

ADAC

North Cariboo Agricultural Development Advisory Committee

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2021 April 27

Cariboo Regional District
Planning Services
Suite D, 180 North Third Avenue,
Williams Lake, BC V2G 2A4

Re: Endorsement of Grant Application for Cariboo Regional District Agricultural Area Plan

To Whom it may Concern:

On behalf of the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee of the north Cariboo, we would like to express our full support for the Cariboo Regional District's application for Investment Agriculture Foundation (IAF) funding to develop a stand alone, regional wide Agricultural Area Plan (AAP).

In April 2018, the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee (ADAC) was established in the north Cariboo by the Cariboo Regional District (CRD). The Committee provides an important link between government, the agriculture industry and various supporting agencies and organizations in Quesnel and the surrounding area. The Committee is involved in and supports projects aimed at promoting public awareness, diversification and expansion of the agriculture industry in the region.

The ADAC members feel the development of a comprehensive agricultural area planning document for the Cariboo region is an important step to increase diversity within the region and the agriculture industry. Many challenges in agriculture require a long-term solution, and an Agricultural Area Plan can provide a framework for local government when making decisions in regards to continuing agricultural-related matters and create a central location for policy. The process will facilitate regional coordination and communication, allowing stakeholders to become involved in open discussion and enhance the awareness of agricultural issues within the region. An AAP can afford an opportunity for the agriculture industry to inform and guide regional, and municipal Official Community Plans, including a review of current Agricultural Land Reserve boundaries. With the focus on climate change adaptation, an AAP will assist in the development of policy to embed strength in the agricultural sector. The policy framework of an AAP can provide direction for maintaining, expanding and fortifying agricultural development throughout the Cariboo Regional District by ensuring effective utilization of sectoral capacity.

Members of the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee are supportive of this application to the Investment Agriculture Foundation Local Government Partnership Program and should it be successful we look forward to continuing our work with the Cariboo Regional District and providing support to the process of developing the Agricultural Area Plan.

Sincerely,



Christa Pooley, Chair
Agricultural Development Advisory Committee