




COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	April 13, 2023
SUBJECT:	Hamilton Agriculture Profile - 2021 Census of Agriculture Update (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Jason Thorne General Manager Planning and Economic Development Department
SIGNATURE:	

On April 18, 2023, the City of Hamilton's Economic Development Division will be bringing to the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Sub-Committee a report on Hamilton's Agriculture Profile. This profile is based on the 2021 Census of Agriculture and provides a statistical overview of the agriculture sector in the City of Hamilton. Every five years, the Census of Agriculture provides a comprehensive and integrated profile of the physical, economic, social, and environmental aspects of Canada's agriculture industry; it is the only data source that consistently provides high-quality detailed statistical information on the agriculture sector.

The overview includes data relating to the Hamilton's farmland, the types of farms, financial performance, characteristics of farm operators, and the economic impact agriculture in the City. All data in this document are derived from the 2021, 2016 and 2011 Census of Agriculture unless otherwise stated. Any comparative data is made between Ontario and the Golden Horseshoe (i.e. the regions of Niagara, Peel, Halton, Durham, York, and Hamilton).

Some of the highlights from Hamilton's Agriculture Profile are noted below:

- 679 farms operate within the City of Hamilton with a total combined farm area of 118,070 acres.
- The average size farm being 174 acres.

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

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- 32% of farms in Hamilton are Oilseed and grain farming (the most in the City), followed by Other Animal production (16%), and Greenhouse, nursery and floriculture production (15%).
- 2,207 individuals are employed in Hamilton's agricultural sector. This includes full-time, part-time, and seasonal workers.
- Total operating revenues for farms in Hamilton was \$366 million in 2021, while total operating expenses for farms in Hamilton was \$299 million in 2021.
- Hamilton's farms are the most profitable in the Golden Horseshoe (average of \$104,764 per farm).
- The gross output impact of Hamilton's agricultural sector is roughly \$1.3 billion.

This document will not only serve as a statistical overview of the agriculture sector in the City of Hamilton but will be used to assist in the promotion of the industry as well as the attraction of new investment within the sector. Moving forward, Staff will provide an updated Agriculture Profile to the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Sub-Committee, following each release of the census of agriculture.

If you would like to review a copy of the report, it is available at the following link:
<https://pub-hamilton.escribemeetings.com/Meeting.aspx?Id=dcfdd077-aeef-478a-bf3e-8ebd82ba2ba6&Agenda=Agenda&lang=English>

If you have any questions respecting this communication, please contact Norm Schleeahn, Director, Economic Development by email at Norm.Schleeahn@hamilton.ca or by phone at (905) 546-2424 Ext. 2669.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

N/A