

Date:Tuesday, February 27, 2018Time:9:30 AMLocation:CSRD Boardroom555 Harbourfront Drive NE, Salmon Arm

1. Call to Order

- 1.1 Election of Chair
- 1.2 Election of Vice Chair
- 2. Adoption of Agenda

Motion

THAT: the agenda of February 27, 2018 Electoral Area Directors' Committee meeting be approved.

3. Meeting Minutes

3.1 Adoption of Minutes

Motion

THAT: the minutes the minutes of the November 2, 2017 Electoral Area Directors' Committee meeting be adopted.

4. Reports by Staff

4.1 New Provincial Liquor Control and Licensing Branch Policy Directive No. 18-01 Special Event Permit Exemption

Verbal report from C. Paiement, Team Leader, Development Services regarding the following:

- Overview of Policy Directive No. 18-01
- Overview of CSRD Policy No. A-42

For discussion/direction.

Pages

1

Page 2 of 2

4.2 Cannabis Production and Retailing in BC

Verbal report from J. Thingsted, Planner, Development Services regarding the following:

- Overview of the proposed Cannabis Act
- Overview of Health Canada cannabis production regulations
- Overview of cannabis production in BC, including ALR
- Considerations for cannabis production in CSRD Electoral Areas
- Overview of cannabis retailing in BC
- Considerations for cannabis retailing in CSRD Electoral Areas

For discussion/direction.

Federal:

Introduction of the Cannabis Act: Questions and Answers (April 2017)

Proposed Approach to the Regulation of Cannabis (November 2017)

Provincial:

BC Cannabis Private Retail Licensing Guide (February 2018) attached.

5. Reports by Electoral Area Directors

5.1 Invitation from Ministry of Agriculture on Revitalizing ALR and the ALC

Request brought forward from February 15, 2018 Board Meeting for discussion:

- Meeting date: Thursday, March 1, 2018 in Kamloops, BC.
- Deadline for submitting information to Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Committee is 4:00 PM, April 30, 2018.
- Letter and Discussion Paper attached.

5.2 Director Remuneration and Expenses - Tax Implications

- Requested by Director Talbot
- Discuss January 1, 2019 tax implications regarding expenses.
- 6. Adjournment

Motion

THAT: the February 27, 2018 Electoral Area Directors' Committee meeting be adjourned.

26

November 2, 2017



ELECTORAL AREA DIRECTORS' COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Note: The following minutes are subject to correction when endorsed by the Electoral Area Directors at the next Electoral Area Directors' Committee meeting.

Date: Time: Location:	November 2, 2017 9:30 AM CSRD Boardroom 555 Harbourfront Dr	ive NE, Salmon Arm
Directors Present	K. Cathcart L. Parker P. Demenok	Electoral Area A (Via Teleconference) Electoral Area B (Via Teleconference) Electoral Area C
	R. Talbot R. Martin L. Morgan	Electoral Area D Electoral Area E Electoral Area F
Staff Present	C. Hamilton* G. Christie C. Paiement B. Payne* D. Passmore* J. Thingsted* C. LeFloch* D. Wilson* L. Schumi J. Graham	Chief Administrative Officer Manager, Development Services Team Leader, Development Services Manager, Information Systems Senior Planner Planner Development Services Assistant Bylaw Enforcement Officer Administrative Clerk (Recorder) Executive Asst./Asst. Deputy Corporate Officer

* Attended part of the meeting only

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:32 AM.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Moved By Director Talbot Seconded By Director Morgan

THAT: the agenda of the November 2, 2017 Electoral Area Directors' Committee meeting be approved.

CARRIED

3. Meeting Minutes

3.1 Adoption of Minutes

Moved By Director Morgan Seconded By Director Talbot

THAT: the minutes the minutes of the June 27, 2017 Electoral Area Directors' Committee meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

3.2 Business Arising

3.2.1 Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference for the Electoral Area Directors' Committee was adopted by resolution at the July 20, 2017 Regular Board meeting.

Chair Demenok thanked staff for completing the Terms of Reference for the Electoral Area Directors' Committee.

