



# REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

## AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE AGENDA

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2019

<u>PAGE NO.</u>		<u>ACTION</u>
	<u>AGENDA – September 5, 2019</u>	Approve
	<u>Supplementary Agenda</u>	Receive
	<u>MINUTES</u>	
2-3	Agriculture Committee Meeting Minutes - May 2, 2019	Receive
	<u>REPORTS</u>	
4-7	Debbie Evans, Agriculture Coordinator - RDBN 2012 Agriculture Plan Update Report	Receive
	<u>CORRESPONDENCE</u>	
8	Northern Development Initiative Trust - Agriculture Coordinator – Pilot Project Extension and Disbursement Schedule – Northern Development Project Number 5112 20	Receive
9-10	BC Meat Inspection Program RE: Feedback on Class D Licences -Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako	Receive
	<u>VERBAL REPORT</u>	
	Agriculture Land Commission (ALC) -Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning	
	<u>SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA</u>	
	<u>NEW BUSINESS</u>	
	<u>ADJOURN</u>	

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKOAGRICULTURE COMMITTEE MEETING  
(Committee Of The Whole)Thursday, May 2, 2019

**PRESENT:** Chair Mark Parker

Directors Taylor Bachrach  
Shane Brienen  
Mark Fisher  
Dolores Funk  
Tom Greenaway  
Clint Lambert  
Brad Layton  
Linda McGuire – arrived at 1:48 p.m.  
Rob Newell  
Bev Playfair  
Michael Riis-Christianson – arrived at 1:48 p.m.  
Kim Watt-Senner  
Gerry Thiessen

Director Absent Jerry Petersen, Electoral Area "F" (Vanderhoof Rural)

Alternate Director Roy Spooner, Electoral Area "F" (Vanderhoof Rural)

Staff Cheryl Anderson, Acting Chief Administrative Officer/Manager of Administrative Services  
Debbie Evans, Agriculture Coordinator  
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer  
Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Parker called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m.

AGENDAMoved by Director Funk  
Seconded by Director Watt-SennerAG.2019-4-1

"That the Agriculture Committee Agenda of May 2, 2019 be adopted."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLYMINUTESAgriculture Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
-April 4, 2019Moved by Director Newell  
Seconded by Director LaytonAG.2019-4-2

"That the Minutes of the Agriculture Committee Meeting of April 4, 2019 be received."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## REPORTS

### Livestock Emergency Hay

Moved by Director Watt-Senner  
 Seconded by Director Lambert

### AG.2019-4-3

"That the Agriculture Committee recommend that the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors support the proposal for change of the Emergency Hay Program to support feed shortage and relocation of livestock in the event of an emergency in 2019."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### 2019 Pilot with RDBN Fairgrounds for Emergency Response

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson  
 Seconded by Director Layton

### AG.2019-4-4

"That the Agriculture Committee recommend that the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors approve the 2019 Pilot with RDBN Fairgrounds for Emergency Response."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### Agriculture Reports

Moved by Director Newell  
 Seconded by Director Watt-Senner

### AG.2019-4-5

"That the Agriculture Committee receive the following Reports:

-2019 Emergency and Livestock Preparedness Workshops Report  
 -SheepFest 2019 Report  
 -Haskap 3.0 Workshop Report  
 -Agri-Food Business Planning Workshop Report."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Bachrach  
 Seconded by Director Layton

### AG.2019-4-6

"That the meeting be adjourned at 1:54 p.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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Mark Parker, Chair

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Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant



**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**  
**Memorandum**

**TO:** Chair Parker and Agriculture Committee  
**FROM:** Debbie Evans, Agriculture Coordinator  
**DATE:** September 5, 2019  
**SUBJECT:** RDBN 2012 Agriculture Plan Update report

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**Purpose**

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update of RDBN Agriculture Plan.

**Background**

Please see the update document, RDBN Food and Agriculture Plan Update 2020 for background material.

