

Sturgeon County Agricultural Service Board

c/o Agriculture Services, 9613- 100 Street Morinville AB T8R 1L9

August 31, 2022

Sturgeon County Council
9613- 100 Street
Morinville AB T8R 1L9

Dear Sturgeon County Council,

Subject: Review of Agribusiness Agritourism Review Task Force (AARTF) Recommendations

On August 17, 2022, the Agricultural Service Board (ASB) received information regarding the final recommendations of the AARTF to Council and was provided with an overview of the associated proposed Land Use Bylaw amendments. As an advisory board to Council on agricultural matters, the ASB reviewed this information, considered the rationale behind the proposed changes and discussed the implications of the recommendations on the agricultural sector.

The Agricultural Service Board acknowledges the importance of the work completed by the AARTF and recognizes the need for regulatory amendments to enable the continued operation and expansion of agribusiness and agritourism operators in Sturgeon County. The ASB believes that the Guiding Principles identified by the AARTF closely align with and support the mandate of the Agricultural Service Board. The ASB understands the importance of supporting opportunities for diversification within the agricultural sector, while also developing mitigation strategies for any potential impacts on other land uses and/or enjoyment of property. The ASB believes that the recommendations of the AARTF balance the requirement for both these items and expects that implementation of the recommendations will result in an environment where existing and new Agribusiness and Agritourism operators can reasonably achieve compliance while also coexisting well with surrounding land uses.

In summary, the ASB's recommendation to Council is to support the recommendations of the AARTF. The ASB respectfully requests that consideration be given to the continuation of the AARTF's efforts through continued engagement with Council Committees and clearly defined Committee mandates to monitor, evaluate, support and advocate on behalf of the agribusiness and agritourism industries in Sturgeon County.

Yours sincerely,



David Kluthe
Chair, Agricultural Service Board

c: Reegan McCullough, Chief Administrative Officer
Bonnie McInnis, Manager, Planning and Development Services Manager
Leanne McBean, Business Retention Expansion Lead