



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO

**RURAL DIRECTORS COMMITTEE
AGENDA**

Thursday, January 9, 2020

<u>PAGE NO.</u>		<u>ACTION</u>
	<u>AGENDA- January 9, 2020</u>	Approve
	<u>Supplementary Agenda</u>	Receive
	<u>MINUTES</u>	
3-7	Rural Directors Committee Meeting Minutes - November 7, 2019	Adopt
	<u>AGRICULTURE REPORTS</u>	
8-10	Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services – Agricultural Community Meeting on Water Sustainability Act – February 5, 2020 - Vanderhoof, B.C.	Recommendation (Page 8)
11-17	Debbie Evans, Agriculture Coordinator - Regional Agriculture Forum, Oct 23-24, 2020 “Soil to Table – Celebrating Local Agriculture”	Recommendation (Page 11)
18-20	Debbie Evans, Agriculture Coordinator - RDBN Food Hub and Food Economy Assessment	Recommendation (Page 18)
	<u>RURAL REPORTS</u>	
21	Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services – Rural/Agriculture Committee	Recommendation (Page 21)
22-24	Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services – Electoral Area Directors’ Forum - February 4-5, 2020 – Richmond, B.C.	Recommendation (Page 22)
25	Nellie Davis, Regional Economic Development Coordinator – RDBN Grant Services Facilitation	Receive
26-29	Protective Services – Fire Department Emergency Services (PowerPoint Presentation will be provided)	Recommendation (Page 26)
	<u>DISCUSSION ITEMS</u>	
	Federal Gas Tax Program – 3rd Party Agreements	
	NCLGA Resolutions	
	<u>SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA</u>	

NEW BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**RURAL DIRECTORS COMMITTEE MEETING****Thursday, November 7, 2019**

PRESENT: Acting Chair Mark Parker

Directors Mark Fisher
Tom Greenaway
Clint Lambert
Jerry Petersen
Michael Riis-Christianson
Gerry Thiessen

Director Absent Rob Newell, Electoral Area "G" (Houston Rural)

Staff Curtis Helgesen, Chief Administrative Officer
Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services
Debbie Evans, Agriculture Coordinator
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
Deborah Jones-Middleton, Director of Protective Services
Rory Mckenzie, Director of Environmental Services – arrived at 2:05 p.m.
Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

Media Blair McBride, Lakes District News

CALL TO ORDER

Acting Chair Parker called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

AGENDAMoved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director Lambert**RDC.2019-9-1**

"That the Rural Directors Committee Agenda for November 7, 2019 be approved."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**MINUTES****Rural Directors Committee
Meeting Minutes
-October 10, 2019**Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Seconded by Director Fisher**RDC.2019-9-2**

"That the minutes of the Rural Directors Committee meeting of October 10, 2019 be received."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS

Nechako Watershed Roundtable – Request for Committee Grant in Aid – Electoral Areas “B”, “C”, “D”, “E”, and “F”

Discussion took place in regard to Electoral Area grant in aid contribution to the Nechako Watershed Roundtable. Rural Directors can contact staff to provide contribution levels. Director Greenaway mentioned that he would be willing to give up his seat if others would like to participate at the Nechako Watershed Roundtable. Discussion took place in regard to more frequent updates from the Nechako Watershed Roundtable and the different agencies and organizations at the Roundtable.

Fort St. James Sled Dog Association -Request for Grant in Aid – Electoral Area “C”

Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director Lambert

RDC.2019-9-3

“That the Rural Directors Committee recommend to the Board that the Fort St. James Sled Dog Association be given \$2,000 grant in aid monies from Electoral Area “C” (Fort St. James Rural) for costs associated with the 2020 Caledonia Classic Sled Dog Races.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Fort St. James Secondary Sr. Boys Soccer Team -Request for Grant in Aid – Electoral Area “C”

Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director Petersen

RDC.2019-9-4

“That the Rural Directors Committee recommend to the Board that the Fort St. James Secondary Sr Boys Soccer Team be given \$750 grant in aid monies from Electoral Area “C” (Fort St. James Rural) for costs associated with the Provincial Championships in Burnaby, B.C.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Grant in Aid – Fraser Lake Business Expo Draw Prize -Electoral Area “D”

Moved by Director Greenaway
Seconded by Director Lambert

RDC.2019-9-5

“That the Rural Directors Committee recommend to the Board that the draw prize in the amount of \$223.99 for the Fraser Lake Business Expo be paid out of Electoral Area “D” (Fraser Lake Rural) grant in aid monies.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Fraser Lake Elementary Secondary School Studies 11 Class -Request for Grant in Aid – Electoral Area “D”

Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director Greenaway

RDC.2019-9-6

“That the Rural Directors Committee recommend to the Board that the Fraser Lake Elementary Secondary School Studies 11 Class be given \$1,000 grant in aid monies from Electoral Area “D” (Fraser Lake Rural) for costs associated with a Parliamentary Tour.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS (CONT'D)

Connexus Community Resources – Request for Grant in Aid– Electoral Area “F”

Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director Greenaway

RDC.2019-9-7

“That the Rural Directors Committee recommend to the Board that Connexus Community Resources be given \$1,000 grant in aid monies from Electoral Area “F” (Vanderhoof Rural) for costs associated with the Seniors’ Christmas Dinner.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Nechako Valley Rodeo Association – Request for Grant in Aid– Electoral Area “F”

Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director Greenaway

RDC.2019-9-8

“That the Rural Directors Committee recommend to the Board that the Nechako Valley Rodeo Association be given \$4,000 grant in aid monies from Electoral Area “F” (Vanderhoof Rural) for costs associated with the 7th Annual Rodeo.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

A Rocha Canada - Northern BC Project – Request for Grant in Aid– Electoral Area “G”

Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

RDC.2019-9-9

“That the Rural Directors Committee recommend to the Board that A Rocha Canada – Northern BC Project be given \$2,500 grant in aid monies from Electoral Area “G” (Houston Rural) for the purchase of a portable generator and stereo microscope.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Electoral Area Directors’ Forum – February 5-7, 2020 -Richmond, B.C.

