

Friday, February 26, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA ADVISORY

Welland, ON – On Monday, February 29th, 2016, the City of Welland will host a roundtable discussion with Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Jeff Leal with Mayor Frank Campion and regional mayors along with members of their youth committees.

In June of this year, Ontario will host its second Rural Summit, focusing on the theme of retaining and attracting youth in rural communities. Rural, urban and newcomer youth will have the opportunity to engage with a variety of organizations, municipalities, and employers to discuss how Ontario can foster the next generation of vibrant and youth-friendly rural municipalities.

In the months leading up to the summit, Minister Leal will be meeting with local officials and youth leaders from rural communities across the province to gather ideas and feedback on this important subject that will help set the foundation for a successful 2016 Rural Summit. Minister Leal will discuss topics related to the following questions during the roundtable:

- What conditions help attract youth to a rural community?
- What barriers do youth face remaining in or relocating to rural Ontario communities?
- How can municipalities engage youth in civic leadership roles?
- Does your municipality have a youth strategy and/or job strategy?
- What Government of Ontario programs are helping your community retain and attract youth?

Mayor Campion and members of the Mayor's Advisory Youth Committee look forward to meeting with Minister Leal and local Mayors and youth from the Niagara Region.

There will be media availability at 3:45 p.m. on February 29th at the Welland Civic Square.

-30-

Contact:

Mayor Frank Campion
60 East Main Street, Welland, ON L3B 3X4
Tel: (905) 735-1700 ext. 2170
mayor@welland.ca
www.welland.ca