



BRITISH  
COLUMBIA



# Ministry of Agriculture

## Overview for RDBN Agriculture Forum



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# Roles (Branches) of Ministry

## Agriculture Science and Policy Division

- Policy & Legislation - Regulation
- Food Safety & Inspection - Meat Inspection
- Plant & Animal Health - Diagnostic labs & apiary program

## Business Development Division

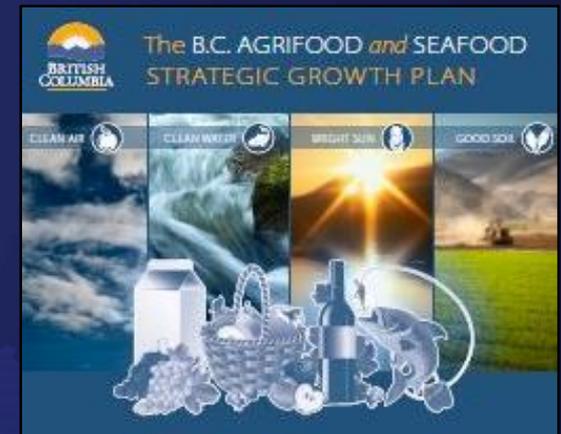
- Business Risk Management — Crop Insurance
- Innovation & Adaptation — Land Use Planning, Soils, Engineering & Innovation
- Sector Development — Regional Agrologists, Specialists & 4H



# Strategic Growth Plan (SGP)

## 3 Key Areas; 20 Action Items

- 1) Achieving economic growth
- 2) Adapting to climate change
- 3) Maintaining food supply security



Goal: Increase agrifood sector annual revenues to \$15 billion/year by 2020



## SGP Activities & RDBN - Examples

- New Entrants
- Development of a Forage Plan
- Increased in production across BC  
91,000 ha
- Succession Planning
- Implement changes to ALC
- Risk reduction





# Growing Forward 2

## A Federal, Provincial, Territorial Initiative

2013 – 2018

- Business Risk Management
- Innovation & Climate Change Adaptation
- Competitiveness & Market Development
  - Markets, Food Safety, Traceability
- Adaptability & Industry Capacity
  - Farm Business, EFP, BMPs, Emergencies



# Regional Staff

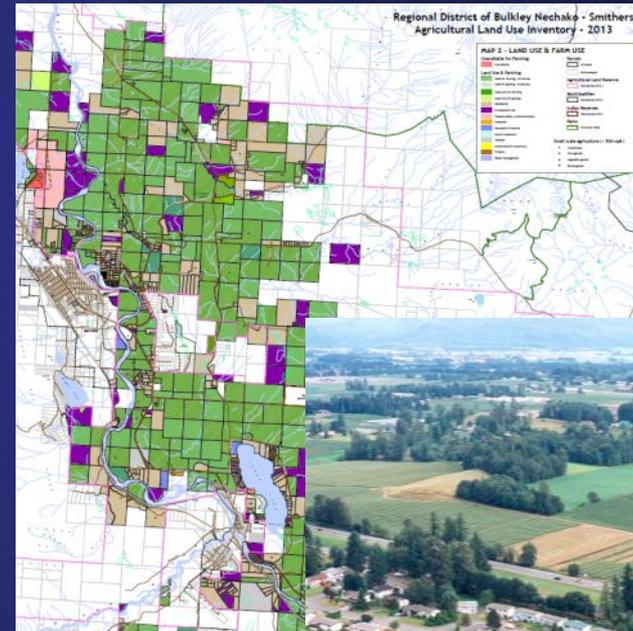
Front line technical staff who work with the agrifood sector (both producers and processors) to become more competitive and innovative.

1. Knowledge Transfer
2. Technology Transfer
3. Relationships
4. Programs



# Agricultural Land Planning

- Working with local governments
- Land Use Inventory
- ALR referrals
- Bylaws
- OCPs review
- Agriculture Committees
- Agriculture Plans





# Engaging with Producers and Processors

- Program support/information
- Industry Groups
- Specialists across BC
- Regional context & feedback
- Sector specific issues & events
- [AgriserviceBC@gov.bc.ca](mailto:AgriserviceBC@gov.bc.ca) or 1-888-221-7141

Small Flock Health

UCOP

**Cattlemen's Field Days**

**Farm Succession**

**Soil Management**

Grasshopper 101

Alfalfa

Production

**Taxes & Farming**



# Economic Development

- Information to New Entrants
- Production & Business Training
- Industry groups
- Innovation
- New opportunities
- Community Engagement Sessions
- Business Tools—Enterprise budgets, feasibility studies





# Emergency Management

- Preparedness Tools—  
Working with RDBN & Industry
- Province—Wide Animal  
Disease Response
- Support during events—  
Working with RDBN