Moved by Director Fisher
Seconded by Director Greenaway

RDC.2019-9-10

1. “That the Board authorize attendance of Rural Directors Committee wishing to attend the Electoral Area Directors’ Forum from February 5-7, 2020 in Richmond, B.C.
2. That the Rural Directors Committee submit discussion items for the Forum to the CAO prior to November 22, 2019.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director Fisher spoke of submitting rural and municipal joint service governance models and Federal Gas Tax third party service providers as topics for discussion.

Street Lighting Services

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Seconded by Director Greenaway

RDC.2019-9-11

“That the Rural Directors Committee recommend that the Board include the Street Lighting Services in the 2020 Financial Plan.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS (CONT'D)Establishing an Agriculture
Planning Grant Reserve

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Seconded by Director Fisher

RDC. 2019-9-12

“That the Rural Directors Committee recommend that the Board establish an Agriculture Planning Grant Reserve.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLYFunding for Agriculture
Planning Grant Reserve

Moved by Director Fisher
Seconded by Director Lambert

RDC.2019-9-13

“That the Rural Directors Committee recommend that the Board allocate \$100,000 region-wide Northern Capital and Planning Grant funding to the Agriculture Planning Grant Reserve for consideration of a RDBN Food Hub Feasibility Study and a Non-Timber Forest Product Study.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLYFunding of RDBN Food Hub
Feasibility & Non-Timber
Forest Product Studies
-Northern Capital & Planning
Grant

Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director Petersen

RDC.2019-9-14

“That the Rural Directors Committee receive the Chief Financial Officer’s November 7, 2019 memos titled “Funding of RDBN Non-Timber Forest Product Study by the Rural Directors Committee, Northern Capital & Planning Grant and Funding of RDBN Food Hub Feasibility Study by the Rural Directors Committee, Northern Planning Grant.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLYDistribution of Northern Capital
and Planning Grant

Moved by Director Riis-Christianson
Seconded by Director Lambert

RDC.2019-9-15

“That the Rural Directors Committee recommend to the Board that the following allocations be made from the Northern Capital & Planning Grant general fund:

- Administrative Building Retrofit	\$300,000
- Replacement of spare Bobcat	\$ 75,000
- Creation of new (additional) Septage Receiving Beds at Burns Lake Transfer Station and Knockholt Landfill	\$ 50,000
- Contribution to Environmental Services 2020 Capital Projects	\$102,752
- Agriculture Planning Capital Reserve	<u>\$100,000</u>
	<u>\$627,752</u>

And, That the Electoral Area allocation for Areas A through G be allocated as per the November 7, 2019 staff report and spreadsheet.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director Fisher spoke of allocating funding to forestry economic development planning. He will bring it forward at a future meeting for discussion.

REPORTS (CONT'D)

Electoral Area Allocation of
Federal Gas Tax Funds
-Third Quarter 2019

Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director Riis-Christianson

RDC.2019-9-16

“That the Rural Directors Committee receive the Accounting Clerk’s October 21, 2019 memorandum titled “Electoral Area Allocations of Federal Gas Tax Funds – Third Quarter 2019.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

DISCUSSION ITEM**Federal Gas Tax**

Discussion took place regarding:

- Third party service providers
 - o Discussed with UBCM staff
 - o Issue is at the Federal Government Level
 - o Misunderstanding how the RDBN provides service to rural residents
 - o Need to develop a broader definition
 - o How do other Regional Districts address
 - o The need for a preapproval process
 - o Currently Federal Government only approves project at audit
 - o UBCM recommends withholding 10% of funding

Director Fisher will work with staff to bring forward the topic at the Electoral Area Directors’ Forum, February 5-7, 2020 in Richmond, B.C.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Lambert
Seconded by Director Greenaway

RDC.2019-9-17

“That the meeting be adjourned 2:35 p.m.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mark Parker, Acting Chair

Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant



Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Memo

TO: Chair Parker and Rural Directors Committee

FROM: Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services

DATE: December 20, 2019

SUBJECT: Agricultural Community Meeting on Water Sustainability Act –
February 5, 2020 – Vanderhoof, B.C.

RECOMMENDATION

That Chair Parker be authorized to attend the Agricultural Community Meeting on the Water Sustainability Act in Vanderhoof, B.C. on February 5, 2020.

BACKGROUND

Attached is an email from Wayne Salewski, Chair, Nechako Environment & Water Stewardship Society. Mr. Salewski has extended an invitation to Chair Parker to attend the Agricultural Community Meeting on the Water Sustainability Act in Vanderhoof, B.C. on February 5, 2020.

