

Re resolution passed by Norfolk County on trespass and farm safety. This resolution has been passed by many Ontario municipalities and calls on the Attorney General to work with MPPs to find a better way forward on strong enforcement of existing laws to ensure the safety of Ontario farm families, employees and animals.

Township of Warwick

Re: Resolution Regarding Enforcement for Safety on Family Farms

9. (Van Paassen/Masschaele)

THAT the Township of Warwick's resolution regarding Enforcement for Safety on Family Farms be endorsed as follows:

WHEREAS agriculture is the second largest industry in Ontario, contributing \$13.7 billion annually to Ontario's GDP and is essential for putting food on the tables of millions of people here and around the world;

AND WHEREAS in recent months there has been a steady increase in harassment of farmers and livestock transporters by activists opposed to animal agriculture and the consumption of animals;

AND WHEREAS the protests have become blatantly illegal in nature with extremist groups trespassing onto private property, unlawfully entering into buildings and removing animals without fear of prosecution and even promoting and publishing their crimes on social media;

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AND WHEREAS maintaining proper biosecurity is essential to ensure the health and well-being of the animals cared for on these agricultural operations;

AND WHEREAS the recent attacks on farmers homes and businesses have resulted in no criminal charges laid, leaving farmers feeling unprotected by the Ontario legal system and afraid for the welfare of themselves, their families, their employees and the animals they care for;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council for the Corporation of Norfolk County requests that Hon. Doug Downey work with his fellow MPP's and agricultural leaders to find a better way forward to ensure stronger enforcement of existing laws - or new legislation - to ensure the safety of Ontario's farm families, employees and animals;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this motion be circulated to Hon. Doug Downey, Ministry of the Attorney General, Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, Hon. Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General and Hon. Ernie Hardeman, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs AMO, and ROMA.

Carried.