June 13, 2006

RE: FARMERS' MARKETS

At its regular meeting of June 5, 2006, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Edwardsburgh/Cardinal passed the following resolution:

Resolution Number 2006-212
Moved by: M. Thomson, seconded by: C. Burrell
WHEREAS “Farmers’ Market Ontario” (FMO) has released a report entitled Recommendations to Ensure Food Safety at Ontario’s Farmers Markets which was used by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) in developing the draft regulations relating to farmers’ markets which legislation has been placed “on hold” over the summer of 2006 to allow the FMO to test the rules set out in the draft legislation;
WHEREAS the MOHLTC has not released the draft legislation to the general public and the local Health Unit has also refused to release the document;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the Township of Edwardsburgh/Cardinal requests the Minister of Health and Long Term Care to place a moratorium on legislative changes that would alter the current social and cultural make-up of Ontario’s farmers markets, church suppers, bazaars, teas, pot-luck suppers, and other similar community social and fundraising events.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the MOHLTC and to AMO for distribution to AMO members.

Township Council would appreciate your municipality’s support in this matter. Please provide a copy of your correspondence to the Honourable George Smitherman, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, 80 Grosvenor Street, 10th Floor, Hepburn Block, Toronto, Ontario, M7A 2C4.

Yours truly,

Debra McKinstry
Clerk/Planning Administrator