



Date: 25/02/2021

To: North Cariboo Rural Directors Caucus

And To: John MacLean, Chief Administrative Officer

From: Beth Holden, Regional Economic & Community Development Officer

Date of Meeting: North Cariboo Rural Directors Caucus_Mar09_2021

File: 6750-02

Short Summary:

Quesnel Food Security Project

Voting:

By Consensus

Memorandum:

Kristen Balaski is currently halfway through a three-year contract as the Community Food Security Coordinator employed at the Quesnel Office of Canadian Mental Health. She has completed the first step of the project, assessing and mapping to identify community needs, accessing community resources, gaps and barriers, and community partners. The following is a list of actions the City of Quesnel and other community partners can take to support the project;

- Advocate for universal basic income and poverty reduction of citizens
- Share knowledge related to food insecurity, dispelling myths and broadening perspectives
- Create letters of support for food security projects and initiatives
- In kind commitment to projects, such as
 - o Renewed lease of office space to Canadian Medical Health Association for support of food coordination project
 - o Collaboration between Regional Food Hub and food support programming (examples include use of truck rental or food processing services; space sharing for food storage)
 - o Coordination and facilitation of the ongoing food security meetings in Quesnel, possibly transforming this into a Food Policy Council

The group plans to mail a brochure to Quesnel and the surrounding area. If they request financial support, they can be directed to year-round grants for assistance.

Attachments:

Quesnel Food Security Project - 2021

Financial Implications:

None at this time.

Policy Implications:

Funding for a mailout is best supported by a year-round grant for assistance.

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) Endorsement of recommendation;
- 2) Receipt and other action at direction of the North Cariboo Rural Directors Caucus;
- 3) Defer

Recommendation:

That the agenda item summary from Beth Holden, Regional Economic & Community Development Officer, dated February 25, 2021, regarding the information about the Quesnel Food Security Project, be received. Further, that the Cariboo Regional District Board provide letters of support upon request. Further, that staff direct them to apply for a year-round grant for assistance should they request funding to support a mailout.