

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 October 19, 2022, at 6:30 pm.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Christa Pooley	BC Forage Council
Brianna van de Wijngaard	Horticulture and Vegetable Producers
Martin Rossmann	Kersley Farmers Institute
Barbara Schellenberg	Integrated Production, Processing & Retail
Lynda Atkinson	Regional Food and Innovation Hub
Bill Hadden	Agroforestry
David Zirnhelt	Cariboo Cattleman's Association

LIAISON MEMBERS PRESENT

CRD Vice-Chair John Massier	CRD Liaison
Nicole Pressey	Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
Shivani Sajwan	CRD Planning Department

DELEGATIONS

Ione Smith	Upland Consulting
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REGRETS

Megan Flatt	Cariboo Chilcotin Sheep Producers Association
Robin Hunt	Farmers Market
Joleen Morrison	Agricultural Education Program Facilitator

MEMBER ATTENDANCE

8:34:53pm (1:58:03) – Barbara Schellenberg left the meeting. Six members remaining in attendance.
8:45:55pm (2:08:25) – Brianna van de Wijngaard left the meeting. Five members remaining in attendance.
9:12:31pm (2:35:51) – David Zirnhelt left the meeting. Four members remaining in attendance.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

R/2022-17

It was moved by Lynda A. and seconded by Brianna V.

That the October 19, 2022, Cariboo Agricultural Development Advisory Committee agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

R/2022-18

It was moved by Barbara S. and seconded by Brianna V.

That the minutes of the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee meeting August 3, 2022, be adopted.

CARRIED

4. DELEGATIONS

4.1. Upland Consulting – Ione Smith to present AAP Draft

4.1.1. Prior to Ione's Arrival:

- CRD 2016 ag policy was mentioned along with the following link:
<https://www.cariboord.ca/en/business-and-development/agricultural-policy-plans-and-reports.aspx>
- Summary of Upland's Long Table dinner ADAC Member opportunity for input on Draft AAP – member suggestion; that ADAC brainstorm points of economic strain that impact the ag sector, bring these points to CRD Board members from a place of inform/educate/advise in order to arm them to advocate for our industry, eg. emergency response preparedness, cost of production, costly environmental regulation/registration, etc. Present these strain points as resolutions to CRD directors to take through the appropriate channels to affect change, eg. North Central Local Gov Association to Union of BC Municipalities.

4.1.2. Questions and Feedback Regarding Background & the Draft AAP with Ione in Attendance

- Were the cattle organizations interviewed?
 - There are still many families ranching & they don't identify with the description of farming. Differentiate/specify both ranchers(ing) and farmers(ing).
 - Under lead/supporting roles, put both health authorities, Interior and Northern Health Authorities, as they both operate within the region.
 - Suggestion for Goal 1. Recommendation 1.1 "*Continue to protect and preserve the Agricultural Land Reserve for agricultural uses.*" Member suggests the removal the word "exceeding". Opinion of member: Multi-generational agriculture families on ALR land in the Cariboo commonly own larger acreage titles and multiple titles adjacent. Exceeding the residential regulations on ALR land that may be appropriate in other regions of BC may not be appropriate or required in the Cariboo. Further restrictions likely are not conducive to ensuring that the next generation of agriculturalists will be able to succeed in the operations that previous generations have built if they don't have the option of living on the lands.
 - The report should reference a website or footnote that has the federal regulations & guiding support for programs such as the Temporary Foreign Workers Program.
 - 2.4 of the Implementation Strategy does not indicate ADAC. Likely a typo.
 - Member opinion: emphasis on the need to have centralized livestock gathering facility, because trucking is an expensive matter and right now people will go to PG or Kamloops and will continue to because those areas have more local markets. It's more profitable to them. This makes it difficult for farming organizations without much capacity to do
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collaborative and outreach work to get support. These are things that have stymied development and business infrastructure needs to be increased.

