

**Cariboo Regional District**

*AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING*

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Committee, held in Bowron Room, of the Natural Resource Building on February 25, 2019 at 6:30 pm

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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Martin Rossmann, Chair	Kersley Farmers Institute
Rob Borsato, Treasurer	Quesnel Farmers Market
Roy Josephy	Horticulture
Tim Lofstrom	College of New Caledonia - Quesnel
Sonya Spiers	College of New Caledonia - Quesnel
Nicole Pressey	Ministry of Agriculture
CRD Director John Massier	CRD Liaison

**SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS PRESENT**

Lori Fogarty, Liaison	Agriculture Working Group
Wilma Watkin	Agriculture Working Group

**GUESTS**

Tyler Jasper	Sonoran Resource Management Ltd.
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**REGRETS**

Sheri Schweb, Secretary	BC Forage Council
Erin Durrell	Quesnel Cattlemen's Association
Lynda Atkinson	Agriculture Working Group

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Introductions were made as the committee welcomed Tim Lofstrom to the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee as the College of New Caledonia-Quesnel representative.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

R/2019-18

It was moved and seconded

**That the February 25, 2019 Agricultural Development Advisory Committee revised agenda be approved as circulated.**

CARRIED

**3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

R/2019-19

It was moved and seconded

**That the minutes of the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee meeting dated January**

**15, 2019 be adopted.**

CARRIED

**4. DELEGATIONS - Nil**

**5. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

5.1. Regional Agri-food Centre Business Plan

City of Quesnel Economic Development Officer, Amy Reid emailed an update on the Regional Agri-food Centre Business Plan indicating the business plan has been reviewed by the Ministry of Agriculture and news should come out from the province in the early spring, at which time the final plan will be distributed to ADAC and the steering committee.

5.2. Agriculture Education Program

Two information sessions were provided by Agriculture in the Classroom Education Specialist, Amy Stafford to interested School District 28 teachers on the January 28<sup>th</sup> Non-instructional Day. The sessions were well attended by teachers and community members including representatives of ADAC and 4 H. There are currently over 20 teachers in the district interested in participating in the Agriculture Education Program. Funding opportunities for student experiential activities (field trips, farm demonstrations, work experience, etc.) are being pursued.

Wilma Watkin, organizer of the Kersley Farmers Institute "Changing Opportunities in Agriculture" Workshops held on February 2<sup>nd</sup> at CNC Quesnel, reported that the 4 workshops were well attended by the agriculture community ranging in age from 17 years and up. Participants were presented with information on Building Healthy Soil Following Organic Principles, Soil Conservation: minimize erosion risks, Tillage: Soil management to improve water holding capacity and nutrient availability, and Grazing strategies to improve pastures and profitability. Participants also received books on soil health, access to the workshop power point presentations and many networking opportunities. Wilma thanked the staff at CNC for their assistance with the day's activities.

Rob Borsato, reported on the Young Agrarians Mixer held on February 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> in Williams Lake. About 80 people were in attendance at the event, which was opened by Minister of Agriculture, Lana Popham and included practical hands-on workshops. There is a need for a transfer of knowledge from experienced producers to new entrants to the agriculture and agri-food sector.

5.3. CNC-Quesnel Regional Principal

Sonya Spiers, Operations Manager of College of New Caledonia-Quesnel, introduced Tim Lofstrom, the new Regional Principal of the local CNC campus, starting on February 28<sup>th</sup>. Tim has been employed by School District 28 for the last 13 years and is excited to join the ADAC and provide support as needed.

5.4. ADAC Agriculture Area Plan

Nicole Pressey presented information on the day-to-day issues and broader initiatives that come before an Agricultural Advisory Committee, such as steering agricultural studies, economic plans and agricultural area plans to completion and assisting with the implementation of the plans. Nicole stated that a good core of planning has taken place with the CCBAC Agriculture Sector Strategy report completed in 2008 by George Powell, but it would be advantageous to update the

report with the completion of a 3 to 5-year Agriculture Area Plan. A question arose as to whether the plan would be regional or sub-regional. The committee members suggested this be determined by the Cariboo Regional District Board of Directors, and that this discussion should be included as part of the ADAC presentation made to the CRD Board. John Massier will check to see if an ADAC presentation can be added to the agenda of the June 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CRD board.

5.5. Agricultural Advisory Committee Workshop 2019 – March 13, Langley

ADAC Chair, Martin Rossmann will consider attending the AAC Committee Workshop being held on March 13<sup>th</sup> in Langley. John will also check to see if CRD staff involved with land planning or CRD directors are interested in attending.

