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June 25, 2021

Mayor, Council and Administration
Municipality of Chatham-Kent
315 King Street W.
Chatham, Ontario N7M 3K3

Dear Sirs/Madame:

The Kent Federation of Agriculture represents nearly 1,900 primary producers and agri-business in Chatham-Kent. Our primary focus is a strong and sustainable agricultural sector. Our success is evident as Agriculture in Chatham-Kent remains this municipality's largest economic driver.

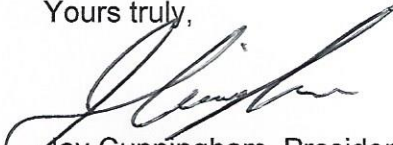
On April 26, 2021, C-K Council enacted a Temporary Tree-Cutting Bylaw for 120 days that, in our view, negatively impacts the property rights of all rural landowners in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent. Prior to the launch of the public consultation process, the KFA had offered on numerous occasions to be a primary source for consultation and discussion on this process, based on our industry representation; however, you have chosen a third-party anonymous system to tabulate results and allow input from any source. Given that our members have the greatest stake in this proposed bylaw, we feel this approach is inequitable, ineffective and highly biased towards a specific pre-determined outcome.

A recent special Board of Directors meeting of the Kent Federation of Agriculture was held to clearly determine our position on the temporary bylaw – I would like to share the results with you now. At this special meeting, two motions were passed:

- 1) The Kent Federation of Agriculture takes the position on behalf of our membership that there should be no Tree Cutting Bylaw in the Municipality of Chatham-Kent
- 2) The Kent Federation of Agriculture participated in the creation of a Natural Heritage Strategy seven years ago. We continue to support this strategy and must participate in any updates to this strategy.

We will be sharing our position with our members, the media and the general public; however, we felt it only fair to share our position with this group first. As always, we welcome the opportunity for an open and effective discussion on this subject and would hope you would accept our invitation to do so.

Yours truly,



Jay Cunningham, President
519-784-2084