



REPORT N° ADMIN 2020-25

Date	07/12/2020
Submitted by	Helen Collier, CAO
Subject	Eastern Ontario Food Hub Centre
File N°	-

1) **NATURE/GOAL :**

This report is being presented to Council for consideration of creating the Eastern Ontario Food Hub Centre in Clarence-Rockland as a request by the United Counties of Prescott and Russell (UCPR).

2) **DIRECTIVE/PREVIOUS POLICY :**

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3) **DEPARTMENT'S RECOMMENDATION :**

WHEREAS the federal government has selected Prescott-Russell as an ideal municipality for the creation of the Eastern Ontario Food Hub Centre; and

WHEREAS the creation of the Eastern Ontario Food Hub Centre has the potential to create 65 -100 jobs;

BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Clarence-Rockland's Economic Development Officer be mandated to pursue this economic development opportunity in order to provide a report to Council with all of the financial information by the end of March 2021.

ATTENDU QUE le gouvernement fédéral a choisi Prescott-Russell comme municipalité idéale pour la création du Centre alimentaire de l'Est ontarien; et

ATTENDU QUE la création du Centre alimentaire de l'Est ontarien a le potentiel de créer 65 à 100 emplois; et

QU'IL SOIT RÉSOLU que l'Agente de développement économique de la Cité de Clarence-Rockland soit mandaté de poursuivre cette opportunité de développement économique afin de fournir un rapport au conseil avec toute l'information financière d'ici la fin mars 2021.

4) **BACKGROUND :**

In June 2020, the federal government selected Prescott and Russell as the ideal place to create a food hub. See Attachment 1 for the description of the project and Attachment 2 for a rendering of the production facility.

5) **DISCUSSION :**

At this time, the United Counties of Prescott and Russell has asked its 8 municipalities to assess whether they want to pursue this opportunity. The opportunity is to create a food hub that local producers of cattle and other products to be processed. The requirements for the creation of the Hub are as follows:

- Site Area: 20 acres minimum;
- Appropriate Zoning;
- Adequate Water Supply: approx.1,400 m³/day;
- Adequate Sanitary Sewer capacity: approx. 1,400 m³/day;
- Adequate Electrical Service: Daily Avg 16,000kWh, Daily Peak 39,000kWh, Peak Load 3000kW;
- Adequate Natural Gas Service: Daily Avg.110,000 MJ;
- Adequate Internet Service;
- Availability of services in the near future;
- Low municipal infrastructure improvement cost / Development Charges;
- Low site acquisition cost;
- Relatively Good Access to a Major Highway; and
- Very low or no residential uses on its surrounding.

Attachments 3 and 4 provide you with the list of requirements and a matrix which outlines their relative importance.

All of these requirements will need to be assessed by the respective departments before making a decision about moving forward.

Assuming the City of Clarence-Rockland could present a package that would be of interest to the interested parties, Council would have to look at the financial commitment to this project. At this time, the financial demands on the Municipality need to be further researched.

6) **CONSULTATION:**

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7) **RECOMMENDATIONS OR COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE/ OTHER DEPARTMENTS :**

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8) **FINANCIAL IMPACT (expenses/material/etc.):**

With the information available, it is unclear of the financial investment required by the municipality.

9) **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS :**

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10) **RISK MANAGEMENT :**

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11) **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS :**

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12) **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

Attachment 1 : Information Sheet – BIL

Attachment 2 : Plan

Attachment 3 : Site Requirements

Attachment 4 : Site Criteria Evaluation Matrix