

## Government Co-operation

The federal government departments responsible for programs in Kent County (DREE, Manpower, Health & Welfare, Agriculture) and the provincial government departments (Agriculture and Rural Development, Education, Economic Growth) must learn to integrate these programs in Kent County so that they work together to help achieve the common development goals of Kent as outlined by the residents. It is unfortunate that to this day, a large amount of money has been spent in Kent with good intentions but often has been at cross purposes and without any consultation with the community.

### Recommendation:

*The establishment of an interorganization federal-provincial-people committee to coordinate government support for development programs as outlined by the Kent County Development Association.*

## Identification of Opportunities and Needs

Many economic opportunities exist in agriculture in Kent and while it would not be wise to attempt too many projects at one time, it is also unwise to take a chance in losing them by procrastinating. It is imperative that both short and long term opportunities be identified, and that both a short and long term development strategy be devised which takes into full consideration the present situation in Kent and the realistic steps required for change.

### Recommendations:

*That the Kent County Development Association in co-operation with local governments undertake a long term contractual agreement with an experienced agriculture and food marketer on an incentive basis of a basic salary and costs and a percentage of the increase in annual sales which provides an incentive for success.*

*The federal and provincial departments of agriculture should put at the disposal of this marketer and the Development Association, technical experts as required.*

## Communicating Opportunities and Assisting Farmers to Adapt

After specific opportunities have been identified and a development plan established, both the opportunities and the strategy of how they will be achieved must be communicated to the farmers. Subsequently, help must be provided to all farmers wishing to avail themselves of specific opportunities. They must be provided with the production techniques as part of an integrated package of financial assistance, and extension support. This must be available at all times and handled meticulously.

### Recommendations:

- 1. That the Kent County Development Association enter into a long term contractual agreement with a top notch agricultural production specialist*