Cheryl Anderson

Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL]: Fwd: Agricultural community meeting on Water Sustainability Act- February 5th 1 PM

----- Original message -----

From: Wayne Salewski <salewski@telus.net>

Date: 2019-12-17 1:04 p.m. (GMT-08:00)

To: Phillip.Krauskopf@gov.bc.ca, "Jacklin, James FLNR:EX" <james.jacklin@gov.bc.ca>, Chelton <Chelton.vanGeloven@gov.bc.ca>, Phillip Taylor <Phillip.Taylor@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>, Guy Scarf <Guy.Scharf@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>

Cc: Mark Parker <mark.parker@rdbn.bc.ca>, Gerry D'mayor <g.thiessen@telus.net>, Lee Heskith <Silverhillsranch@aol.com>, Wayne Salewski <salewski@telus.net>

Subject: [EXTERNAL]: Fwd: Agricultural community meeting on Water Sustainability Act- February 5th 1 PM

Gentleman

In partnership with the Regional District of Bulkley Nechako and the FRISP program of the BC Cattleman's Association we are hosting a Water Sustainability Act educational seminar with the hope of providing educational outreach to the Agricultural Community.

I think it would be very helpful if we could have you attend and contribute to the outreach by being available to contribute to any conversations that come up within your spare of expertise and mandate. The intent of your presence is more to be in the room and to help answer questions within your expertise should they come up.

At this time we are asking you to hold that date open....and if you can contact myself we could better understand how you could contribute, areas you might find important for us to cover off and off course your support of the effort to have this transition to the Water Sustainability Act successfully within our agricultural community.

Wayne Salewski
Chair
NEWSS

250-567-9542

Begin forwarded message:

From: Wayne Salewski <salewski@telus.net>

Subject: Agricultural community meeting on Water Sustainability Act

Date: December 17, 2019 at 12:48:45 PM PST

To: "Brent S. AL:EX Barclay" <Brent.Barclay@gov.bc.ca>

Cc: Wayne Salewski <salewski@telus.net>

Hi Brent

As a result of multiple farms and ranches being charged for incursions into water ways in the Omineca we have set up a community meeting here in Vanderhoof on February 5th and invited a couple of individuals to come up and talk about the Act and how to adapt to the new realities of water on the farms.

In particular I have Lee Hesmith from the BC Cattleman's Association who is also planning on another individual coming up to talk.

I have asked Mark Parker as the Regional Director from Bulkley Nechako to attend and open up the conversation along with asking the Regional Cattleman's Association to invite its membership and the agricultural community to the conversation.

I have also asked a number of other agencies with related mandates to also attend, although the intent is to have the majority of them introduced but in the crowd and not at the front table.

I would like to invite yourself and your staff to attend and would appreciate the opportunity to discuss with your role and opportunity to enhance the meeting and contribute to the success of moving the agricultural community forward in this regard.

The meeting is booked for February 5th at the Seniors Centre on Victoria and scheduled for a 1 PM start.

Can you give me a call and we can discuss?

Wayne Salewski



Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Memo

TO: Chair and Rural Directors & Agriculture Committee

FROM: Debbie Evans, P. Ag., Agriculture Coordinator

DATE: January 9, 2020

SUBJECT: Regional Agriculture Forum, Oct 23-24, 2020 *"Soil to Table – Celebrating Local Agriculture"*

RECOMMENDATION

(all/directors/majority)

1. "That the Rural Directors approve the 'draft' agenda for *Soil to Table – Celebrating Local Agriculture* October 23rd and 24th, 2020 in Burns Lake.
2. "That the Rural Directors approve the rotation of the Regional Agriculture Forum every other year from the Regional Business Forum."

BACKGROUND

Attached is the agenda for *"Soil to Table – Celebrating Local Agriculture"*, the Regional Agriculture Forum 2020.

The 2020 event will have three "threads" running through the forum. The first "thread" will be celebrating local agriculture with a banquet featuring local food on the Friday evening and an "Armchair Tour" on Saturday morning featuring farms throughout the region that are in the RDBN Connecting Consumers & Producers directory.

The second "thread" will be healthy soil. Soil health is the continued capacity of soil to function as a vital living ecosystem that sustains plants, animals and humans. Regenerative agriculture and typical tilled soil field crop production with soil sampling and nutrients will be presented. Regenerative agriculture is a non-tilled soil that focuses on topsoil regeneration that increases the biodiversity, enriches soils, improves watersheds, enhancing ecosystem services, supporting bio sequestration (capturing carbon in the soil), increasing reliance to climate change and strengthening the health and vitality of farm soil.

The third "thread" will be tools for "Planning for Profit" for a full spectrum of agriculture producers from vegetable, honey bees, sheep, goat, etc. Currently Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) has Enterprise Budgets for Southwest British Columbia. By introducing Enterprise Budgets could lead to future project to develop a Northern series of Enterprise Budgets. A copy of the Honey Bee Enterprise Budget is attached. The "Planning for Profit" will also be included with the keynote presentation. Presenter Joel Salatin has authored three books on farming for profit, *"You Can Farm – The Entrepreneur's Guide to Start and Succeed in a Farming Enterprise"*, *"Your Successful Farm Business – Productions, Profit, Pleasure"* and *"Pastured Poultry Profit\$ - Net \$25,000 in 6 months on 20 Acres"*. For more information about Joel Salatin, please visit his farm Polyface Farms website, www.polyfacefarms.com.

There will be an opportunity to showcase the RDBN Food and Agriculture Plan focusing on actionable items and there will also be a presentation on the draft of the 2020 project of Regional Food Hub & Agriculture Economic Study. Northern Development Initiative will give a short presentation of funding opportunities for agriculture. The Saturday

afternoon will have three sessions with the first two giving participants a choice and then bring the whole audience to the last session on soil health with a question period. All the speakers will be confirmed in January.