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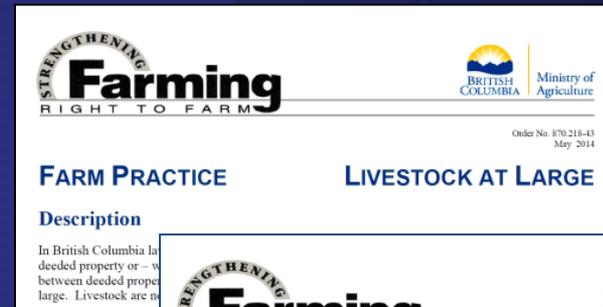
# Ag & Environmental Issues

- Environmental Farm Plans
- Drought
- Insects/Disease
- Ag/wildlife
- Invasive plants
- Environmental Assessment



# Complaints

- Farm Practice & FPPA
- Environmental
- Trespass & Livestock Acts
- Information not enforcement
- Cooperate with other agencies



**STRENGTHENING Farming RIGHT TO FARM**

BRITISH COLUMBIA Ministry of Agriculture

Order No. 870-218-43  
May 2014

**FARM PRACTICE**      **LIVESTOCK AT LARGE**

**Description**

In British Columbia land is divided into deeded property or – in some cases – between deeded property and large. Livestock are not



**STRENGTHENING Farming RIGHT TO FARM**

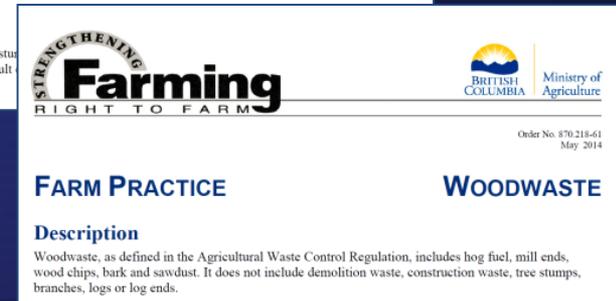
BRITISH COLUMBIA Ministry of Agriculture

Order No. 870-218-64  
May 2014

**FARM PRACTICE**      **ODOUR**

**Description**

Odour is one of the three disturbances (as defined in the Agricultural Waste Control Regulation, includes hog fuel, mill ends, wood chips, bark and sawdust. It does not include demolition waste, construction waste, tree stumps, branches, logs or log ends.



**STRENGTHENING Farming RIGHT TO FARM**

BRITISH COLUMBIA Ministry of Agriculture

Order No. 870-218-61  
May 2014

**FARM PRACTICE**      **WOODWASTE**

**Description**

Woodwaste, as defined in the Agricultural Waste Control Regulation, includes hog fuel, mill ends, wood chips, bark and sawdust. It does not include demolition waste, construction waste, tree stumps, branches, logs or log ends.



# Climate Change Adaptation

- BC Forage Council Project
  - Weather data
- Regionally-specific projects
- Potential future options
  - Crops & Varieties
  - UNBC project – crop diversification
- New Niches & Technologies
- New Challenges – pest/disease



**Avg. Temperature  
Change 1900-2013  
Central BC:  
+1.0-1.9 °C**



# Broad Initiatives

Applicable to multiple regions

- Agriculture Dam Safety
- Ag-Waste Control
- Open Burning Regulations
- Agroforestry





## What we don't do...

- Take roles away from commercial agriculture service providers e.g. specific agronomic advice
- Complaints against non-commercial operations e.g. hobby farms
- Limited Enforcement (ALC, FRB, Meat Inspection)
- Duties that fall under other jurisdictions
  - e.g. federal government or other ministries
- Emergency response separate from local gov't.



# Approaches

- AGRI works with all parts of the commercial agrifoods producers and processors.
- Collaboration with stakeholders is essential for program delivery.
  - program eligibility is mostly targeted at non-governmental entities



# What does this look like in RDBN?

- Producers using cost-share programs such as EFPs and Farm Business Advisors, Traceability Adoptions programs.
- Field days, Production Workshops, Business Speakers, Marketing & Food Processing Seminars
- On-farm climate adaption project
- Emergency preparedness tools



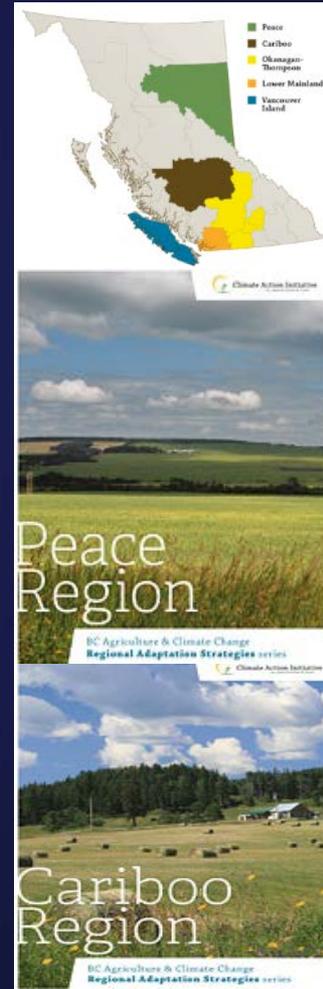


# RDBN & Opportunities

- Network with other AACs across BC
- Look to other economic development initiatives
- Linkages with UNBC and other post secondary

