

A G E N D A
COMMITTEE MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF WELLESLEY
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 27, 2011 – 6:45 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CROSSHILL

PAGES

1-2

P. & D. 112/11 – Ministry of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs re: Annual Premier’s Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence – For information

Office of the Deputy Minister

77 Grenville Street, 11th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1B3
Tel: 416 326-3101
Fax: 416 326-3106

Bureau du sous-ministre

77, rue Grenville, 11^e étage
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1B3
Tél.: 416 326-3101
Télééc.: 416 326-3106

September 14, 2011

Please share the enclosed resources with staff members who are responsible for agri-food innovation and economic development in your municipality.

Dear Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk/Treasurer:

In November 2010, to recognize and foster the spirit of innovation that thrives in Ontario's agricultural sector, the Ontario government made the Premier's Award for Agri-Food Innovation Excellence a permanent program.

This annual program awards outstanding agriculture and agri-food innovators. It also encourages both the development and recognition of innovations that add value to existing products, support job creation, and drive economic growth on our farms, within our food processing businesses, and in our rural communities.

This program will recognize 45 innovations each year from across the province. Award recipients will receive a plaque, a gate sign, various promotional materials and \$5,000. In addition, there will be a Premier's Award valued at \$75,000, a Minister's Award valued at \$50,000, and three Leaders in Innovation awards valued at \$25,000 each.

Primary producers, processors and agri-food organizations are invited to submit applications. The innovation must have already been developed, or in the planning stages of development with a business plan to support implementation, and be within the agriculture and agri-food sector. The innovation must also have the potential for broader use and demonstrate a positive effect on the agricultural industry.

Details regarding eligibility, assessment criteria, the application and selection process can be found in the enclosed 2011 Program Guidebook and Application Form or online at www.ontario.ca/agrifoodinnovation.

The enclosed materials have been developed to make people aware of the opportunities provided by this award. I ask that you encourage outstanding agriculture and agri-food innovators to submit an application by the deadline of **5 p.m. on November 14, 2011.**

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT
Township
File No: 112/11

.../2

Should you require additional resources, please contact the Agricultural Information Contact Centre at 1-877-424-1300 or ag.info.omafra@ontario.ca.

Thank you for your assistance, and I look forward to learning about agri-food innovations in your community.

Sincerely,



John Burke
Deputy Minister

Enclosure

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT	
Township	
File No:	<u>112/11</u>

(2)