Invites will be sent to the Provincial and Federal Minister's of Agriculture as well as to BC MLA agriculture critic. Hopefully the Ministers will accept the invite and will be offered an opportunity to speak.

The venue will be determined in January. Saturday's event will have display tables and organizations sponsoring will receive free table. Other tables will be available for a small fee to cover table rentals if this is necessary.

The budget is still being finalized and a copy of the budget will be presented at the February 6th committee meeting with an updated budget for the April 2nd meeting. The month of January, staff will be securing funding.

The registration cost will be the following:

Full Registration (including banquet)	\$100
Couple Full Registration	\$150
Friday evening and Banquet	\$40

The Keynote speaker, Joel Salatin will draw an audience from within and outside the region. Promotion and marketing of the event will start in January and the goal is to have at least 100 participants.



2020 Regional Agriculture Forum – Draft 2
October 23 – 24, 2020
Burns Lake BC

Friday, October 23, 2020

Dinner with BC Minister of Agriculture, Federal Minister of Agriculture and Keynote Speaker

- 5:30 p.m. Doors open
 6:00 p.m. Welcome from RDBN Agriculture Committee Chairman
 Dinner to follow
 7:00 p.m. BC Minister of Agriculture – Honorable Lana Popham (as of Nov 13, 2019)
 Federal Minister of Agriculture – Honorable Marie-Claude Bibeau (as of Nov 13, 2019)
 Keynote Speaker for the evening: *Gabe Brown – Regenerative Agriculture*
Would like to have his book Dirt to Soil available for people to buy.
or Joel Salatin – Regenerative Agriculture
He has a variety of books that could be offered for sale.
 Mingle with fellow participants
 10:00 p.m. Venue closes (Would work with presenter for Southsiders can catch last ferry home)

Saturday, October 24, 2020

Day long workshop and want topics that will be applicable to a wide variety of producers

- 8:30 a.m. Doors open (will have coffee/tea, muffins & fruit available)
 9:00 a.m. Opening of the day with RDBN Ag Committee Chairman and RDBN Agriculture Coordinator
 9:10 a.m. What has been happening in the RDBN for Agriculture in 2020 – RDBN Agriculture Coordinator
Idea to have an "armchair" tour
(highlight Connecting Consumers & Producers - producers in 2020 guide and this could be put together with help from Summer Student staff of Ec Dev if they receive summer students)
 9:30 a.m. Break
 9:45 a.m. RDBN 2020 Agriculture Plan – would like to invite Janine de la Salle
 What we heard – overview of the Foundation report
 Where are we going – Actionable items from the plan
 RDBN Food Hub Study with Action Items (contractor or Ag Coordinator)
Opportunity for all producers to meet consumer request for more accessibility to local food
If receive funding from Victoria Foundation for Regional Food Economy Assessment would like to include here for contractor or ag coordinator to give a presentation that would be relevant to all producers.
 11:45 – 12:30 p.m. Lunch
 12:30 p.m. Opposition Min of Agriculture – Liberal Minister Ian Paton (as of Nov 13, 2019)

- 12:45 p.m. *Hour long topics for a broad interest to all producers. Divide into two rooms. Selection of session will be on the registration form.* First Two sessions
- SESSION 1: Suggestions: Room 1: Agriculture/Forestry Panel – Aspen Value on the Farm
Pellet Plant Representative, Salvage Contract Bill Miller
Room 2: Janice Tapp and Meghan D’Arcy – Environmental Farm Plan
- 1:45 p.m. SESSION 2: Suggestions: Room 1: Susanna Acheampong PhD Entomologist BC Min of AG
Grasshoppers, Cutworms & any new in 2020
Room 2: Jolene Swain, Young Agrarians – Land Leasing
- 2:45 p.m. 15-minute refreshment break
- 3:00 p.m. Presentation Three – Whole Group – Soil Health, Plants to Promote Healthy Soil and Support Agriculture & Bee Colonies
20-minute presentation from Norm Dueck from Heartland Soil and Crop Solutions
20-minute from Key note Speaker
35-minute questions for two panelist from audience
- 4:15 p.m. Door Prizes and closing comments from the RDBN Agriculture Committee Chairman

Hope to be out of the venue by 5:00 p.m. with clean-up.

Actionable List is drafted.

Venue ideas: Friday evening at Tweedsmuir Rod & Gun Club – would need to book a sound system/screen
Saturday’s program at the First Mennonite Church – they have a good main worship area where Arts events have been held. A large room downstairs for break out session.



Southwest British Columbia Small-Scale Farm Enterprise Budget: **Honey Bee**



Institute for Sustainable Food Systems
Kwantlen Polytechnic University

Technical Bulletin 2015-022
kpu.ca/isfs

Ermias Afeworki, Wallapak Polasub, Caroline Chiu and Kent Mullinix

This enterprise budget presents costs and returns for a 50 hives small-scale farm in southwest British Columbia, Canada. The sample values are typical of small-scale hive production. These values were derived from data gathering sessions with representative farmers from the region, but do not represent any particular farm, and should be used only as a guide. The actual costs of production may vary from farm to farm depending on production method and scale, machinery use and other input costs. This budget is also available as a dynamic MS Excel spreadsheet to facilitate more detailed planning for your own operation. Please refer to the “Institute for Sustainable Food Systems Enterprise Budget User Guide for assistance in tailoring the spreadsheet to your own farm.

