

Cariboo Regional District

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee, held via Zoom, on November 20th, 2024 at 7pm

Purpose and Use of Meeting Minutes

The purpose of the meeting minutes is to summarize the discussions that occurred during the meeting and record action items. Comments summarized here represent the opinions of the individuals who made them and not of the Advisory Group as a whole. We intentionally do not associate names with the input recorded in the minutes to support a more open dialogue. A Record of Motions is kept, validating the members' votes to carry motions. Minutes will be used to plan for future meetings and to create documents supporting the Advisory Group and its processes. Advisory Group members are given the opportunity to provide feedback on the minutes. Minutes will be approved at the following meeting.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Megan Flatt	Cariboo Chilcotin Sheep Producer's Association
Robin Hunt	Farmers Market
Lynda Atkinson	Regional Food and Innovation Hub & Kersley Farmers' Institute
Jennifer Roberts	Quesnel Cattleman's Association
Chad Stump	ECHEN Deni Urban Nation Roots
Cynthia Fell	Indigenous Governments
Gillian Watt	Post-Secondary Institutions

LIAISON MEMBERS PRESENT

CDR Director Tolin Pare	CRD Liaison
Nicole Pressey	Ministry of Agriculture and Food

CRD STAFF

Nigel Whitehead	Manager, Planning Services
Shivani Sajwan	CRD Planning Officer II

DELEGATIONS

REGRETS

David Zirnhelt	Cariboo Cattlemen's Association
Martin Rossmann	Kersley Farmers Institute
Tyrone Johnston	Agrobusiness
Tammy Briggs	Horticulture and Greenhouse Production

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

Lauren Dillabough	Administrative Assistant
-------------------	--------------------------

1. CALL TO ORDER @ 7:02 PM

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

R/2024-19

Moved by Megan F. and seconded by Jennifer R.

That the November 20th, 2024 Cariboo Agricultural Development Advisory Committee agenda be

approved.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

R/2024-20

Moved by Cynthia F. and seconded by Jennifer R.

That the minutes of the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee meeting dated October 16th, 2024 be adopted.

CARRIED

4. DELEGATIONS

4.1. N/A

5. OLD AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5.1. Agricultural Area Plan (AAP) – Shivani

5.1.1 Members were encouraged to review the agricultural Area Plan (AAP) document and provide input on actionable priorities for the next year.

Key Topics that were discussed:

- (a) Education on Farming
 - (i) Proposal to increase agricultural education in schools, educate the public on farming realities and train officials on agricultural related matters.
- (b) Invasive plants
 - (i) Issues of spreading noxious plants were discussed with a suggestion to invite Alex Mutch from the invasive species council of BC for guidance.
 - (ii) Recommendations to align invasive species management with soil and grazing practices.
- (c) Meat Processing
 - (i) members emphasized the importance of Class A abattoirs and expanding cut and wrap facilities.
 - (ii) Highlighted the closures of abattoirs and its impact on small scale meat producers.
 - (iii) Noted gap in processing for poultry, sheep and goats.
 - (iv) Suggestions to explore mobile or smaller scale facilities for local needs.
- (d) ALR
- (e) Food Hub
- (f) Grant support
- (g) Tourism
 - (i) Challenges noted around biosecurity and insurance concerns.
 - (ii) Suggestions to collaborate with TRU's agritourism courses and tourism associations to address these barriers.
- (h) Climate
 - (i) Encouragement for programs related to carbon, targeted grazing and soil health improvements.
- (i) Working with Ministries

Plan will be to discuss at in-person meeting in the new year. To discuss the 3 main goals first than

work towards other goals once the first ones are completed.

ACTION: Members to send their 3 main goals with supporting rationale to Megan by December 6th. She will combine into one document and it will be used at the in-person meeting.

5.2. MIN OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD (NICOLE PRESSEY) – Programs & Event Review

5.2.1 New Cabinet Updates:

- (a) Minister Lana Popham retained the Agriculture and Food portfolio. Ian Patton named shadow minister.
- (b) Funding Opportunities:
 - (i) Environmental Farm Plan (EFP): Applications open.
 - (ii) Beneficial Management Practices: Funding available for plans and assessments.
- (c) Research Contracts:
 - (i) Two studies underway:
 - a. Horticultural Crops for Changing Climates (focus on 10 annual crops).
 - b. Intercropping for Pollinators and Biodiversity (partner farms identified).
- (d) Drought meetings with 2.0 being offered in 2025
- (e) Tax deferral and EFP online only now

5.3. QUORUM – MEMBERSHIP DISCUSSION

5.3.1 Updates on Committee Membership:

- (a) Tammy B., Robin H., and Jennifer R. volunteered to shift to one-year term until the end of 2025 only for balancing representation.
- (b) Martin announced his departure and will seek a replacement from the Kersley Farmers Institute.
- (c) Lynda A. offered to liaise for the Kersley Farmer's Institute
- (d) Farmers' Markets: Robin to liaise with local market representatives.
- (e) Small-Scale Meat Producers: Robin to act as a liaison and explore opportunities for collaboration.
- (f) Members were encouraged to "wear an extra hat" if possible as this would ensure broader representation without increasing the committee's size.
- (g) Missing association representation will be met with a request to present as a Delegate in 2025, and they will be encouraged to update ADAC with information they feel would be important to ADAC.

R/2024-21

Moved by Lynda A. and seconded by Cynthia F.

That 3 members (Tammy Briggs, Robin Hunt, and Jennifer Roberts) will fulfill 1-year terms for 2025 only, for balancing representation on odd and even years moving forward.

CARRIED

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1. N/A

7. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

7.1. N/A

8. CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 Chilcotin Stockmen's Association Letter - Tolin

Letter was received and read during ADAC meeting. No Action at this time.

9. ROUNDTABLE

- 9.1. Robin: Currently in the process of working with different food security initiatives.
- 9.2. Jill: From earlier discussion – she mentioned the TRU Regenerative Agriculture Program which is now offering credentials of Diploma, Certificate, Single Courses and a NEW Micro-credential in food sovereignty. <https://www.tru.ca/williamslake/programs/regenerative-agriculture.html> She encourages their promotion to local producers.
- 9.3. Tolin: Nothing really to update from CRD at this time, there has been a drought and hopefully a new cut n wrap will be opening up in March.
- 9.4. Lynda: Food hub, more are getting involved, they make trips to Nazko every other week and make trips to PG.
- 9.5. Jenn: Cattlemen's Association AGM Sat Nov 23 at 1 PM at the Legion.
- 9.6. Chad: Has become a new commissioner for the Interior ALC, working on growing the Agriculture sector for Echen, and is currently running for Chief of Esdilagh First nation, Leah has become Chief of Nazko First Nation once again.

10. QUESTION PERIOD

11. ADJOURNMENT @ 8:43 PM

Next Meeting: December 18, 2024 at 7pm, via Zoom
Agenda Submission Deadline: December 11, 2024

C. Stump, Chair

/ld