

COMMUNITY-BASED STRATEGIES FOR RESOLVING AGRICULTURAL AND LAND USE CONFLICT

PROJECT DIRECTOR

Wayne Caldwell, PhD, RPP, MCIP

CONTRIBUTING RESEARCHERS

J. Ball, MSc, RPP, MCIP

A. Evans, BSc (ENVS)



PROJECT SUMMARY

Increasing livestock production and changing land use are creating more opportunities for conflict between farm operations and neighbours.

This research identifies successful community-based strategies to prevent and resolve conflict—strengthening relationships, protecting agriculture and the environment, and supporting healthy rural communities.



WHY THIS RESEARCH MATTERED



Environmental concerns and changing livestock practices increase risk of conflict.



Land use and rural growth create more neighbour-to-neighbour tension.



Effective local solutions can improve communication, understanding and results.



Finding the right balance is essential for agriculture, communities and the environment.



WHAT WE STUDIED



Ontario agricultural mediation committees: what works and why.



Experience with the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) and Normal Farm Practices Protection Board.



Informal conflict resolution approaches in rural Manitoba.



Lessons from Michigan: regulation, right-to-farm and the role of the state.



A BETTER WAY TO RESOLVE CONFLICT

From disagreement to workable solutions



Ontario committees studied achieved a reasonable degree of success despite having no statutory authority. Success depends on the willingness of parties to work toward resolution.



FROM RESEARCH TO PRACTICAL TOOLS

- Ten Steps to Creating a Local Advisory Committee

A step-by-step guide to establishing a local advisory committee.

- Local Advisory Committee Manual & Training Materials

Practical guidance and training resources designed to help committees succeed.



KEY LESSON

“ Local conflict resolution strengthens communication, preserves relationships, and helps agricultural communities find practical solutions. ”

Protecting the environment. Supporting agriculture. Serving the public interest.

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