

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Monday, July 22, 2019, 8:30 am

Conference Call

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES – April 25, 2019 meeting (as circulated via email)

4. DELEGATIONS - Nil

5. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 5.1. BC Ag Task Force; technology and innovation – comments and ideas may be submitted between July 11 and August 19, 2019. <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2019AGRI0082-001431>
- 5.2. Report on SelectSeed Presentation – July 17, 2019
- 5.3. Update on City of Quesnel Regional Food Hub – Amy Reid
- 5.4. ADAC Agriculture Area Plan – Nicole Pressey

6. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- 6.1 Ag Working Group Administration Report
- 6.2 FARMED Rural Dividend Project Development – Agriculture Education Program update

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Upcoming Events

August 23-25, 2019	Quesnel Fall Fair / Quesnel & District 4H Council Alex Fraser Park
September 7, 2019 6:30 pm - Dinner	Hops and Harvest Dinner West Fraser Centre

8. ROUNDTABLE

9. QUESTION PERIOD

10. ADJOURNMENT

Next Meeting:

Agenda Submission Deadline:

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.

/lf

Cariboo Regional District

**AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING**

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee, held
via conference call on April 25, 2019 at 8:30am

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Martin Rossmann, Chair	Kersley Farmers Institute
Rob Borsato, Treasurer	Quesnel Farmers Market
Roy Josephy	Horticulture
Erin Durrell	Quesnel Cattlemen's Association
Tim Lofstrom	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
Lynda Atkinson	Agriculture Working Group
Carey Ekelund	ADAC Administrative Assistant

REGRETS

Sheri Schweb, Secretary	BC Forage Council
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1. CALL TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

R/2019-24

It was moved and seconded

That the April 25, 2019 Agricultural Development Advisory Committee agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

R/2019-25

It was moved and seconded

That the minutes of the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee meeting dated March 25, 2019 be adopted.

CARRIED

4. DELEGATIONS - Nil

5. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5.1. Regional Agri-food Centre Business Plan <https://www.quesnel.ca/city-hall/major->

[initiatives/agriculture-centre-business-plan](#)

No current update

6. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1. FARMED Rural Dividend Project Development Agriculture Education Program Update

Carey Ekelund has started contacting interested teachers to help connect them with Agricultural programming.

Both Nicole Pressey and Erin Durrell have been in contact with others in different areas communicating about the Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC) programming. The AITC presentation in Quesnel and the lack of programming pertaining to animal production was brought up. Discussion of this topic followed, general consensus being that many different people/districts/committees will be communicating about this in the near future and hopefully changes will start to show in the curriculum and programming.

Nicole Pressey is wondering about bringing information about the Agriculture Sustainable Ranching (ASUR) program to secondary classrooms. She also shared information about the AITC programming for grade 11-12 students and how to increase usage of all educational resources from the AITC – this focused on the importance of finding a champion within our schools and community.

Lynda Atkinson advised that she met with Fertilizer Canada and that they have an employee dedicated to education and may have valuable resources that she recommended be looked into and used.

The importance of communicating between involved groups was discussed, and it was voiced that all involved should continue to report back to ADAC so committee members can stay updated on all activities being supported.

6.2. ADAC First Nations Communications and Engagement Strategy

The First Nations Communication and Engagement Strategy was reviewed by committee members and they agreed upon the importance of face-to-face contact and also put forward that an introductory letter should be sent out to First Nation Communities describing the ADAC and its purpose.

Lori noted a request has come from the Cariboo Agriculture Research Alliance and the Climate Action Initiative to use the information in this report.

Committee members noted that as a public committee within the CRD all documents are already posted publicly and so really it is not a departure from current practice but also that the report has a lot of good information that should be utilized by others and so ADAC fully supports information sharing.

Lori Fogarty confirmed that she will draft an introductory letter to be brought back to the committee for their review.

R/2019-26

It was moved and seconded

That the ADAC First Nations Communication and Engagement Strategy report will be shared publicly.

CARRIED

6.3. Agriculture Working Group Administration Report

Lori Fogarty advised that she will be sending out travel expenses to ADAC members for their approval. She also advised that the hiring of Carey Ekelund as administrative assistant for the ADAC is finalized. Lori confirmed she is finishing the presentation for the CRD board meeting on June 7th and will send it out for committee members to review several weeks before they are to present.

