



C.1.1

**Agenda Item: C.1.1**

Regular Council Meeting: May 12, 2020

Item: 1:30 p.m. Public Hearing - Bylaw 1477/20 - Intermunicipal  
Development Plan with the Town of Bon Accord

**CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED REGARDING BYLAW 1477/20  
AS OF MAY 6, 2020**

## Copperfield Farms Colony

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May 5, 2020

Sturgeon County  
C/O Chief Administrative Officer  
9613 – 100 St  
Morinville, AB T8R 1L9

Dear Sir or Madam

**Regarding:** Bylaw 1489/20 – Intermunicipal Development Plan, Town of Bon Accord & Sturgeon County

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I have recently been made aware of a proposed Intermunicipal Development Plan (IDP) between the Town of Bon Accord and Sturgeon County (the County) and have reviewed "Schedule A" to the Bylaw that received first reading on February 11, 2020 and wish to provide my comments.

By way of background our farm operates just outside of Bon Accord but within the Intermunicipal Development Area.

I do have significant concerns with the implications of this Bylaw on Confined Feeding Operations. My primary concern is around Item H(11) on Page 6 of the IDP which states:

*"No new or expanding Confined Feeding Operations within the Plan Area requiring registrations or approvals, or manure storage facilities requiring authorization under the Agricultural Operations Practices Act, shall be permitted within the Plan Area, as per the Sturgeon County Municipal Development Plan and the Sturgeon County Land Use Bylaw."*

This statement is of significant concern and poses grave risk to the future of my business and others within the County. We are an existing, long time CFO that exists within the boundaries of the IDP Area and if we are unable to expand our operation, this puts our long-term viability and the viability of other CFO's in the IDP Areas throughout the County at risk.

My comments to this proposed Bylaw are twofold:

1. For new CFO's, I believe the County and the Town of Bon Accord should consider carefully the concept of blanket restrictions on new CFO's within the IDP Area as the NRCB has final authority over the permitting of CFO's under AOPA, even in the presence of a Municipal Development Plan.
2. For existing CFO's, I believe it should be explicitly stated that existing CFO's within the IDP Area are permitted to expand their operations on land that they own within the IDP Area. It is important to note that expanding CFO's will also be subject to NRCB regulations as it relates to Minimum Distance Separation and manure storage requirements under AOPA.

This proposed bylaw will jeopardize the long-term viability of my farming operation and possibly others in the County if they are unable to expand their existing CFO's within their respective IDP Areas.

I look forward to the County and the Town of Bon Accord considering my comments and implementing changes to the proposed Bylaw to ensure that existing CFO's within the IDP Area are permitted to expand their operations on land that they own within the IDP Area.

Thank you for considering my comments on this matter, should you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours Truly,

Copperfield Farms Colony

Per: \_\_\_\_\_

Martin Hofer

cc.

Severed in line with Section 17 of the FOIP Act