

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 **October 16th, 2024** at 7:00pm

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

David Zirnhelt	Cariboo Cattlemen's Association
Robin Hunt	Farmers Market
Lynda Atkinson	Regional Food and Innovation Hub
Tammy Briggs	Horticulture and Greenhouse Production
Jennifer Roberts	Quesnel Cattleman's Association
Tyrone Johnston	Agrobusiness
Chad Stump	ECHEN Deni Urban Nation Roots
Cynthia Fell	Indigenous Governments

LIAISON MEMBERS PRESENT

CDR Director Tolin Pare	CRD Liaison
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CRD STAFF

Shivani Sajwan	CRD Planning Officer II
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DELEGATIONS

Ashutosh Srivastava	Community Futures
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REGRETS

Nicole Pressey	Ministry of Agriculture and Food
Nigel Whitehead	Manager, Planning Services
Megan Flatt	Cariboo Chilcotin Sheep Producer's Association

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

Lauren Dillabough	Administrative Assistant
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1. CALL TO ORDER @ 7:02 PM

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

R/2024-17

Moved by Jennifer R. and seconded by David Z.

That the Oct 16, 2024 Cariboo Agricultural Development Advisory Committee agenda be adopted.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

R/2024-18

Moved by Jennifer R. and seconded by David Z.

That the minutes of the Agricultural Development Advisory Committee meeting dated September 18, 2024 be amended That Jennifer was not present at last meeting.

CARRIED

4. DELEGATIONS

4.1. N/A

5. OLD AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5.1. **ADMIN ASSISTANT POSITION** – Chad introduced Ash S. and Lauren D. from Q'est Management Consulting. Lauren D. will be the new Admin Assistant as Ash currently is a delegate from Community Futures. Both Introduced themselves. Welcomed by all.

5.2. **MIN OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD (NICOLE PRESSEY)** – Nicole P. regrets.

5.2.1 Event will be Oct 20th at 10 am in Fort Alexandria. Everyone has been sent the link and poster.

5.3. **QUORUM** – Nigel to Report Findings

5.3.1 Nigel being away Shivani informed that quorum must be 50% or more. Request for full membership be provided for next meeting. With the idea of sending out communications to each member on whether or not they wish to continue to be a member. Discussion was made that we should discuss on the question being "How can we meet everyone's needs specially with meeting date and times that works for everyone". Discussion on what solutions we can come up with to making quorum at every meeting. Can feedback be communicated via email in regards to feedback from other members?

***ACTION:** Email complete Members list prior to next meeting.*

6. NEW BUSINESS

6.1. Agricultural Area Plan (AAP) – Shivani

<https://www.cariboord.ca/en/business-and-development/agricultural-area-plan.aspx>

Committee members discussed an action plan towards AAP implementation.

6.1.1 Shivani discussed that ADAC must provide feedback on what priorities need to be focused on for next year 2025. At least 2 to 3 priorities need to be made.

Members discussed multiple items as priorities:

- Agricultural Education in the class rooms were brought up. Discussion on a support letter from CRD would be beneficial to send to school districts.
- Water licensing charges and rebates- Becoming too much paperwork
- Implementation on prioritized strategies on page 26
- Expectation that CRD would make a report and bring back to ADAC with recommendations on which priorities ADAC could work on for 2025

- Economics with agriculture
- ALR- Developing strategies for Agriculture and NON agriculture land
- Being more collaborative with Ministry of Agriculture
- Meat Processing – Abattoirs
- Avian flu was brought up as an issue but not currently in the APP plan – CRD notes that it was missed however a document will be shared to members to look over
- Climate Change
- Wildlife Management
- Water management

6.1.2 Shivani recommends that members look at Agriculture Policy 2016, will send documents to be shared with all members.

Action: Agriculture Policy 2016 and APP will be distributed to all members prior to discuss at next meeting.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

7.1. N/A

8. CORRESPONDENCE

8.1. N/A

9. ROUNDTABLE

9.1 Lynda A. mentions sprout kitchen has taken off. Many new members that are creating different types of food. Notes that delivery is available further that just Quesnel. Currently Deliveries are being made to Nazko. Also, Ash will be joining the board. Cattle prices are going up however herds are becoming less. Horse counsel is having issues in the coastal regions with more properties being purchased and taking away from horse use.

9.2 David Z. mentions that the Cariboo Cattlemen's association are working on a strategic plan focusing on lots and cost of production. They have currently 26 business models that they are looking at. Working on what practices work best for farmers.

9.3 Tammy B. mentions things are currently quiet in horticulture, seasonal greenhouses are closing down this time of year.

9.4 Robin H. states that the food hub is finishing up. Advertising/Marketing will be happening in November.

9.5 Jenn R. updates with the Quesnel Cattlemen's association AGM is Nov 23rd, they are looking to build their membership. Cattle pricing will be strong this year during sales. Mentions that there is a program going to be starting called the Burger it forward program Feb 2025. This will be sales of beef in restaurants and all sales will contribute to the food banks. Please contact Jen if you know of any restaurants wanting to participate in this program.

9.6 Tyrone J. mentions final round ups are happening. He is meeting with local ranchers. Shared there is a video from the Cattlemen's association about fencing to keep range cattle

out. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=waDQWNscaY0>

9.7 Carlos came to advise Indigenous Knowledge with land connection to children, there are community kitchens happening twice a week starting Nov 15th, Nature walks with Medicine teachings. Some initiatives for Indigenous agriculture include the coupon program at the farmer's market. For more info on events and programs everyone can look at the Echen Healing societies website <https://www.echenhealing.ca>.

9.8 Ash S. mentions a Volunteer Fair Oct 19th at the legion for Non-profits.

9.9 Shivani S. reminds that there is an Agriculture Seminar at TRU Nov 16th, it is an all-day seminar.

10. QUESTION PERIOD

11. ADJOURNMENT @ 8:18 PM

Next Meeting: November 20, 2024 at 7pm, via Zoom
Agenda Submission Deadline: November 13, 2024

C. Stump, Chair

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