

Cariboo Regional District

**AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AGENDA**

**Thursday, July 19, 2018, 8 am
Conference Call**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**
- 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES** – June 19, 2018 meeting (as circulated)
- 4. DELEGATIONS**
- 5. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - 5.1. ADAC Strategic Plan update –Agriculture Education Program grant overview
 - 5.2. CRD Liaison Update
- 6. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**
 - 6.1. Facilitator Team Update
- 7. CORRESPONDENCE**
 - 7.1. Upcoming Events
- 8. ROUNDTABLE**
- 9. QUESTION PERIOD**
- 10. ADJOURNMENT**

Next Meeting: August 29, 2018, 8am
Agenda Submission Deadline: August 20, 2018

QUESTION PERIOD

Question Period provides the public with the opportunity to ask questions or make comments on subject that are of concern to them. Each person will be given 2 minutes to speak. Up to ten minutes in total is allotted for Question Period.

/as

Cariboo Regional District

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

INAUGURAL MEETING

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Committee, held on June 19, 2018 at 6:00pm at Bowron Room, Natural Resource Building (FLNROD), 322 Johnston Ave, Quesnel, BC

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Martin Rossmann	Kersley Farmers Institute
Rob Borsato	Quesnel Farmers Market
Sheri Schweb	BC Forage Council
Morgan Ross	College of New Caledonia
Nicole Pressey	Ministry of Agriculture
John Massier	CRD Liaison

SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS PRESENT

Lori Fogarty, Liaison	Agriculture Working Group
Adam Schaan	Facilitator
Ty Jasper	Facilitator
Wilma Watkins	Agriculture Working Group

REGRETS

Erin Durrell	Quesnel Cattleman's Association
Roy Josephy	Horticulture
Lynda Atkinson	Agriculture Working Group

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

R/2018-01

It was moved and seconded

That the June 19, 2018 Agricultural Development Advisory Committee agenda be approved as amended to include discussion on the need for a Memorandum of Understanding between ADAC and FARMED and request for a Letter of Support – Greenhouse Project.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES – nil

4. DELEGATIONS - nil

5. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Welcome and Introductions

Lori Fogarty, team leader of the North Cariboo Agricultural Marketing Association (dba FARMED)-

Agriculture Working Group opened the meeting by thanking all members for attending and agreeing to participate in this important Committee. It was confirmed that all present had received their Agricultural Advisory Development Committee (ADAC) binders.

5.1. **Facilitator Team Update: Sonoran Resource Management Ltd.**

Brief discussion of Rural Dividend Project Development Grant budget. No changes suggested.

Introduction of facilitators- Sonoran Resource Management Ltd.

Lori provided a review of the scope of the facilitator role.

5.2. **ADAC Strategic Plan**

Discussion about grants for the Quesnel Agriculture Centre business plan. Still awaiting a response from Amy at City of Quesnel regarding their discussions with the Ministry of Agriculture.

Nicole noted the opportunities with the Agriculture Area Planning Program.

Lori brought up grant opportunities via BC Rural Dividend and Cariboo Strong.

Nicole elaborated on marketing & land use plan eligibility through the Agriculture Area Planning Program.

Morgan provided an update of CNC greenhouse facilities.

Sheri brought up field education days & frequency of meetings. There is an increase in land & soil interest, examining new & alternative methods & practices. Best to do field days on the land rather than in a classroom.

Discussion on abattoir and the need to communicate with the City of Quesnel on their perspective.

Discussion about SD 28 farm education days for students and teachers.

Discussion about Kersley Farmers Institute grant proposal for the building of a greenhouse at Correlieu Secondary School. Conversation about the problems of funding, ownership and insurance.

Nicole mentioned that the Ministry of Agriculture has existing school agriculture workshops in Prince George.

5.3. **Appointment of Executive Positions for 2018-2019 Committee**

5.3.1. Chair

Martin Rossmann - Chair (ELECTED)

5.3.2. Secretary

Sheri Schweb - Secretary (ELECTED)

5.3.3. Treasurer

Rob Borsato - Treasurer (ELECTED)

5.4. **Adoption of Agricultural Development Advisory Committee Terms of Reference**

R/2018-02

It was moved and seconded

That the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee terms of reference be approved as presented.

