## Cariboo Regional District

# AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA

# Monday, September 23, 2019 8:30-10am Via Conference Call

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#### 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

## 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- 3.1 April 25, 2019 meeting (as circulated via email)
- 3.2 July 22, 2019 meeting discussion notes (as circulated via email)

## 4. DELEGATIONS

## 5. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 5.1. Cariboo Regional District request for response to Class D & E Meat Inspection Program
- 5.2. Agriculture Area Plan Update from CRD Vice-Chair John Massier
- 5.3. Regional Food Hub update
- 5.4. Interior Forest Renewal Session report
- 5.5. ADAC representative updates

## 6. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

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

## 7. CORRESPONDENCE

- 7.1 Email Correspondence:
  - 7.1.1 Eric Lamothe: July 16, 2019 Cariboo Chilcotin Labour Market Survey
  - 7.1.2 Laurie Curry Nazko Band Operations Manager: July 30, 2019 Agriculture Development
  - 7.1.3 Holly Jackson: August 6, 2019 Regional Food Hub Article for Beef in BC magazine
  - 7.1.4 Taddea Kinkel: September 3, 2019 Letter of Support City's Food Hub Investment project

## 7.2 Upcoming Events

September 18, 2019	BC Forage Council "Pasture Walk"	
5:30 – 7:30pm	Australian Ranch - 6666 Yorston Rd; 34km south of Quesnel	
	Email to confirm attendance: <a href="mailto:bcfc@bcforagecouncil.com">bcfc@bcforagecouncil.com</a>	
	Cariboo Agriculture Research Alliance	
October 17, 2019	Long-term Forage Crop & Variety Trials Focus Group Session	
October 18, 2019	Specialty Crop & Horticulture Crop Diversification Focus Group Session	
1:00-5:00pm	Williams Lake – Pioneer Complex 351 Hodgson Road	

Agricultural Development Advisory Committee (ADAC,
September 23, 2019

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- 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 <a href="https://www.quesnel.ca/city-hall/major-">https://www.quesnel.ca/city-hall/major-</a>

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 7<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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

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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 4<sup>th</sup> 2019

## 9. QUESTION PERIOD

10. ADJOURNMENT – 9:45am				
Next Meeting – To Be Determined				

M. Rossmann, Chair

/ce

## **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 July 22, 2019 at 8:30 am

## **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Martin Rossmann, Chair Kersley Farmers Institute

Tim Lofstrom College of New Caledonia - Quesnel

CRD Director John Massier CRD Liaison

## SUPPORT TEAM MEMBERS PRESENT

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

**GUESTS** 

Amy Reid City of Quesnel Economic Development Officer

**REGRETS** 

Rob Borsato, Treasurer Quesnel Farmers Market

Roy Josephy Horticulture

Erin Durrell Quesnel Cattlemen's Association

Nicole Pressey Ministry of Agriculture

Carey Ekelund ADAC Administrative Assistant

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

## 2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was noted that there was not a quorum for this conference call meeting. The meeting proceeded as discussion only.

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

**Tabled** 

## 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. <a href="https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2019AGRI0082-001431">https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2019AGRI0082-001431</a>

The task force 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.

Martin Rossmann– reviewed the news release noting the task force was proposed by the Minister of Agriculture Lana Popham. The qualifications of the task force members were also reviewed.

John Massier suggested a representative from ADAC explore the on-line link and comments. https://engage.gov.bc.ca/foodsecuritytaskforce/

Wilma Watkin – noted that any technology and innovation changes need to consider climate change and the impacts on labour. i.e. Saskatchewan used to have 10-20 workers on a farm but with farming and technology improvements, there is now only 2 workers. Increasing the number of farms, will help to stabilize the amount of labour.

Martin Rossmann asked if the task force was involved in the labour survey currently taking place and John Massier noted the labour survey is a local initiative.

