



**WELLINGTON FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE**

**Janet Harrop**

President

7764 Nichol SR 5 RR1 Fergus ON

N1M 2W3

519-820-9293

[ijharrop@hsfx.ca](mailto:ijharrop@hsfx.ca)

[www.wfofa.on.ca](http://www.wfofa.on.ca)

**Lisa Hern**

Secretary-Treasurer

RR 2 Kenilworth ON

N0G 2E0

519-848-3774

[wellington@ofa.on.ca](mailto:wellington@ofa.on.ca)

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food / Ministry of Rural Affairs  
Rural Economic Development Program  
Rural Community Development Branch  
1 Stone Road West, 4th Floor NW  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4Y2

December 21, 2015

Dear Selection Committee:

The Wellington Federation of Agriculture (WFA) is pleased to submit this letter of support for the Town of Erin Equine "HUB" Capacity Building Project under the Ministry's Rural Economic Development (RED) Program.

This project brings interest groups and stakeholders from across multiple regions together to discuss, investigate and develop innovative approaches to integrating the equine sector, area business and local interest groups behind a common vision.

The Wellington Federation of Agriculture (WFA) is the largest farm organization in the County of Wellington and works in concert with the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA). Both federations work to develop consensus in a diverse agriculture industry and lobby for policies that create a sustainable and profitable environment for farming in Ontario. In the province 164,000 jobs are supported through economic activity generated by the farming sector, resulting in the distribution of seven billion dollars in employee wages and salaries.

The Wellington Federation of Agriculture (WFA) commends the Town of Erin for its innovative foresight and financial commitment towards this project. We look forward to being an active participant on the Project Committee and to actively engaging our membership in the dialogue that follows. This project offers many possibilities and an equal number of opportunities for building a stronger and more sustainable economy for the equine business sector across the region. The development of a proposed equine marketing alliance and web based equine business directory that complements the Headwaters Horse Country directory, will add significantly to enabling access to businesses in the equine sector across the region.

The Wellington Federation of Agriculture (WFA) highly supports the Town of Erin's application for funding under the RED Program and we look forward to being an active contributor to the project upon its commencement.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janet Harrop". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J' and 'H'.

Janet Harrop  
President-WFA