APPENDIX B

REVIEW OF AGRICULTURE POLICIES

MARCH 16, 2017





TABLE OF CONTENTS

B1.	AGRICULTURE POLICY IN THE ROP	3
B2.	CONSTRAINTS TO DEVELOPMENT IN THE AGRICULTURAL AREA	20
В3.	PERMITTED USES IN THE AGRICULTURAL AREA	22
R4	UPDATING AGRICUI TURE DEFINITIONS	26





B1. AGRICULTURE POLICY IN THE ROP

The table below provides a line-by-line review of each ROP policy with respect to the Agricultural System that includes the potential implication of each policy and identifies updates required in the Town OP. It is noted that directions in the ROP policy have been highlighted in yellow and specific actions for the Town have been identified in red text.

Table A: Agricultural System and Agricultural Area policies in the ROP.

Section	ROP Policy	Potential Implications for Town OP
92.	The Agricultural System, as shown on Map 1E, consists of two components: lands designated as Agricultural Area and those parts of the Region's Natural Heritage System outside the <i>Key Features</i> or where the only <i>Key Feature</i> is a <i>significant</i> earth science area of natural and scientific interest. While the second component is subject to the relevant <i>goals</i> , <i>objectives</i> , permitted uses and <i>policies</i> as parts of the Region's Natural Heritage System, <i>agricultural operations</i> are compatible uses and are promoted and supported within these areas as part of the Agricultural System.	 The ROP identifies the agricultural system and recognizes the importance of promoting and supporting these areas. The ROP distinguishes prime agricultural areas in the agricultural system. Action: The Town OP has to include policies that address the agricultural system and the prime agricultural areas. The Town OP also needs to map these areas.
93.	Parts of the Agricultural System that are Prime Agricultural Areas as shown on Map 1E are subject to the policies of Sections 139.9, 139.9.1 and 139.9.2.	
100.	Subject to other <i>policies</i> of this Plan, applicable policies of the Greenbelt Plan and Niagara Escarpment Plan, and applicable Local Official Plan <i>policies</i> and Zoning Bylaws, the following uses may be permitted in the Agricultural Area:	 The ROP outlines permitted uses in the agricultural area. Action: The Town OP may to permit the same uses (or less) as the ROP.
100(1) 100(1.1) 100(2) 100(3) 100(4)	All types, sizes and intensities of agricultural operations, normal farm practices, existing uses, single detached dwelling on existing lots, dwelling(s) accessory to an agricultural operation, which must be mobile or portable if located within the Niagara Escarpment Plan Area,	



Section	ROP Policy	Potential Implications for Town OP
100(5)	non-intensive recreation uses such as nature	
	viewing and pedestrian trail activities, only if	
	the lands are publicly owned or are part of the	
	Bruce Trail,	
100(6)	forest, fisheries and wildlife management,	
100(7)	archaeological activities,	
100(8)	transportation and utility facilities,	
100(9)	accessory buildings or structures,	
100(10)	incidental uses,	
100(13)	uses permitted in an approved Niagara	
	Escarpment Park and Open Space	
	Master/Management Plan, if the subject land	
	is located within the Niagara Escarpment	
	Plan Area,	
100(14)	home occupations and cottage industries with	
	a gross floor area not exceeding 100 sq m or	
	25 per cent of the residential living area,	
	whichever is lesser,	
100(15)	bed and breakfast establishments with three	
	or fewer guest bedrooms,	
100(16)	veterinary clinics, only if located on a	
	commercial farm secondary to the farming	
	operation, and serving primarily the	
	agricultural community.	
100(17)	Animal kennels, only if located on a	
	commercial farm, secondary to the farming	
	operation, and in conjunction with a single	
	detached dwelling.	
100(18)	Watershed management and flood and	
	erosion control projects carried out or	
	supervised by a <i>public agency</i> ,	
100(20)	sanitary landfill operation and accessory	
	uses, only on the Halton Waste Management	
	Site shown on Map 1,	
100(21)	following uses only if located on a commercial	
	farm and secondary to the farming operation:	
	a) home industries with a gross floor	
	area not exceeding 200 sq m,	
	b) retail uses with a gross floor area not	
	exceeding 500 sq m and the majority	
	of the commodities for sale, measured	
	by monetary value, produced or	
	manufactured on the farm,	
	c) agriculture-related tourism uses with a	





Section	ROP Policy	Potential Implications for Town OP
	gross floor area not exceeding 500 sq	
	m, and	
	d) small-scale businesses that provide	
	supplementary income to the <i>farming</i>	
	operation provided that:	
	i. such uses are permitted by	
	specific Local Official Plan	
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	policies and Local Zoning By-	
	laws; ii. their scale is minor and does not	
	change the appearance of the	
	farming operation;	
	iii. their impact such as noise,	
	odour and traffic on surrounding	
	land uses is minimal and will not	
	hinder surrounding agricultural	
	uses; and	
	iv. they meet all Regional criteria as	
	stated in the On-Farm Business	
	Guidelines adopted by Council;	
	e) subject to site plan approval by the	
	Local Municipality, horticultural trade	
	uses <mark>provided that</mark> :	
	 the use meets all the criteria 	
	under Sections 100(21)d);	
	ii. the farm property	
	accommodating the use is at	
	least 4 hectares in size;	
	iii. at least 70 per cent of the arable	
	area of the farm property	
	accommodating the use is	
	dedicated to the growing of	
	horticultural plants;	
	iv. the use is located within the	
	existing farm building cluster,	
	with only minor rounding out of	
	the cluster permitted provided	
	that there are no <i>tree</i> removals;	
	v. the gross floor area for the use	
	does not exceed 500 sq m;	
	vi. the outdoor storage area for the	
	use does not exceed 1,000 sq	
	m;	
	vii. the use including buildings,	
	The date including buildings,	





