



August 10, 2022

Bert Mitchell

Severed in line with Section 17 of the FOIP Act

To Sturgeon County Council Members and/or Whom It May Concern,

Subject: Economic Development Advisory Board (EDAB) AARTF Feedback

As requested by Council, EDAB met on June 30, 2022 EDAB to review and provide feedback of the AARTF Final Recommendations presented to council. The EDAB found the AARTF presentation to be quite satisfactory overall, but have a few suggestions and concerns that we feel should be considered further.

EDAB is presenting the following input back to Council for their consideration:

1. The EDAB feels that clear, consistent, and concise communication would be essential to both residents and the agricultural operators, and policies and procedures are developed to integrate both parties.
2. The EDAB also feels that work should be undertaken, in the early stages, to establish a bridge between residents and business that will work to minimize any initial impacts of development (dust, noise, farm traffic, etc).
3. The EDAB recommends moving forward with the Diversified Ag District proposal as it provides references and assurances to both residents and agricultural operators. This will enhance the understanding of all parties and provide clear information as to the potential operations and impacts on each parcel of land.
4. The EDAB realizes that it is important to support the development of the agribusiness and agritourism sectors in Sturgeon County. The development of these industries is likely to lead to increased employment opportunities for Sturgeon County residents and youth.
5. The EDAB finds it important to provide clarity to the nearby residents of the proposed ag development zones to ensure it is understood that these areas will not include recreational activities like go karts, events, etc.
6. The EDAB agrees that the matrix Sturgeon County Planning & Development is creating would benefit all parties involved by removing the subjectivity of any potential development application.

7. The EDAB acknowledges that global trending is showing increased interest in the agribusiness and agritourism industries. The EDAB believes that Sturgeon County is exceptionally well positioned to capitalize on opportunities of this type, especially from the Edmonton Metro Region.

Yours sincerely,

Bert Mitchell

EDAB Chair

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