CARRIED

5.5. **Adoption of Agricultural Development Advisory Committee Relationship Structure**

R/2018-03

It was moved and seconded

That the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee relationship structure be approved as presented.

CARRIED

5.6. **Quesnel Ag Centre Steering Committee**

No update from the City of Quesnel

Nicole mentioned the existence of a general economic development document through City of Quesnel which is broken down by sector

Rob brought up opportunity of bridging high school to CNC. Morgan confirmed that CNC is looking into curriculum & programs in conjunction with Correlieu Secondary School.

5.7. **CRD Liaison Report**

Director Massier confirmed that the CRD will provide a dedicated conference call system.

Director Massier will inquire into the CRD developing an ADAC webpage.

6. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1. **Agricultural Development Advisory Committee Budget**

Lori reviewed the budget allocation for the 2018 Agricultural Development Advisory Committee budget administered by the Cariboo Regional District. The budget will be used to cover travel to meetings for committee members, catering as required, and administrative functions.

6.2. **Memorandum of Understanding FARMED / ADAC**

The concept of a memorandum of understanding between FARMED and ADAC was discussed and found to being redundant.

The terms identified by Emily Colombo in the Relationship Structure are sufficient to define roles.

It was noted that Emily's title is now Regional Economic Development Officer (Cariboo region) under the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development. This amendment to the document will be made.

6.3. **Letter of Support – Greenhouse Project**

Discussion about the Greenhouse Project and Sue Ellen Miller lobbying to have the greenhouse located at Correlieu Secondary School to set up an agriculture program through Earl Tourangeau

Discussion of letter of support for greenhouse project at Correlieu from ADAC.

Discussion about high school greenhouse project working with a senior's program to expand funding. Issues with liability and non-profit status were identified by the group.

If the project moves forward a letter of support for the project could be provided.

7. CORRESPONDENCE - nil

7.1. Upcoming Events - nil

8. ROUNDTABLE

What projects might work for current funding opportunities?

Discussion about Correlieu Greenhouse warming system; natural gas vs. pellets.

Sheri asked ADAC what would make sense to attract and promote interest with Grade 9, 10 and 11 students to push agriculture as an elective.

Rob brought up consulting with educators on pushing agriculture as an elective.

Sheri suggested that a forage research test farm might fit the rural dividend funding criteria.

Discussion about Community Futures funding and Integris Credit Union funding.

Discussion about Farm Pilot Project scope and how this may fit with short - medium term funding.

Martin suggested a September farm visit at Sheri's farm in 2019 through career prep and through an Agriculture class in subsequent years.

Martin suggested selling Agriculture to students through high tech aspects.

Recommendation to move forward on an Agriculture Education Program.

9. QUESTION PERIOD

10. ADJOURNMENT – 8:00pm

11. NEXT MEETING

July 19, 2018, 8am via conference call

M. Rossmann, Chair

/as

Agriculture Education Program

Update on application process:

- This overview has been developed and then reviewed by Lynda and Wilma. Please add any information you feel is relevant or that will strengthen the application. Highlighted areas need more information or clarification.
- All partners have been contacted with a request for a letter of support.
- Adam and I will be participating in a Rural Dividend grant webinar on July 17th.
- I have tried to make contact with the Real Estate Foundation since July 3rd, and they just phoned July 11th with apologies as their phone system went down. The category that we would be applying for is Local & Sustainable Food Systems. In conversing with the contact person, it seems their focus is not agriculture education (although education programming is included as a part of the budget they will cover), but more towards programs that support land access and small farmers integrating food systems into the Official Community Plan, as well as land stewardship. So, I think the Winter Workshops and Summer Field Day will apply, but not the Ag in the Classroom (AITC) component. So, we will need to find other avenues of support for the implementation of the AITC program and any information you could contribute in relation to the applicable topics and how they could pertain to our application would help.

