



**TOWN OF MINTO**

**DATE:** June 6, 2017  
**REPORT TO:** Mayor and Council  
**FROM:** Cam Forbes, By-law Enforcement Officer  
**SUBJECT:** Exemption and Licensing of Backyard Hens

---

**STRATEGIC PLAN:**

10.12 Increase local food purchases, food sovereignty and empowerment by developing a series of skills training workshops, in partnership with businesses and local food advocates.

**BACKGROUND:**

In October of 2015 a policy was written to exempt three properties from By-law 02-80 to permit keeping of hens in a residentially zoned area and the requirements to obtain a license. For any new proposals an exemption is still required under the bylaw. The Town policy requires no more than five hens, setbacks for the coop, proper maintenance, screening of equipment, safe disposal of refuse, proper care, and veterinarian oversight.

Licenses are issued for 12 months. Letters are sent to adjoining landowners giving notice that a license has been requested.

**COMMENTS:**

Jonathan & Amanda Scherrens are looking to keep 5 hens in the back yard of 332 Jane St. Palmerston. This property meets all the requirements with the exception of the set back of south side fence line. If the exemption is approved the coop will be moved once the yard has dried up. No adjoining landowners have concerns having received the required notice.

If approved this will mean four licensed chicken coops in Minto. Annual inspections have been occurring at the locations licensed in 2015 and no problems have been found.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

The \$50.00 licensing fee will help to offset the cost of enforcement..

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Council of the Town of Minto receives the By-law Enforcement Officer's June 6, 2017 report regarding the exemption to By-law 02-80 for keeping backyard hens at 332 Jane St. Palmerston and approves the exemption.

Cam Forbes  
By-law Enforcement Officer

---





Application to Keep Hens in Residential Areas

011-19300

Name of Registered Owner: Jonathan & Amanda Scherrens

Address: 332 Jane St. Palmerston

Phone#: 519-803-0786, 905-299-8844

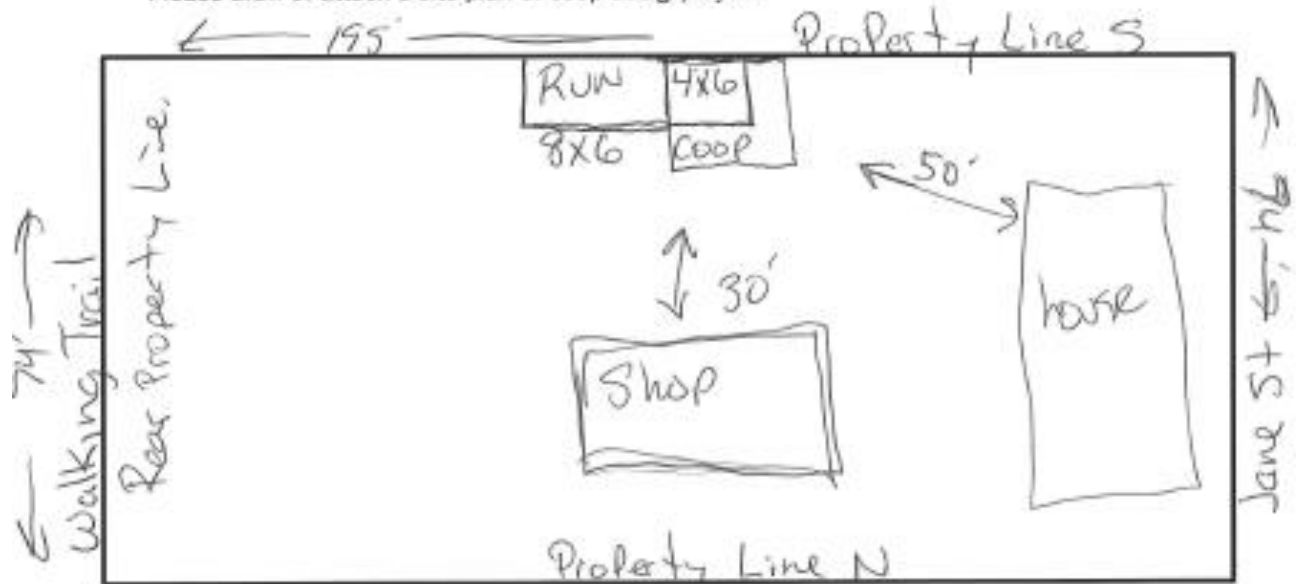
Email (mandatory): JScherrens@brandt.ca

Number of laying hens (must be 5 or less): 5

Name of Veterinarian: \_\_\_\_\_

Vet Contact Information: Fergus Vet Clinic

Please draw or attach a site plan or coop design/layout:



Additional Information:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Registered Owner