## Capitalize on

1. Competitive advantages
2. Existing processing capacity.  
70% of Agriculture revenue is from processing.
3. Regional and export markets
4. *Next Policy Framework (GF3)*

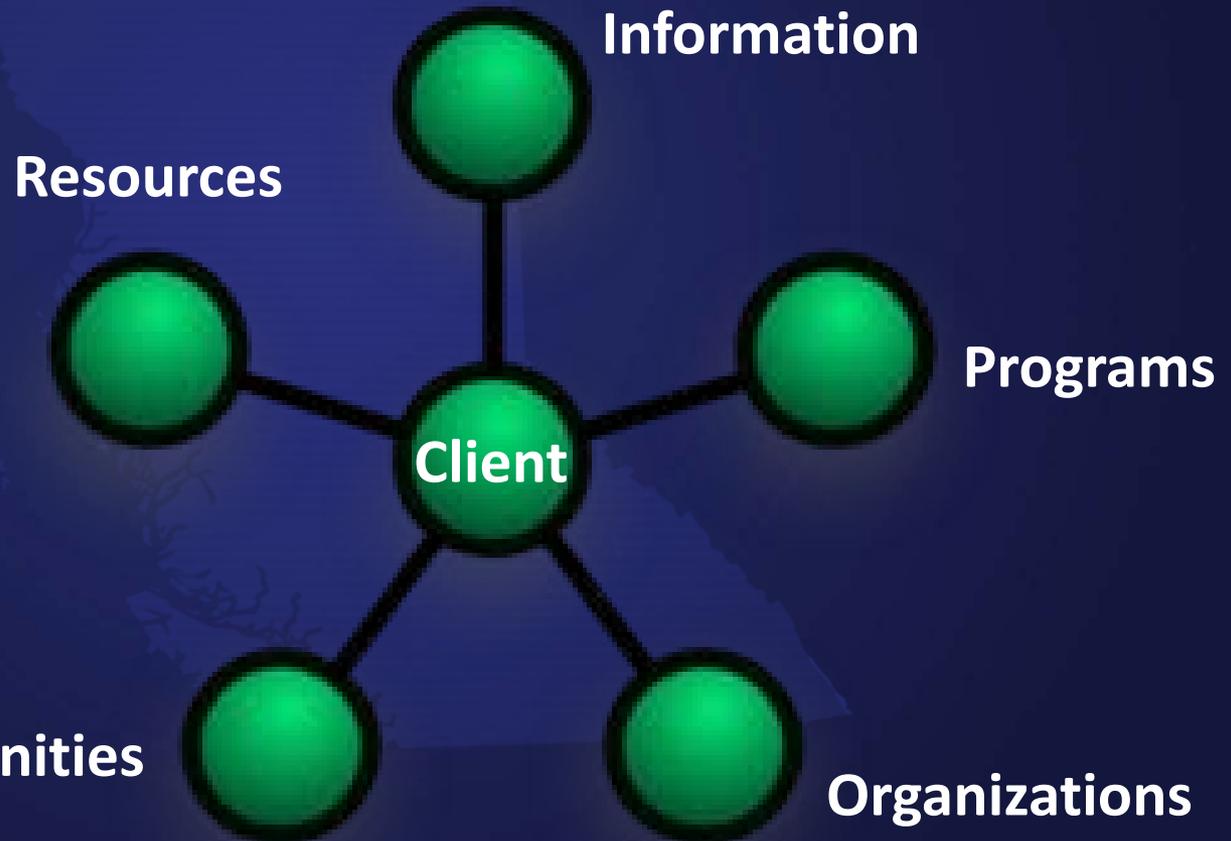




# Regional Agrologists are Connectors

## Goal

**Growing the Agrifoods Sector in a sustainable way.**





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# Questions

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# SGP Action Areas

1. ↑ Production
2. Seafood Strategy
3. Labour Market
4. ID and ↓ Risk
5. ALC
6. Forage Plan
7. ↑ Commercialization
8. ↑ Biosecurity
9. Encourage Innovation
10. Water Strategies
11. CC Adaptation
12. Tax Credit for donated farmed food
13. Buy Local Initiatives
14. Buy Local Policies
15. Certification Programs
16. Access to retail
17. ↓ Interprov. Barriers
18. Intl Market Strategy
19. Intl Recognized Food Safety
20. Supply Managed Sector