



## REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMISSION

TUESDAY, JULY 23, 2013  
CVRD BOARDROOM, 12:00 PM  
175 INGRAM STREET, DUNCAN, BC

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### AGENDA

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10.	<b><u>ADJOURNMENT</u></b>	

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**NOTE: A copy of the full agenda package is available at the CVRD website [www.cvrld.bc.ca](http://www.cvrld.bc.ca).**

Director Marcotte, Chair  
Director Hartmann, Vice Chair  
Director Duncan  
Director Giles

Director Hutchins  
Bob Crawford  
Mick Smith  
Joanne McLeod

Ian Christison  
Pat Durose  
Wayne Haddow  
Rodger Hunter  
Peter Keber

Dave Thomson  
Fred Oud  
Marsha Stanley  
Judy Stafford  
Dan Ferguson

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**DISTRIBUTION:**

GEORGE BAIRD, ALTERNATE, SHAWNIGAN COBBLE FARMER'S INSTITUTE HILL  
WARREN JONES, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER  
TOM ANDERSON, GENERAL MANAGER, PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT  
GEOFF MILLAR, MANAGER, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
KATHY LACHMAN, EDC BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER  
MARK KUEBER, GENERAL MANAGER, CORPORATE SERVICES  
ROB KLINE, MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & LANDS

DIRECTOR KENT  
DIRECTOR LEFEBURE  
DIRECTOR LINES  
DIRECTOR MCGONIGLE  
DIRECTOR WALKER

DIRECTOR FRASER  
DIRECTOR IANNIDINARDO  
DIRECTOR MORRISON  
DIRECTOR DOREY  
DIRECTOR WEAVER

Minutes of the regular Regional Agricultural Advisory Commission meeting held on Tuesday, June 25, 2013, at 12:00 pm in the CVRD Boardroom, 175 Ingram Street, Duncan, BC.

**PRESENT**

Director M. Marcotte, Chair  
Directors G. Giles, L. Duncan, R. Hutchins and R. Hartmann  
Joanne McLeod, Judy Stafford, Mick Smith, Wayne Haddow, Marsha Stanley, Rodger Hunter and Fred Oud

**ALSO PRESENT**

Alternate Peter Keber  
Directors P. Weaver and I. Morrison  
George Robbins, Chair Economic Development Commission  
Tom Anderson, General Manager, Planning & Development  
Judy Mills, Recording Secretary

**ABSENT**

Bob Crawford, Ian Christison, Dave Thomson, Pat Durose, Geoff Millar and Kathy Lachman

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be amended with the addition of items:

**NB1 Farmer's Market Program;**

**NB2 Agricultural runoff;**

and that the agenda, as amended, be approved.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**M1**

It was moved and seconded that the minutes of the regular Regional Agricultural Advisory Commission meeting held May 28, 2013, be adopted.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Not applicable.

**DELEGATIONS**

No applicable.

**REPORTS**

**R1 – Bylaw No. 3710**

Chair Marcotte reported Bylaw No. 3710 was adopted at the June 12, 2013 Board meeting and is now in effect.

It was moved and seconded to recommend the Board appoint Peter Keber and Dan Ferguson as the two public representatives for the Regional Agricultural Advisory Commission for terms to expire December 31, 2014.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**R2 – Sunfest Country Music Festival**

It was moved and seconded to receive and file the RAAC support letter for the Cowichan Exhibition Society's Sunfest Country Music Festival dated May 29, 2013.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**R3 – Agricultural  
Land Commission**

It was moved and seconded to receive and file the RAAC support letter for the Agricultural Land Commission dated June 12, 2013.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**R4 – ALC Referral  
Body**

The staff report recommendation was reviewed.

Motion was moved to accept staff report recommendation.

Motion was moved to amend staff report recommendation by removing the word "directly".

It was moved and seconded to refer item R4, staff report dated May 30, 2013, regarding Agricultural Land Commission referral body back to staff.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**R5 – Incubator Farm  
Program**

Chair Marcotte reviewed Subcommittee #2 update on the Incubator Farm Program.

It was moved and seconded to move forward in support of the development of an Incubator Farm initiative.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Due to conflict of interest Judy Stafford left the meeting.

It was moved and seconded the Request for Proposal to develop an Incubator Farm Program, as circulated, be tendered.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**R6 – Sunfest Booth**

Chair Marcotte reported that Sunfest has requested the RAAC have a booth on site in support of their event August 3 to 4, 2013. A sign-up sheet was circulated for members to volunteer.

**R7 – Local Food**

Judy Stafford circulated information on the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) regarding their interim policy definition of local food. Comments and suggestions are being received before August 30, 2013.

