

The Corporation of the **City of Kawartha Lakes** P.O. Box 9000, 26 Francis St., Lindsay, Ontario K9V 5R8 Tel: (705) 324-9411 ext. 1320, 1 888-822-2225 Fax: (705) 324-8110 aletham@city.kawarthalakes.on.ca

## July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017

## **Re: Victoria Grains-Natural Gas Expansion Project**

Mr. Wilson,

Please accept this letter as confirmation that pending receipt of correspondence detailing your request, Council will take this request under consideration at our next regular Council meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of August 2017.

This project would enable Victoria County Grains (VCG) to move from propane & diesel fuels in their grain dryer to natural gas. Further, if VCG were to utilize natural gas as a replacement to propane and diesel for power generation they would be able to save an estimated \$100,000 a year. This opportunity presents a clear path to lowering GHG emissions and strengthening a local business; a true win-win scenario.

Further, this project would contribute to the goals of both the City of Kawartha Lakes' 2016 – 2019 Strategic Plan of creating a vibrant and growing economy by establishing a stronger, more diversified economy; as well as the Economic Development Strategic Plan (anticipated enactment August 2017) which places an emphasis on supporting our strong agriculture and food cluster through the development of additional value-added processing.

It is expected that this project will have an immediate benefit for this agri-business/grain elevator described in the application by providing a cost effective operating solution allowing them to be more competitive with similar service providers in other areas with access to natural gas. Additionally, a cost effective custom grain drying service will benefit crop producers across the region. A vibrant agri-business support sector ensures the long term economic growth of the City of Kawartha Lakes, a Rural Ontario community (as defined by Statistics Canada).

Sincerely

Andy Letham Mayor

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