4. Reports by Staff

4.1 Soil Removal and Deposit Bylaw No. 646 update

Report from Gerald Christie, Manager Development Services, dated November 2, 2017.

Staff recommends that the Electoral Area Directors' Committee not pursue further consideration of a Soil Removal and Deposit Bylaw at this time.

Mr. Christie presented his report as an update to the Soil Removal and Deposit Bylaw No. 646 originally given first reading at the regular Board meeting in August 2011.

Mr. Christie provided examples of other local governments who staff have consulted with who have or have had a Soil Removal and Deposit bylaw. The District of Peachland had a bylaw which was challenged and was determined by the courts to be too prohibitive. Local Governments do not hold the power to significantly limit soil removal or deposit and cannot infringe on the rights of the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources (MEMPR) to grant mining permits. Fraser Valley Regional District had been waiting seven years to make amendments to its application process and fees structure as the ministry must approve of such bylaw changes. When consulting with the Regional District of North Okanagan (RDNO); despite staff working very closely with the Province, the Inspector of Mines ended up rejecting the RDNO proposed Soil Removal and Deposit anyway. The RDNO eventually had the bylaw approved for two electoral areas.

Mr. Christie explained that permits reviewed by the MEMPR can have significantly different requirements regarding regulations and standards than that of Local Governments thus proving difficult for operators and landowners to obtain the necessary permits and resulting in the delay of mining activities. This regulatory duplication with the MEMPR has led some operators to push back aggressively at the local level and through the courts, which is costly to local government. Enforcement of local government Soil Removal and Deposit Permits can be difficult and costly.

In response to a question, Mr. Christie explained the referral process for the Columbia Shuswap Regional District (CSRD), approximately receiving 8 to 10 referrals from the MEMPR per year and at times over 20 per year. Mr. Christie noted that in terms of workload, processing a Soil Removal and Deposit Permit application is the equivalent to that of processing a significant re-zoning application. The review and processing of an application is very complex and highly technical and must be reviewed carefully. Anecdotal evidence from some other regional districts suggest that staff find these applications very time consuming and have requested from their Boards additional staffing just to process these applications.

Mr. Christie explained that the MEMPR is not looking to download this to a local level at this time and agrees that control should continue to rest with the Province considering the Minister and Inspector of Mines have a lot of power to step-in when necessary and that the permitting process is already heavily regulated.

There was a question regarding any possible changes to the process given the change in provincial government and Mr. Christie responded that he did not get the sense that any major changes are imminent per se but that there could be some changes regarding public consultation requirements for permits.

Mr. Christie concluded that staff are not in support of implementing this bylaw but rather suggested an alternative for the Committee's consideration to adopt a policy to deal with these MEMPR referrals. This would streamline the process and help make it clear to the MEMPR as to the CSRD, Director and staff expectations when considering new mines permit applications.

Moved By Director Martin Seconded By Director Morgan

THAT: the Electoral Area Directors' Committee receive this report and not pursue further readings of Bylaw No. 646 at this time;

AND FURTHER: that the Electoral Area Directors Committee recommend to the Board that the First Reading given to Bylaw No. 646 on August 18, 2012, be rescinded.

CARRIED

Discussion on the Motion:

Mr. Christie confirmed that operators and landowners are still required to obtain a mining permit from the Province.

Comments made regarding rock and soil issues being dealt with at the ministerial level, Mr. Christie responded that this would be a standalone policy and would encourage the Province to consult with the CSRD, however it is not mandatory. In response to a question on how long permits are granted for by MEMPR, Mr. Christie said it depends on the size and complexity of the project, but usually permits are good for five years or more. He also confirmed that the public are welcome to provide comments at any time to the ministry. Director commented that people are not made aware that they can provide feedback to the ministry and the ministry needs to do a better job of informing the public.

Brief discussion regarding gravel pits and that some gravel pits are owned by the Ministry of Transportation so even if the CSRD had a bylaw in place our regulations would not apply to these operations.

Moved By Director Martin Seconded By Director Morgan

THAT: the Electoral Area Directors' Committee direct staff to prepare a draft policy to aid staff and Directors in providing comment to the Ministry of Energy and Mines (MEM) in regards to mines related referrals received from the Ministry.

