

## **North Grenville Official Plan Review – 2026**

### **Agriculture and Rural Affairs Advisory Committee**

Focus: Protecting agricultural land base, farm viability, and rural character while managing rural development.

#### **Official Plan Sections and Policies:**

- Section 2.5.8 (Identification of Growth Areas): Review criteria (h) regarding the expansion of settlement areas onto prime agricultural lands. This is the policy mechanism for the boundary expansions shown on the new schedules.
- Section 3.0 (Agricultural Designation): Review permitted uses, specifically "On-Farm Diversified Uses," to ensure they allow economic viability without compromising the land base.
- Section 12.5.1 (General Consent Policies): This section dictates the creation of new lots. The committee must review this to ensure that non-farm residential severances do not fragment the agricultural land base or create conflict points for farm machinery on rural roads.
- Section 12.18 (Separation Distance): Review Minimum Distance Separation (MDS) policies to ensure the new "Growth Areas" do not sterilize adjacent livestock operations.
- Section 13.2.7 (Functional Road Classification) & 13.2.7.6 (Design Criteria): Rural road standards impact the movement of large farm equipment. The committee should ensure that road design policies (shoulder widths, etc.) account for agricultural machinery, not just commuter traffic.
- Section 10.6.6 (Separation Distances Between Industrial Facilities and Sensitive Land Uses): While focused on industry, this mirrors the logic of MDS. The committee should ensure that agricultural uses are protected from encroachment by sensitive uses.

#### **Official Plan Schedules:**

- Schedule A1: Review environmental overlays (wetlands, woodlands) that impact farm operations.
- Schedule A - Land Use: Verify the boundary lines between Agricultural and Rural designations.