

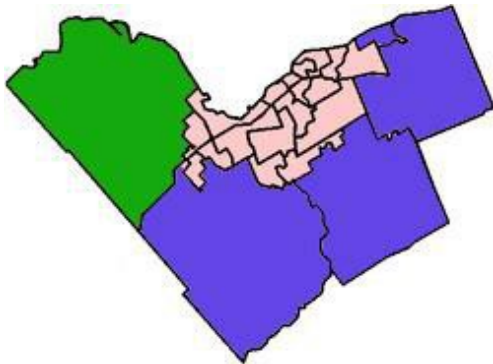


In November 2005, the first Rural Summit focused on the rural–urban relationship and strengthening public satisfaction in rural areas. Six major themes were reviewed: access, communication and consultation; governance; service issues; policy issues; agriculture; and business issues. Feedback and suggestions received from Rural

Summit participants resulted in many improvements and new initiatives for rural Ottawa, such as an enhanced role for the Agricultural and Rural Affairs Standing Committee to provide Council with advice on Ottawa’s rural economy and issues affecting rural residents.

The second Rural Summit - “Building on Success” - was held in April 2008. This Summit was an opportunity for rural residents and representatives of rural organizations from across Ottawa to reconvene to discuss ways of further improving networking and continue to build on the strengths of our rural communities.

In December 2023, a motion to hold a third Rural Summit was passed unanimously, and the conduct of a summit in 2024 was subsequently approved. In January, a Resident Working Group (RWG) was formed with two representatives from each of the rural wards, Ward 1 Orléans East-Cumberland, Ward 5 West Carleton-March, Ward 19 Orléans South-Navan, Ward 20 Osgoode, and Ward 21 Rideau-Jock.



Working with the rural councillors and city staff, the RWG will plan, organize and develop several opportunities for rural residents to identify the specific challenges and concerns that will become the focus of the Rural Summit: challenges that are of particular interest to rural residents, businesses, and community groups. These include current services offered in rural Ottawa, future plans and policies impacting rural areas, and opportunities to build better rural communities.

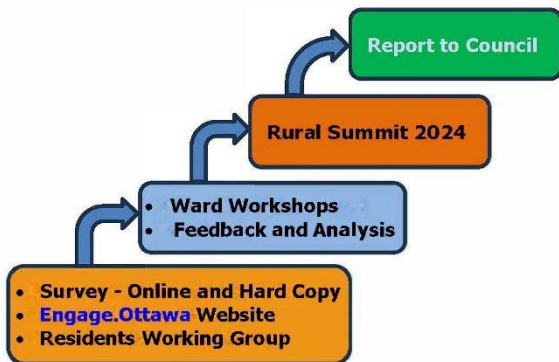
You will have many opportunities to provide input, including a survey (electronic and hard copy), ward workshops, and RWG consultations with community groups and residents. The Engage.Ottawa platform (<https://engage.ottawa.ca/rural-summit-2024>) will

be a central source for announcements, information, and opportunities for public input.



The **Survey**, formulated by the RWG and city staff, is designed to gain feedback from rural residents that will help us to prepare for the ward workshops.

**Workshops** will take place in each rural ward to gain as much feedback as possible. These workshops will be in-person, are open to all residents of the respective ward, and everyone is encouraged to attend.



In addition to the survey and the workshops, the RWG will consult with community groups and businesses to provide information about Rural Summit 2024 and further collect input.

Finally, residents are encouraged to attend the **Rural Summit** meeting in late Fall 2024 to review the challenges and discuss improvements.

<https://engage.ottawa.ca/rural-summit-2024> - the Engage.Ottawa platform is available. Look for

the survey in March, followed by ward workshops in April and May. Resident Working Group discussions will be ongoing from March to September.

Possible themes include Governance, Representation and Decision-Making; Access, Consultation and Communications; Agriculture; Roads, Drainage, Transportation and Infrastructure; Emergency and Protective Services; Social Services and Recreational Opportunities; Rural Economic Development; Planning and Permissions, Property Ownership, By-laws and Regulations.

All feedback will be gathered, analyzed, and used to guide discussion at the Rural Summit meeting in late Fall. Following the Rural Summit, a report summarizing the identified challenges and improvements will be tabled at the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee and Council.

Your Rural Summit 2024 team in West Carleton-March:

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Our website: [ruralsummit2024ward5.info](http://ruralsummit2024ward5.info)

See also City of Ottawa <https://engage.ottawa.ca/rural-summit-2024>