Coction	POP Policy Potential Implications for	
Section	ROP Policy	Potential Implications for Town OP
	outdoor storage parking gross	Town OP
	outdoor storage, parking areas, and loading/unloading zones is	
	and loading/unloading zones is adequately screened from	
	neighbouring properties and	
	public <i>highways</i> ; and	
	viii. the use can be accommodated	
	by the private water supply and	
	waste water treatment systems	
400(00)	located on the property.	TI 505 11 17
100(22)	following site-specific uses, recognized	The ROP identifies site-
	through individual amendments to this Plan:	specific permitted uses that
	a. a horse racetrack and accessory uses	have been the subject of
	on the part of Lot 7 north of Highway	an amendment to the ROP.
	401, Lot 8 and Lot 9, Concession III,	Action: These uses will
	former Township of Nassagaweya, in	have to remain as site-
	the Town of Milton,	specific permitted uses in
	b. industrial and ancillary uses on private	the Town's OP.
	services located generally on the west	Specifically, these include:
	half of Lot 6, Concession III, in the	100(22) b, d, f, g, h, l, k, m,
	Town of Halton Hills,	n, p, r, r, s.
	c. a seasonal special event	
	commercial/recreational attraction and	
	accessory uses located on part of Lots	
	7 and 8, Concession VIII, New	
	Survey, in the Town of Milton, former	
	Township of Trafalgar,	
	d. a driving range and accessory uses	
	on the north half of the west half of Lot	
	18, Concession XI, former Township	
	of Esquesing, in the Town of Halton	
	Hills,	
	e. office, manufacturing and	
	warehousing uses with a total gross	
	floor area not exceeding 16,300	
	square metres and a total site area	
	not exceeding 10.3 hectares on Part	
	of Lots 32 and 33, Concession I,	
	N.D.S., Town of Oakville. The uses	
	may be developed on private services	
	as a demonstration project; however,	
	it is intended that this area will be	
	serviced with urban services in the	
	future. Prior to development occurring	
	on this site, the landowner must:	





Section	ROP Policy	Potential Implications for Town OP
	i. [i] enter into an agreement with	10WII OI
	the <i>Region</i> to pay the	
	Development Charges	
	applicable for the uses at the	
	time when <i>urban</i> services are	
	required;	
	ii. [ii] obtain the necessary	
	approvals from the Ministry of	
	the Environment and the Region	
	for any on-site private servicing	
	systems; and	
	iii. [iii] satisfy the Region in terms of	
	transportation access to the site,	
	f) a church and existing private, non-	
	commercial cultural and outdoor	
	recreational uses, connected to the	
	Region of Peel's water service, on an	
	aggregate land area not exceeding 29	
	hectares on the east half of Lot 6,	
	Concession XI, former Township of	
	Esquesing, in the Town of Halton	
	Hills,	
	g) a golf course and accessory uses on	
	the west half of Lot 7, Concession II,	
	former Township of Esquesing, in the	
	Town of Halton Hills,	
	h) a golf course and accessory uses on	
	the east half of Lot 10, Concession X,	
	former Township of Esquesing,, in the	
	Town of Halton Hills,	
	i) a new 9.3-hectare golf driving range	
	and a new or expanded 929-square-	
	metre day use education facility on	
	lands in the east half of Lot 6,	
	Concession II, former Township of	
	Esquesing, in the Town of Halton	
	. 5.	
	Hills, to be further described by an	
	amendment to the Town of Halton	
	Hills Zoning By-law 74-51 to be	
	prepared in consultation with the	
	Region of Halton,	
	j) residential use on private services on	
	two land parcels identified in the	
	Halton Land Registry Office by	





Section	ROP Policy	Potential Implications for Town OP
	property identification numbers	
	07196-0146 and 07196-0147 as of	
	April 13, 2000 and located in Lot 17,	
	Concession I, N.D.S., in the City of	
	Burlington,	
	k) a painting and sandblasting operation	
	and accessory office use located on a	
	2.7-hectare parcel of land generally	
	on the west half of Lot 1, Concession	
	IX, former Township of Esquesing, in	
	the Town of Halton Hills,	
	l) a golf course, practice range,	
	clubhouse and accessory uses on the	
	east half of Lots 7 and 8, Concession	
	VII, former Township of Trafalgar, in	
	the Town of Milton, and on the basis	
	of private services notwithstanding	
	Section 101(1.3) of this Plan, provided	
	that the landowner obtains the	
	necessary approval from the Ministry	
	of the Environment, Conservation	
	Halton and the <i>Region</i> for any water	
	takings and treatment systems, from	
	the Ministry of the Environment,	
	Conservation Halton and Town of	
	Milton for water takings, wastewater	
	disposal systems and water	
	reservoirs. Accommodation shall be	
	limited to the single detached dwelling	
	as of November 28, 2005,	
	m) a municipal sports facility, associated	
	parking, cemetery, expanded	
	municipal works yard and related uses	
	on part of Lot 18, Concession VII,	
	former Township of Esquesing, in the	
	Town of Halton Hills,	
	n) a golf course and accessory uses on	
	the west half of Lot 9, Concession III,	
	former Township of Esquesing, in the	
	Town of Halton Hills,	
	•	
	o) a golf course, club house and	
	accessory uses on part of Lots 4 and	
	5, Concession VIII, of the former	
	Township of Trafalgar, in the Town of	





