A. Max Waters



4th March 2024

Mayor Lisa Post

Members of the Town Council The Corporation of the Town of Orangeville Town Hall - 87 Broadway Orangeville, Ontario

Subject: Letter of Support for the Inclusion of the Hen Pilot Program in the Animal Control By-law

Dear Mayor Post and Esteemed Members of the Town Council,

I hope this letter finds you well. Unfortunately, due to prior commitments, I am unable to attend tonight's Council meeting in person. However, I wanted to express my strong support for the inclusion of the Hen Pilot Program in the Animal Control By-law, which is up for consideration on the agenda.

As a participant in the pilot program, my family and I have experienced numerous benefits that I believe have not only enriched our lives but have also positively contributed to our community. The program has allowed my children to actively engage in collecting eggs, providing them with invaluable lessons in husbandry and animal care. Witnessing the entire food cycle firsthand has proven to be an educational and enriching experience for them.

Moreover, the program has fostered a sense of community among my neighbors. Asking them to care for our chickens in our absence has not only strengthened our relationships but has also created a cooperative and supportive environment. The composting of chicken waste has significantly enhanced our gardens, promoting sustainability and environmental responsibility.

In light of the rising cost of groceries and eggs, the program has provided our family with a practical and cost-effective solution. Even with just one hen, along with the cost of a permit, we estimate saving approximately \$100 annually on fresh free-range eggs. In an era where every penny counts, this financial relief has been greatly appreciated.

I would like to express my gratitude to the previous council and specifically to Grant Peters for their foresight and support in implementing the pilot project.

The positive impact it has had on our lives is immeasurable. I believe that by passing this program into the Animal Control By-law, the current council has the opportunity to positively influence more families in our community.

In light of potential food insecurity challenges that may affect more families, I strongly encourage the council to pass the Hen Pilot Program into the Animal Control By-law. This action will not only ensure the program's continuity but also encourage more families to participate, fostering a sense of self-sufficiency and community resilience.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I appreciate your dedication to the well-being of our community and trust that you will make the decision that best serves the interests of all residents.

Sincerely,

A. Max Waters