – April 29, 2025