Assumptions:

- 1) The size of the bees is 50 hives
- 2) 15 extra hives are included as replacement
- 3) The interest rate is fixed at 5%
- 4) The annual fixed cost is estimated using the straight-line depreciation method.
- 5) Management time is not included as a cost. The net return over total cost may be considered as the return to management time.

REVENUE						
	Quantity /50 Hives	Unit	\$/Unit	\$/50 Hives	\$/Hives	Your estimate
Honey	2000.00	pounds	8.00	16,000.00	320.00	
TOTAL REVENUE				16,000.00	320.00	

ANNUAL VARIABLE COST						
	Quantity /50 Hives	Unit	\$/Unit	\$/50 Hives	\$/Hives	Your estimate
Bees and Queens						
Bees	50	packages	175.00	8,750.00	175.00	
Queens	25	number	135.00	3,375.00	67.50	
Bee Replacement	15	packages	175.00	2,625.00	52.50	
Total cost				14,750.00	295.00	
Feed						
Sugar	500	pounds	1.00	500.00	10.00	
Pollen Patties	50	number	3.00	150.00	3.00	
Total feed cost				650.00	13.00	
Medication						
Formic Acid	100		4.00	400.00	8.00	
Fumagilin-B and Oxytet 25	1		130.00	130.00	2.60	
Total medication cost				530.00	10.60	
Harvesting						
Honey harvesting labour	24	hours	\$15.00	\$360.00	\$7.20	
Transportation between hives	1		\$100.00	\$100.00	\$2.00	
Jars	3250	number	\$0.75	\$2,437.50	\$48.75	
Label	3250	number	\$0.17	\$552.50	\$11.05	
Total harvesting cost				\$3,450.00	\$69.00	
Miscellaneous						
Cleaning supplies	1		250.00	250.00	5.00	
Repair and maintenance				240.00	4.80	
Interest on working capital			5%	993.50	19.87	
Total miscellaneous cost				1,483.50	29.67	
TOTAL VARIABLE COST				20,863.50	417.27	

ANNUAL FIXED COST			
Item	\$/50 hives	\$/hive	Your estimate
Bee boxes	2,414.86	48.30	
Equipment and tools	381.72	7.63	
Overhead	126.00	2.52	
<i>TOTAL FIXED COST</i>	2,922.57	58.45	

TOTAL COST	\$/50 hives	\$/hive	Your estimate
<i>TOTAL VARIABLE AND FIXED COST</i>	23,786.07	475.72	

NET RETURN			
Item	\$/50 hives	\$/hive	Your estimate
Returns Above Variable Cost	-4,863.50	-97.27	
Returns Above Fixed Cost	13,077.43	261.55	
Returns Above Total Cost	-7,786.07	-155.72	

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors would like to express our sincere appreciation to all the farmers who contributed information used to develop this enterprise budget. We would also like to thank Chris Bodnar, co-owner of Close to Home Organics Ltd, and Heather Pritchard, farm program manager at Farm Folk City Folk, for helping us connect with experienced farmers. We would like to recognize Kwantlen Polytechnic University's Michael Bomford (Sustainable Agriculture & Food Systems) and Caitlin Dorward (Institute for Sustainable Food Systems) for their invaluable input to this document. Finally, we would like to acknowledge the financial support provided by Vancouver City Savings Credit Union (VanCity).



Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Memo

TO: Chair and Rural Directors & Agriculture Committee
 FROM: Debbie Evans, P. Ag., Agriculture Coordinator
 DATE: January 9, 2020
 SUBJECT: RDBN Food Hub and Food Economy Assessment

RECOMMENDATION

(all/directors/majority)

1. "That the Rural Directors approve the RDBN Food Hub and Food Economy Assessment."
2. "That the Rural Directors approve staff to proceed with a Request for Proposal on BC Bid."

BACKGROUND

At the November 7th Rural Committee, \$100,000 was allocated to two projects that would be incorporated into the 2020 work plan for the Agricultural Coordinator. One project was the Food Hub Feasibility Study with an estimated cost of \$50,000 and the second project was the Non-Timber Forest Product Study for \$50,000. During this time, the RDBN applied for funding from the Victoria Foundation for the Regional Food Economy Assessment but was unsuccessful. During the application process for the Food Economy Assessment grant, it became evident that combining this project with the Food Hub project, and deferring the Non-Timber Forest Product Study, would provide better alignment and efficiency with other agricultural initiatives currently underway and planned for 2020. Therefore, the RDBN Food Hub Feasibility Study and the Regional Food Economy Assessment are two projects that could be run under one project: the "RDBN Food Hub and Food Economy Assessment". The project would utilize the \$100,000 of the Northern Capital and Planning Grant located in the Agriculture Planning Reserve.

A Request for Proposals (RFP) would be placed on BC Bid January 10, 2020 with a closing date of January 31st. Selection of contractor by a panel would be completed by February 14th. The project timeline will be February 20th to November 30th, 2020. The allocation for the contractor would be a maximum of \$70,000 for an approved workplan and the details will be listed in the RFP. The remaining \$30,000 will be workshops, surveys, final printing, etc. The project will have actionable items and there is a potential to acquire further funding from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada "Project to Strengthen Local Food Systems". This funding could potentially fund a Pilot Project(s) in 2021.

