

Introduction

- On Farm Dairy Operation joining over 70 farms in region selling direct to consumers
- Durham Agriculture Industry contributes \$321,700,000 in total production
- Member of Durham Farm Fresh Marketing Association
- 10 years experience working in Canadian Agriculture Industry
- Award winning Marketing Business

Issue #1: Definition of on-farm event vague

- 'as-of-right' is unclear
- Leaves too much open to interpretation of the bylaw officer
- this is a slippery slope

Issue #2: Hours and Seasonality

- May – October will negatively impact farm operations that host Holiday Events
- The restrictive hours disadvantage farm operations when compared to non farm event spaces

Issue #3: Fees

- The bylaw report compares the fee schedule to those charged to Boots & Hearts
- On Farm events are mole hills compared to the mountain of boots and hearts in revenue potential and impact to the community
- Therefore, the proposed fee should be reduced

Issue #4: Frequency

- Proposed wording would block 2 events within a long weekend
- This is overly restrictive & unfair when compared to non farm event spaces

Conclusion

- The current proposal is overly restrictive & punitive
- More time is needed to find balance
- Reformulate the draft with specific operational regulations included as conditions of individual by-laws
- If the other regions within Durham do not restrict on farm events, this bylaw will push events out of Clarington, taking jobs and tax revenue
- Our community needs opportunity for growth post covid – not further restrictions