

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**

**AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**(Committee Of The Whole)**

**Thursday, September 6, 2018**

**Location: Village of Burns Lake Council Chambers**

**PRESENT:** Chair Mark Parker

Directors Taylor Bachrach  
Chris Beach  
Eileen Benedict  
Shane Brien  
Mark Fisher  
Tom Greenaway  
Dwayne Lindstrom  
Thomas Liversidge  
Bill Miller  
Rob Newell  
Jerry Petersen  
Darcy Repen  
Gerry Thiessen

Director Rob MacDougall, District of Fort St. James  
Absent

Staff Melany de Weerd, Chief Administrative Officer  
Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services  
John Illes, Chief Financial Officer  
Debbie Evans, Agriculture Coordinator  
Corrine Swenson, Manager of Regional Economic Development  
Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Parker called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**AGENDA**

Moved by Director Petersen  
Seconded by Director Lindstrom

AG.2018-5-1

“That the Agriculture Committee Agenda of September 6, 2018 be adopted.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**MINUTES**

Agriculture Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
-June 7, 2018

Moved by Director Beach  
Seconded by Director Brien

AG.2018-5-2

“That the Minutes of the Agriculture Committee Meeting of June 7, 2018 be received.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **VERBAL REPORTS**

### **Mark Parker, Chair – Conference Call with the Honourable Lana Popham, Minister of Agriculture**

Chair Parker mentioned that the conference call that he had with the Honourable Lana Popham, Minister of Agriculture was good. He noted that it was implied that the Agriculture Land Commission's elimination of Zone 1 and 2 would take place but he spoke of the need to maintain a northern voice. Chair Parker reiterated that the RDBN and RDBN Planning Department felt that the current system was working and encouraged that the current system remain the same. Ms. Popham indicated that with the Agricultural Land Commission based in Vancouver there would be one northern representative on the commission. Chair Parker was very firm that northern B.C. required better representation and is not the same farming and ranching topography as southern B.C. He spoke of the need for northern B.C. to have a panel that represents the area. Chair Parker commented that he will follow-up with the messaging at the upcoming meeting with Minister Popham at the 2018 UBCM Convention in Whistler, B.C.

Chair Parker stated that they also spoke of the proposed packing plant in Prince George and the potential changes to agriculture in the north. He noted the importance of northern representation and a northern panel. Director Miller noted that discussion took place in regard to the difference in climate, growing capacity, land base etc. in northern B.C. Director Parker spoke of the extended growing season often experienced in southern B.C.

#### **Verbal Report**

Moved by Director Miller  
Seconded by Director Beach

#### **AG.2018-5-3**

"That the Agriculture Committee receive Chair Parker's verbal report."

All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **REPORT**

### **Connecting Consumers and Producers**

Moved by Director Lindstrom  
Seconded by Director Beach

#### **AG.2018-5-4**

"That the Agriculture Committee receive the Manager of Regional Economic Development's August 27, 2018 memo titled "Connecting Consumers and Producers."

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

### **Climate Action Initiative Regional Agriculture Adaptation Strategies Project**

Moved by Director Beach  
Seconded by Director Miller

#### **AG.2018-5-5**

"That the Agriculture Committee recommend that the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors authorize providing up to \$3,500 for the Regional Agricultural Adaptation Strategies Project workshops."

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **CORRESPONDENCE (CONT'D)**

B.C. Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Committee for Revitalizing the ALR and the ALC – Revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve and the Agricultural Land Commission – Interim Committee Report to the Minister of Agriculture – July 31, 2018      Moved by Director Miller  
Seconded by Director Beach

AG.2018-5-6      "That the Agriculture Committee receive the B.C. Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Committee for Revitalizing the ALR and the ALC – *Revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve and the Agricultural Land Commission – Interim Committee Report to the Minister of Agriculture – July 31, 2018.*"

(All/Directors/Majority)      CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Wildfire Recovery and Resiliency      Director Miller noted the importance of informing the public of the Emergency Hay Program and Agri-Recovery to residents impacted by the wildfires. Questions can be directed to Debbie Evans, Agriculture Coordinator. Ms. Evans also noted that Ken Chalmers, P. Ag. RPF, Range Tenures Officer Nadina, and Karen Tabs, Range Officer, VanJam, Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development are also good resources.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Director Fisher  
Seconded by Director Greenaway

AG.2018-5-7      "That the meeting be adjourned at 3:22 p.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)      CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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Mark Parker, Chair

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Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant