

**The Corporation of the City of Kawartha Lakes  
Minutes  
Agricultural Development Advisory Committee  
Meeting**

**ADAC 2026-01  
Thursday, February 12, 2026  
9:00 A.M.  
Lindsay Library Meeting Room  
Lindsay Library  
190 Kent Street West, Lindsay, Ontario**

**Members:  
Councillor Ron Ashmore  
Robert Bonis  
Lucas deVos  
Will MacArthur  
Guy Masters  
Michelle Murphy-Ward  
Rebecca Parker  
Adam Shea  
David Skrabek  
Alice VanVught  
Shawn Westland**

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## 1. **Call to Order and Election of 2026 Chair and Vice-Chair**

The Economic Development Officer - Agriculture (EDO-Agriculture) called the meeting to order at 9:04 am.

Councillor Ashmore and Members R. Bonis, L. deVos, W. MacArthur, G. Masters, M. Murphy-Ward, R. Parker, A. Shea, D. Skrabek, A. Van Vught and S. Westland were in attendance.

Election of the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair were conducted by the EDO-Agriculture. David Skrabek was elected Chair, and Shawn Westland was elected Vice-Chair.

The Chair was turned over to D. Skrabek.

## 2. **Administrative Business**

### 2.1 Adoption of Agenda

**Moved By** R. Parker

**Seconded By** W. MacArthur

**That** the agenda be adopted as circulated.

**Carried**

### 2.2 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest disclosed.

### 2.3 Adoption of Minutes

**Moved By** R. Parker

**Seconded By** L. deVos

**That** the minutes of the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee meeting held on December 11, 2025 be adopted as circulated.

**Carried**

## 3. **Deputations/Presentations**

## 4. **Correspondence**

## 5. **New or Other Business**

### 5.1 2025 ADAC Work Plan Report

Review of 2025 accomplishments to report to Council

**Moved By** R. Parker  
**Seconded By** G. Masters

**That** the 2025 ADAC Workplan report be received.

**Carried**

5.2 2026 ADAC Work Plan

Draft a work plan for the committee to propose to council for 2026 activities

**Moved By** W. MacArthur  
**Seconded By** G. Masters

**That** the 2026 ADAC Proposed Workplan be received, and

**That** the 2025 Workplan report and the 2026 Agricultural Development Advisory Committee Proposed Workplan be forward to Committee of the Whole for Council consideration.

**Carried**

5.3 2026 VIP Agricultural Tour

Discuss options for the 2026 VIP Agricultural Tour.

**Moved By** R. Parker  
**Seconded By** R. Bonis

**That** the 2026 VIP Agricultural Tour for elected members of Council and Staff be held outside the campaign period for the 2026 municipal election, with a recommendation of a potential date of October 30, 2026.

**Carried**

5.4 Kawartha Lakes Agriculture and Food Action Plan 2026 to 2030

Presentation of input derived from the public and stakeholder engagement, including key themes and areas of focus to inform development of objectives and actions.

The draft goals and actions were reviewed and discussed. Feedback was provided.

**6. Update from Economic Development Division**

6.1 East Central Farm Show, Economic Development Booth

Looking for volunteers, particularly for the evening of March 4, 2026.

Committee members volunteered for shifts at various times during the show.

## 6.2 Lamp Light Social Event - Work Smart Live Smart

A project of the Spotlight on Agriculture, to be held on Friday, April 17, 2026 from 7-10 pm, with brief guest speaker. In partnership with Kawartha Lakes Haliburton Federation of Agriculture.

Committee members were asked to share the event with others to encourage attendance.

## 7. News and Updates from Members

- A Beef Breeder Financing Co-operative is being developed for this region, with applications possibly available as early as August, following the completion of incorporation of the co-op.
- Sheep and lamb pricing remains high due to the strong demand.
- Sales of lawn and garden tractors continue strong. Snowblower sales also strong with high snowfall this year. The downturn of the last year has not ended, and some continue to push off equipment purchases.
- There is a shortage of soybean seed due to poor conditions and low production in 2025.
- It will be very tough for farm operators if they experience a second poor growing year again in 2026.
- Looking at opportunities in agricultural tourism to support farm sustainability.
- Launch Kawartha looking at an initiative to attract agri-tech businesses to the region.

## 8. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Friday, March 6, 2026, followed by the regular meeting on Thursday, April 9, 2026 at 9:00 am in the Development Services Boardroom.

## 9. Adjournment

**Moved By** R. Parker

**Seconded By** R. Bonis

**That** the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee Meeting adjourn at 11:21 am.

**Carried**