What is a Food Hub? Food hubs are a crucial, but often invisible, part of the local food system. They help small farms grow by offering a combination of production, distribution and marketing services. Food hubs can be thought of as helpful middlemen that connect producers (farmers and ranchers) with institutional buyers (restaurants, hospitals, etc.) and increases accessibility of local food to consumers. Food hubs benefit consumers and the general public by creating jobs and increasing access to fresh healthy foods.

The attached diagram illustrates food hub and the data is from the US.

What is a food economy assessment? The RDBN will build a food economy assessment on a 2010 study in Ohio, <https://community-wealth.org/content/25-shift-benefits-food-localization-northeast-ohio-and-how-realize-them> . The

RDBN food economy assessment proposed to holistically study the cultural, environmental and economic value of the regional economy and what impacts could come for a 5%, 10% and 25% shift to regional consumption of regional foods. Outcome of the study will quantify and qualify the impacts of a projected shift to local food and evaluate increases in the number of jobs, level of regional economic output and growth in the tax base in the region. Cultural and environmental value will also be considered as part of this assessment.

The RDBN Food Hub and Food Economy Assessment will engage mainstream agriculture, emerging agriculture and indigenous communities in quantifying and qualifying the current economic, cultural, and environmental value of the regional food economy. Will project the cultural and economic value with a 5%, 10% and 25% shift to regional food being consumed regionally and integrate strategies from the Food Hub portion to develop new strategies for making the shift.

The BC Ministry of Agriculture has been promoting and funding Food Hub Feasibility Studies. The RDBN Food Hub and Food Economy Assessment would be unique as to date, this type of assessment has not been conducted in any region in BC.

FOOD HUBS

CONNECTING SMALL FARMS WITH LOCAL BUYERS

Farmers working at a small-scale can sell directly to consumers, but many find they have too much produce for a farmers market but not enough to meet the needs of restaurants, schools or grocery stores.

236

NUMBER OF FOOD HUBS IN THE U.S.

40%

40% OF FOOD HUBS WERE STARTED BY ENTREPRENEURIAL PRODUCERS, NONPROFITS AND VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS



FOOD HUB

PRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION, & MARKETING SERVICES

That's the purpose of a food hub—to pull these small- and medium-size farms together, so they can pool their products to fill large orders.



Food hubs are an important tool for strengthening local food economies, improving food security and giving more people access to healthy, affordable local food.

*USDA



SUSTAINABLE
— AMERICA —



Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Memo

TO: Chair Parker and Rural Directors Committee

FROM: Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services

DATE: December 19, 2019

SUBJECT: Rural/Agriculture Committee

RECOMMENDATION

That the Rural Directors Committee recommend to the Board of Directors that the Rural Committee be renamed the Rural/Agriculture Committee to reflect the work of the Committee.

BACKGROUND

The 2020 Board Appointments eliminated the Agriculture Committee with the intent to combine agriculture with the Rural Directors Committee meetings. Some discussion has taken place in regard to the name of the Committee and the importance of capturing the success of the Agriculture Coordinator position and the Agriculture Committee. In recognizing the agriculture sector focus of the Board, incorporating “agriculture” into the committee name will highlight the importance and the continued work of the Board and staff. This may also be beneficial in upcoming grant funding opportunities with an agriculture focus.



Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Memo

TO: Chair Parker and Rural Directors Committee

FROM: Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services

DATE: December 20, 2019

SUBJECT: Electoral Area Directors' Forum – February 4-5, 2020 – Richmond, B.C.

RECOMMENDATION: (All/Directors/Majority)

Direction.

BACKGROUND

At the November 21, 2019 Board meeting, the Board authorized the attendance of Rural Directors wishing to attend the Electoral Area Directors' Forum from February 4-5, 2020 in Richmond, B.C. At this time, staff is requesting confirmation of those wishing to attend in order that registration be completed and accommodations be booked.

An update of topics for discussion is attached.



RECEIVED
DEC 11 2019
REGIONAL DISTRICT OF
BULKLEY-NECHAKO

Topics for Discussion at EA Directors Forum

Dec. 11, 2019

The Electoral Area Directors' (EAD) Forum will be held on February 4 and 5, 2020 at the Radisson Vancouver Airport Hotel in Richmond, BC. The Forum will begin at 12 noon on February 4th, and end at 12 noon on February 5th.

The Electoral Area Directors' Forum focuses on issues of concern to electoral area directors and provides an opportunity to discuss common problems and share potential solutions to the problems identified. The conference is open to electoral area directors and their alternates, regional district chairs, and regional district staff.

Registration is now open. If you are staying at the hotel, please contact the hotel (604.279.8384) to book your room under the LGLA/UBCM block for a discounted rate.

To date, the following are the confirmed topics and speakers for the Forum:

- Community Safety Amendment Act (Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General)
- Emergency Program Act (EMBC)
- Community Resiliency Investment Program Update (Yana Stratemeyer and Kelly Osbourne, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations)
- Agriculture Panel (Honourable Lana Popham, Minister of Agriculture; Kim Grout, ALC)
- Mayor Maja Tait, UBCM President

UBCM would like to thank Lidstone and Company for sponsoring the lunch on February 4th; and Young Anderson for sponsoring the evening reception.

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Cheryl Anderson

From: Marylyn Chiang <mchiang@ubcm.ca>
Sent: December 20, 2019 10:36 AM
To: Cheryl Anderson
Subject: [EXTERNAL]: Re: Electoral Area Directors Topics

Hi Cheryl,

Thank you to everyone who was able to speak with me today about third party service providers.

