

**Ministry of Agriculture,  
Food and Rural Affairs**

Office of the Minister

77 Grenville Street, 11th Floor  
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1B3  
Tel: 416-326-3074  
www.ontario.ca/OMAFRA

**Ministère de l'Agriculture, de  
l'Alimentation et des Affaires rurales**

Bureau du ministre

77, rue Grenville, 11<sup>e</sup> étage  
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1B3  
Tél. : 416 326-3074  
www.ontario.ca/MAAARO



June 23, 2020

Nando Iannicca  
Regional Chair and Chief Executive Officer  
Region of Peel  
nando.iannicca@peelregion.ca

**RECEIVED**  
June 24, 2020  
REGION OF PEEL  
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK

Dear Mr. Iannicca:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposed Bill 156—Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act, 2020, that I tabled at Queen's Park on December 2, 2019, and which received Royal assent on June 18, 2020. I appreciate the strong support that I have received from municipalities across Ontario, like yours, on such an important piece of legislation.

I know that our farmers care deeply about the welfare of their animals and demonstrate the highest commitment to safeguarding animal health and welfare.

I introduced Bill 156 to address the concerns about the health, safety and security of farmers, their families, their employees, their animals and our food supply. The proposed bill recognizes the unique risks that illegal trespassing on farms and in agri-food processing facilities, as well as interference in livestock transport, can cause. Bill 156 seeks to reduce those risks by providing a strong deterrence against such activities.

We believe farmers should feel safe in their own home. We don't believe that people should gain entry to private property under duress or using false pretences.

Through the introduction of this bill, we continue to demonstrate our commitment to the health and safety of our agri-food sector, farm animal welfare and food safety for all Ontarians. I was pleased that we were able to make amendments to this legislation to make it stronger and work better for our farmers and rural communities.

.../2



Good things grow in Ontario  
À bonne terre, bons produits

Ministry Headquarters: 1 Stone Road West, Guelph, Ontario N1G 4Y2  
Bureau principal du ministère: 1 Stone Road West, Guelph (Ontario) N1G 4Y2

12.1- 1

REFERRAL TO \_\_\_\_\_  
RECOMMENDED \_\_\_\_\_  
DIRECTION REQUIRED \_\_\_\_\_  
RECEIPT RECOMMENDED

Again, thank you for your support. I look forward to continuing to work with communities across the province to support our farmers and the agri-food sector.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ernie Hardeman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "E" and a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Ernie Hardeman  
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

**Nando Iannicca**  
Regional Chair & CEO

10 Peel Centre Dr.  
Suite A, 5th Floor  
Brampton, ON L6T 4B9  
905-791-7800 ext. 4310

The Honourable Ernie Hardeman  
Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs  
Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs  
[ernie.hardeman@pc.ola.org](mailto:ernie.hardeman@pc.ola.org)

Thursday, March 5, 2020

**Subject: Bill 156, Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act, 2020**

Dear Minister Hardeman:

On behalf of Region of Peel Council, I am writing to convey Council's support of Bill 156, Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act, 2020, which you introduced in the Ontario Legislature in December 2019 and is currently at second reading.

The Region of Peel supports Bill 156 as it has recently come to the attention of Regional Council about the growing threats, intimidation and health and safety risks facing Ontario farms. We have learned how undesirable individuals and activist groups have been trespassing onto farms, sometimes under false pretenses, seizing private property, and threatening the health and safety of employees, livestock and crops. The increasingly unsafe actions of these once peacefully protesting individuals and groups are putting stress on Ontario farmers, their families and employees and leaving the food system at risk through the breach of biosecurity protocols.

In light of this increasingly serious situation for our agricultural community, the introduction of Bill 156 is welcomed. It is a necessary piece of legislation that, if passed, will give farmers the legal means to protect their farms, families, and employees from intimidation and keep the province's food supply safe, while also ensuring the right to lawful protest.

Thank you for listening to the needs of our farming community and bringing this Bill forward. I encourage its prompt passage following proper consideration of the Ontario Legislature.

Kindest personal regards,



**Nando Iannicca**  
Regional Chair and Chief Executive Officer  
Regional Municipality of Peel

cc. Tom Dolson, President, Peel Federation of Agriculture.