

February 24, 2023

Sturgeon County Agricultural Service Board
 c/o Angela Veenstra, Manager, Agriculture Services
 9613 100 Street
 Morinville, AB T8R 1L9

Delivered via email: aveenstra@sturgeoncounty.ca

Re: Agricultural Service Board Mandate Letter for 2023

On behalf of Council, thank you for your work in supporting the achievement of Sturgeon County’s Strategic Plan. Your role in providing a forum for examining timely issues and providing advice to Council related to your mandate supports Sturgeon County’s Vision:

Offering a rich tapestry of historical, cultural, and natural experiences, Sturgeon County is a municipality that honours its rural roots and cultivates desirable communities. Uniquely situated to provide world-class agricultural, energy, and business investment opportunities, the County prioritizes responsible stewardship and dreaming big.

Council requests that, in 2023, you focus your efforts on the initiatives identified below, which support the County’s Strategic Plan and Corporate Business Plan. Council seeks for Board members to be champions of these initiatives and play a key role in the communication of these initiatives in the community.

Activity	Requested Completion Date
Assist with the implementation of the Regional Agriculture Master Plan.	Q1-Q4 2023
Provide input into the development of a local Agriculture Master Plan/Support Strategy	Q1-Q4 2023
Support ongoing mechanisms to review conditions and opportunities related to diversified agriculture in Sturgeon County and make recommendations to Council that support the sector's continued success.	Q1-Q4 2023
In collaboration with Sturgeon County Protective Services and the Sturgeon Regional Emergency Management Partnership, provide input into the development of a local Livestock Emergency Plan.	Q1-Q2 2023
Support the communication of timely and relevant information to the Sturgeon County agricultural community, including providing input into the Agriculture Corner.	Q1-Q4 2023

Engage with organizations such as the Sturgeon Rural Crime Watch Association to discuss and recommend collaboration opportunities, addressing rural crime affecting rural property owners and agricultural producers in Sturgeon County.	Q1-Q4 2023
Provide opportunities for increased engagement with youth, which may include attendance of Sturgeon County Youth Advisory Committee representatives at Board meetings to understand the mandate of the Board and how youth can be involved in their community, now and into the future.	Q1-Q4 2023

Based on the activities identified above, Council requests that the Board develop a Workplan for 2023, which is to be filed with Legislative Services. Council also requests that the Board report to Committee of the Whole on your progress before the end of the calendar year. You are invited to present to Committee of the Whole before that time if there are any emerging matters you are working on.

If there are matters recommended by the Board that have a financial implication, please bring these matters to Council's attention no later than August 31, 2023 so that they can be considered as part of the 2024 budget process.

It may be necessary to adjust the above activities to accommodate emerging issues. In such event, a revised mandate letter will be issued with further direction.

Council also encourages the Board to be aware of federal and provincial initiatives related to agriculture. Mandate letters issued to the federal and provincial agriculture ministers can be found online and provide some additional context of the agriculture priorities at the federal and provincial levels.

Thank you for your commitment to Sturgeon County and for being part of the Agricultural Service Board. Council looks forward to learning of the progress on these important initiatives and receiving your valuable input.

Yours sincerely,



Alanna Hnatiw
Mayor, Sturgeon County

C: Council, Sturgeon County
Reegan McCullough, Chief Administrative Officer
Jesse Sopko, General Manager, Corporate Services