The resignation of the committee member representative for the BC Forage Council was discussed. The bylaw was reviewed to provide clarification on the possible options available to the committee. Committee members voiced an interest in the inclusion of a First nations representative on the ADAC, if possible. Serena will be contacted for names of possible representatives from the Forage Council.

Lori Fogarty brought forward the option to resubmit the special circumstances letter submitted last year to Rural Dividend. Questions about the criteria for special circumstance came forward as well as questions as to details with the letter. Lori quickly summarized the requests in the letter and it was agreed that she will resend the letter to ADAC members to look over. It was suggested this be included in the presentation to the June 7th CRD Board meeting, with a request for guidance from the CRD board.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1. Email communication

March 26, 2019 Tyler Jasper email with attached letter

R/2019-27

It was moved and seconded

That the correspondence from Tyler Jasper emailed on March 26, 2019 be officially received by ADAC.

CARRIED

7.2. Upcoming events

May 14, 2019 5:30 – 7pm	CRD sponsored North Cariboo Info Fair Barlow Creek Community Hall – 3810 Trembley Road, Quesnel
May 15, 2019 6:15pm	School District 28 Board Meeting presentation for ADAC awareness including an Agriculture Education update
May 23-25, 2019	BC Cattleman's 2019 AGM 525 Proctor Street, Williams Lake
June 1, 2019	National Farm Animal Care Council Codes of Practice BC Regulation referencing comes into force
June 7, 2019	ADAC Presentation to the CRD Board of Directors Quesnel
Apr 30 – May 1, 2019	Food Processor seminar at TRU – Erin Durrell asked that the

committee members spread the news of this event as sign-up is currently very low due to the timing of the workshop.

8. ROUNDTABLE

Committee member asked if it would be possible to have agendas and any attachments as separate documents to help with file organization. Lori Fogarty and/ or Carey Ekelund will now send the agenda (still including attachments as per requirements) and also separate documents.

Information of possible seed shortages was brought forward and the importance of getting seed orders in was discussed.

Announcement/reminder of 1st Farmers Market May 4th 2019

9. QUESTION PERIOD

10. ADJOURNMENT – 9:45am

Next Meeting – To Be Determined

M. Rossmann, Chair

/ce

British Columbia News

Task force to boost B.C. agriculture through tech, innovation

<https://news.gov.bc.ca/20223>

Thursday, July 11, 2019 9:15 AM

Surrey - The Province has created the Food Security Task Force to find new ways to use technology and innovation to strengthen B.C.'s agriculture sector and grow the economy by helping farmers farm and processors become more productive, now and in the future.

“By helping farmers put more B.C. farmland into production, our government is supporting the province’s agricultural industry and strengthening food security for all British Columbians,” said Lana Popham, Minister of Agriculture. “We are always looking for new ideas as we continue to help farmers produce more, grow new crops and develop thriving businesses. I know the task force will identify further innovations to support the sector and I’m looking forward to receiving their recommendations.”

The three-member task force, led by Peter Dhillon, chair, with Arvind Gupta and Lenore Newman as members, will assess and provide strategic advice on opportunities to:

- apply agri-technologies to help farmers and producers enhance productivity, increase economic competitiveness and sustainability, reduce waste and help make sure B.C. farmers are growing the food needed to meet demand;
- expand the emerging agritech industry in B.C. as a standalone economic sector to produce technologies that will be in demand globally;
- support the objectives of CleanBC, both through the adoption of technologies and practices that will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and
- increase access to fresh, healthy food and support local economies in communities throughout B.C.

“This task force will evaluate ways of innovating in this important sector with the goal of improving access to quality, healthy food for everyone,” said Bruce Ralston, Minister of Jobs, Trade and Technology. “It will also make recommendations to support our agritech companies as they scale up and anchor their operations here at home, creating clean jobs for British Columbians and contributing to a sustainable economy for the future.”

Raghwa Gopal, president and CEO, Innovate BC, will participate on an invited basis as an ex-officio member of the Food Security Task Force.