CARRIED

Discussion on the Motion:

Continued discussion around public consultation. Mr. Christie confirmed that it would be included in the CSRD's referral policy that the CSRD would expect the ministry to consult in a meaningful way with the public and invite comments prior to granting a new permit or renewal. Discussion around better advertising so the public are aware they can provide input.

4.1 Forest Industry Plan Referrals – Review of referral and response process

Verbal report from C. Paiement, Team Leader, Development Services regarding the following:

- Overview of forest industry plan and review process
- Explanation of CSRD referral review and response process
- Considerations for future referrals and responses

Mr. Paiement presented a <u>PowerPoint</u> presentation for information, discussion, and direction. The new Development Services Assistant, Erica Hartling, is now coordinating the processing of these referrals. Mr. Jan Thingsted, Planner, is providing assistance as required. Unfortunately, Ms. Hartling could not be in attendance at this meeting.

Director comment that the maps provided by the forest companies are very hard to read. Mr. Paiement confirmed the staff have the ability to create location maps which should make it easier for Directors to understand where the referral area is located.

Questions regarding First Nations involvement and whether they have the same consultation process. Mr. Paiement responded that First Nation's and crown tenure holders must receive a referral from a forest company. It is

optional that other stakeholders, including local government, receive a referral.

Director comments regarding the need for better public engagement by forest companies and the Province about proposed logging plans

Some comments were made regarding the weight of local government input and where does the CSRD stand in terms of the decision making process. Mr. Paiement responded that this answer is best answered by the Province and forest companies. Director discussion continued around having a better opportunity now to engage the public regarding these issues with the recent change in provincial government and how local government can open up a greater dialogue with the Province but better community consultation

The Chair brought forward the notion of needing a person with knowledge of the forestry industry to assist Directors and the public with understanding proposed logging plans. This person could provide technical information to the community and be a facilitator with the Ministry and forestry company.

Mr. Jan Thingsted, Planner, confirmed that staff are not looking for or expecting technical comments from the Directors, really only looking for community concerns and local knowledge that can be very general in nature. There is no need to dwell on the technical jargon, but focus on providing information about community concerns such as noise, dust and environmental impacts.

In responding to a question, Mr. Paiement stated that the Ministry does recognize the need for more communication with local government and public. The Ministry is working on a 'strategic communications plan', but it will likely be at least a few months before this is finished. It was suggested that the Electoral Area Directors' Committee request a meeting with Ministry staff for the Directors to discuss their concerns and for the Ministry to explain it's new 'strategic communications plan.'

There was consensus among the Committee's Directors that Development Services staff invite staff from the Ministry of Forest, Lands and Natural Resource Operations that represent all areas of the CSRD to a future Electoral Area Directors meeting to explain the Provincial Forest Stewardship Planning process and discuss the Ministry's new 'strategic communications plan' for consulting with local governments and public.

4.2 Lakes Zoning Bylaw No. 900 – Bylaw administration update and next steps

Verbal report from C. Paiement, Team Leader, Development Services regarding the following:

- Overview of Lakes Zoning Bylaw No. 900
- Explanation of the challenges of administering and enforcing the bylaw
- · Considerations for future Lakes Zoning priorities

Mr. Paiement presented a <u>PowerPoint</u> presentation for information, discussion, and direction.

Questions arose around federal enforcement of private moorage buoys. Bylaw Enforcement staff have been requesting more enforcement of noncompliant private moorage buoys by Transport Canada. A Director suggested that a representative from Transport Canada be invited to speak at a regular Board meeting. There should be a discussion to determine if some of the illegal buoys could be removed.

The Chair called on a member of the public in attendance. Mr. Bo Wilson, representing the Shuswap Waterfront Owners Association (SWOA), requested that the association, dock owners and dock companies be consulted about any changes being considered to Bylaw No. 900.

