



## **AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY AND ECONOMIC ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, September 22, 2021 at 7:00pm  
Via Zoom

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### **MINUTES**

**Present:**

J. Caldarella, Community Co-Chair  
Councillor B. Whitmarsh, Council Co-Chair

C. Allison, C. Clark, I. Han, B. Sharp, and A. Smith

**Guests:**

G. Bartle, Land Use Planner, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries  
G. Last, Executive Director, Food Safety Inspection Branch, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries  
C. Keyes, Regional Agrologist, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries

**Staff:**

V. Gafka, Senior Manager, Economic Investment and Development  
M. Gunn, Planner, Community and Policy Planning  
K. Stepto, Recording Secretary

#### **A. APPROVAL AND RECEIPT OF AGENDA ITEMS**

**1. Agricultural Advisory and Economic Enhancement Committee -  
September 22, 2021**

Moved by A. Smith,  
Seconded by C. Allison,  
That the Agricultural Advisory and Economic Enhancement Committee approve  
the agenda and receive the agenda items of the September 22, 2021 meeting,  
as amended.

**CARRIED**

#### **B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**1. Agricultural Advisory and Economic Enhancement Committee -  
June 23, 2021**

Moved by I. Han,  
Seconded by A. Smith,  
That the Agricultural Advisory and Economic Enhancement Committee adopt the  
Minutes of the June 23, 2021 meeting, as amended.

**CARRIED**

## **C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

### **1. Langley Learning Farm Video**

V. Gafka reported that the Township of Langley submitted an application to the New York based global organization, Intelligent Community Forum (ICF), in 2020 to illustrate strategies and initiatives underway across the community. The Township has advanced from the Top 21 to the Top 7 Intelligent Communities. In September 2021, the Township hosted ICF for a two-day virtual site visit to validate application content, and to be considered for “top spot” as Intelligent Community of 2021. To illustrate some of the work described in the community application, a series of short videos was developed and included a walking tour of the Langley Learning Farm. The video was shown for the committee to watch.

A. Smith reported that 26 grade 11 students have registered for Environmental Science, and that a grade 12 program will be offered in the spring. There is a full roster of volunteers coming to the Farm from Langley Secondary School.

### **2. Meat Licensing System**

G. Last, Executive Director, Food Safety Inspection Branch, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries provided a presentation on the new Meat Licensing System. The following information was provided:

The new regulations will come into affect on October 1, 2021. The changes will make it easier for BC producers to bring locally raised meat to local markets.

Farmgate Licence:

- New and small-scale producers sell products locally and fill demand for local meat products in rural communities.
- Ability to slaughter up to 10,000lbs/year live weight of own animals, no custom.

Farmgate Plus Licence:

- Replaces Class D and E licences, and all existing licence holders will be automatically converted.
- Ability to slaughter up to 25,000lbs/year live weight.
- Direct to consumer, retail, and restaurant sales anywhere in BC.

Abattoir Licence:

- Replaces current Class A and B licences
- All existing licensed facilities automatically covert to new licence.
- Synchronized with existing business and licence procedures, and will continue to offer fully inspected meat production with no restrictions on volume or sales within BC.

SlaughterRight Course:

- Update to the SlaughterSafe course.
- Self-paced coursework as part of the licence application process.
- Must be completed by all new and renewed Farmgate and Farmgate Plus licences.

### **C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

#### Premises ID:

- Required for all Farmgate and Farmgate Plus labelling.
- Mandatory Premises ID supports better preparation and emergency response for livestock producers and communities.

#### Labelling

- After October 1, 2021 producers can continue to use existing package labels with farm name and address, description of contents, and net weight or volume.
- New Farmgate and Farmgate packages must be labelled with farm's Premises ID.
- Farmgate and Farmgate Plus labels must include "Not Government Inspected".

### **3. Residential Flexibility**

G. Bartle, Land Use Planner, Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries provided a presentation on the new Residential Flexibility Rules in the ALR. The following information was provided:

#### Provincial Order-In Council (OIC) No. 438:

- On July 12, 2021 Order-In Council No. 438 regarding the provincial Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) Act was approved and ordered.
- This OIC brings about amendments to the ALC Act's Agricultural Land Reserve Use Regulation.
- These amendments change the rules to allow an additional residence on a parcel in the ALR – in addition to the primary residence and without ALC approval – but with conditions.
- These changes come into affect on December 31, 2021.

#### Conditions:

- The size of a small secondary residence will depend on the size of the land parcel and the existing home.
- On most parcels 40 hectares or smaller, if the existing residence is 500 square meters (approximately 5,400 square feet) or less, a second residence of 90 square metres (approximately 970 square feet) or less can be built – without ALC approval.
- On most parcels 40 hectares or smaller, if the existing residence is 500 square meters, then a small secondary residence for non-farm use would not be permitted. However, farmers can still apply to the ALC for an additional residence for farm use.
- On most parcels larger than 40 hectares, a second residence of 186 square meters (approximately 2,000 square feet) or less is permitted, no matter the size of the first resident.
- After December 31, 2021, the new rules do not limit who can reside in the additional residence.
- Filing a notice of intent for soil/fill use to the ALC for the additional residence continues to be a requirement.

D. REPORTS

E. CORRESPONDENCE

F. WORK PROGRAM

G. COUNCIL REFERRALS

H. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1. **Business Plan Guidebook for Shared-Use Food & Beverage Processing Facilities in BC**

[8226 Food Business Guide \(gov.bc.ca\)](https://gov.bc.ca/8226/Food-Business-Guide)

Provided for information.

I. NEXT MEETING

**Date:** October 27, 2021

**Location:** via Zoom

**Time:** 7:00pm

J. TERMINATE

Moved by C. Allison,  
Seconded by B. Sharp,  
That the meeting terminate at 8:31pm.  
**CARRIED**

**CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

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Community Representative Co-Chair

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Council Representative Co-Chair