June 16, 2010

TO: ALL MUNICIPALITIES IN ONTARIO WITH A POPULATION OVER 50,000

Dear Sirs:

RE: MOTION (4) – RECONSIDER POSITION AND NOT CLOSE PRISON FARMS IN KINGSTON – FULL PUBLIC REVIEW

I would confirm that at the regular meeting of Kingston City Council held on June 15, 2010, the following Motion (4), was approved:

(4) Moved by Councillor Matheson
Seconded by Councillor Glover
WHEREAS the prison farms at Frontenac and Pittsburgh Institutions provide milk, eggs, and meat for 14 penitentiaries in Ontario and Quebec saving Canadian taxpayers from having to pay for this food for prison inmates; and,
WHEREAS the prison farms provide inmates with real work to do while they serve their time, contribute to their rehabilitation, and allow them to "pay their way through agriculture"; and,
WHEREAS on-going community efforts to save the prison farms have gathered increasing support both in Kingston and across the country; and,
WHEREAS Kingston City Council wishes to make it absolutely clear to the federal government that we believe that the prison farms are a positive and productive element of our community and should not be closed;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that City Council ask the federal government to reconsider its position and not close the prison farms in Kingston, and that a moratorium on the prison farm closures be put into place until a full public review of this decision takes place;

- and further -

THAT a copy of this motion be sent to the Prime Minister, the Attorney General of Canada, and the Minister of Public Safety, as well as the leaders of the opposition parties, and their appropriate critics for this portfolio, and all municipalities over 50,000, FCM, AMO, and Correctional Services Canada, asking for their support.

CARRIED

Yours truly,

Carolyn Downs
City Clerk

/k
C: Councillor R. Matheson

File No.