- Cost of production is rising. With cost of fuel and cost/availability of fertilizer, people are starting to wonder if it's worth their while to pull hay off at all. This is a cause for concern.
- We need to be recognized for ecological services on farmland eg. carbon credits and storage. Ranchers need to be recognized for it and paid for it. This is an active area of focus/research of the BC Forage Council <https://bcforagecouncil.ca/> already and should be a focus of others as well. Other resource is Farmland Advantage <https://farmlandadvantage.ca/> .
- Sheep Producers were overlooked. Central Cariboo branch of the BC Honey Producers would be the primary beekeeping association, not Quesnel's beekeepers, are only a community group.
- A format to revamp the identification of Indigenous communities on the maps that are included in the AAP Draft was offered by members.
- Members are asked to please provide feedback/input/suggested revisions the Upland by the end of next week (Fri Oct. 28).

5. OLD AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5.1. Invitations to Agrologists – Update and Responses

- This situation may defer to a subcommittee. Invited Agrologists who have responded with Expression of Interest via email were shared by ADAC Chair. Discussion: re Eols received.
- Next step process can involve an email encompassing some questions, but the process doesn't have to be long and drawn out. Further discussion is agreed upon. Discussion: How creative can we get with our bylaw to nominate as many potential members as possible from across the region with diversity that supports the implementation plan of the Draft AAP?
- A subcommittee will meet (Nov 3rd, 2022 at 6:30pm, via Zoom. Christa P, Lynda A, David Z, Bill H, +other members who wish) to give ADAC time to consider the candidates and questions posed in the October meeting. Members like the idea of providing the Draft AAP to those who have sent Eols. Shivani likes the idea and doesn't see any issue sharing the data at all, but she will talk to Nigel and Ione about it, and we can move forward once confirmation to share the resources from CRD & Upland.

5.2. Invitations to Post Secondary Institutions – Update and Responses

- Chair shares responses – only TRU responded with the nomination of Gillian (Jill) Watt, Assistant Teaching Professor, Applied Sustainable Ranching Management Program, Faculty of Science.
 - *(8:34 pm Barbara Schellenberg left the meeting. Six members remaining in attendance.)*
 - Member opinion: highly recommends Gillian (Jill) W (nominated by TRU) and sees no downsides. She has great references and a proven background. Member doesn't believe we need to search further than her. Members in attendance agree. A letter to the CRD Board with the committee's recommendation + a letter to TRU's Williams Lake campus Dean + Gillian Watt thanking for the nomination & advising of the committee's recommendation.
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R/2022-19

It was moved by David Z. and seconded by Lynda A.

That ADAC recommend to the CRD Board that, Gillian Watt, Thomson Rivers University, Assistant Teaching Professor, Applied Sustainable Ranching Management Program, Faculty of Science fill the vacant member position representing Post-Secondary Institutions on the Cariboo Agriculture Development Advisory Committee.

CARRIED

5.3. Importance of Agricultural Education Communication to Upland Consulting

- Chair shared the letter that was sent to Upland Consulting team. see AAP Draft Goal 4. Increase Channels for Collaboration, Communication & Education, 4.1 Strengthening of Agriculture Education in the Classroom

5.4. CRD ADAC Website Update – Communications to the CRD

- Shivani suggested that the provided document “ADAC History & Overview 2022” was too lengthy to post on a CRD ADAC webpage & would like to see that document used in the ADAC annual report that goes to the CRD board, as she feels it was very well communicated. The Chair expressed that the intention of the document was that ADAC would like to have some historic reference to the origins of the committee and how it came to be, acknowledging the North Cariboo ADAC origins. Shivani suggests attaching it as a document or a link to the ADAC webpage as a solution.
- The Chair re-emphasized the Relationship Structure Graphic that is still posted on the CRD ADAC webpage is no longer relevant and the committee would like it removed.
- Review of the work to determine whether to continue with efforts to develop a web-based form or just simply requesting emails sent to C-ADAC email address for expressions of interest in member positions on the committee. Shivani will bring it up with Nigel W & communications department & report back to the committee.
- *(8:45 pm Brianna van de Wijngaard left the meeting. Five members remaining in attendance.)*

