

**AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**(Committee of the Whole)**

**Thursday, September 22, 2016**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Chair	Mark Parker
	Directors	Eileen Benedict Mark Fisher Tom Greenaway John Illes Dwayne Lindstrom Thomas Liversidge Rob MacDougall Bill Miller Rob Newell Jerry Petersen Darcy Reppen Gerry Thiessen
	Directors Absent	Taylor Bachrach, Town of Smithers Shane Brienen, District of Houston
	Staff	Melany de Weerd, Chief Administrative Officer Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services Jason Llewellyn, Director of Planning – arrived at 1:46 a.m. Roxanne Shepherd, Chief Financial Officer Corrine Swenson, Manager of Regional Economic Development Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Parker called the meeting to order at 1:37 p.m.

**AGENDA**

Moved by Director Greenaway  
Seconded by Director Lindstrom

AG.2016-8-1

“That the Agriculture Committee Meeting Agenda of September 22, 2016 be adopted.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**MINUTES**

Agriculture Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
-July 21, 2016

Moved by Director MacDougall  
Seconded by Director Greenaway

AG.2016-8-2

“That the minutes of the Agriculture Committee meeting of July 21, 2016 be received.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **REPORT**

Reckitt Benckiser Canada  
and the Bulkley-Nechako,  
Fraser-Fort George, Peace  
River and Cariboo Regional Districts

Moved by Director Miller  
Seconded by Director Fisher

AG.2016-8-3

“That the Agriculture Committee receive the report of the meeting between Reckitt Benckiser Canada and the Bulkley-Nechako, Fraser-Fort George, Peace River and Cariboo Regional Districts regarding an update to the Trees for Change Program.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Chair Miller thanked those who attended the meeting. Discussion took place regarding 9,000 hectares not being used for agriculture production and not being put on the market for sale to be utilized for agriculture. The impact to the forest industry in regard to new agriculture leases utilizing lands and removing trees that could be used for the midterm timber supply was discussed.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

Correspondence

Moved by Director Greenaway  
Seconded by Director Petersen

AG.2016-8-4

“That the Agriculture Committee receive the following correspondence from the Ministry of Agriculture:  
-BC Strategic Outreach Initiative Funding Application;  
-2016-17 BC Strategic Outreach Initiative Funding Application-  
Strategic Planning.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director Miller mentioned that the BC Strategic Outreach Initiative Funding could be potentially utilized for the RDBN Agriculture Forum. Staff will investigate to determine whether or not the RDBN Agriculture Forum could be eligible for funding.

## **DISCUSSION ITEM**

### **Agriculture Forum - Chair Parker – Re: Update**

- Date for the Forum: November 9, 2016;
- Location: Vineyard Church in Burns Lake;
- Facilitator: Gary Blattner, Vanderhoof, B.C.
  - o Has facilitated other Agriculture events;
  - o In the Agriculture sector;
  - o Very versed in the strengths and issues in the region;
- Chair Parker has a draft agenda;

**DISCUSSION ITEM (CONT'D)**

**Agriculture Forum - Chair Parker – Re: Update (Cont'd)**

- Invite:
  - o agriculture groups within the RDBN;
  - o Ministry of Agriculture;
  - o District Agrologist;
  - o Agriculture Land Commission representation;
  - o Nechako Valley Cattleman's Association;
  - o Bulkley Valley Farmers Market;
  - o 40-45 participants plus RDBN staff;
- Further information or possible participants can be forwarded to staff.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Director Miller  
Seconded by Director MacDougall

2016-8-5

"That the meeting be adjourned at 1:48 p.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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Mark Parker, Chair

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Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant