## "Opportunities 2022 & Beyond" Project Update

**Connecting Producers to Consumers and Increasing Food Security & Food Sovereignty across the North Cariboo** (Phase 3: North Cariboo Agricultural Awareness & Marketing Project)

Presented by FARMED to the Northern Caucus - Cariboo Regional District February 13, 2024 North Cariboo Agricultural Marketing Association www.FARMED.ca







### **Territorial Acknowledgement**

We are grateful to live, work, and grow, collect and process our food on the traditional territories of the Dakelh, Secwepemc and Tsilhqot'in peoples.







### **Background Information**

#### May 17, 2022

- Motion passed: *"FARMED project be supported with \$3,000.00 to be allocated from the North Cariboo Economic Development Service in 2022, with a possible extension into 2023 following a review of the first year of the project.* 





### **Background Information**

#### March 14, 2023

- Motion passed: ".... Further that \$3,000 per year for two years be provided to the group from the North Cariboo Economic Development budget, subject to receipt of an annual report from the group including a summary of its key activities as well as revenue and expenses".





### **Background Information**

#### February 13, 2024

- Meeting 2023 request for an annual report from FARMED including a summary of its key activities as well as revenue and expenses;

- Update includes an overview of the past 12 months, impact of project to date, and plans looking forward





### Activities

#### June, 2023: AgriConnect was launched! www.farmed.ca/agriconnect

Site includes: Producer Map Producer Directory Non-Profits Agricultural Resources List Registrations Stories and Videos Sponsors





#### WELCOME TO AGRI-CONNECT

Welcome to agri-connect, connecting consumers and producers in the North Cariboo Region.

CONSUMERS get to know local producers and shop for high quality agricultural products. PRODUCERS attract new customers and discover programs and support to grow your business.

Find us on Facebook

Email us at info@farmed.r

CONNECT with local producers and nonprofit organizations enhancing food security in our region to learn their stories through short videos and narratives. FIND resources providing a range of services and supports for apricultural

businesses and local consumers.

enhanced listing.

LEARN how to use this web site, and all of its resources, by watching this

LEARN how to use this web site, and all of its resources, by watching this video: Connecting Consumers & Producers Video

AgriConnect Demo (U-Tube Video)



### Activities

### August, 2023: Celebratory Launch





#### Quesnel Farmers Market









### Root Cellar / Market Garden & Wildfire Tour

Knowledge Transfer & Technology Grant Ministry of Agriculture

#### September / October, 2023





Sisters Creek Simmentals, Kersley, BC Fuel Management Trails, Quesnel, BC with BC Wildfire Service





### Highway Billboard Sign Replacement December, 2023

x2 12' x 16' Billboard Signage Highway 97 - North and South of Quesnel

**10 YEAR INVESTMENT** 

Local Photography!







### Workshops

Knowledge Transfer & Technology Grant Ministry of Agriculture

January - March, 2024





#1: Emergency Preparedness & Safety for Farms and Rural Property Owners

#2: Vending at a BC Farmers Market
(cancelled)

#3: Food Preservation: Adding Value & Eliminating Waste

#4: Farm to Consumer: Rules for Compliant Production



### Videography

March - April, 2024

2 Films produced by local filmmaker - Shattered Lens Videography

Focused on FARMED, membership and its benefits

1 Film forthcoming with an Indigenous Focus (Traditional Foods, Foraging, Recipes, etc.



https://www.farmed.ca/agconnect/stories-and-videos





### **Kiosk Replacement**

April - June, 2024

Replacing Kiosk with "Agriculture Awareness Signage" (8' x 4')

Multiple Locations (2 to start: Quesnel (Alex Fraser Park), Bouchie Lake)

Includes a Map, Product Information, QR Code, and links to AgriConnect







### **Lamp Post Banners**

April - June, 2024

Replacement of 13 x 2 (26) Lamp Post Banners

Promote AgriConnect

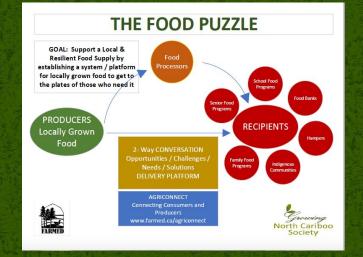
10 Year Investment







### The North Cariboo Food Puzzle April - December, 2024



\$10,000 Imagine Grant (Northern Health)

Collaborative Project involving many Stakeholders

Design Thinking Workshop - April 13 & 20th

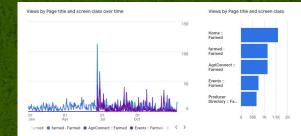
Action Plan / Recommendations





### **Impact To Date**

- Volunteer Project Working Committee meets every two weeks;
- FARMED Membership: 50 members; increased by another 15 since February, 2023;
- Knowledge Transfer
- Increased Traffic to www.farmed.ca



Google Analytics www.farmed.ca





### **Looking Forward**

 Enhance partnership to expand reach of Agri-Connect = Increased Economic Benefit = Sustainability / Long Term Viability

(e.g. Quesnel Visitor Info. Centre; CCCTA / Cariboo Chilcotin Coast Tourism Association);

- Expand Sponsorship Programme on Agri-Connect
- Expand Agri-Connect as a Regional Resource (eg Mentorship Programme; Knowledge Transfer; Cross Promotion of Agricultural / Food Processing Resources, etc.





### Sustaining Partners / Funders todate

Northern Development Initiative Trust (2023) Integris Credit Union (2022, 2023, 2024) Community Futures - North Cariboo (2023-2024) Cariboo Regional District (2022/2023/2024) Quesnel Community Foundation (2023)







### Looking Forward

FARMED is grateful for the support of \$3,000 / year for the last 2 years and the additional \$3,000 for this coming year (2024-25)

FARMED requests that the Cariboo Regional District through the North Cariboo Economic Development Taxation Function enter into a multi-year Contribution Agreement of \$5000.00 / year commencing fiscal year 2024-25 for 5 Years.





### Contact Us Opportunities 2022 Committee farmed2007@gmail.com

### FARMED Board of Directors: info@farmed.ca











# THANK YOU