I have spoken with Brant Felker, who manages the Gas Tax Program, and we will do a panel at the EAD Forum on third party service providers and risk. Brant will be our confirmed speaker, and we will look for others to participate on the panel as well.

If RDBN has any best practices to share on that issue, please let me know and we can put a representative on the panel.

Also, below is an updated list of confirmed topics and speakers for the EAD forum:

Community Safety Amendment Act (Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General)
 Emergency Program Act (EMBC)
 Community Resiliency Investment Program Update (Yana Stratemeyer and Kelly Osbourne, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations)
 Agriculture Panel (Honourable Lana Popham, Minister of Agriculture; Kim Grout, ALC)
 Mayor Maja Tait, UBCM President
 Affordable Housing and Short Term Rentals (Gord Enemark, Executive Director, Housing Secretariat, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing; Regina Sadilkova, Director of Development Services, Thompson-Nicola Regional District)
 Third Party Service Providers (Brant Felker, Gas Tax Policy and Program Manager, UBCM)
 Emergency Health Services: Collaborative Agreements (BCEHS)

Thanks again,
 Marylyn

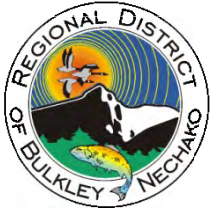
Marylyn Chiang, RPP, MCIP
 Senior Policy Analyst
 Union of British Columbia Municipalities
 Phone: 604-270-8226 ext. 110

From: Nellie Davis <nellie.davis@rdbn.bc.ca>
Date: Monday, December 16, 2019 at 9:30 AM
To: Marylyn <mchiang@ubcm.ca>
Subject: FW: Electoral Area Directors Topics

Hi Marylyn,

I am looking at setting up a call to discuss the topic below, as per the voicemail I left for you this morning. Feel free to call or email to let me know if Thursday afternoon (preferably later than earlier) would work for you.

Thanks so much,



**Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
Rural Directors Committee
January 9, 2020**

To: Chair Parker and the Rural Directors Committee
 From: Nellie Davis, Regional Economic Development Coordinator
 Date: December 17, 2019
 Regarding: **RDBN Grant Services Facilitation**

In order to streamline Grant Services offered through the RDBN, all grant-related activities have been included in the Economic Development Department Workplan for 2020.

The Regional Economic Development Coordinator will be a single point of contact for all grant related inquiries, including Grant in Aid, the Federal Gas Tax Program and Grant Writing Services for Non-Profit Organizations.

The RDBN website has been updated to include this new information, and links to all grant services are available in one location with directions for residents to guide them to the appropriate program for their needs. Requests and projects will be delegated to Economic Development Support Staff based on workload considerations.

Directors are encouraged to direct all inquiries regarding grant services to the Regional Economic Development Coordinator. The link to Grant Services can be found on the RDBN home page here: www.rdbn.bc.ca

RECOMMENDATION:	(All/Directors/Majority)
Receive	

TO: Rural Directors Committee
FROM: Protective Services
DATE: January 9, 2020
SUBJECT: Fire Department Emergency Services

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the Rural Directors Committee recommend that the Board repeal the
 - a. "Topley Rural Road Rescue and Medical First Responders Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1745, 2015";
 - b. "RDBN Electoral Area C (Fort St. James Rural) Road Rescue Contribution Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1651, 2012" and "RDBN Electoral Area D Emergency Extrication Service Area Establishment Bylaw No. 1516, 2009"; and
 - c. "Electoral Area 'A' Emergency Response Contribution Local Service Amendment Bylaw No. 853, 1995."
2. And that the Rural Directors Committee recommend that the Board direct staff to establish a budget of \$7,500 for each municipal and rural Fire Department in the region through the Emergency Preparedness Planning Service for Fire Departments.

VOTING: All/Directors/Majority

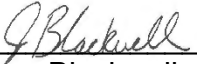
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Regional District currently has Service Areas that fund 'Road Rescue Services' through the Topley Volunteer Fire Department, Fraser Lake Fire Department, and Fort St. James Fire Department. Electoral Area 'A' has an 'Emergency Response' service that provides funding to Smithers Fire Department and Telkwa Fire Department.

In 2017 EMBC conducted a review of the RDBN's fire service bylaws and service agreements. EMBC informed the RDBN that task numbers, which provide funding for 'Extrication Services', would no longer be issued to any Fire Department in the RDBN that had a Road Rescue Bylaw, which created a negative financial impact.

Staff recommends the Rural Directors Committee provides financial support through the Emergency Preparedness Planning Service to the Fire Departments to support the continuation of this valuable service.

Written by,



 Jason Blackwell
 Regional Fire Chief



 Deborah Jones-Middleton
 Director of Protective Services

BACKGROUND:

Emergency Management British Columbia (EMBC) currently issues task numbers and reimbursement at a rate of \$330.00/hour for Fire Departments that provide “out of jurisdiction response” for road rescue services. An “out of jurisdictional response” is defined as:

“The service is outside the established Municipal and/or fire protection area and is not covered under a contract, mutual aid agreement, automatic aid agreement, or extended service bylaw.”

Road rescue is not a responsibility of local government. The intent of creating road rescue related bylaws was to assist Fire Departments in their efforts to support the RCMP and BC Ambulance Service, not to take responsibility for road rescue. The amount of money raised through taxation is not adequate to cover the cost associated with providing the service.