North Cariboo Agriculture Awareness and Marketing Project

Phase 3

Agriculture Education Program Grant Overview

Project Description

The North Cariboo Agriculture Education Program is a multi-faceted initiative involving agriculture industry and career awareness education for students at the elementary, secondary and post-secondary schools in the North Cariboo. This program will incorporate the Agriculture in the Classroom program into the School District 28 Quesnel classrooms and, in addition, provide farm tours, work experience and an Agriculture on the Farm event for interested students and others. Also, agriculture workshops and field days will be held for agriculture producers and new entrants to the industry.

This Agriculture Education Program would involve partnerships with School District 28 Quesnel, College of New Caledonia, Kersley Farmers Institute, the BC Forage Council, and the newly established Agriculture Development Advisory Committee of the North Cariboo (see attached ADAC background document). The planning phase would occur in 2018 through to June of 2019 with implementation occurring in 2019 to 2021. The goals of the program are to:

- Establish flow-through elective agriculture industry awareness programming from the elementary school level through to the post-secondary level;
- Promote awareness of careers in the agriculture industry;

- Increase work experience opportunities for senior secondary and post-secondary students in the agriculture industry;
- Develop professional development opportunities for teachers and counsellors in School District 28 related to implementing the Agriculture in the Classroom program for teachers and counsellors in School District 28;
- Partner with Kersley Farmers Institute and College of New Caledonia-Quesnel to provide winter workshop sessions for producers and new entrants to the agriculture industry, including “Speak Up for Agriculture” and “How to Host a Farm Tour” workshops;
- Partner with the BC Forage Council to provide summer field day events for agriculture producers, new entrants and interested students.
- Hold an Agriculture Day on the Farm event, providing participants with experiential activities and demonstrations related to farm equipment, technology, farm production and support services.

Describe how the project addresses all or some of the following program objectives:

- Community resiliency: Agriculture has been an integral part of the North Cariboo region since the 1860’s, but the 2011 and 2016 statistics show a decline in the number of farms and industry production. By providing Agriculture in the Classroom programming, farm tours and events and work experience to students in the region, awareness of the importance of agriculture to the region and the many career opportunities available will be enhanced. Agriculture producers and new entrants have expressed their interest in localized knowledge related to growing, producing and distribution of food. Holding agriculture related workshops and field days will assist producers (and those growing food for personal use) to network and utilize the most efficient methods to increase yield and quality of production. Examples of topics that may be covered at these events include new or different methods to expand the growing season, conserve water/irrigate more efficiently, erosion control, keep soils healthy.
- Partnerships and shared prosperity: The establishment in the spring of 2018 of the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee of the North Cariboo (ADAC) enables a broad representation of the agriculture industry and provides a structure to support industry recommendations. The industries and institutions represented on the ADAC include the Quesnel Cattlemen’s Association, BC Forage Council, Quesnel Farmers Market, Kersley Farmers Institute, Horticulture, College of New Caledonia-Quesnel, and the Ministry of Agriculture Agrologist. The ADAC has identified the establishment of a Quesnel Agriculture Centre and an agriculture industry and career awareness education program as the two top priorities for their strategic plan. Implementation of this education program through this grant proposal will provide flow through agriculture programming and experiential opportunities for elementary and secondary who may ultimately be able to attend the proposed College of New Caledonia AgriBusiness 2020 diploma program. The Kersley Farmer Institute Winter Workshops and the BC Forage Council Summer Field Days will not only provide valuable information for producers, new entrants and students, but also an opportunity to network and form potential mentorships.
- Innovation: The Agriculture on the Farm event will provide exposure to the latest innovations in agriculture, such as new tractors and drones. **(expand on this section?)**

- Youth: Youth of all ages will be directly impacted by this project. Agriculture courses from grade 8 to 12 have been offered by the school district at Quesnel Secondary School since the 1960's. If students in the North Cariboo were interested in a focus on agriculture they could choose to go to Quesnel Secondary School and choose agriculture as an elective. In 2009, the school district transitioned Quesnel Secondary School to a grade 8 & 9 junior school. Agriculture was still offered as an elective for one-trimester per year. In 2018 Quesnel Junior School was closed and the students will be moved to another school. Unfortunately, there is not enough space to provide agriculture as an elective, which will result in a regression from 25% of the students taking a full year course in agriculture to no exposure to agriculture for youth in our community.