0 1:	DOD Dollars Detential Implications for	
Section	ROP Policy	Potential Implications for Town OP
	Milton. Notwithstanding Section	
	101(1.3) of this Official Plan, such	
	uses may be permitted on the basis of	
	private services provided that the	
	landowner obtains the necessary	
	approvals	
	p) a golf course and accessory uses on	
	the west half of Lot 10, Concession III,	
	former Township of Esquesing, in the	
	Town of Halton Hills,	
	q) a church of no more than 1,250 sq m	
	gross floor area and associated	
	parking occupying no more than 8 per	
	cent of the total property area in the	
	southeast corner of the property on	
	lands described as Part of East Half of	
	Lot 7, Concession II, former Township	
	of Esquesing, in the Town of Halton	
	Hills,	
	r) a cemetery and related ancillary uses,	
	excluding a crematorium, on Part Lot	
	18, Concession VII (Esquesing) in the	
	Town of Halton Hills, and	
	s) a joint use facility combining a private	
	elementary school and day care with	
	an equestrian centre on lands	
	described as Part of the East Half of	
	Lot 30, Concession VIII, former	
	Township of Esquesing, in the Town	
	of Halton Hills, provided that:	
	i. the maximum gross floor area of	
	the private elementary school	
	and day care shall not exceed	
	929 sq m with the total height	
	not to exceed 10.67 m;	
	ii. there shall be no facilities for	
	overnight accommodation of	
	students and/or staff within the	
	school facility or on site; and	
	iii. there shall be no use of the	
	horse barn and riding arena,	
	and the hay and equipment	
	storage barn for human	
	habitation, or for industrial or	





Section	ROP Policy	Potential Implications for	
Section	ROF Folicy	Town OP	
	commercial use		
101.	It is the <i>policy</i> of the <i>Region</i> to: Require Local Official Plans to recognize the Agricultural System as identified in this Plan and Local Zoning By-laws to permit agricultural operations within the Agricultural System in accordance with <i>policies</i> of this Plan.	 The ROP directs local municipalities to recognize the agricultural system in their OP and Zoning Bylaw to permit agricultural operations in the agricultural system. Action: The Town OP will have to recognize the Agricultural System in the OP and Local Zoning bylaws to permit agricultural operations in the agricultural system in accordance with the policies of the ROP. 	
101.	It is the policy of the Region to: Adopt and update from time to time, and incorporate by amendment to this Plan appropriate recommendations of an Aquifer Management Plan that will, among other things: a) determine whether the groundwater resources can support in the long term activities and land uses within the Agricultural Area and the Region's Natural Heritage System and in those parts of the Urban Area that rely on well water supply; b) identify those areas which are susceptible to water quantity and quality problems; c) identify those areas where good quality water is generally available to sustain additional rural settlement; d) examine the impact of private, individual wastewater disposal systems on the quality of groundwater; and	 The ROP recognizes that aquifer management plans are subject to change and reserves the right to update the ROP by an amendment to recognize such changes. Action: No direct action required. 	





Section	ROP Policy Potential Implications for	
Section	ROP Policy	Town OP
	e) propose procedures for the on-going monitoring and protection of the aquifers.	
101. 101(1.2)	It is the <i>policy</i> of the <i>Region</i> to: 101(1.2) Prohibit the creation of new <i>lots</i> for residential purposes except in <i>Hamlets</i> or <i>Rural Clusters</i> .	 The ROP restricts new lot creation for residential purposes to Hamlets or Rural Clusters. Action: The Town OP will have to restrict new lot creation for residential purposes to Hamlets or Rural Clusters.
101.	It is the <i>policy</i> of the <i>Region</i> to: Require that all <i>development</i> in the Agricultural System be only on the basis of private, individual well water supply and private, individual waste water treatment system that conform to Regional By-laws and standards, and to Provincial legislation, regulations and standards, with the following exception: a) connections to a private communal water system may be permitted subject to confirmation through any applicable Environmental Assessment Act approval and all necessary authorizations being obtained, for the following buildings, structures or vacant lots of record located on No. 1 Sideroad and Tremaine Road in the City of Burlington, Town of Milton and Town of Oakville and legally described as follows: i. dwelling on the property with property identification number 24927-0022, ii. dwelling on the property with property identification number 07201-0064,	 The ROP requires all development in the Agricultural system to occur privately on well water supply and individual wastewater treatment system. These systems must conform to the Regional By-laws and standards and Provincial legislation, regulations and standards. Action: The Town OP will have to require all development in the Agricultural System to be on private services. None of the exceptions outlined in policy 101(1.3)a apply to the Town of Halton Hills.





Section		ROP Policy	Potential Implications for
			Town OP
		property identification number	
		07201-0063,	
	iv.	dwelling on the property with	
		property identification number	
		24927-0110,	
	٧.	dwelling on the property with	
		property identification number	
		07201-0049,	
	vi.	dwelling on the property with	
		property identification number	
		07201-0048,	
	vii.	dwelling on the property with	
	v	property identification number	
		07201-0062,	
	viii.	main house, farm house,	
	VIII.	cottage and barn well on the	
		_	
		property with property identification number 07201-	
		0018,	
	ix.	existing vacant lot of record as	
		of May 2, 2007 on Tremaine	
		Road with property identification	
		number 07201-0066,	
	Х.	existing vacant lot of record as	
		of May 2, 2007 on Tremaine	
		Road with property identification	
		number 24927-0109,	
	xi.	existing vacant lot of record as	
		of May 2, 2007 on Tremaine	
		Road with property identification	
		number 07201-0011,	
	xii.	existing vacant lot of record as	
		of May 2, 2007 on No. 1	
		Sideroad with property	
		identification number 07201-	
		0104,	
	xiii.	existing vacant lot of record as	
		of May 2, 2007 on No. 1	
		Sideroad with property	
		identification number 07201-	
		0097, and	
	xiv.	existing vacant lot of record as	
	AIV.	of May 2, 2007 on No. 1	
		Sideroad with property	