## 5.2. Report on SelectSeed Presentation – July 17, 2019 - Martin

Brian Barber presented to the City of Quesnel to inform them they will be putting out a Request for Proposals for sites to create a seed tree orchard to produce lodgepole pine seeds on a 32-acre site, below 600 m elevation. Using a grafting process, they plan to produce seeds with improved genetics. Those interested in participating may email <a href="mailto:brian.barber@selectseed.ca">brian.barber@selectseed.ca</a>

Select Seed Co. Ltd. was incorporated under B.C.'s Company Act in April 1999. It is 100% owned by the <u>Forest Genetics Council of BC</u> (FGC) through the BC Forest Genetics Society, registered under the Societies Act.

SelectSeed's mandate is to produce genetically-selected tree seed to achieve FGC's goals of enhancing the productivity and resilience of BC's forests. It is also mandated to management services to FGC. http://www.selectseed.ca/index.html

John mentioned this may be a good opportunity for First Nations groups.

## 5.3. Update on City of Quesnel Regional Food Hub – Amy Reid

Since the last ADAC meeting the Ministry of Agriculture has proposed to direct award a Shared Cost Arrangement (SCA) to the City of Quesnel for up to \$500,000 to operationalize a Food Hub in the North Cariboo for the Cariboo Region, as part of the Ministry's BC Food Hub Network initiative.

Since no one contested the direct award on BC Bid, the next step is to develop a contract between the City and the Ministry of Agriculture for funding and a news release should occur by end of July.

The Ministry is developing a Food Hub Network consisting of a Core Food Innovation Centre at the University of British Columbia (UBC) Vancouver Campus with multiple Regional Food Hubs to

be virtually connected across the province. These Regional Food Hubs will offer agri-food businesses access to shared infrastructure, equipment, and technical services, such as commercial kitchen space, specialized equipment, business development services, analytic services, and applied research opportunities that support food processing.

The agreement will include the following activities:

- · Establishing a regional coordinator to support the development and implementation of the Regional Food Hub;
- · Establishing a site(s) to facilitate operations and house equipment for the Regional Food Hub
- $\cdot$  Delivering and/or coordinating training and business development services for the agri-food sector

Lori Fogarty asked if ADAC will be needed to support the process. Amy Reid noted that ADAC's role was to get the process going and that has now been achieved. A long-term contractor will be organizing the non-profit society and a Board of Directors for the hub will be established. The Food Hub will have many requirements to meet and open communication will be important for all the agriculture and community stakeholders.

John Massier commented that ADAC's role will be to provide support as needed and ensure the process is successful.

## 5.4. ADAC Agriculture Area Plan

Lori Fogarty noted that to proceed with an Agriculture Area Plan it would need to be initiated by local government. One question would be to identify if the area plan would be sub-regional or focus on the full Cariboo region. It was noted the budgeting process begins in the fall. We would need more information from Nicole to estimate the cost of completing a plan, noting cost sharing of up to 50% is available through the Investment Agriculture Fund.

John will approach the CRD Chair Margo Wagner and CEO John MacLean for feedback to see if this could be reviewed for the fall budget.

## 6. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

## 6.1. Ag Working Group Administrative Report

Lori Fogarty reported the unofficial 2019 ADAC budget is \$4,477.95. Expenditures not yet claimed will bring the total estimated budget to \$3,670.00. This includes funding travel expenses for the new Agriculture in the Classroom ambassador (AITC) to support travel to the Ambassador Training Session in Abbotsford.

R/2019-28

It was moved and seconded via email on June 17, 2019

That we cover from our current budget the travel costs for a regional Agriculture in the Classroom ambassador to travel to Abbotsford for training in August.

**CARRIED** 

## 6.2. FARMED Rural Dividend Project Development Grant update

The Agriculture Education Program facilitator and Project Management Team has met with teachers and administration from several elementary schools, the junior and senior schools including the school district career preparation coordinator and identified potential program opportunities.

The Project Management Team made a presentation to the School District 28 Board of Directors in May to introduce them to the facilitator and share the plans proposed in the Agriculture Education Program

Contact with Agriculture in the Classroom CEO, Patricia Tonn has continued. The AITC initiated a pilot project to rollout the program to other regions of BC, including the Cariboo. An AITC ambassador for the North Cariboo region has been selected and she will participate in the Ambassador Training Program from August 23-25 in Abbotsford.

