



**Date:** 09/09/2020

**To:** Chair and Directors, Policy Committee

**And To:** John MacLean, Chief Administrative Officer

**From:** Nigel Whitehead, Manager of Planning Services

**Date of Meeting:** Policy Committee\_Sep15\_2020

**File:** 0340-50

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## Short Summary:

Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) Landowner Exclusion Application Policy

## Voting:

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## Memorandum:

At the August 20, 2020 Committee of the Whole Meeting, a report outlining Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) changes was presented. As part of the implementation of Bill 15, the ALC will no longer accept ALR exclusion applications from private landowners as of September 30, 2020. Accordingly, the proposed policy will outline how the CRD will consider future exclusion requests from private landowners.

Based on Committee of the Whole discussion, option five in the COW memorandum (attached) was selected as the underlying policy principle. The proposed policy will compile landowner requests for ALR exclusion for consideration by CRD staff when that applicable area's OCP is updated. Allowance has been made for similar consideration in Rural Land Use Bylaw areas. Further, consideration has been made for the portion of the South Cariboo Zoning Bylaw area that is presently not within an OCP.

The proposed policy was referred for comment to the Agricultural Land Commission and Ministry of Agriculture. Given the tight timeframe of this project, responses were not received by date of this report. Should substantial feedback be received, further amendments may be brought to a subsequent Board Meeting and/or Policy Committee meeting for endorsement as time permits.

## Attachments:

1. Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) Landowner Exclusion Application Policy
2. August 20, 2020 COW Memo – ALC Update and Exclusion Policy Discussion

## Financial Implications:

As private landowners will no longer be able to make ALR exclusion applications, any proposals which the CRD wishes to bring to the ALC will require staff resourcing and associated application fees to make such an application.

### **Policy Implications:**

Establishing a clear policy will provide certainty to landowners who wish to request removal of their properties from the ALR.

### **Alignment with Strategic Plan:**

- ☐ **Communication:** Facilitate communication strategies throughout the entire Cariboo Regional District that meet the needs of residents, community stakeholders, and other levels of government.
- ☒ **Planning:** Intentionally plan services and activities of the CRD to prepare for future needs of residents and community stakeholders.
- ☐ **Economic Sustainability:** Foster an environment to ensure the economic sustainability of CRD communities and the region.
- ☒ **Governance:** Ensure that CRD governance policy and practices are intentional, transparent, and respectful.

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### **CAO Comments:**

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### **Options:**

- 1) Endorse policy;
- 2) Receipt and request amendments;
- 3) Receipt only;
- 4) Defer.

### **Recommendation:**

That the agenda item summary from Nigel Whitehead, Manager of Planning Services, dated September 9, 2020, regarding the proposed Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) Landowner Exclusion Application Policy, be received. Further, that the proposed Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) Landowner Exclusion Application Policy be endorsed by the Committee.