Section	ROP Policy Potential Implications for	
		Town OP
	identification number 07201- 0105.	
101.	It is the <i>policy</i> of the <i>Region</i> to:	The ROP recognizes the need for guidelines for
101(4)	Adopt, after consultation with the Ministry of the Environment and other affected parties, Guidelines for Hydrogeological Studies and Best Management Practices for Groundwater Protection that contain, among other things, design standards for private services, minimum lot sizes taking into account infiltrative capacity of the soils and hydrogeological information, guidelines for undertaking hydrogeological studies, procedures for processing development applications on private services, and criteria by which the Medical Officer of Health determines a water supply to be inadequate or the impact of a private wastewater treatment system to be unacceptable.	hydrogeological studies and best management practices for ground water protection for development in the Agricultural Area. The Town OP could acknowledge that development in the Agricultural Areas will have to consider these guidelines. Action: No direct action required.
101.	It is the <i>policy</i> of the <i>Region</i> to:	The ROP indicates that recreation uses including
101(1.5)	Consider recreation uses including golf courses and driving ranges in the Agricultural Area only by site-specific amendment to this Plan unless permitted by specific policies and provided that: a) the proposed use meets the requirements of Section 139.9.2(3) where applicable, b) the proposed use be subject to the following conditions: i. any changes to the natural topography are kept to a minimum; ii. buildings and structures are minor in scale and are located in a manner that will secure an open-space character of the area; iii. there is no overnight	golf courses and driving ranges in the Agricultural Area will be considered on a site-specific amendment, subject to permitted specific policies and other exceptions. • Action: The Town OP will also have to consider the above recreation uses on a site-specific basis, unless permitted by specific policies or the exceptions of the ROP.
	accommodation for users or guests of the facility; iv. landscaping and berms are	





Section		ROP Policy	Potential Implications for Town OP
		provided where necessary to secure an open-space character	
		of the area;	
	V.	the impact on adjacent	
		agricultural operations is kept to	
		a minimum, through the	
		preparation by the proponent of	
		an Agricultural Impact	
		Assessment to the satisfaction	
		of the Region;	
	vi.	if the use involves significant	
		taking of ground or surface	
		water, the proponent must	
		demonstrate, through a detailed	
		study and to the satisfaction of	
		the Region, that the water	
		resource in the general area will	
		not be adversely affected;	
	vii.	in addition to meeting the	
		requirements of Sections 118(3)	
		and 139.3.7(4), there should be	
		a net gain, or at the minimum no	
		net loss, of overall natural	
		features and areas or their	
		ecological functions as a result	
		of the development, through	
		appropriate studies, site designs	
		and mitigative measures, to the	
		satisfaction of the Region; and	
	viii.	the design and construction of	
		the use are in keeping with the	
		Golf Course and Recreational	
		Facilities Best Management	
		Guidelines adopted by Regional	
		Council.	
	,	hin the Greenbelt Plan Protected	
		untryside Area of the Greenbelt	
	Pla	n, the following additional	
	req	uirements will apply:	
	i.	the use is not located in a Prime	
		Agricultural Area; and	
	ii.	the major recreational use	
		policies of the Greenbelt Plan	
		have been satisfied.	





Section	ROP Policy	Potential Implications for
Jeonon	NOT 1 Only	Town OP
101	It is the <i>policy</i> of the <i>Region</i> to:	The ROP recognizes the importance of and requires
101(1.6)	Recognize and protect lands within the Agricultural System as an important natural resource to the economic viability of agriculture and to this end: a) Direct non-farm uses to the Urban Area, Hamlets and Rural Clusters unless specifically permitted by policies of this Plan. b) Promote the maintenance or establishment of woodlands and treescapes on farms. c) Encourage farmers to adopt farm practices that will sustain the long term productivity of the land and minimize adverse impact to the natural environment.	the protection of the Agricultural System as an important natural resource to the economic viability of agriculture. • Action: The Town OP will have to include policies that recognize and protect lands within the Agricultural System in accordance with the ROP policies.
101. 101(1.7)	Require that new land uses, including the creation of <i>lots</i> , and new or expanding livestock facilities within the Agricultural System comply with the provincially developed <i>Minimum Distance Separation formulae</i> .	 The ROP requires compliance with MDS for new land uses within the Agricultural System. Action: The Town OP will have to include policies that require MDS compliance for new land uses within the Agricultural System.
101. 101(1.8)	It is the <i>policy</i> of the <i>Region</i> to: Require an Environmental Impact Assessment for new <i>development</i> in accordance with Sections 118(3), 118(3.1) and 139.3.7(4).	The ROP requires new development to complete an Environmental Impact Assessment in accordance with policies in Sections 118(3), 118(3.1) and 139.3.7(4) Action: The Town OP will have to include policies that acknowledge the Region's requirement for the completion of an Environmental Impact Assessment for new development in





Section	ROP Policy	Potential Implications for
		Town OP
		accordance with Sections
		118(3), 118(3.1) and
		139.3.7(4) of the ROP.
101.	It is the policy of the Region to:	The ROP identifies the
		components that comprise
101(1.9)	Ensure that Key Features, identified in	Key Features in Section
	Section 115.3 that may exist outside the	115.3 and requires the
	Regional Natural Heritage System are	protection of such features
	protected in accordance with Section 139.12.	even when they are
		present outside of the
		Regional Natural Heritage
		System.
		Action: The Town OP will
		have to identify the
		components of Key Features and include
		policies to ensure protection of such features.
101.	It is the policy of the Region to:	The ROP recognizes the
101.	It is the policy of the region to.	importance of agriculture
101(2)	Recognize, encourage and protect agriculture	as an industry and as a
101(2)	as an important industry in <i>Halton</i> and as the	long-term activity and land
	primary long-term activity and land use	use in the Agricultural
	throughout the Agricultural System, and to	System.
	this end:	The ROP also provides
		direction on how it intends
	a) Support and develop plans and	to achieve protection of
	programs that promote and sustain	agriculture in the
	agriculture.	Agricultural System.
	b) Monitor, investigate and periodically	 Action #1: The Town OP
	report on its conditions, problems,	will have to include policies
	trends and means to maintain its	in the Official Plan that
	competitiveness.	reinforces the ROPs policy
	c) Adopt a set of Livestock Facility	to recognize, encourage,
	Guidelines to support and provide	and protect agriculture.
	flexibility to livestock operations and	Action #2: The Town is
	to promote best management	required to apply MDS
	practices in improving their	formulae in their Zoning
	compatibility with non-farm uses.	By-law.
	These guidelines shall be developed in accordance with Provincial Plans	
	and policies, including but not limited	
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	to Minimum Distance Separation	