This project will not replace the agriculture program offered by the School District, but by introducing the Agriculture in the Classroom program, as well as career development opportunities into the school system, students will increase their understanding of where food comes from and become aware of the importance of the agriculture and food industry in communities and its impact on the local economy. Teachers will have the tools to give students of all ages adequate information with which to gain an understanding and awareness of what sustains them—food. The addition of practical activities, farm tours, work experience and the exposure of the many varied career opportunities in the agriculture and food manufacturing industry will allow students identify potential career paths of interest.

- Job creation: As noted in the Statistics Canada reports for 2011 and 2016 the number of farms in the Cariboo region are decreasing. As the percentage of farmers in the North Cariboo approaching the age of retirement is increasing, the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee recognizes the importance of providing a pathway for youth to enter the industry and supporting those currently working in the industry to enable success.

The various components of the Agriculture Education Program will support job creation as noted below:

- Agriculture in the Classroom: ensure interested youth have flow-through agricultural programming, including farm tours, career exploration and work experience leading to careers in the industry.
- Winter Workshops and Summer Field Days events: Producers, including new entrants have the opportunity to learn from experts in the field, enabling an increase in production, networking and mentoring opportunities and an increase in the workforce able to support that growth.

Describe potential indirect employment (not in the project itself) created as a result of the project.

The potential indirect employment resulting from this initiative:

- Work experience for post-secondary and secondary students in the agriculture industry may result in seasonal part-time or full-time employment for participants;
- The Winter Workshop and Summer Field Day events providing workshop education and training requested by current producers and new entrants to the industry will foster increased opportunities for mentoring, land leasing, research, as well as increased innovation and production, leading to growth in employment opportunities.

- The implementation of the AITC program may encourage youth to choose agriculture as a career path.

Describe the successful outcomes for the project.

Implementation of the Agriculture in the Classroom program in the school system starting in September 2019; measurable indicators – # of teachers registered in the AITC summer institute; # of classrooms using AITC at elementary, junior and secondary schools; number of school gardens and classes participating; number of students participating in farm tours; number of students participating in work experience in agriculture: baseline indicator in 2018, measure increase in numbers in 2019 & 2020.

The Winter Workshops sponsored by the Kersley Farmers Institute will continue to occur on an annual basis: measurable indicators - number of participants using the 2018 workshops as a baseline; number of students participating; diversity of participant related to agriculture sector (livestock, vegetable, fruit, horticulture, forage, etc.)

The Summer Field Day sponsored by the BC Forage Council will continue to occur on an annual basis: measurable indicators - number of participants using the 2018 field day event as a baseline; number of students participating; **development of a forage action plan for the region**

The number of partners and sponsors in the Agriculture Education Program increases: measurable indicators – number of partnerships and sponsors using the baseline 2018 measure of 5 (ADAC, FARMED, KFI, BC Forage Council, SD28); increase in in-kind hours from 2018 baseline.

Does the community/communities in which the project will be implemented have a current community and /or economic development plan? Yes

<https://cariboord.bc.ca/services/planning/ocp-s/quesnel-fringe-ocp>

5.1.1 Recognize the importance of local food production, processing, distribution and sale of locally grown products. Efforts to improve the local agricultural economy may include:

- strategically locating a farmers’ market;
- initiatives to increase agricultural awareness;
- development of community gardens;
- density bonusing for projects providing opportunities for local food production (e.g., community gardens or greenhouses); and
- liaison with the Ministry of Agriculture regarding opportunities for hosting local workshops on ways to enhance opportunities for growing and marketing economically viable, local agricultural products.

Describe the existing community support for the project. Indicate how support has been demonstrated within the community.