There was consensus among the Committee's Directors that:

- (a) Bylaw No. 900 should continue to regulate private moorage buoys;
- (b) The maximum dock surface area of 24m² in Bylaw No. 900 should be reviewed and options for a larger area be provided for the Committee's consideration; and
- (c) A representative of Transport Canada be invited to attend a future regular Board meeting to explain the federal legislation related to private moorage buoys and enforcement by the Department.

November 2, 2017

5. Reports by Electoral Area Directors

A Director asked about the opportunities for communication from the RCMP about policing activities.

It was noted by other Directors that a monthly report from the RCMP about policing activities can be requested by Directors. The reports are very general in nature but a good source of information.

6. Adjournment

Adjourned at 12:27 pm.

Moved By Director Morgan Seconded By Director Talbot

THAT: the Electoral Area Directors' Committee meeting of November 2, 2017 be adjourned.

CARRIED

Enclosures: PowerPoint presentations.

CHAIR

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Ownership:

File #

Ask Sent:

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Liquor Control and Licensing Branch POLICY DIRECTIVE No: 18-01

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Date: January 10, 2018

To: ALL LCLB staff All Industry Associations All Local Government, First Nations, and Police Agencies

Re: Special Event Permit Exemption

1. Special Event Permit exemption

Current Policy

A Special Event Permit (SEP) must not be issued for the primary purpose of making a profit unless the funds raised go to a charitable purpose.

New Policy

The general manager may exempt SEP holders from donating event profits to charity if the event is of a municipal, provincial, national or international significance.

The general manager will consider exemption requests for events that are provincially, nationally and internationally significant. Qualifying events must meet the following criteria:

- A. Participants and performers at the event are primarily from around the province, Canada, or the world;
- B. The event attracts spectators from around the province, Canada, or the world;
- C. There is provincial, national, or international media coverage of the event.

Effective February 26, 2018, municipalities will be responsible for determining whether an event is municipally significant to their communities.

To apply:

Until Feb 26, 2018:

- 1. Submit an email to lclb.sep@gov.bc.ca.
- 2. Describe the nature of the event and why it may be of provincial, national, or international significance.
- The general manager will review the event and determine whether the event meets 3. the exemption criteria.

Effective February 26, 2018, exemption applications will be part of the online SEP application process. Events of municipal significance will require a municipal resolution or letter from a delegated municipal official designating the event municipally significant. A copy of the designation must be kept at the event site for inspection.

Explanation

This policy change was made to support the music industry in BC.

Further Information

Further information regarding liquor control and licensing in British Columbia is available on the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch website at <u>http://www.gov.bc.ca/liquorregulationandlicensing</u>

If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch toll free in Canada at 1-866-209-2111 or 250 952-5787 if calling from the Victoria area.

Original signed by

Michelle Carr, Assistant Deputy Minister and General Manager

A-42

POLICY

LIQUOR LICENCE APPLICATIONS

<u>Purpose</u>

To establish a process to respond to liquor licence application referrals from the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch.

Preamble

The Liquor Control and Licensing Act (LCLA) states that a licence of a prescribed class or category must not be issued unless the General Manager of the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch has provided the local government or first nation with notice of the licence application.

Whereas Section 11.1 of the LCLA provides local governments and first nations with the option to not comment on liquor licence applications, the Board of the Columbia Shuswap Regional District has decided by way of its actions, resolutions and policy to adopt such a position.

POLICY

- 1. The Columbia Shuswap Regional District Board will not provide comment on liquor licence referrals concerning an amendment to an existing Licence or a new Licence, but does wish to be notified of such applications.
- 2. The Columbia Shuswap Regional District Board will not provide seating capacities for any application under the Liquor Control and Licensing Act.
- 3. Development Services staff will review all Liquor Licence application referrals for compliance with relevant land use regulations, and provide comments to the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch in respect of such regulations.
- 4. This Policy will remain in effect until it is repealed or replaced.
- 5. This Policy is in effect for the following geographic areas: all of the lands within the CSRD that lie outside of municipal boundaries, Indian Reserves and National Parks.