Section	ROP Policy	Potential Implications for
000000	NOT 1 only	Town OP
100. 101(3)	formulae and the Right to Farm legislation. d) Require Local Municipalities to apply provincially developed Minimum Distance Separation formulae in their Zoning By-laws. e) Require the proponent of any nonfarm land use that is permitted by specific policies of this Plan but has a potential impact on adjacent agricultural operations to carry out an Agricultural Impact Assessment (AIA), based on guidelines adopted by Regional Council. Approved 2013-10-21 f) Support programs to reduce trespassing on agricultural operations and discourage the location of public trails near agricultural operations. g) Preserve the agricultural land base by protecting Prime Agricultural Areas as identified on Map 1E. It is the policy of the Region to: Recognize, encourage and support secondary industries essential to Halton's agricultural industry and as a major contributor to its economic base and to this end: a) Promote the location of major secondary agricultural processing, manufacturing, wholesaling and retailing operations within the Urban Area. b) Promote life science industries in Halton that complement and support agriculture, where appropriate.	As above, the ROP recognizes the importance of agriculture as an industry and as a long-term activity and land use in the Agricultural System. Action #1: The Town OP will have to include policies in the Official Plan that reinforces the ROPs policy to recognize, encourage, and protect agriculture. Action #2: The Town will have to include policies that provide opportunities
	 c) Promote the location of farm support operations within the Urban Area and within Hamlets. d) Ensure that Local Official Plans provide opportunities and directions for the development of these industries. 	and directions for development of industries in accordance with the ROP policy 101(3).





Section	POP Policy	Potential Implications for
Section	KOP Policy	<u>-</u>
Section 101. 101(4)	ROP Policy It is the policy of the Region to: Recognize, encourage, protect and support Halton's farmers and agricultural operations and to this end: a) Consult with and support Halton's farm organizations. b) Maintain a broad-based Agricultural	Note that Implications for Town OP As above, the ROP recognizes the importance of agriculture as an industry and as a long-term activity and land use in the Agricultural System. Action #1: The Town OP will have to include policies
	Advisory Committee to advise Counci on agriculture-related matters and review and comment on AIAs provided under this Plan. c) Provide sewage sludge suitable for fertilizer, subject to Regional and Provincial environmental protection guidelines. d) Ensure, in cooperation with the Local Municipalities, enforcement of Wood.	reinforces the ROPs policy to recognize, encourage, protect and support Halton's farmers and agricultural operations. • Action #2: The Town OP will have to include policies for coordination with the
	Municipalities, enforcement of Weed Control By-laws. e) [Section number not in use.] f) Promote diverse and innovative farming that caters to local and regional specialty markets. g) Introduce programs that will encourage visitors to experience and understand agricultural operations in Halton.	Region on enforcement of Weed Control By-laws. The ROP specifically encourages local municipalities to support farmers and agricultural operations as set out in ROP policy 101(4) j). Action #3: The Town OP
	h) Support a farm-fresh produce network that promotes direct sales of farm produce and related products to residents, local businesses and visitors.	should include policies that support farmers and farm operations as set out in ROP policy 101(4) j).
	i) Support provincial and federal programs to attract farmers to Halton. j) Encourage the Local Municipalities to i. permit, without creating a new lot, one second dwelling within the existing farm building cluste of an active farm for accommodating full-time farm help. Such permission shall be restricted to only portable or mobile dwellings for farm help within the Niagara Escarpment	





Section	ROP Policy	Potential Implications for
		Town OP
	Plan Area.	
	ii. adopt Zoning By-laws that will	
	allow home occupations,	
	cottage industries, home	
	industries on commercial farms,	
	on-farm businesses and	
	agriculture-related tourism in	
	accordance with <i>policies</i> of this	
	Plan.	
	iii. permit or provide permanent or	
	temporary facilities for farmers'	
	markets in the Urban Area or	
	Hamlets.	
	. ,	
	conduct by-law enforcement in	
	a manner that is sensitive to	
	and does not present barriers to	
	normal farm practices.	
	j.1) Encourage Conservation Authorities	
	to recognize normal farm practices	
	including the importance of keeping	
	agricultural drainage systems in	
	good repair;	
	k) Encourage the Provincial government to:	
	i. lease to farmers Provincially	
	owned lands on a long-term	
	basis for <i>agricultural use</i> .	
	ii. maintain a property tax system	
	that encourages farming and	
	_	
	reflects the true farm, i.e.	
	productive, value of lands.	
	I) Encourage the Federal Government	
	to pursue a national agricultural <i>policy</i>	
	that provides incentives to farmers	
	and agricultural operations and	
	supports the agricultural industry in	
100	the global markets.	The DOD identifies the
100.	It is the <i>policy</i> of the <i>Region</i> to:	The ROP identifies the need to develop and
101/5	404/E) Dayalan and implement progress and	need to develop and
101(5)	101(5) Develop and implement programs and	implement programs and
	plans to support and sustain agriculture in	plans to support
	Halton, which may include, among others, the	agriculture.
	following:	The Town OP could