**Work completed**

The Agriculture Coordinator has been working with contractor Janine de la Salle and we have completed the following:

- Communication and Engagement Strategy
- Developed stakeholder database
- Two surveys, Consumer and Producer, on RDBN website, Agriculture page
- Invites out to individuals and organizations for representation on the Food and Agriculture Working Group, FAWG
- FAWG Terms of Reference
- Review of 2012 RDBN Ag Plan to identify aspects that should be updated, deleted, and/or maintained
- Consumer Survey Paper copies distributed at Farmers' Market and Granisle Days by Economic Development Summer Students; 108 completed
- Agendas for upcoming workshops
- Facilitation plan for Stakeholders Workshops

**Timeline**

The future work of updating is as follows:

- RDBN staff workshop September 10<sup>th</sup> (Planning, Environment Services, Emergency Management, Economic Development and RDBN CAO)
- FAWG will have 3 meetings; End of September, Beginning of December and Middle of January
- Stakeholders will be invited to attend evening stakeholders' workshops
  - October 8, Round Lake Hall, Telkwa
  - October 9, Vanderhoof Events Centre, Vanderhoof
  - October 10, Tweedsmuir Rod & Gun Club, Burns Lake
- Option to have a workshop survey for any stakeholders unable to make evening workshops
- One-on-one interviews will be held September/October

- Farm Visits will be arranged for Oct 7 – Oct 10<sup>th</sup>
- Development of Marketing Strategy for the Ag Plan
- Version 1 of the updated plan by Dec 30<sup>th</sup>
- Version 2 of the updated plan by Jan 31<sup>st</sup>
- Presentation of Version 2 of the updated plan to RDBN Ag Committee, Feb 2020
- Preparation of final version of the updated plan by Feb 28<sup>th</sup>
- RDBN Board approval March
- March & beyond, Marketing of the RDBN Food and Agriculture Plan 2020 and utilization of the document

I would be pleased to answer any questions.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**(All/Directors/Majority)**

**“That the Agriculture Committee receive the RDBN Agriculture Plan Update report.”**

# Food and Agriculture Plan Update 2020

## **Food and Agriculture is a Significant Part of Our Region's Culture, Environment, and Economy:**

Food and agriculture play a critical and significant role in the history, and the growth and development of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN).

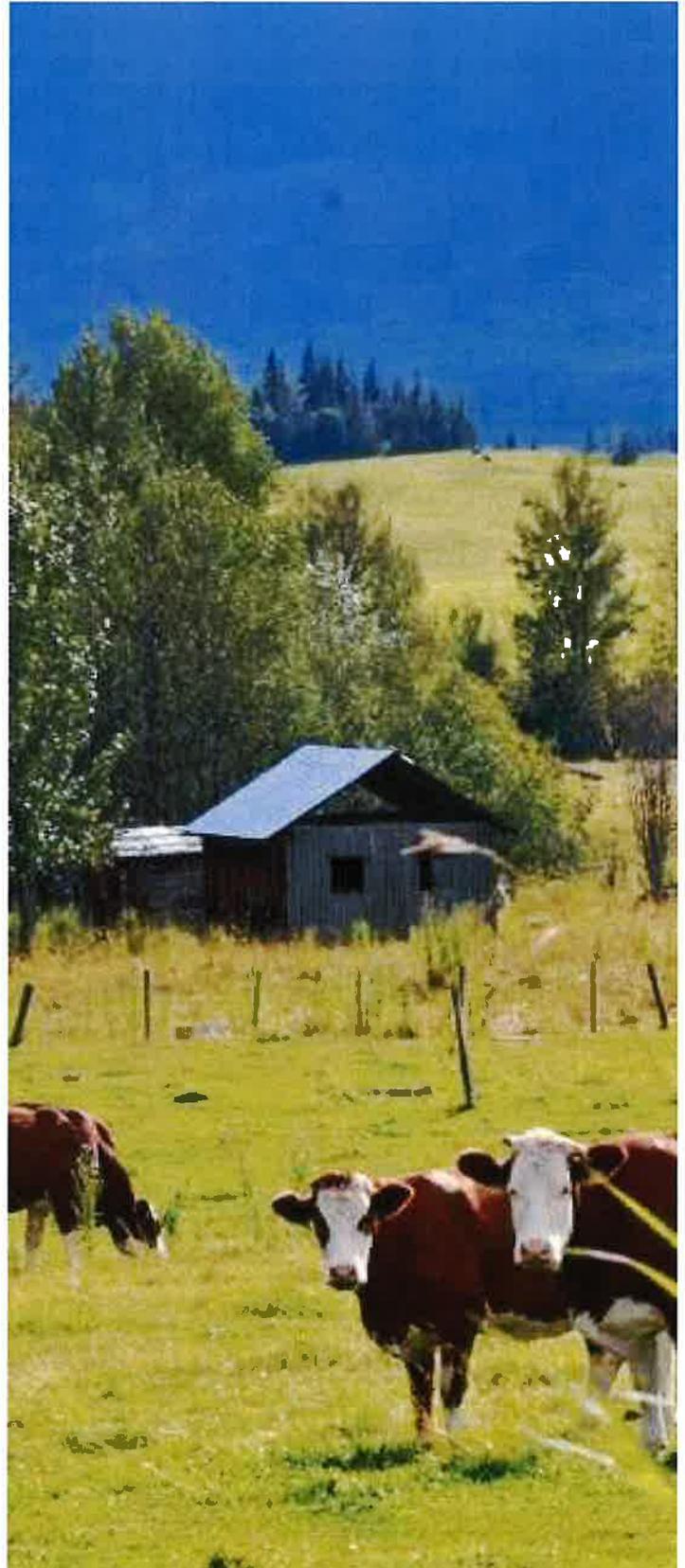
Agriculture continues to contribute significantly to the economy and character of our region. Given this significance, the Board of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako has initiated the update of the 2012 Agricultural Plan to ensure that the RDBN is doing all that it can to protect and enhance the viability and vitality of food and agriculture in the region.