DECEMBER 1987 MARCH 2005 FEBRUARY 2007 JANUARY 2015 AGEMENT RECULATION BETA RETAIL HEALTH LEGISLATION HIT AT FAIT DATE OF THE PUBLIC LEGATIZATION RECOLATION SARY DESCRIPTION RECULATION NABIS ENGAGEMENT RECOLATION THE HEALTH SATT DESCRIPTION FUELD CULTIVATION HEALTH LEGISLATION SATT RECULATION SATT RECULATION SATT RECOLATION SATT RECOLAT

B.C. Cannabis PRIVATE RETAIL LICENSING GUIDE

Applications and Operations



Page 13 of 42

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Contents

2	APPLICATIONS AND OPERATIONS
2	WHO IS THIS GUIDE FOR?
2	WHO IS ELIGIBLE?
3 3 4 5	APPLICATION PROCESS Eligibility Application: Required Information Application: Local Government Requirements
5	LICENCES
6 6 7	OPERATIONS Operations: Physical store Operations: General
8	SUPPLY
9	INSPECTIONS AND COMPLIANCE
10	RURAL AREAS
10	FURTHER RESOURCES

B.C. Cannabis PRIVATE RETAIL LICENSING GUIDE

Applications and Operations

In B.C., the wholesale distribution of non-medical cannabis will be solely through the Liquor Distribution Branch (LDB). The LDB will be the operator of government-run retail stores and the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch (LCLB) will be responsible for licensing and monitoring the retail sector using a mixed public/private model.

The rules governing retail stores will be similar to those currently in place for liquor, and public and private retailers will have similar operating rules. Note that while this document sets out Government's intentions for B.C.'s retail framework, it is subject to legislation yet to be passed at both the federal and provincial levels.

Who is this guide for?

This guide provides information for those who are considering applying for a provincial licence to retail non-medical cannabis. It contains preliminary information to help applicants make business decisions and describes the application process. This information will also assist local governments in preparing for potential retail store applications within their communities.

The Province recognizes that retail access in rural areas will require a different approach than the one employed in urban communities. There is a separate section related to rural areas at the end of this document.

Engagement with Indigenous governments and organizations is an important element in the development of the provincial regulatory framework for non-medical cannabis. To ensure the retail model appropriately addresses the unique considerations that must be taken into account with respect to Indigenous peoples, the Province remains committed to working in partnership with Indigenous peoples, governments and organizations. These discussions are ongoing and will continue beyond the initial date of federal legalization of cannabis.

Who is eligible?

All applicants will be assessed using the same evaluation criteria, which includes obtaining local government support and background checks of police/criminal records which will be examined on a case by case basis.

Application Process

In spring 2018, the Province will launch an online application portal for individuals and businesses who are interested in applying for a non-medical cannabis retail licence. Additional information on applicant registration will be posted on the website https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/business/liquor-regulation-licensing/cannabis-regulation as it becomes available.

What is the process for applying for a non-medical cannabis retail licence?

When the application portal opens, you may start the application process by entering the required information and documents. This will allow you to provide the required information early so that the assessment of your application can begin as soon as possible once the applicable legislation is passed.

How long will the application process take?

The Province is committed to conducting thorough reviews of applicants and applications in order to ensure that licensed retailers will operate in a safe and lawful manner. A significant number of applications are anticipated, and plans are being put in place to enable the applications to be processed as efficiently as possible.

Will there be an application fee?

Yes, each applicant will be required to pay an application fee and a licensing fee. The amount of the fees has not yet been determined. Once the fees have been determined, they will be posted here https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/employment-business/business/liquor-regulation-licensing/cannabis-regulation.

Eligibility

If I operated an illegal dispensary prior to legalization, am I prohibited from receiving a licence to operate legally?

Having operated an illegal dispensary will not, on its own, exclude you from being considered for a licence. All applicants will be assessed using the same evaluation criteria, including background checks and local government support. Persons who have operated dispensaries prior to legalization will not receive preferential treatment in the provincial application process.

Does having a record of criminal activity exclude me, or a shareholder in my company, from obtaining a non-medical cannabis retail licence?