“B.C. has an opportunity to be the best in the world when it comes to innovation in our agricultural sector,” said Peter Dhillon. “At a time when climate change and technology are rapidly changing how we grow food, it is more important than ever that we make sure B.C.’s agritech sector has the support it needs to thrive. On behalf of the task force, we look forward to preparing a report for the government on how B.C. can help make that happen.”

The task force will speak with stakeholder groups and provide a final report to the ministers of Agriculture and Jobs, Trade and Technology by Dec. 31, 2019.

The public is invited to provide comments online: <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/foodsecuritytaskforce/>

- The 2019 speech from the throne mentioned the B.C. government would launch a food security task force to consider how B.C. can harness new technologies and innovation to produce more food, jobs and prosperity, while reducing waste.

A backgrounder, with biographies of the task force members, follows.

Media Contacts

Robert Boelens

Ministry of Agriculture
Communications
250 356-1674

Lori Cascaden

Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology
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778 698-2892

Backgrounders

Food Security Task Force members

Peter Dhillon, chair

Peter Dhillon is active in several business enterprises, including serving as the CEO of the Richberry Group of Companies, an agribusiness enterprise with operations in British Columbia and Quebec.

The Richberry Group consists of cranberry companies, which combined, are one of Ocean Spray Cranberries Ltd.'s largest shareholders and suppliers. Dhillon is chairman of the board of directors of Ocean Spray Cranberries Ltd. He is the youngest and the first Canadian to hold this position. Most recently, Dhillon was appointed to the board of directors of the Bank of Canada.

Dhillon is known for giving back to the community with his philanthropic and charitable service, which spans a wide variety of areas, including health care, child humanitarian support, education and sport. In 2009, he was honoured with the Order of British Columbia in recognition of his achievements and services. Recently, in a partnership with the University of British Columbia's Sauder school of business, the Peter P. Dhillon centre for business ethics was established.

In addition to his current business and philanthropic activities, Dhillon has held many other board positions, including:

- vice-chairman, British Columbia Ferry Corporation;
- vice-chairman, Agriculture Land Commission, which oversees all agriculture lands in British Columbia;
- board director, Canada Customs and Revenue Agency;
- board director, Vancouver Airport Authority;
- board governor, Simon Fraser University;
- board director, VGH & UBC Hospital Foundation;
- board director, Seacor Environmental; and

- board director, Canwel Building Materials.

Lenore Newman

Lenore Newman is the director of the Food and Agriculture Institute at the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV) where she holds a Canada Research Chair in food security and environment. She is an associate professor in the department of geography and the environment at UFV and a member of the Royal Society of Canada's New College of Scholars.

Newman researches agricultural land-use policy, bioengineering in the food system, and the role of food and agriculture in the creation of place. Newman sat on the B.C. Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Committee on Revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve and regularly speaks to government and community groups.

She has published over 40 academic journal articles and book chapters, and her opinion pieces on the future of farmland use and other food-related issues have been published in the Globe and Mail, Vancouver Sun and Georgia Straight.

Her first book, *Speaking in Cod Tongues*, was published to wide acclaim in January 2017 and won a Saskatchewan Book Award. Her second book, *Lost Feast*, will be published by ECW Press in 2019. She holds a PhD in environmental studies from Toronto's York University and lives in Vancouver.

Arvind Gupta

Arvind Gupta is a professor of computer science at the University of Toronto and at the University of British Columbia (UBC). He has served as president and vice-chancellor of UBC, and as the CEO and scientific director of Mitacs Inc.

Gupta has published extensively on computational genomics and national innovation, and industrial strategies. As the founder and CEO of Mitacs Inc., Gupta achieved international success for interweaving graduate education with business and socio-economic needs by bringing together 60 universities with more than 1,000 industrial partners.

He serves as a regular contributor to research, innovation and advanced skills policies, with more than 100 national and international appearances. He is a senior fellow of the Brookfield Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, and serves on the boards of the India-Canada Research Centre of Excellence, the Banff International Research Station, the Fields Institute as chair, the Canadian Statistical Society Institute as vice-chair, Palette Inc. as chair, and the Structural Innovation and Monitoring Technologies Resource Centre.

He obtained his B.Sc. from McMaster University, and his M.Sc. and PhD from the University of Toronto.