5.6. Stats Canada – Aboriginal peoples and agriculture in 2016: A portrait:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/catalogue/96-325-X201900100001>

Nicole Pressey distributed the recently released publication from Statistics Canada titled Aboriginal peoples and agriculture in 2016: A portrait (available at link above). The Water Offer was made to the NStQ Treaty group. Once signed, the date of signature becomes the ‘first in time, first in right’ date treaty communities would use when making a water license application associated with the treaty parcels. This mechanism exists to allow treaty members to move forward with operations until the treaty is finalized, which can be years into the future.

John Massier noted the NStQ – North Cariboo Shuswap Tribal Council treaty process is moving along quite well. The new manager hopes to have the process completed in 5 years. John noted several bands are interested in or involved in agriculture projects.

5.7. Regulations of the Minister of Environmental and Climate Change Strategy—Environmental Management Act: [http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/mo/mo/2019\\_m039](http://www.bclaws.ca/civix/document/id/mo/mo/2019_m039)

Wilma Watkin noted the new Environmental Management Act will take effect on February 28, 2019 and will affect all agricultural operations to which the code applies.

John Massier noted the Government has extended the Water License Application (WSA) transition period for those who were using groundwater on or before February 29, 2016 for any non-domestic use, including agricultural, industrial, commercial and institutional groundwater uses. Applicants now have until March 1, 2022 to [apply for a license](#). It was also noted that groundwater users who apply under the transition provisions of the WSA are required to pay annual water rentals retroactive to February 29, 2016 to ensure equity for those who applied early. The longer one delays application, the larger the retroactive total rental payment owed.

## 6. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1. Ag Working Group Administrative Report

Lori Fogarty reported that work on the re-formatting of the 2018 ADAC agendas and minutes is currently underway for posting on the ADAC webpage. Photos for the webpage will also be formatted to include descriptive captions (names of people in photos and identification of agriculture producer names on photos).

The unofficial ADAC budget for 2018 was reported to have incurred the following expenses:

- Travel - \$ 628.58
  - Catering for meetings - \$ 212.62
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- Administration - \$ 2,461.12

The Cariboo Regional District approved rolling over the funds remaining from the 2018 allocated budget into the 2019 ADAC budget.

#### 6.2. FARMED Rural Dividend Project Development Grant update

The North Cariboo ADAC project update was reviewed by Lori Fogarty and Wilma Watkin. The deliverables as outlined in the project agreement have been met, and additional outcomes were also included in the report. The remaining funds as of February 15, 2019 will be used for 2 contracted projects, to be completed by March 31, 2019.

Lori Fogarty reported the agreement papers for the North Cariboo Agricultural Marketing Association dba FARMED grant application for the Agriculture Education Program arrived from the Rural Dividend Program today. Once the papers are signed, the Project Management Team will start the process of hiring a facilitator to implement the program components, including Agriculture in the Classroom.

The Partnering for Healthier Communities: North Cariboo (P4HC:NC) is interested in becoming a partner with the Agriculture Education Program by applying for Imagine Grant funding for the establishment or improvement of school gardens in School District 28.

Rob Borsato, President of the District H Institute also expressed an interest in partnering with the Ag Education Program. They have a committee that has been working with SD 28 and CNC to increase agriculture education.

### 7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1. Email communication – Tyler Jasper confirmed he will be available to participate in the March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 ADAC meeting via conference call.

#### 7.2. Upcoming events

March 12, 2019 1:00 – 3:00 pm	Alex Fraser Park Agriculture Building – Stakeholder Meeting Council Chambers
Date To be determined	Cash and Bioenergy Crop Feasibility Study Report UNBC – Quesnel <a href="https://www.unbc.ca/releases/41092/unbc-launches-cash-and-bioenergy-crop-feasibility-study">https://www.unbc.ca/releases/41092/unbc-launches-cash-and-bioenergy-crop-feasibility-study</a>
March 25, 2019 10:00 am – 12:00 pm	ADAC Meeting Natural Resource Building Bowron Room

### 8. ROUNDTABLE

Member comments:

Tim Lofstrom – It is interesting to hear the information provided by the members at the meeting this evening. At this time there are no questions, but there will be in the future.

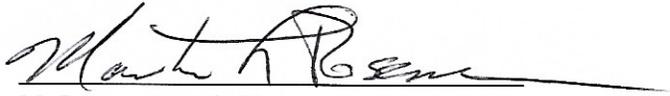
Roy Josephy – Reported he received his water license and a steel greenhouse will be going up tomorrow to replace an older greenhouse that collapsed over the winter. It should be an interesting process in these cold temperatures.

Rob Borsato – It has been challenging keeping the greenhouses maintained at an appropriate temperature when it is -25°C.

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**9. QUESTION PERIOD - Nil**

**10. ADJOURNMENT – 8:15 pm**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Rossmann", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

M. Rossmann, Chair

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