Having a record of criminal activity will not necessarily exclude you from obtaining a licence. As part of the required background check, police/criminal records will be examined on a case by case basis and evaluated in relation to their relevance to the application and the recentness of the activity or offence(s) committed. For example, low risk criminal activity may not exclude a person from becoming a licensee whereas associations with organized crime will exclude a person from becoming a licensee.

I already have a liquor and/or tobacco licence. Am I automatically allowed to sell non-medical cannabis at my liquor store?

No, you must apply for a non-medical cannabis retail licence. In addition, if you are granted a licence, you will be required to operate the non-medical retail cannabis store in a completely separate business location from any liquor and/or tobacco sales.

If I, a family member, or a business partner, have an interest in a federally licensed producer or processor, can I be considered for a retail licence?

Yes, a person or company may have an interest in both a producer and a retailer. However, the LCLB will place restrictions on the business relationship between the producer and the retailer. Where there is a close association (financial or otherwise) between a licensed producer and a non-medical cannabis retail business, the retail business will be prohibited from selling any products from the licensed producer. This restriction ensures that the market remains diverse and larger participants do not consolidate and control the market. The Province may create exceptions in the future to support micro-producers.

Application: Required Information

Will I have to undergo a background check?

Yes, you will be required to consent to a background check in order to be considered for a licence. Policy work is currently underway to determine which members of a corporation, partnership, or other legal business will be required to undergo a background check.

What kind of information do I need to supply to the Province about my company?

Depending on the type of entity your company is (corporation, partnership, society, etc.) the application system will prompt you to supply the related documents and names of partners, shareholders, directors, officers, and/or senior management.

What information do I have to provide about my proposed location?

You will need to provide the parcel identifier number (PID), proof of ownership or a copy of a fully executed lease that does not expire for at least 12 months from the date of licence approval, and a floor plan. If additional information is necessary it will be requested during the application process.

Does my store have to be a certain distance from schools or other retailers?

The Province will not impose distance requirements for non-medical cannabis retailers. However, local governments will have the authority to impose additional requirements. Therefore, you should inquire with your local government about local requirements before committing to a location.

Are there any rules about what I can name my store?

Your store name must be approved by the LCLB. The name of your store cannot be misleading as to what type of business you operate. As a non-medical cannabis retailer, you cannot choose a name that would lead people to believe you are a provider of medical cannabis. For example, the words "pharmacy", "apothecary", and "dispensary" all have meanings linked to the selling of medicines, so these words cannot be used in association with a non-medical cannabis store.

You must also comply with federal legislation and regulations respecting advertising and promotion.

Application: Local Government Requirements

The Province will permit local governments to decide whether they wish to have a non-medical cannabis retail store in their community. For the Province to issue a licence, applicants must have the support of the local government in the community where the proposed store would be located.

What is the process for obtaining local government support?

The local government must ask residents in the vicinity of the proposed retail location to comment on how the store would impact the community. The local government must consider this public input when deciding whether or not to support the application and must notify the LCLB of their decision by way of a council resolution.

Can I get local government support in advance of the provincial application?

The Province is working with local governments and the Union of B.C. Municipalities to develop the application process, including what information local governments will need to have in order to provide informed comments on the application. Further details will be announced once they are available. In the interim, it is recommended you check with your local government to ensure that you meet any criteria that are specific to your jurisdiction and to ensure that proper zoning is in place.

Do public stores have to go through the local government process?

Yes, public stores must also have local government support.

Licences

To sell non-medical cannabis in British Columbia, retailers will be required to obtain a licence from the Province. There will be two types of retail licences for:

- self-contained cannabis stores, and
- stores in rural communities.

Will there be a cap on the number of non-medical cannabis retail licences issued in B.C.?

The Province is not capping the number of licences issued. However, local governments will have the authority to make local decisions based on the needs of their communities. This means that some local governments may choose not to allow retail cannabis stores, while others may choose to cap the number of stores that are permitted to operate within their jurisdiction.

I only want to sell medical cannabis; can I apply for a medical cannabis retail licence?

No, medical cannabis will continue to be sold online by federally licensed producers only. However, like other Canadians, medical users will be able to buy cannabis from retailers of non-medical cannabis.

The federal government has committed to conducting a review of the medical cannabis system in five years.

