



**TOWN OF WASAGA BEACH
REQUEST FOR DEPUTATION TO COUNCIL**

Name of Person to make Deputation: _____

Organization (if applicable): _____

Contact Information: Tel# _____ Email: _____

Meeting Date Requested: _____

(Note: In accordance with the Procedural By-Law, the Clerk has the discretion to reschedule or decline an appearance before Council)

Subject Matter: _____

Brief Description of Purpose of Deputation/ask of Council:

Have you been to Council in the last 12 months for the same topic? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes,
Date: _____

Have you been in contact with a member of staff with regard to this matter? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please provide staff members name: _____

Will you be providing written material *	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Will you be providing a PowerPoint **	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Will you require Presentation Equipment***	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

***written materials** to be emailed to the Clerk's office at deputyclerk@wasagabeach.com **by noon on the Wednesday prior to the meeting** for inclusion in the agenda package in an accessible format.

****PowerPoint presentations** to be emailed to the Clerk's Office at deputyclerk@wasagabeach.com **by noon on the Wednesday prior to the meeting** for inclusion in the agenda package.

*****Complete the Presentation Equipment Request form** attached and email the IT Department at itsupport@wasagabeach.com **the Wednesday prior to the meeting** in order to prepare for the presentation.

Personal information on this form is collected in accordance with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and becomes part of the public record. Questions with respect to the collection and use of this information should be directed to the Clerk's Office, Town of Wasaga Beach, 30 Lewis Street, Wasaga Beach, ON L9Z 1A1 or call 705-429-3844 ex 2223.



1110 Highway 26 Midhurst ON L9X 1N6

(705) 726-9300 ext. 1224
simcty.fed.agriculture@outlook.com

January 8, 2024

Dear Mayor Brian Smith & Council:

The Simcoe County Federation of Agriculture (SCFA) is one of 52 county and regional federations supported by the Ontario Federation of Agriculture across the province. We strive to develop and consolidate farmers' positions for the protection and promotion of activities with the County of Simcoe and the municipalities which will improve the welfare of the farmer and the agriculture industry. We also bring the viewpoints and concerns of our membership to the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) as well as facilitate the spread of information of concern within the agriculture industry to all farmers in the county. Ultimately, the SCFA primary goal is to advocates on behalf of farm families in Simcoe County on local agricultural issues.

We would like to submit comments on your Backyard Chicken Consultations. According to the 2021 Agricultural Census data, Simcoe County poultry farms raise over 930,000 chickens and 71,000 turkeys per year. One third of chicken production and the majority of the turkey production is located in the two townships (Clearview and Springwater) surrounding The Town of Wasaga Beach.

Outbreaks of Avian Flu and Infectious Laryngotracheitis in poultry in the past several years have put areas in this province under quarantines for weeks. These viruses are highly contagious. In some cases, the disease originated in backyard or small flocks due to contact with wild migratory birds that are known to carry the diseases. When a quarantine is issued by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) a 10 km² radius is

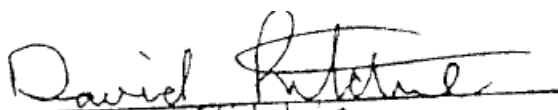
imposed around the infected premise. This immediately activates a strict movement protocol within the 10km² quarantine area. People who work in the poultry industry cannot drive through a quarantine zone they must drive around it even though they may not be going to the premise that has the infection. Chickens that were ready to be shipped for processing cannot be moved. This puts extra strain on flocks as they must remain on the farm longer and at extra cost to the farmer. Quarantines have a negative rippling affect across the entire supply and value chain.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) may issue an order to have flocks destroyed. Barns must be disinfected and remain empty for a period of time until testing results are negative. This is devastating to the farmer.

We have concerns around the proper handling of sick birds and the strict government protocols on disposing of dead stock. Bio-security is a key component in all farm operations and with agriculture being an integral part of the County economy, we fear that lack of knowledge and understanding of proper bio-security measures by urban 'backyard farmers' could result in disease outbreaks which could travel to local farms and be harmful to our food production systems. We also have concerns on how this policy could cause an unnecessary burden on Bylaw enforcement officers and municipal staff to implement policies and enforce compliance.

We would appreciate if you would inform us when this matter would be going before council as we would like to attend to speak to this item and be available for any questions.

On Behalf of the SCFA Board of Directors, thank you in advance for taking our concerns into consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Ritchie", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dave Ritchie, SCFA President