

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

**Thursday, July 21, 2016**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Chair	Mark Parker
	Directors	Taylor Bachrach Eileen Benedict Shane Brienens Tom Greenaway Mark Fisher Thomas Liversidge Rob MacDougall Bill Miller Rob Newell Jerry Petersen Darcy Repen Luke Strimbold Gerry Thiessen
	Director Absent	Dwayne Lindstrom, Village of Fraser Lake
	Staff	Melany de Weerd, Chief Administrative Officer Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Parker called the meeting to order at 2:50 p.m.

**AGENDA &  
SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

Moved by Director Miller  
Seconded by Director Repen

AG.2016-7-1

“That the Agriculture Committee Meeting Agenda of July 21, 2016 be adopted; and further, that the Supplementary Agenda be received.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**MINUTES**

Agriculture Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
-June 23, 2016

Moved by Director Petersen  
Seconded by Director Newell

AG.2016-7-2

“That the minutes of the Agriculture Committee meeting of June 23, 2016 be received.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **1. Agriculture Forum**

#### Agriculture Forum

Moved by Director Fisher  
Seconded by Director Miller

#### AG.2016-7-3

"That the Agriculture Committee recommend that the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors authorize Mark Parker, Chair of the Agriculture Committee to work with staff to determine a date in 2016 for an Agriculture Forum."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place regarding possible topics of discussion:

- Impacts of foreign ownership of agricultural lands;
- What is being done in agriculture in the region?
- What are potential farming/ranching opportunities?
- What are next steps forward as a region?
- Public Policy:
  - o Working together in the changing face of agriculture: The role of the Regional District, Ministry of Agriculture, agriculture groups, and individual citizens in understanding and supporting small versus large, local vs international markets, organic versus non organic.
  - o What are partners/agency roles and what are individual's roles?
- Food security in the North.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

#### Connecting Consumers and Producers Project Update

Moved by Director MacDougall  
Seconded by Director Brien

#### AG.2016-7-4

"That the Agriculture Committee receive the Manager of Regional Economic Development's July 19, 2016 memo titled "Connecting Consumers and Producers Project Update."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **NEW BUSINESS**

#### Home Sweet Home Field School

Director Repen mentioned that the co-founders of Home Sweet Home Field School are touring in the region to deliver workshops aimed at increasing the number of food businesses in the region. He spoke to the importance of encouraging attendance at the workshops.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Director Fisher  
Seconded by Director Bachrach

AG.2016-7-5

“That the meeting be adjourned at 3:02 p.m.”

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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Mark Parker, Chair

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Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant