

**Cariboo Regional District**

*AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE*

*REGULAR MEETING*

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee, held via Zoom, on January 8, 2021 at 8:30 am

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**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Martin Rossmann, Chair	Kersley Farmers Institute
Rob Borsato, Treasurer	Quesnel Farmers Market
Erin Durrell, Secretary	BC Cattlemen's Association
Matt Ziemer	Horticulture
Christa Pooley	BC Forage Council
Desiree Stobbe	Quesnel Farmers Market (appointment TBA)
Nicole Pressey	Ministry of Agriculture
CRD Director John Massier	CRD Liaison

**SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS PRESENT**

Lori Fogarty, Administrative Assistant	Agriculture Working Group
Wilma Watkin	Agriculture Working Group
Lynda Atkinson	Agriculture Working Group

**GUESTS**

Darlene Clark	City of Quesnel Economic Development Officer
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**REGRETS**

Tim Lofstrom	College of New Caledonia - Quesnel
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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

R/2021-55

It was moved and seconded

**That the November 20, 2021 Agricultural Development Advisory Committee agenda be approved as circulated.**

CARRIED

**3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

R/2021-56

It was moved and seconded

**That the minutes of the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee meeting dated November 20, 2021 be adopted.**

CARRIED

**4. DELEGATIONS**

**Darlene Clark:** Regional Manager, Cariboo Regional Economic Operations Branch - Rural Opportunities, Tenures and Engineering Division; Ministry of FLNRORD

The Cariboo Regional Economic Operations Branch existed to support job development and training, especially in the tourism industry. The branch moved to the Ministry of Forests, Land, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development in 2017 to support the work of the Ministry of Forests, agriculture and other land-based resources. The Ministry works with Indigenous and rural communities to strengthen and diversify their economies. The branch is working with societies, municipalities, and other local governments to act as a catalyst to the work they are implementing. They help by providing linkages and garner support by making connections. Previously, Darlene worked in jobs supporting economic development in particular with forestry, as well as permitting with natural resources and land planning.

Martin noted the Ministry of Forests, Land, Natural Resource Operations & Rural Development will be downsized and separated into divisions. Darlene noted the Ministry is growing with the addition of a Parliamentary Secretary to assist the Minister in meeting the commitments outlined in the mandate. Darlene noted it is helpful to receive information and updates from ADAC.

John asked who the parliamentary secretary is for this Ministry? Darlene noted the new Minister of FLNRORD is Katrine Conroy and the Minister of State for Lands and Natural Resource Operations is Nathan Collin. The Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Development is Roly Russell. Darlene noted she will also be working closely with Ravi Kahlon, the Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation.

Darlene noted she will be working within the region of BC spanning from Clinton to Prince George until November of 2021, when Emily Colombo returns to the Ministry.

## 5. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### 5.1. ADAC member renewal update:

The following member representatives will be considered for appointment to the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee at the CRD Board meeting scheduled for January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

A letter will be sent to the Quesnel Cattlemen's Association to see if a member representative is available to serve on the committee.

Term of Service	End of Term	Organization	Name
<b>New Appointments - 2021</b>			
2-year	December 2022	Kersley Farmers Institute	Martin Rossmann
2-year	December 2022	?Esdilagh First Nation	Erin Durrell
2-year	December 2022	Quesnel Farmers' Market	Desiree Stobbe
2-year	December 2022	Post-Secondary Education-CNC	Tim Lofstrom
2-year	December 2022	Quesnel Cattlemen's Association	To be determined

The committee members expressed their appreciation to outgoing Quesnel Farmers' Market representative Rob Borsato for his work with the committee over the last 3 years and welcomes new QFM representative Desiree Stobbe. The members of ADAC are also pleased to see member

representation from the ?Esdilagh First Nation and the renewal of term memberships from Martin Rossmann and Tim Lofstrom, pending appointment.

The committee members will nominate a chair, secretary and treasurer once appointments are confirmed.

5.2. CNC update – Tim Lofstrom; Tabled

5.3. CRD Committee of the Whole meeting – January 14, 2021

A presenter for the ADAC Power Point presentation was selected and recommended additions to the presentation were noted. The presentations will be available to the public, who may listen via audio streaming.