It was moved and seconded to recommend the Board send a letter to CFIA advising they do not support the proposed interim policy definition of local food to include food sold across provincial borders.

It was moved and seconded this matter regarding CFIA's interim policy definition of local food be referred to Chair Marcotte, Judy Stafford and staff on recommending a new definition to the RAAC at the next meeting.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Not applicable.

**UNFINISHED  
BUSINESS**

Not applicable.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**NB1 – Farmer’s  
Market Program**

Judy Stafford reported effective June 24th, the Duncan Farmers Market and Cowichan Green Community implemented the BC Farmers' Market Nutrition Coupon program. Thirty families and ten seniors of low income will be able to spend \$15 every week for 16 weeks at the Downtown Duncan Market. This is an influx of \$600 per week that will go directly to our local farmers who sell at the market. This program is funded through the BC Association of Farmer's Markets.

**NB2 – Agriculture  
Runoff**

Rodger Hunter reported on June 19<sup>th</sup> an excellent meeting was hosted by Wayne Haddow of the Ministry of Agriculture with support from the Cowichan Watershed Board on "Keeping Your Farms Runoff Clean". Great attendance from the farm community was achieved with 15 dairy farmers from 12 farms participating, even though it is an extremely busy time of year. Next steps include applying for a group based planning initiative to Environmental Farm Planning Program. Wayne tipped his hat to Rodger for getting the farmers out.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned.**

**MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 1:42 pm.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Secretary

R7



COWICHAN VALLEY REGIONAL DISTRICT

BYLAW No. 3515

(As Amended by Bylaw No. 3710)

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**BYLAW NO. 3515 – REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMISSION  
ESTABLISHMENT BYLAW, 2011**

**CONSOLIDATED FOR CONVENIENCE ONLY  
(JULY 4, 2013)**

The amendment bylaws listed below have been incorporated into enactment bylaw No. 3515 for convenience purposes only. Persons making use of the consolidated version of Bylaw No. 3515 are advised that it is not a legal document and that for the purpose of interpreting and applying the law, the original bylaws must be consulted. Certified copies of original bylaws are available through the Corporate Secretary's Office.

**AMENDMENT BYLAW**

**EFFECTIVE DATE**

Bylaw No. 3710

June 12, 2013



COWICHAN VALLEY REGIONAL DISTRICT

BYLAW No. 3515 – Consolidated For Convenience With  
Amending Bylaw No. 3710

A Bylaw To Establish a Regional Agricultural Advisory Commission  
for the Cowichan Valley Regional District

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**WHEREAS** the Board of Directors of the Cowichan Valley Regional District has adopted the Cowichan Region Area Agricultural Plan;

**AND WHEREAS** the Board wishes to increase awareness of agricultural issues in the Cowichan Valley Regional District and provide leadership in the promotion of agriculture as an important economic driver in the region;

**AND WHEREAS** the Board wishes to establish a Regional Agricultural Advisory Commission to direct the implementation of the Area Agricultural Plan;

**NOW THEREFORE** the Board of Directors of the Cowichan Valley Regional District, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

1. CITATION

This bylaw may be cited for all purposes as "CVRD Bylaw No. 3515 – Regional Agricultural Advisory Commission Establishment Bylaw, 2011".

2. DEFINITIONS

In this bylaw:

- a) "**Commission**" means the Regional Agricultural Advisory Commission established by this Bylaw.
- b) "**Board**" means the Board of the Cowichan Valley Regional District.

3. MEMBERSHIP

The Commission shall consist of sixteen members, as follows:

- a) Five Commission members shall be Directors of the Cowichan Valley Regional District (three Electoral Area Directors, one North Cowichan Municipal Director, and the Board Chairperson).
- b) One representative from each of the following organizations:
  - i. Nanaimo Cedar Farmer's Institute
  - ii. Shawnigan Cobble Hill Farmer's Institute

- iii. Cowichan Agricultural Society
- iv. CVRD Economic Development Commission
- v. CVRD Environment Commission
- vi. The Regional Agrologist, Ministry of Agriculture
- vii. Duncan Farmer's Market
- viii. Farm Credit Canada
- ix. Cowichan Watershed Board
- x. District A Farmer's Institute
- xi. Cowichan Exhibition Society

c) Two public representatives.

d) All non-elected members shall be appointed by Board resolution. The Board may appoint an Alternate for members representing organizers.

#### 4. TERM OF OFFICE

a) The term of office for Commission members shall be three years and terms shall be staggered.

b) In the event of vacancy of office, a replacement appointee shall hold office for the otherwise unexpired term of office.

b) Commission members may be re-appointed for a further term or terms.

c) The Board may, at any time, terminate the appointment of a member.

d) The Board may remove from membership any member appointed who has failed to attend three consecutive Commission meetings without good cause.

