Ontario’s agriculture and agri-food sectors are leading economic drivers for the province; contributing over $39 billion in GDP and employing over 820,000 Ontarians.

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) represents more than 37,000 family farm businesses across Ontario. OFA’s 52 County and Regional Federations offer strong, grassroots leadership, and should be your first point of contact when addressing municipal issues affecting our farm businesses.

Our local farmers are looking forward to working with councillors who will grow and manage this community, so it prospers in every sense. We expect councillors to manage costs and achieve value for local tax dollars. We ask that you maintain the existing services and infrastructure, to trim where it is necessary, and to stimulate growth where possible by attracting investment. We want our community to thrive with a healthy economic base while continuing to be a safe, vibrant place to raise and educate our families.

In \_\_\_\_\_ (County/Region), our local farm businesses would like you to focus on:

*
*
*
*
*

OFA has developed a *Guide for Municipal Councillors and Staff* to provide an overview of issues affecting farmers today, as well as identifying local opportunities to support this untapped, and sometimes undervalued, economic sector. To learn more and download the Guide, visit **ofa.on.ca/GrowAg**.

***Producing Prosperity in Ontario***

OFA’s campaign, *Producing Prosperity in Ontario,* calls for greater investment in Ontario’s agri-food sector and rural communities as an effective strategy to deliver economic growth and prosperity for all Ontarians. Distributing development dollars across Ontario is the solution to ongoing challenges facing rural and urban communities. New investments in Ontario’s rural communities will grow existing businesses, attract new companies, and boost opportunities for regional economic development.

We’re asking all municipal leaders to learn more about the long-term benefits of investing in our agri-food sector and our rural communities to boost economic growth and prosperity.

Learn about the key elements for Producing Prosperity in Ontario at **producingprosperity.ca**.