Section	ROP Policy	Potential Implications for Town OP
	d) an agricultural facilitator acting as a	acknowledge these
	direct and on-going liaison between	programs in their OP.
	the agricultural community and	 Action: No direct action
	Regional Council,	required.
	d) development of an economic	
	development and investment strategy	
	for <i>agriculture</i> in <i>Halton</i> ,	
	d) marketing and promotion of local	
	agricultural products to Halton	
	communities,	
	d) farm succession planning including	
	attracting new, young and immigrant	
	farmers to <i>Halton</i> ,	
	d) financial support to promote	
	environmental stewardship including	
	the preparation of Environmental	
	Farm Plans and Environmental Impact	
	Assessments for agricultural	
	buildings, and preservation and	
	enhancement of natural areas and	
	functions,	
	d) fiscal tools including innovative tax	
	policies, reduced development	
	charges, and venture capitals for	
	innovative agriculture,	
	d) development and implementation of	
	education programs to promote public	
	awareness and support for the	
	agricultural industry,	
	d) programs for securing agricultural	
	lands from non-farming landowners	
	for long term agricultural uses by	
	farmers, and	
	d) use of Community Improvement Plans	
	under the Planning Act to promote	
	and support agriculture.	

B2. CONSTRAINTS TO DEVELOPMENT IN THE AGRICULTURAL AREA

In addition to the above, Section 139.3 of the ROP establishes policies that address constraints to development. Section 139.3(1) identifies the Prime Agricultural Area as a designation where there are additional conditions or constraints for development. The applicable policies for the Prime Agricultural Area are reviewed in the table below. It is





noted that directions in the ROP policy have been highlighted in yellow and specific actions for the Town have been identified in red text.

Table B: Prime Agricultural Area policies in the ROP.

Section	ROP Policy	Potential Implications for Town OP
139.9	The purpose of the <i>Prime Agricultural Areas</i> , as shown on Map 1E, is to assist in interpreting <i>policies</i> of this Plan and to assist the City of Burlington and the Towns of Milton and Halton Hills in developing detailed implementation <i>policies</i> for their respective Official Plans.	The ROP states that the purpose of the Prime Agricultural Areas (Map 1E) is to assist in interpreting ROP policies and for developing detailed implementation policies at the local level.
139.9.1	The Prime Agricultural Areas shown on Map 1E include lands in the Agricultural Area and Regional Natural Heritage System designations. Together these lands support and advance the goal to maintain a permanently secure, economically viable agricultural industry and to preserve the open space character and landscape of Halton's non-urbanized area.	 The ROP maps Prime Agricultural Areas on Map 1E and describes the goals of this designation. The ROP directs the lower-tier municipalities to designate Prime Agricultural Areas as on Map 1E and provide for supporting policies to implement the goals. The ROP prohibits the redesignation of Prime
139.9.2	It is the <i>policy</i> of the Region to:	redesignation of Prime Agricultural Areas within the
139.9.2(1)	Require Local Municipalities to designate Prime Agricultural Areas in accordance with Map 1E, within their Official Plans and include detailed supporting policies which implement the related goals, objectives and policies of this Plan.	 Greenbelt Plan Area, except where the Greenbelt Plan allows it to be redesignated. The ROP permits the removal of land from the Prime Agricultural Area outside of the Greenbelt Area subject to demonstrating, through studies,
139.9.2(2)	Within the Greenbelt Plan Area, prohibit the redesignation of land within <i>Prime Agricultural Areas</i> to permit nonagricultural uses, except where permitted by the Greenbelt Plan.	 that certain criteria are met. Action #1: The Town OP will have to include the same goals and supportive policies. Action #2: The Town OP will
139.9.2(3)	Outside the Greenbelt Plan Area, permit the removal of land from <i>Prime</i> Agricultural Areas only where the following have been demonstrated through appropriate studies to the	 have to designate and map Prime Agricultural Areas as the ROP does. Action #3: The Town OP will have to prohibit redesignation of Prime Agricultural Areas in



Section	ROP Policy	Potential Implications for Town OP
	satisfaction of the Region: a) necessity for such uses within the planning horizon for additional land to be designated to accommodate the proposed uses; b) amount of land area needed for such uses; c) reasons for the choice of location; d) justification that there are no reasonable alternate locations of lower capability agricultural lands; e) no negative impact to adjacent agricultural operations and the natural environment; f) there are no reasonable alternatives that avoid Prime Agricultural Areas as shown on Map 1E, and g) the land does not comprise a specialty crop area. Extraction of mineral aggregate resources is permitted in Prime Agricultural Areas in accordance with Section 110(6.1).	the Greenbelt Plan unless the Greenbelt Plan policies permit redesignation. • Action #4: The Town OP will have to permit the removal of lands from the Prime Agricultural Areas outside of the Greenbelt Plan Area, subject to the list of criteria and studies that are required to satisfy the Region.

B3. PERMITTED USES IN THE AGRICULTURAL AREA

Section 100 of the ROP establishes the permitted uses in the Agricultural Area. The Town OP will have to permit the same uses in the agricultural area as outlined in the ROP. A complete list of these permitted uses are identified in the table below.

Table C: Agricultural area permitted uses in the ROP and potential implications for the Town OP.