## 7. CORRESPONDENCE

- 7.1. Email communication Nil
- 7.2. Upcoming events

August 23-25, 2019 Quesnel Fall Fair / Quesnel & District 4H Council

Alex Fraser Park

September 7, 2019 Hops and Harvest Dinner 6:30 pm - Dinner West Fraser Centre

## 8. ROUNDTABLE

Tim Lofstrom noted there has been a problem with the Sea Can unit meeting the North American Electrical Standards, but a smaller model is being built. CNC has entered into an agreement to provide curriculum and instruction on cannabis production.

## 9. QUESTION PERIOD

Next meeting: Proposed for the end of September; a specific date will be determined by members via email.

## **10. ADJOURNMENT** - 9:30am

M. Rossmann, Chair	
/lf	



# Discussion Paper to solicit feedback from Local Governments about Class D Licences

July 29, 2019

## **Provincial Meat Inspection**

The overall objective of the provincial meat inspection program is to provide a credible regulatory system that is effective in ensuring food safety and animal welfare, while providing sufficient flexibility to enable a competitive slaughter industry with capacity for livestock producers of all sizes across B.C. The Ministry of Agriculture (Ministry) is committed to working with operators of all types and sizes to support development of cost-effective and innovative slaughter capacity solutions in all regions of the province.

Class D licences are only available in the ten regional districts that have been designated in regulation. Class D licence holders may slaughter up to 11,340 kilograms (25,000 pounds) of their own or other people's animals per year, for direct sales to consumers or to food businesses such as restaurants and meat shops in the regional district in which the meat was produced.

## Select Standing Committee on Agriculture, Fish and Food Report

In 2018, the all-party Select Standing Committee on Agriculture, Fish and Food (Committee) led a comprehensive engagement process with stakeholders on the current meat inspection system. The Committee gathered input by travelling throughout the province and speaking with local citizens to ensure opportunity for interested parties to participate.

The Committee released their report with 21 recommendations for government related to licensing and oversight, skilled labour and workforce, and industry growth and development. The Ministry is seeking further feedback on recommendation #3 related to Class D licensing:

**#3:** Help Class D and E licensed producers reach markets closer to home by investigating alternative boundary restrictions for sales, other than regional districts.

## **Invite Feedback**

To support rural slaughter capacity, the Ministry would like to invite input from local governments on:

- proposals for new Class D regions or sub-regions; and
- · designation of new regions or sub-regions.

The Ministry has received submissions related to this topic in the past. This invitation for feedback is an opportunity to present new ideas, and for updating and consideration of previous input in the context of the Committee's report.

For more information about Class D licences please visit:

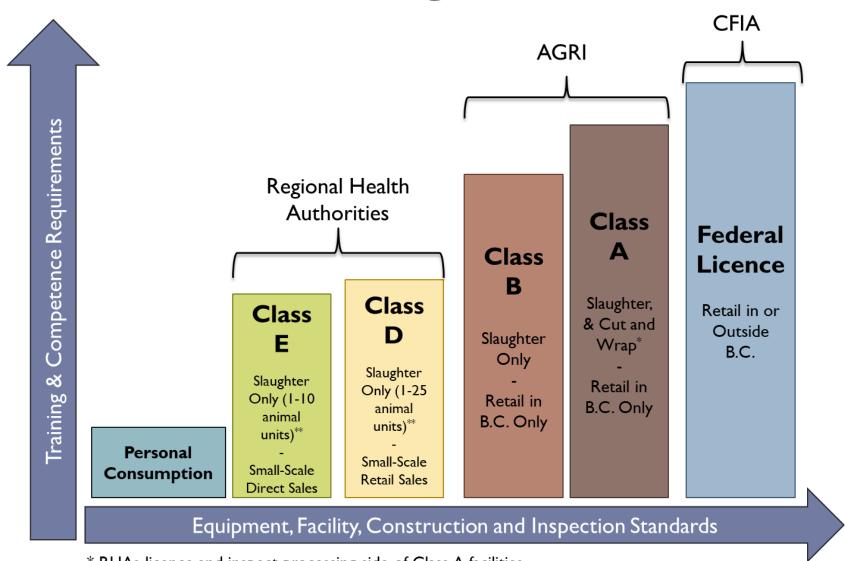
https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/agriculture-seafood/food-safety/meat-inspection-licensing/class-d-e-licences

