

**Expanded on-farm use permissions
unlock major economic potential for
Scugog and Durham Region’s
Agricultural Sector**

Scugog – At the end of December, the Township of Scugog Council approved significant policy and zoning amendments to permit establishing permissions for On-Farm Diversified (OFDUs) and Agricultural-Related Used (ARUs) in the Official Plan and Zoning By-Law. These amendments represent a joint project between the Township of Scugog and the Region of Durham to create the framework to permit these types of uses in the agricultural area of our municipality. Over months of hard work behind the scenes, local and regional staff, supported by WSP consulting, have prepared these amendments in collaboration with agricultural partners to provide a consistent approach across the northern municipalities in the Region to better support the changing landscape of farm-based, agricultural-related businesses.

These amendments have been designed to allow as much flexibility as possible while still conforming to the policies of the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan and the Greenbelt Plan, under the Ontario Guidelines on Permitted Uses in Ontario’s prime agricultural areas.

Each site is unique and may have additional requirements that others don’t. Having these established criteria will allow applicants to complete the base requirements before submitting their application, fast-tracking approvals for any additional requirements and reducing red tape associated with navigating regulatory compliance requirements.

Supporting farmers in Scugog is an essential priority for Mayor Wotten, “I am proud of the time and work Scugog, and the Region of Durham staff put into developing this new policy. As an agriculturally driven community, supporting farmers who wish to expand their operations will benefit our local economy, build strong succession planning for farm families, and unlock agri-tourism.”

**Have your say: Help design the playground at
Newcastle’s newest park!**

Clarington is building a new neighbourhood park in Newcastle! Belmont Park, located at 155 Belmont Drive, will include a multi-skills court for basketball and ball hockey, a playground, walking paths, shade structure, seating, open space and more. The site is also adjacent to the historic Belmont House heritage property, which will be celebrated throughout the park’s design through storytelling and signage. The park is now in the design phase, and we need your help!



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