

Beyond the Market: The Farm Knowledge Network

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# Background



- The Beyond the Market program was established in 2011
- Created in response to a demand for economic diversification in rural communities and renewed interest in local food systems
- Guided by OBAC's agriculture strategy



# **Project Goals**



- Increase the number of new farmers across the region
- Increase the viability and capacity of existing farms
- Improve the succession of longstanding farms to the next generation
- Establish sound agri-business management practices that will result in job creation

**Beyond** 

### **Activities**

- To provide training and professional development opportunities to farm operators in the project region
- To develop a central information network for regional agricultural contacts, publications, resources and tools and a mobile support library
- To develop a model of financial selfsufficiency to support a community-run extension services network into the future

### **Partners**















# Community Futures Fraser Fort George is the hosting organization:

#### **In-kind Provisions**

- Office, phone, equipment
- Meeting rooms
- Accounting, project management, and reporting systems

#### **Complementary Services**

- Business financing & coaching
- Conference & Meeting Facilities
- Events & Workshops
- Community Based Initiatives

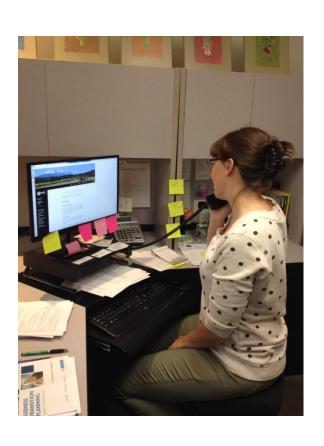




# Farm Client Coaching Sessions

- One-on-one business coaching
- In person or on the phone
- Responding to e-mail enquiries for information





# Regional Agriculture Advisory Services and Advocacy

- Providing information to researchers, other agencies (government and NGOs)
- Proposal for Provincial Agricultural Extension Services



# **Networking and Outreach Events**

- Minimum 1 per year in each community
- Fall Fairs, Agricultural Forums

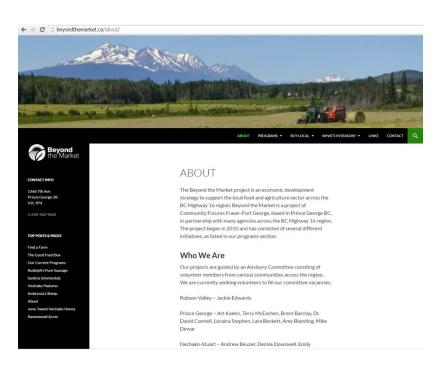




#### **Training Events**

- 3 workshops per community, per year
- Business Planning, Land Leasing, Organic Certification, Succession Planning, Soil Testing, Sheep Farming etc.





#### Website

### www.beyondthemarket.ca

- All information from 2010-2016 archived on website
- Blog

### **Local Farm Directory**

Directory of 113 local farms





# Newsletter and Facebook Page

- Follow us on Facebook!
- Sign up for our newsletter!



### **New Initiative**



- Providing education and training focused on creating and/or expanding Agri-Export
- Focus on exploring, developing and tapping into both domestic and international markets
- Export-ready businesses to be coached through the development of an export plan

### Thank you for your support!



