1. **Opening of the Meeting**

   The Committee Chair, Mr. Stéphane Sarrazin, called the meeting to order at 12:15 pm.

2. **Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest**

   None

3. **Adoption of Agenda**

   Moved by Daniel Lafleur
   Seconded by Guy Desjardins

   BE IT RESOLVED that the Agenda be adopted as presented.

   Carried
4. Subjects

4.1 Modification to the Terms of Reference of the Agricultural Advisory Committee

Carole Lavigne explained the change to the Terms of Reference of the Agricultural Advisory Committee. Previously, this committee dealt exclusively with agricultural matters, reported to the Economic Development and Tourism Committee and its minutes when adopted, were forwarded to the Counties Council for information purpose. In 2016, following the changes to the Planning Act brought by Bill 73, the United Counties were mandated to establish an advisory committee on land use planning, which is now part of the Agricultural Advisory Committee as the Planning Component. The latest amendments to the Committee’s Terms of Reference brought by the Clerk’s Office, specify that if the Committee makes recommendations regarding the Counties Official Plan, these changes must also be forwarded to the Planning and Forestry Committee for information purpose, and this Committee will be responsible for advising Council of any recommendations concerning them.

4.2 Update - Labour Study

Mrs. Lavigne informed the Committee of the grant received from the Ontario Labour Market Partnerships (OLMP) program that will be used to produce a study on the labour shortage in the region. MDB Insight was selected and is preparing a report that will be submitted by December 31, 2019.

4.3 Update - Agri-tourism Tour - Forum

This agritourism project is made possible through a grant from the RED program to study the potential for creating an agritourism route in Prescott and Russell. Mrs. Lavigne added that this circuit would join the CANAMEX route, a project led by David Gillepsie, which consists of an agritourism route linking Quebec, Eastern Ontario, Vermont and the State of New York. The grant will be used for the study produced by the Ontario Culinary Tourism Alliance (OCTA), which has also implemented a similar route in Prince Edward County. A forum on this subject, held on October 7, at the Cabane des Gars, revealed the interest of local producers for this project.

4.4 Update - VAFO

Mrs. Lavigne explained the theme park project on which the VAFO (Village d'antan franco-ontarien) is currently working on. Mrs. Lavigne indicated that the UCPRs support the VAFO in this project. This initiative
aims to highlight Ontario's Francophone community through a theme park featuring rides and/or a 3D projection. Moment Factory has been awarded the tender as the consultant and is preparing a report to be presented by the end of December, with the mission of recruiting major tourism investors.

4.5 Update - Entrepreneurship Centre

Mrs. Lavigne gave the history of the Entrepreneurship Centre, for which the UCPRs are responsible for program delivery, but passed through the hands of the PRCDC (Prescott-Russell Community Development Corporation), then to the Eastern Ontario Training Board, followed by the Entrepreneurial Academy and finally back to the UCPRs, thereby eliminating the third party. She added that the services offered by the Centre are free of charge and that Ms. Liza Langevin has been hired as Project Officer. Mrs. Lavigne informed that the Centre's planning process involves, as a first step, changing the colours of the promotional material to better represent the Prescott and Russell area. Also, to work closely with the region's chambers of commerce and the PRBA (Prescott-Russell Business Alliance) to promote the training and programs offered by the Entrepreneurship Centre and to work with the entrepreneurial community to strengthen ties.

5. Next Meeting

The next Economic Development and Tourism Committee meeting will be held at the beginning of 2020, date to be confirmed.

6. Adjournment

Moved by Daniel Lafleur
Seconded by Guy Desjardins

BE IT RESOLVED that this Economic Development and Tourism Committee meeting be adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Carried
Stéphane Sarrazin, Committee Chair

Robert Kirby, Warden

Mélissa Cadieux, Clerk