The Cariboo Regional District has demonstrated support for the establishment of an Agricultural Development Advisory Committee of the North Cariboo (electoral areas A, B, C and I) by passing bylaw 5137 on April 23, 2018. The members of this advisory committee include representatives of the Quesnel Cattlemen’s Association, BC Forage Council, Quesnel Farmers Market, Kersley Farmers Market, College of New Caledonia, Horticulture, and Ministry of Agriculture and it is the recommendation of this broadly-based agriculture community that an Agriculture Education Program be implemented.

The letters of support from the partners in this initiative have been provided and are included in this application.

Indicate the key milestones and associated deliverables that support the intended project actions and accomplishments as well as an approximate timeline for each component of the project leading to completion.

Key Milestones and Deliverables	Timeline
Hire facilitator	2018 December
Winter Workshop – assist with organization, implementation and evaluation Ag in the Classroom-meet with secondary and elementary staff to present information on program and identify interested participants in program	2019 Jan / Feb
Real Estate Foundation grant – hire Project Coordinator Summer Field Day- assist sponsoring partner with planning, organization, implementation and evaluation of event Ag in the Classroom-work on program development and teacher training; work with staff to develop system for identifying students interested in agriculture programming and experiential activities (work experience, field trips, post-secondary program); plan, implement and evaluate farm tour; monitor and support implementation of AITC program starting in September Agriculture on the Farm event-develop framework of event being held in the fall of 2020 with input from steering committee, to identify date, location, key activities and potential partnerships Winter Workshop-Work with sponsoring partner to determine date, time and location of event and potential workshop topics	2019 Mar / Sept
Ag in the Classroom-continue to work with staff to support program implementation, professional development, and identifying resources & work experience opportunities; work with school(s) interested in starting a garden program; plan next farm tour Winter Workshop- assist with planning, organization, implementation and evaluation Agriculture on the Farm event-work with steering committee to plan event and identify partners and sponsors; plan promotion Summer Field Day- Work with sponsoring partner to determine date, time and location of event and potential topics	2019 Oct / 2020 Feb
Summer Field Day- assist sponsoring partner with planning, organization, implementation and evaluation of event	2020 Mar / Sept

<p>Ag in the Classroom-support school garden development, student work experience opportunities, farm tour, and student interest program; work with staff to evaluate first year of program; promote Ag on the Farm event Agriculture on the Farm event (late September)-organize, implement and evaluate event</p> <p>Winter Workshop-Work with sponsoring partner to determine date, time and location of event and potential workshop topics</p>	
<p>Ag in the Classroom-continue to work with staff to support program, professional development, and identifying resources & work experience opportunities; work with school(s) interested in starting a garden program</p> <p>Winter Workshop- assist with planning and organization</p> <p>Agriculture on the Farm event-evaluation of event and report to steering committee</p> <p>Rural Dividend Project Development-evaluate and report</p>	2020 Oct / Dec
<p>Winter Workshop- assist with planning and organization, implementation and evaluation</p> <p>Ag in the Classroom – Work with staff to evaluate program and make recommendations; identify work experience opportunities</p> <p>Summer Field Day- Work with sponsoring partner to determine date, time and location of event and potential topics</p> <p>Real Estate Foundation-evaluate and report</p>	2021 Jan / April

Link to Rural Dividend program guide: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/employment-business-and-economic-development/economic-development/plan-and-measure/rural-communities/bcrdp-guide_fifthround_may2018_fin_rev.pdf

Note page 20 for selection criteria to help frame grant application.

Workshop Topic Descriptions

How to host a farm tour workshop

Here are some highlights of the workshop:

- Why tours are important for the agriculture industry and consumers who have questions.
- Tour is designed for farmers/ranchers who have hosted tours or would like to offer tours on their farms.
- It will help answer tough questions, rephrase industry jargon and present their operations in a simple chronological order that consumers will understand.
- Topics include: focusing on shared values, conversation etiquette, tour dos and don'ts, as well as question and answer techniques.
- Tips for hosting crop tours: logistics, common questions.
- Tips for hosting livestock tours: logistics, biosecurity considerations, common questions.
- Questions to prepare for.
- How to engage students and teachers.