## **5 Goals of the Agriculture Plan Update:**

1. Update baseline data and information on the food and agriculture sector in the RDBN.
2. Engage stakeholders in creating a shared vision for food and agriculture in the RDBN and updating the 2012 (food) and agriculture plan.
3. Update policies and actions to reflect new data and information, consumer and producer perspectives, as well as provincial legislative changes.
4. Establish a sound factual basis for informing recommendations and decision making.
5. Create a detailed 5-year action and implementation plan to support plan recommendations.

## **What a Food and Agriculture Plan is:**

A food and agricultural plan is a strategic planning document that will help to develop a shared vision for food and agriculture amongst farmers, the public, and local government within the Regional District as well as goals, objectives and actions for achieving the vision. Upon completion, the agricultural plan will be approved by the Regional District Board of Directors and used to guide future activities affecting agriculture.



### How the RDBN Plan is Being Updated:

The agricultural plan, and the process to create it, will help to continue to build a relationship between the farming community and local government. These two groups are working together, with input from the general public, and First Nation Communities, to create a clear plan of action guided by a common vision and goals. Key process points for developing the plan include:

- ⇒ Establishing and engaging a Project Steering Committee
- ⇒ Conducting consumer and producer surveys (hard copy and on-line)
- ⇒ Engaging First Nation Communities early in the process
- ⇒ Holding one on one informal interviews with key stakeholders
- ⇒ Hosting stakeholder workshops
- ⇒ Updating the RDBN website to provide a central place for information on regional food and agriculture.

### What the Plan Will Document:

- ⇒ The state of the local agricultural sector in the region
- ⇒ Consumer and producer data and perspectives
- ⇒ First Nation Community perspectives
- ⇒ Opportunities and challenges in the regional food and agriculture sector
- ⇒ The achievable and practical actions that can be taken by the RDBN, the Province, and others

### How the RDBN intends to use the Food and Agriculture Plan:

- ⇒ To ensure that long range planning, and the regulation of land use and development, is managed in a manner consistent with the direction provided in the plan.
- ⇒ To ensure that decisions regarding the use of the RDBN's resources are made in consideration of the recommendations made in the plan.

To find out more, please visit:

<https://www.rdbn.bc.ca/departments/agriculture>

Or contact the RDBN Agriculture Coordinator:

Debbie Evans P. Ag.

