



Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc Council Resolution
Support for Bill 21, Protect Our Food Act, 2025
Date: Monday, March 16, 2026

Moved by: Councillor Willsie
Seconded by: Councillor Derbyshire

WHEREAS the Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc is a community deeply rooted in agriculture, with a significant portion of our local economy and heritage dependent on the sustainability of farming and food production;

AND WHEREAS Ontario is losing an estimated 319 acres of farmland daily to non-agricultural development, posing a significant threat to the province's long-term food security and the viability of the agri-food sector;

AND WHEREAS Bill 21, the *Protect Our Food Act, 2025*, currently before the Legislative Assembly of Ontario, seeks to preserve productive agricultural land by requiring Agricultural Impact Assessments before zoning changes can occur and by establishing a Foodbelt Protection Plan;

AND WHEREAS the protection of prime agricultural land is not only a matter of food sovereignty but also of fiscal responsibility, as low-density residential sprawl on farmland frequently incurs higher long term infrastructure and service costs for municipalities compared to agricultural land use;

AND WHEREAS providing certainty regarding the agricultural land base encourages long-term investment by farmers in their operations, soil health, and local businesses, thereby strengthening the rural economy of Strathroy-Caradoc;

AND WHEREAS low-density urban sprawl increases the per-capita cost of municipal infrastructure and service delivery—including roads, water, wastewater, and emergency services—creating a long-term financial burden on the Municipality that often exceeds the tax revenue generated by such development;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc hereby expresses its support for the principles and objectives of Bill 21, *Protect Our Food Act, 2025*,

Contact Us:

Phone: 519-245-1070 | Fax: 519-245-6353 | www.strathroy-caradoc.ca



MUNICIPALITY OF STRATHROY-CARADOC

The Corporation of the
Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc
52 Frank Street, Strathroy ON N7G 2R4

to ensure that Ontario's prime agricultural land is preserved for future generations;

AND THAT Council directs the Clerk to send a letter of support for Bill 21 to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Trevor Jones, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness; the Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the Honourable Lisa Thompson, Minister of Rural Affairs and the leaders of the Opposition parties;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution be sent to the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA), and all municipalities within the County of Middlesex to encourage broader municipal support.

Carried.

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