

AGRI-FOOD FORUM

NOVEMBER 2 & 3, 2022

Hosted by the County of Brant

Tradition • Innovation • Regeneration



→ brant.ca/agriforum

Agenda

8:30 am - Coffee and Networking

9:00 am - Mayor's Welcome

Mayor David Bailey, *County of Brant*



Keynote Address

Brock Dickinson, *Assistant Director of the Economic Development Program, University of Waterloo*

It's the End of the World as We Know It (and I Feel Fine): How Inflation, Deglobalization, War and Demographic Collapse Point to Ontario's Next Agri-Food Opportunities



10:00 am - BREAK (15 min)

10:15 am Workforce

In this session, experienced panelists will address past, present and future workforce challenges in the agriculture and food sectors. They will share examples of innovative projects, policies and bylaws to help grow and maintain these sectors.

➔ **Session Chair:** Danielle Sharman, *Policy Analyst, Ontario Federation of Agriculture*



Addressing issues facing agricultural human resource management.

Jennifer Wright, *Acting Executive Director and Director, Operations, Programs and Partnerships, Canadian Agricultural Human Resources Council*



Challenges and opportunities in Ontario's agriculture sector.

Stefan Larrass, *Senior Policy Advisor, Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association*



Innovation in health services and how they relate to work productivity.

Eliseo Martell, *Health Promoter for the International Agricultural Worker Program*



Kingsville temporary farm worker housing study, Official Plan amendments and Zoning Bylaw amendments.

Richard Wyma, *Director of Community and Development Services, Town of Kingsville*



Partnerships in Action: Conestoga's Agricultural Equipment Operator Pilot

Zach Gable, *Senior Economic Development Officer, County of Brant*



Today's event is moderated by **Nick Kinkel**, *Economic Development Specialist, OMAFRA* and **Zach Gable**, *Senior Economic Development Officer, County of Brant*

Panel Q&A

Workforce Programs and Services

Danielle Sharman, *Policy Analyst, Ontario Federation of Agriculture*



11:40 am Data Driving Economic Vibrancy



Patricia McCarney
President & CEO, World Council on City Data



Alison Newton, *MBA, Ec.D., CEcD., General Manager Strategic Initiatives, County of Brant*

12:00 pm - Lunch and Networking (1 hour)

1:00 pm - Official's Greeting

MPP Will Bouma, *MPP Brantford-Brant, Chair Standing Committee on Government Agencies and Caucus Chair*



1:10 pm Agriculture-Environment-Partnership

Presentations will highlight the importance of partnerships and innovation for creating sustainable farm businesses and a sustainable environment.

➔ **Session Chair:** Kimberly Earls, *Executive Director, South Central Ontario Region Economic Development Corporation*



Making connections between agriculture, the environment, economic development and effective planning

Bryan Gilvesy, *C.E.O. ALUS and Owner of Y U Ranch*



Grand River Rural Water Quality Program partnering with agriculture advisory committees

Louise Heyming, *Grand River Conservation Authority Rural Water Quality Program*



Innovation in the agricultural technology sector

Ig Kolenko, *Executive Director, SMART Centre, Conestoga College*



Farm and environmental sustainability

Steve Sickle, *Owner Sickle Farms, Brant County and 1st Vice President, Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association*



Nancy Van Sas, *Workshop Leader, Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association, Kremer Farms*



2:05 pm - BREAK (15 min)

2:20 pm Agricultural Systems

Panelists will give a Provincial, Municipal and Ag Business perspective on balancing rural identity, strategic priorities, and community capacity through implementation of the agricultural system approach

➔ **Session Chair:** Nancy Rutherford, *Rural Planner, OMAFRA*



Ontario's Agricultural System approach to planning and economic development

Carolyn Puterbough, *Agriculture and Rural Economic Development Advisor, OMAFRA*



Ag Systems at the Municipal level: a snapshot of how the County of Brant is balancing its rural identity, strategic priorities, and community capacity to provide direction and economic development opportunities through implementation of the agricultural system approach

Brandon Kortleve, *Planner, County of Brant*



Encompassing all aspects from production of oilseeds and pedigree seed to supplying markets across Canada and around the world

Troy Tate, *Grain Originator / Location Manager, Snobelen Farms, Brantford*



Panel Q&A

2023 City of Temiskaming

Airianna Leveille, *Economic Development Officer, City of Temiskaming Shores*



Closing Remarks

Hon. Lisa Thompson, *Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, MPP for Huron-Bruce and Chair, Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians*



4:00 pm - Adjourn

Thank you to our **sponsors!**



Notes:

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