Please submit feedback by October 1st, 2019 (in Word or PDF format only) to

bcmeatinspection@gov.bc.ca

<u>Please note:</u> Only submissions from local governments will be accepted.

# Four Classes of Slaughter Licences



<sup>\*</sup> RHAs licence and inspect processing side of Class A facilities

<sup>\*\*</sup> One animal unit = combined weight, when measured alive, of 1,000 lbs or 454 kg of meat

## lorifogarty1@gmail.com

From:

"Erle Lamothe" <elamothe@mdbinsight.com>

Date:

July 16, 2019 2:10 PM

To:

<northcaribooadac@gmail.com>

Cc: Subject: "Darron Campbell" <dcampbell@cariboord.ca> Cariboo Chilcoten Labour Market Study - large farms

## Hello Lori,

I was given your email from Darron Campbell at the Regional District. I'm not sure if you are aware of it, but the Regional District and a number of partner communities from across the region are working on a Labour Market Study to plan for their future business and labour force needs. My firm MDB Insight has been contracted to develop the Study. One key component is an employer survey with area employers, large and small! We are trying to see if you have and recommendations for specific farms that you would suggest we try to make sure are priorities in our survey outreach. We are looking for outfits that employ at least a couple of people other than family labour.

We are looking for a good list of farms that employ people from the northern and southern (Williams Lake and lower) portions of the Cariboo Region.

Do you think you would be able to refer me to three or four people we could interview each in the north and south?

I hope we can work something out!

I'm happy to answer any questions you might have.

Best,

Erle



Erle Lamothe, MA, Ec.D | Senior Consultant

## MDB Insight Inc.

<u>elamothe@mdbinsight.com</u> | p. 1.855.367.3535 ext. 242 | m. 514.434.8767 <u>www.mdbinsight.com</u> | <u>Blog</u>

## lorifogarty1@gmail.com

From:

"Laurie Curry" <Laurie@nazkoecdev.ca>

Date:

July 30, 2019 8:11 AM

To:

<northcaribooadac@gmail.com>

Subject:

ADAC brochure

## Hello

I just picked up your brochure at the ministry of forests office.

I am the operations manager for the economic development group with Nazko.

We are receiving two 20x100 green houses this year and another in 2020.

These greenhouses will hopefully help Nazko community get involved with agriculture.

Though the fires have destroyed so much of Nazkos livelihood, they have also forced us to look outward/inward as far as opportunities for alternate industry. Agriculture has always been in the background for the band. A few families have had, and still have livestock supplementing their income. Gardening has also been the passion of many families but due to various problems and concerns it has never been a sustained venture.

Now Nazko has several people thinking that agriculture may be an industry that can assist us with food security as well as an avenue for future profitable projects

Some of the areas we are looking at are;

Propagation of local medicinal plants
Propagation of native food plants
Livestock production
Wild rice
Wild blueberry production

Recently there has been a push for fire mitigation around Nazko as well as other communities. After opening the stands, grass and other forage has been released and has very lush growth. These areas, if left now, will turn into a potential fire hazard themselves with heavy grass stands. Grazing these areas would reduce the fire hazard as well as provide income for the band.

Recently the ministry of forests is proposing fencing areas of the 2017 burn and open it to grazing, this alone has a few spin off opportunities.

So...... I was wondering if you would be interested in assisting us becoming involved with agriculture. I am only looking for practical knowledge to start, which may help us narrow our field

Thanks Laurie Curry.