#### 5. PROCEDURE

a) The Board Chair shall appoint a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Commission who shall hold office until a successor is appointed.

b) In the absence of the Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson, the Commission shall elect from the members present a temporary Chairperson for the purpose of that meeting only.

c) A quorum is nine members, one of whom must be a Director of the Board.

d) All decisions, resolutions and recommendations of the Commission shall be made by a majority of the members present at the meeting, with each member having one vote.

e) Where not otherwise covered in this bylaw, the rules of procedure governing Commission meetings shall be those of the current Board Committee and Commissions Procedures Bylaw of the Cowichan Valley Regional District.

f) Minutes shall be kept for all meetings of the Commission, and a copy of such minutes shall be forwarded to the Legislative Services Division of the Cowichan Valley Regional District.



6. RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of the Commission shall be as follows:

- a) Implement the CVRD Agricultural Area Plan and the recommendations contained in that Plan. More specifically to:
  - Review all 78 recommendations;
  - Identify those activities already underway and identify the groups and organizations undertaking those activities;
  - Ensure that sufficient resources are available to accomplish activities and if required, identify the additional resources needed;
  - Prioritize activities to be undertaken;
  - Identify the activities that have not been addressed and prioritized;
  - Identify the necessary resources to complete those activities; and
  - Make recommendations to the CVRD to allocate resources to accomplish those activities.
  
- b) Advise the Board on issues of importance to the agricultural community, and on ALR exclusion applications, ALR subdivision applications and change of use applications as referred by the Electoral Area Services Committee as well as any other matters referred to it by the Board.
  
- c) Subject to the provisions otherwise contained in this bylaw, provide the Board with advice by way of:
  - (i) Matters which may legally or financially bind or commit the Board;
  - (ii) Provide input to an annual financial plan which will become a specific Economic Development Agriculture Project in the annual Function 121 budget;
  - (iii) Quarterly progress/status reports to the Board.

7. GENERAL

- a) All members of the Commission shall serve without remuneration, except for such "out of pocket" expenditures as may have received prior authorization by the Board.
  
- b) No recommendation of the Commission or other matter requiring ratification by the Board shall be acted upon until it has been approved by the Board.

J. A. Forrest  
Secretary

June 9, 1997  
Date

APPROVED BY THE INSPECTOR OF MUNICIPALITIES on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1997.

ADOPTED this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of July, 1997.

J. Allan  
Chairperson

J. A. Forrest  
Secretary



R2

**CLOSED SESSION  
REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMISSION REPORT  
OF MEETING HELD JUNE 25, 2013**

**DATE:** June 26, 2013

**To:** Chair and Directors of the Cowichan Valley Regional District

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Your Regional Agricultural Advisory Commission reports and recommends as follows:

1. That the Board appoint Peter Keber and Dan Ferguson as the two public representatives for the Regional Agricultural Advisory Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2014.



## Canadian Food Inspection Agency

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### Local Food Claims

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In the coming weeks, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) will undertake an initiative to modernize its food labelling approach. The CFIA—with input from consumers, industry and other stakeholders—will conduct a review of food labelling regulations, guidelines and policies including claims such as use of the term "local".

In the interim, the CFIA is adopting an interim policy which recognizes "local" as:

- food produced in the province or territory in which it is sold, or
- food sold across provincial borders within 50 km of the originating province or territory

The CFIA recognizes that this is a broad interpretation of the current policy and there are a variety of views on how the term "local" should be defined.

### Attention: Online Consultation

Please provide us with your comments and suggestions before **August 30, 2013**.

#### Online Consultation Questionnaire

This is an interim policy which will be implemented immediately and will remain in effect until the CFIA's labelling review is complete. Consultations during the modernization of its food labelling approach will help inform CFIA on future direction. The use of the claim "local" is still subject to prohibitions relating to false and misleading claims of the Food and Drugs Act as well as the Consumer Packaging and Labelling Act.

Under the previous policy, the CFIA interpreted the terms "local", "locally grown", or any similar term to mean that:

- the food originated within a 50 km radius of the place where it was sold, or
- the food sold originated within the same local government unit (e.g. municipality) or adjacent government unit

The CFIA recognizes that this approach is outdated and does not reflect current food production practices or consumer needs and expectations.

It is important to note that claims such as "local" are voluntary and industry are encouraged to add qualifiers such as the name of a city to provide consumers with additional information. Furthermore, it is the responsibility of the regulated party to comply with applicable legislation and regulations.

Date modified: 2013-06-20