Fire Department	Bylaw Description & Service Area	Taxation	Current Status of the Bylaw
Smithers Fire Department and Telkwa Fire Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ “Electoral Area ‘A’ Emergency Response Contribution Local Service Amendment Bylaw No. 853, 1995.” ➤ This bylaw establishes a local service for the purpose of contributing to the costs incurred by the Town of Smithers and the Village of Telkwa in providing emergency response services within Electoral Area ‘A’. 	Maximum – \$0.03/\$1,000 on land and improvements	In Force
Burns Lake Fire Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ “Lakes District (Electoral Areas ‘B’ and ‘E’) Emergency Response Contribution Local Service Establishment By-law No. 736, 1993”. ➤ The service area was for all of Area ‘B’ and Area ‘E’. 	Maximum – \$1,000 on improvements only	Repealed by Bylaw 1824 on June 21, 2018
District of Fort St. James	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ “RDBN Electoral Area ‘C’ (Fort St. James Rural) Road Rescue Contribution Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1651, 2012”. ➤ The service area includes all Electoral Area ‘C’. 	Maximum – The greater of \$0.06/\$1,000 on land and improvements or \$11,000	In Force
Fraser Lake Fire Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ “RDBN Electoral Area ‘D’ Emergency Extrication Service Area Establishment Bylaw No. 1516, 2009”. ➤ The service area includes all Electoral Area ‘D’. 	Maximum – \$0.05/\$1,000 on land and improvements	In Force, Bylaw 1822 to repeal the service received 3 readings on May 24, 2018
Vanderhoof Fire Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ “Area ‘F’ Emergency Extrication Service Amendment Bylaw No. 1113, 1999”. ➤ The service area was for all of Area ‘F’. 	Maximum – \$3,125 taxed on Improvements	Repealed by Bylaw 1823 on June 21, 2018
Topley Rural Fire Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ “Topley Rural Road Rescue and Medical First Responders Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1745, 2015”. ➤ The service area includes a portion of Electoral Areas ‘G’ and a portion of ‘B’. 	Maximum – \$7,000 taxed on land and improvements	In Force

The RDBN, as a good will gesture, agreed to assist local Fire Departments by making limited financial contributions to help support their road rescue efforts. Unfortunately, this has resulted in the Province eliminating their support for local Fire Departments providing this service.

In 2018 the Board directed staff to submit a resolution to UBCM regarding the governance and funding of road rescue services in the Province. This issue was discussed at the UBCM convention in September 2018 with M.L.A Jennifer Rice who is the Parliamentary Secretary for Emergency Preparedness. Through correspondence Ms. Rice has stated that she appreciated our concerns and challenges, and that they are currently working with the Fire Chiefs Association of British Columbia to develop a sustainable funding and governance model for road rescue.

Staff anticipates that the Fire Chief's Association will recommend to the Province that minimum training standards be developed for road rescue, and that the reimbursement at a rate of \$330.00/hour should be notably increased.

DISCUSSION:

RDBN Road Rescue Bylaws

The continuation of the Road Rescue Bylaws has a negative financial impact on Topley, Fort St. James, and Fraser Lake Fire Departments. Electoral Area 'A' Emergency Response Contribution Local Service Amendment Bylaw No. 853, 1995 does not affect Smithers and Telkwa Fire Departments from billing EMBC for 'Extrication Services'.

By repealing the 'Road Rescue Service' bylaws the Topley, Fraser Lake and Fort St. James Fire Departments will once again be eligible for funding from EMBC on 'Road Rescue' responses. The cost of the training and equipment to provide emergency services is substantial and ongoing. Some of the major expenses are:

Description	Cost
Specialized Road Rescue Equipment:	
Rescue Jaws (ram, cutter, spreader)	\$50,000
Rescue Lifting Air Bags Kit	10,500
Stabilizing Equipment	7,000
Embankment Rescue Equipment	16,000
Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus	5,000
Personal Protective Gear	3,500 – 5000
Radio	800
Air Cylinders	700
*There are several miscellaneous small tools, fuel, hoses and nozzles that are also used.	
* The cost of repairs and maintenance of the equipment is also not included here	
Training per firefighter:	
Auto Extrication Training	\$385
Embankment Training	375
*The cost of Firefighter training is in addition to these costs.	
Certifications per unit:	
Annual Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus	\$125
Annual Ladders – \$400 set up fee	100
Every 3 – 5 years – Air Cylinders	100
Truck pump tests – \$200/day allowance	650

The following Fire Departments Road Rescue services outside of their fire protection areas:

- Smithers Fire Department;
- Telkwa Fire Department;
- Houston Fire Department;
- Topley Fire Department;
- Burns Lake Fire Department;
- Fraser Lake Fire Department;
- Fort St. James Fire Department; and
- Vanderhoof Fire Department.

Granisle Fire Department only provides emergency services within the municipal boundaries, Southside and Fort. Fraser provide services within their fire protection area only, and Cluculz Lake Fire Department does not provide Road Rescue services.

In addition, many of the fire departments have also provided valuable support for emergency events such as storing and distributing sandbags and taking photos of impacted areas during flooding events; providing staff in support of the RDBN Emergency Operations Centre and sharing out the RDBN's communications during an emergency response.

Staff is recommending that the Rural Directors recommend to the Board to direct staff to establish a budget of \$7,500 per municipal and rural Fire Department in the region through the Emergency Preparedness Planning Service for Fire Department Emergency Services.

The funds would be used at the discretion of the individual Fire Departments to build response capacity.