Permitted Uses Identified in the ROP	Potential Implications for Town OP
All types, sizes and intensities of	Town OP does not explicitly list this as a
agricultural operations,	permitted use.
	Action: Town OP will have to be modified to include 'all types, sizes and intensities of agricultural operations'.
normal farm practices,	Town OP does not explicitly list ROP use





	as a permitted use.
	Action: Town OP will have to be modified
	to include 'normal farm practices'.
existing uses,	Town OP permits 'existing public uses'.
existing uses,	Town Or permits existing public uses.
	Action: Town OP will have to be modified
	by removing above existing use and
	replacing with 'existing uses'.
single detached dwelling on existing lots,	Permitted in current Town OP.
dwelling(s) accessory to an agricultural	Permitted in current Town OP.
operation, which must be mobile or	
portable if located within the Niagara	
Escarpment Plan Area,	
non-intensive recreation uses such as	Town OP permits 'passive non-motorized
nature viewing and pedestrian trail	recreational uses, such as nature viewing
activities, only if the lands are publicly	and pedestrian trail activities, only on
owned or are part of the Bruce Trail,	publicly owned lands or on the Bruce Trail'.
	Action: Town OP will have to be modified
	by removing above existing use and
	replacing with 'non-intensive recreation
	uses such as nature viewing and
	pedestrian trail activities, only if the lands
	are publicly owned or are part of the Bruce
	Trail'.
forest, fisheries and wildlife management,	Permitted in current Town OP.
archaeological activities,	Permitted in current Town OP.
transportation and <i>utility</i> facilities,	Permitted in current Town OP.
accessory buildings or structures,	Permitted in current Town OP.
incidental uses,	Not identified as permitted use in current Town OP.
	TOWITOP.
	Action: Town OP will have to be modified
	to include 'incidental uses' as a permitted
	use.
uses permitted in an approved Niagara	Not identified as permitted use in current
Escarpment Park and Open Space	Town OP.
Master/Management Plan, if the subject	
land is located within the Niagara	Action: Town OP will have to be modified
Escarpment Plan Area,	to include 'uses permitted in an approved
	Niagara Escarpment Park and Open
	Space Master/Management Plan, if the
	subject land is located within the Niagara
	Escarpment Plan Area' as a permitted use.
home occupations and cottage industries	Permitted in current Town OP, but the





with a gross floor area not exceeding 100 sq m or 25 per cent of the residential living area, whichever is lesser,	permitted use does not indicate "whichever is lesser" with respect to the gross floor area.
	Action: The Town OP will have to be modified to update this permitted use to include 'home occupations and cottage industries with a gross floor area not exceeding 100 sq m or 25 per cent of the residential living area, whichever is lesser' as a permitted use.
bed and breakfast establishments with three or fewer guest bedrooms,	Permitted in current Town OP.
veterinary clinics, only if located on a commercial farm secondary to the farming operation, and serving primarily the	Not identified as permitted use in current Town OP.
agricultural community,	Action: Town OP will have to be modified to include 'veterinary clinics, only if located on a commercial farm secondary to the farming operation, and serving primarily the agricultural community' as a permitted use.
animal kennels, only if located on a commercial farm, secondary to the farming operation, and in conjunction with a single detached dwelling,	Not identified as permitted use in current Town OP. Action: Town OP will have to be modified to include 'animal kennels, only if located on a commercial farm, secondary to the farming operation, and in conjunction with a single detached dwelling' as a permitted use.
watershed management and flood and erosion control projects carried out or supervised by a public agency,	Permitted in current Town OP.
sanitary landfill operation and accessory uses, only on the Halton Waste Management Site, and	Not identified as permitted use in current Town OP, however the Halton Waste Management Site is located in Milton and therefore does not need to be permitted as a use in the Town OP Action: No change required.
the following uses only if located on a commercial farm secondary to a farming operation: a) home industries with a gross floor area not exceeding 200 sq m,	Permitted in current Town OP, but the uses are described in a few sections that also include general policies for home industries, commercial uses on farm properties and farm related tourism





- retail uses with a gross floor area not exceeding 500 sq m and the majority of the commodities for sale, measured by monetary value, produced or manufactured on the farm,
- agriculture-related tourism uses with a gross floor area not exceeding 500 sq m, and
- d) small-scale businesses that provide supplementary income to the *farming* operation provided that:
 - such uses are permitted by specific Local Official Plan policies and Local Zoning By-laws;
 - ii. their scale is minor and does not change the appearance of the *farming* operation;
 - iii. their impact such as noise, odour and traffic on surrounding land uses is minimal and will not hinder surrounding agricultural uses; and
 - iv. they meet all Regional criteria as stated in the On-Farm Business Guidelines adopted by Council;

subject to site plan approval by the Local Municipality, *horticultural trade uses* provided that:

- i. the use meets all the criteria under Sections 100(21)d);
- ii. the farm property accommodating the use is at least 4 hectares in size:
- iii. at least 70 per cent of the arable area of the farm property accommodating the use is dedicated to the growing of horticultural plants;
- iv. the use is located within the existing farm building cluster, with only minor rounding out of the cluster permitted provided that there are no *tree* removals;
- v. the gross floor area for the use does not exceed 500 sq m;
- vi. the outdoor storage area for the use

establishments.

The key change in the permitted uses on a commercial farm secondary to a farming operation is with respect to agriculture-related tourism uses. The ROP establishes a gross floor area not exceeding 500 square metres, but the current Town OP only provides for a maximum gross floor area of 250 square metres.

Actions #1: The Town OP will have to be updated to provide for an increase in the maximum gross floor area of farm-related tourism from 250 square metres to 500 square metres, when located on a commercial farm secondary to a farming operation. The Town OP could also implement a more restrictive gross floor area.

Action #2: The Town OP could consider updating its permitted uses to read the same as the ROP instead of discussing in several sections.

Identified in definition for 'Agricultural Use or Agricultural Operation', but the Town OP does not include site plan approval or criteria.