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Quesnel Forest Landscape Planning Committee Meeting

- Discussion:
 - the cattle Industry would be affected and suggests getting a representative...it is not just range that needs to be considered in this. There’s agroforestry, water cycling, and others.
 - Member wonders if there is an option for ADAC to approach someone who is not currently an ADAC member, to be a special member assigned to FLP on behalf of ADAC. Chair is open to that suggestion but doesn’t know if Shivani has input on that, if they carry the ADAC representation or just go as an information gatherer. Shivani is not sure
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at this point either. Member does not believe we can ask someone to go to the meeting and just be an observer because he feels it would irritate people. Whoever goes will need to be an active participant. Chair agrees.

- Suggestion to wait until a few more of our members are present at an ADAC meeting and asking again, and suggest that ADAC's response be that right now ADAC is still looking for someone and will let them (the FLC) know if someone steps forward to participate. Member does not believe we can ask someone to go to the meeting and just be an observer because he feels it would irritate people. Whoever goes will need to be an active participant. Christa agrees.
- Inquire if there is a possibility that we can get FLP planning committee to notify ADAC about what each meeting is concentrated on (i.e. Meeting agendas); that way, when agriculture comes up, we can maybe get someone to attend only the pertinent ones. Suggests telling them to keep us on the mailing list. Chair agrees. If ADAC can get minutes and agendas, it may help us allocate our resources efficiently.

6.2 North Cariboo ADAC Email Account

- Vacation responder will be implemented.

6.3 Member Terms of Service

- There are 5 ADAC Member Terms of Appointment that will expire Dec 31, 2022. We ask that members consider if they will be renewing their term with the committee. Notice in advance of the end of the year will assist the committee in ensuring that business can continue unimpeded by too few committee members and facilitate the recruitment/invitation/nomination of new members as required.
- Reanne S will not be renewing her term.
- Admin will communicate with those whose terms are expiring.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

7.1. Treasurer Report

- Presented as circulated to members with meeting resources via email.
- We will be looking to further member electronic voting via email on this.

7.2. Pillar Professionals Invoice to ADAC

- Presented as circulated to members with meeting resources via email.
- We will be looking to further member electronic voting via email on this.

R/2022-20

It was moved by Lynda A. and seconded by Martin R.

That the invoice submitted by Pillar Professional Support Services to ADAC, for Administrative Assistant contracted services be accepted, signed by ADAC Treasurer, Reanne Sanford, and forwarded to the CRD Finance Department for payment.

CARRIED

8. CORRESPONDENCE

- 8.1. Doodle Poll
 - We will start including meeting poll dates in emails as well as through Doodle for those who have not been able to access Doodle.
- 8.2. Email Rachael Mayo regarding the land development and forage seed selection inquiry referred to Nicole P.
- 8.3. Upland Consulting event invitations forwarded to ADAC members for RSVP
- 8.4. ADAC member quorum email voting on motions following the August 3rd meeting.
- 8.5. Multiple FARMED Opportunities 2022 forwarded emails.
 - Would all ADAC members who would like to continue to receive FARMED emails request directly from FARMED to be on their mailing list? ADAC Admin contemplates no longer forwarding FARMED emails with the expectation that if members want FARMED material, they can subscribe themselves. Some members may find continued forwarding of this content to be unsolicited emails. Member suggests continuing to forward the emails until the FARMED project can start working. Chair agrees to this for the time being and we will table it for the next meeting.
- 8.6. Quesnel Community Forests forwarded emails.
 - *(9:12:31pm David Zirnhelt left the meeting. Four members remaining in attendance.)*

9. ROUNDTABLE AND QUESTION PERIOD

10. ADJOURNMENT

Next Meeting: TBD

Agenda Submission Deadline: TBD



C. Pooley, Chair

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