Agriculture Coordinator

Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

Tel: 250-692-3195

Toll Free: 1-800-320-3339

Address: 37 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave, PO Box 820, Burns Lake BC, V0J 1E0

Email: [debbie.evans@rdbn.bc.ca](mailto:debbie.evans@rdbn.bc.ca)

Website: [www.rdbn.bc.ca](http://www.rdbn.bc.ca)



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

**Food and Agriculture Plan Update 2020**



301 - 1268 Fifth Avenue  
 Prince George, BC V2L 3L2  
 Tel: 250-561-2525  
 Fax: 250-561-2563  
 info@northerndevelopment.bc.ca  
 www.northerndevelopment.bc.ca

August 7, 2019

Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako  
 PO Box 820  
 Burns Lake, BC VOJ 1E0

**Attention: Curtis Helgesen**  
**Chief Administrative Officer**

Dear Mr. Helgesen:

**Subject: Agriculture Coordinator - Pilot**  
**Project extension and disbursement schedule**  
**Northern Development Project Number 5112 20**

I am pleased to advise you that the request for your Agriculture Coordinator - Pilot project extension through to October 31, 2020 has been approved. A workplan to October 2020 for the agriculture coordinator has been received, meeting Northern Development's requirement to extend the project.

Twice yearly progress updates are requested until the end of the project term. Calls will be scheduled in advance in December 2019, March 2020 and October 2020. Project reporting is required annually.

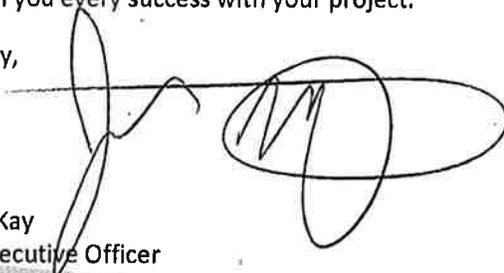
Northern Development shall provide the grant to the Regional District in a total of three installments. The first installment was made July 31, 2019 for the period of November 1, 2017 to December 31, 2018. The second installment shall be paid after the receipt of complete interim reporting on wages to December 31, 2019. The interim report is due by March 31, 2020. The final installment shall be paid after the receipt of complete final reporting on wages to October 31, 2020. The final reporting and evaluation of the pilot project effectiveness is due within 30 days of project completion, or by November 30, 2020.

The second interim reporting and final reporting must include:

- Coordinator pay stub(s) and copy of extended employment contract or letter
- Written report on the pilot project indicating project effectiveness and results relative to the workplan

We wish you every success with your project.

Sincerely,



Joel McKay  
 Chief Executive Officer

Building a  
**Stronger North**

**Debbie Evans**

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**From:** BC Meat Inspection Program AGRI:EX <bcmeatinspection@gov.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** August 23, 2019 8:34 AM  
**To:** Debbie Evans  
**Subject:** RE: Feedback on Class D Licences - Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

Good morning Debbie,

Thank you for submitting feedback on behalf of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako. I can confirm receipt of your submission.

Please note the deadline for submissions is October 1<sup>st</sup>, so you are welcome to add to or alter your submission until then.

Kind regards

Diana



**Diana Berry** (née Edwards)  
 Policy and Project Analyst  
 Food Safety & Inspection Branch  
 Ministry of Agriculture

**From:** Debbie Evans <debbie.evans@rdbn.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** August 23, 2019 8:21 AM  
**To:** BC Meat Inspection Program AGRI:EX <bcmeatinspection@gov.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** Feedback on Class D Licences - Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

Good morning.

Please accept the feedback on Class D Licences from the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

Sincerely,



Debbie Evans P. Ag.  
 Agriculture Coordinator  
 Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako  
 Tel: 250-692-3195  
 Toll Free: 1-800-320-3339  
 Address: 37 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave, PO Box 820, Burns Lake BC, V0J 1E0  
 Email: [debbie.evans@rdbn.bc.ca](mailto:debbie.evans@rdbn.bc.ca)  
 Website: [www.rdbn.bc.ca](http://www.rdbn.bc.ca)

*"A World of Opportunities Within Our Region"*



## **Feedback to BC Ministry of Agriculture About Class D and E Licenses**

The Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako, (RDBN), is currently a non-designated Regional District for Class D and E licenses. Class D and E licenses should be allowed within the region to allow poultry, rabbit and small livestock producers more opportunity to grow their sectors by having on-farm slaughter.

The RDBN encourages the BC Ministry of Agriculture to expand the designated area to include the RDBN. Agriculture within the RDBN has the potential to grow if processing facilities can work with producers for the welfare of animals/poultry and allow producers to sell their product.

Submitted by:

Debbie Evans, P.Ag., RDBN Agriculture Coordinator  
Mark Parker, Chair, RDBN Agriculture Committee