Action: The Town OP will have to be updated to require site plan approval for horticultural trade uses and identify the same criteria as the ROP.





	does not exceed 1,000 sq m;	
vii.	the use including buildings, outdoor	
	storage, parking areas, and	
	loading/unloading zones is	
	adequately screened from	
	neighbouring properties and public	
	highways; and	
viii.	the use can be accommodated by	
	the private water supply and waste	
	water treatment systems located on	
	the property.	
		1

On the basis of the above, there are some key terms that have a different definition in the ROP from the current Town OP. Where updates to the current Town OP definitions may be required, these have been in **Appendix A** and below.

B4. UPDATING AGRICULTURE DEFINITIONS

The table below identifies all definitions that are related to permitted uses as well as all other policy in the Agriculture section of the ROP policy. The table lists the term and definition that are currently provided in the ROP, with implications on the Town OP in the far right column. The red text signifies the change that is required to the current Town OP definitions section.

It is noted that in some cases the ROP definition is different from the 2014 PPS. Such differences are identified by the underlined text in the 'Potential Implications on the Town OP' column. In these cases the 2014 PPS definition is also provided directly below the applicable ROP definition. Where there is a different definition in the 2014 PPS In this regard, the implication on the current Town OP would be to update its definitions to be consistent with the 2014 PPS definition.

It is also noted that some terms may also be used in the other sections of this review that address the Natural Heritage System and Mineral Resources. In this case, the term is not repeated below but may be included in **Appendix A** (Natural Heritage System).

Table D: Key terms and definitions for Agriculture policies from the ROP and potential implications for the Town OP.

ROP Key Term	ROP Definition	Potential Implications
		for
		Town OP
Accessory	means a detached building or structure that is	Same definition in
Buildings or	not used for human habitation, the use of	current Town OP.
Structures	which is naturally and normally incidental to,	
	subordinate to, or exclusively devoted to a	Action: No change
	principal use or building and located on the	required.





ROP Key Term	ROP Definition	Potential Implications for
		Town OP
	same lot.	
Commercial	means a farm which is deemed to be a viable	Same definition in
Farm	farm operation and which normally produces	current Town OP.
	sufficient income to support a farm family.	
		Action: No change required.
Environmental	means a voluntary, confidential, agricultural	No definition in the
Farm Plan	producer driven planning exercise that uses	current Town OP.
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
I I and an II		
Trade Uses		current Town OP.
		Actions Tours OD will
	· · ·	
	. •	
	орегацоп.	Trade Oses.
Incidental Uses	means a use (e.g., swimming pool) normally	No definition in the
	accessory to but not an essential part of an existing use.	current Town OP.
		Action: Town OP will
		have to include a new
		definition for Incidental
		Uses.
Industries	1	current Town OP.
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	1 -	
Prime		
_	,	
Lanus	, , ,	
	•	
		Action: No change
		required.
	means a voluntary, confidential, agricultural producer driven planning exercise that uses specifically designed resource material and technical assistance to develop a farm plan that identifies on farm environmental risks and establishes a priority sequence of action items to reduce those risks. means a non-farm business associated with the sale, supply, delivery, storage, distribution, installation, and/or maintenance of horticultural plants and products used in landscaping, but does not include uses associated with the principal agricultural operation. means a use (e.g., swimming pool) normally accessory to but not an essential part of an	required. No definition in the current Town OP. Action: Town OP could include a new definition for Environmental Farm Plan. No definition in the current Town OP. Action: Town OP will have to include a new definition for Horticultural Trade Uses. No definition in the current Town OP. Action: Town OP will have to include a new definition for Incidental Uses. No definition in the current Town OP. Action: Town OP will have to include a new definition for Incidental Uses. No definition in the current Town OP. Action: Town OP will have to include a new definition for Life Science Industries. Different definition in the current Town OP BUT the current Town OP definition is the same as the 2014 PPS. Action: No change





ROP Key Term	ROP Definition	Potential Implications
		for
		Town OP
Specialty Crop Area	means an area designated using evaluation procedures established by the Province, as amended from time to time, where specialty crops such as tender fruits (peaches, cherries, plums), grapes, other fruit crops, vegetable crops, greenhouse crops, and crops from agriculturally developed organic soil lands are predominantly grown, usually resulting from: • soils that have suitability to produce specialty crops, or lands that are subject to special climatic conditions, or a combination of both; and/or • a combination of farmers skilled in the production of specialty crops, and of capital investment in related facilities and	Town OP No definition in the current Town OP. ROP definition is also different from the 2014 PPS. Action: Town OP will have to include a new definition for Specialty Crop Area in accordance with the updated definition in the 2014 PPS.
	services to produce, store, or process specialty crops.	
Specialty Crop Area (2014 PPS definition)	means areas designated using guidelines developed by the Province, as amended from time to time. In these areas, specialty crops are predominantly grown such as tender fruits (peaches, cherries, plums), grapes, other fruit crops, vegetable crops, greenhouse crops, and crops from agriculturally developed organic soil, usually resulting from: a) soils that have suitability to produce specialty crops, or lands that are subject to special climatic conditions, or a combination of both; b) farmers skilled in the production of specialty crops; and c) a long-term investment of capital in areas such as crops, drainage, infrastructure and related facilities and services to produce, store, or process specialty crops.	
Treescapes	means a grouping of <i>trees</i> usually found along roads and stream courses, and between fields.	No definition in the current Town OP.
		Action: Town OP will have to include a new definition for Treescapes.





ROP Key Term	ROP Definition	Potential Implications for Town OP
On-Farm Diversified Use (2014 PPS definition)	Means uses that are secondary to the principal agricultural use of the property, and are limited in area. <i>On-farm diversified uses</i> include, but are not limited to, home occupations, home industries, <i>agri-tourism</i>	No definition in the current Town OP or in the ROP. On-farm diversified uses are a new term introduced by
	uses, and uses that produce value-added agricultural products.	the 2014 PPS. Action: Town OP Will have to include a new definition for On-Farm Diversified Uses in accordance with the updated definition in the 2014 PPS.