Phone 250-991-0284

## lorifogarty1@gmail.com

From:

"Martin & Mary Rossmann" <mnmranch@goldcity.net>

Date:

August 6, 2019 11:19 AM

To:

"Fogarty Lori" < lorifogarty l@gmail.com>

Subject:

Fw: Regional Food Hub

## Hi Lori

I was heading out to the hayfield just as this request came in.

I hate to impose on you, but was wondering if there might be more info we could send.

Maybe some background on ADAC as well.

Is this something that Carrie Eckland could do?

I'm probably not available till dark.

Thanks, Martin

From: Holly Jackson

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 06, 2019 10:49 AM **To:** <u>Erin Durrell</u>; <u>Martin & Mary Rossmann</u>

Subject: Regional Food Hub

Hi Erin, Martin & Mary,

Just wondering if the Quesnel Regional Food Hub is something you are involved in and if so, if there was something that we could put in Beef in BC? Here is the release from BC Gov News:

https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2019AGRI0047-001142

Thoughts, ideas? Holly

Holly Jackson, BC Cattlemen's Association Ph: 250-573-3611 www.cattlemen.bc.ca



Adac Executive <northcaribooadac@gmail.com>

## Letter of Support for the City's Food Hub Investment project

Taddea Kunkel <a href="mailto:tkunkel@quesnel.ca">tkunkel@quesnel.ca</a>

Tue, Sep 3, 2019 at 11:13 AM

To: "northcaribooadac@gmail.com" <northcaribooadac@gmail.com>

Hello,

I am looking at getting in touch with Lori Fogarty in regard to a letter of support for the City's Food Hub Investment project.

In late July, the Minister of Agriculture announced its commitment of up to \$500,000 for the City to develop a regional food hub in Quesnel. To leverage these funds, the City has sent in a proposal, to NDIT, to conduct a capital investment analysis for the food hub to determine the needed equipment and what the rental rates would be for local producers. This proposal will allow for the City to have a better understanding of the types of equipment that are needed in food manufacturing and processing, and will help our local producers.

To help our submitted proposal, we are hoping that you would be able to provide us with a letter of support on behalf of your organization. AS this is a highly busy time of the year for many organizations, I have drafted a letter of support that can be used as is, or built upon.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me. I look forward to hearing back.

Kind regards,



## Taddea Kunkel

## Forestry Initiatives Coordinator/Grant Writer

City of Quesnel | 410 Kinchant St, Quesnel BC V2J 7J5

T: 250-991-7473 | www.quesnel.ca



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7.1.4

https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ik=cecae4bbcf&view=pt&search=all&permmsgid=msg...

Agricultural Development Advisory Committee
North Cariboo
c/o 4059 Aird Road,
Quesnel BC V2J 6V8
northcaribooadac@gmail.com
https://www.cariboord.ca/agriculture

September 6, 2019

Northern Development Initiative Trust 301-1268 Fifth Avenue, Prince George, BC V2L 3L2

Re: Support for the City of Quesnel's Food Hub Equipment Investment Project

Dear Sir/Madam,

As chair of Agricultural Development Advisory Committee (ADAC), I would like to express our support for the Food Hub Investment project.

In April 2018, the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee (ADAC) was established in the North Cariboo. The Committee provides an important link between government, various agencies and organizations and the agricultural industry in Quesnel and surrounding area. The Committee is involved in and supports projects aimed at promoting public awareness, diversification and growth of the agriculture industry in the region. The recently announced commitment of up to \$500,000 from the Ministry of Agriculture for the City of Quesnel to develop a regional food hub brings more opportunities for local farmers, ranchers and wild harvesters to increase revenue by adding value to their products.

The City's submitted project to the Northern Development Initiative Trust's Capital Investment Analysis program will help the community to properly capitalize and use the funding provided by the provincial government to its fullest. The project will help build the agriculture industry's capacity within our region, and expand local knowledge about food manufacturing and processing.

Members of the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee are excited about the economic and relationship building opportunities that this project will offer Quesnel and the surrounding region.

Sincerely,

Martin Rossmann Agricultural Development Advisory Committee Chair