5.4. ADAC – Industry support actions 2021-2022

The Industry support actions were compiled from ADAC member suggestions in the assessment, which is summarized in the ADAC annual report to the NC Rural Caucus. Nicole Pressey noted this will be a useful summary to share with her colleagues in the Ministry of Agriculture.

5.5. ADAC Strategic Planning session

The date of the virtual session was confirmed for Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021 from 9am – noon. The participant list was reviewed and suggestions made by committee members. The planning for the session will proceed and recommendations from committee members for a facilitator will be forwarded for review and consideration.

## **6. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

6.1. Ag Working Group Administrative Report

The unofficial 2020 ADAC budget was reviewed. Total expenditures for 2020 was \$5119.54 with \$955.46 remaining. A request has been made to roll over the remaining funds into the 2021 budget if approved.

The ADAC annual report to the North Cariboo Rural Directors was well received, with members Nicole Pressey and Tim Lofstrom joining the conference call presentation on December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The report was well received by the North Cariboo Rural Caucus directors with compliments to committee for their hard work. Total in-kind contributions of the Committee, support team and agriculture industry since its establishment in 2018 is over \$26,197.

6.2. FARMED Rural Dividend Project Development Grant update

A request for an extension of the completion date for the Agriculture Education Program to December 2021 has been submitted to the Rural Dividend office, but a decision has not yet been made. (Note – approval to extend the completion date to December 2021 was received on January 11, 2021.)

## **7. CORRESPONDENCE**

7.1. Email communication

7.2. Upcoming events

ADAC members noted the following events:

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CRD Committee of the Whole meeting on the Thursday January 14<sup>th</sup> from 9am – noon. It was requested a notice and link to the live audio stream be sent out to agriculture community.

Marisa Nightingale from the Ministry of Agriculture will be returning to work 3-days a week

**Pacific Agricultural Show 2021 – Virtual Edition January 28-30, 2021**

- Website [here](#)
- Featuring Horticulture Growers Short Course, January 28-30, 2021 to register and find information click [here](#)
- Not just for horticulture enthusiasts! Topics include but not limited to: *greenhouse vegetables, field vegetables, strawberries, raspberries, hops, hazelnuts, organics, Agriculture Water Management, Labour, and Farm Business Management*

**8. ROUNDTABLE**

Wilma suggested the ADAC hold a follow up Strategic Planning session and members agreed. March 12, 2021 from 9am – noon was confirmed as a suitable date.

Nicole provided a Ministry update:

- Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
    - Staff are working to clarify what the name change means in terms of work load and programs. I will share what I can when it becomes available.
  - Agriculture Industrial Land Secretariat
    - With the new NDP government, this Secretariat was moved to the MAFF Deputy Minister's Office
  - Regenerative Agriculture is in Minister Popham's Mandate Letter
    - Our Branch is working on key principles to assist in program development
  - Small Farm Business Acceleration Pilot Program (SFBAPP)
    - Intake closed December 15, 2020
    - A committee is reviewing applications
    - Regional Agrologists and Industry Specialists will assist with auditing to ensure approved projects are completed as committed
  - Labour TA
    - This work is primarily focused on Migrant Workers
    - Have engaged with MAFF groups understand specific challenges
  - Marisa is back
    - Working Monday, Wednesday and Thursdays, from home
    - Expect to have her back to 100% April 1, 2021
  - CAI update
    - Projects are moving along
      - Livestock surface water field work was completed in 2020
    - Hoping to see FLNR funding for final water development installation
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- Wildlife Fuel Mitigation work is reaching out to FLNRORD District Staff to progress to next step: potentially integrating project with District fuel mitigation work
- CARA's letter to CRD was added to the Jan 14, 2021 COtW Agenda

Lynda noted the Pacific Ag Show will include a Gala and Silent Auction to help raise fund for the Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation.

## **9. QUESTION PERIOD**

## **10. ADJOURNMENT - 9:56am**

Next Meeting: February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 from 8:30 -10am

Agenda Submission Deadline: February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021



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M. Rossmann, Chair

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