Will there be any restrictions on where a non-medical cannabis retail outlet can be located?

The Province is not regulating the location of stores. However, local governments may choose to do so. For example, local governments may set requirements about the proximity of a store to another cannabis store, schools, daycares or other places.

Will the Province be licensing consumption lounges?

No, not at this time. The Province is focussed on introducing a safe and responsible retail non-medical cannabis sector; consideration will be given to other types of licences at a later date.

Will sales of non-medical cannabis be permitted at outdoor festivals and other events?

Initially, non-medical cannabis sales will only be permitted at the licenced retail site. Offsite sales may be considered in the future.

Operations

Provincial and federal governments are committed to ensuring that non-medical cannabis is sold in a lawful, responsible manner. To this end, a range of requirements will be put in place; from who a retailer can buy product from, to who may enter a store, to what type of products may be sold.

Operations: Physical store

Are there any rules about the physical layout or construction of my store?

To protect youth, the federal government requires that cannabis products must not be visible from outside your store. There will be many different ways for you to achieve this requirement (e.g. window designs). In addition, please remember that you must comply with federal requirements respecting advertising and promotion.

Are there any security requirements for my location?

You have a strong incentive to secure your premises both during and after operating hours to protect your inventory from theft. The Province is considering what security requirements will be necessary. In addition, local governments may also choose to impose security requirements.

Can I sell non-medical cannabis as part of another business such as a liquor store or pharmacy?

Not at this time. The Province may consider exceptions in the future, but for now, your non-medical cannabis retail store must be a self-contained business.

There will be exceptions for rural stores, similar to rural liquor stores. The criteria for determining rural areas are currently under development.

Operations: General

Can minors enter my store?

No. Unlike liquor stores, where minors are permitted if they are accompanied by a parent or guardian, minors must not enter your cannabis retail store.

There will be exceptions for rural stores to allow entrance by minors. The criteria for determining rural areas are under development.

What hours can I be open?

Cannabis retail stores can operate between 9 am to 11 pm unless further restrictions are put in place by your local government.

Are there any rules around pricing?

Policy work is ongoing and information on pricing will be made available as soon as possible.

Is there a limit on how much non-medical cannabis I can sell to a person?

The proposed federal *Cannabis Act* prohibits an individual from possessing in a public place a total amount of non-medical cannabis, in any authorized form, that is equivalent to more than 30 grams of dried cannabis. Non-medical cannabis must not be sold in amounts greater than this.

This means that if you sell different forms of non-medical cannabis to a single customer, the combined total amount sold must not exceed the equivalent amount of 30 grams of dried cannabis.

Equivalent amounts to 30 grams of dried non-medical cannabis for other cannabis products are listed in Schedule 3 of the proposed federal *Cannabis Act*.

Can I sell products online?

No, only the public retailer will be permitted to sell non-medical cannabis products online at this time. Consideration may be given to allowing private online sales in the future.

Can people consume non-medical cannabis in my store?

No. Consumption of any kind will not be permitted in the store, and providing samples will not be permitted.

Can I deliver my products?

No, retailers will not be permitted to offer a delivery service.

Do my employees and/or I need any special training or background checks?

In collaboration with industry, the Province will develop a mandatory training program for non-medical cannabis retail employees, which will be implemented over time. The Province will also be developing a registration requirement for employees which will include background checks. Details of this program are still being developed. Information will be provided as soon as that work is complete.

Where do I have to store my inventory?

All cannabis products will be required to be stored at your retail site. No offsite storage will be permitted.

Will I be required to have a certain product tracking/inventory control system?

The federal government has committed to creating a national seed-to-sale tracking system. This is currently under development and more information on retailers' responsibilities in relation to this system will be announced as it becomes available.

Can I advertise my product?

The federal government is regulating the advertisement of cannabis under the proposed *Cannabis Act* (Bill C-45). See the "Further Resources" section at the end of this document for a link to the Bill.

Can my store sponsor events or teams?

The federal government is regulating sponsorship under the proposed *Cannabis Act* (Bill C-45). See the "Further Resources" section at the end of this document for a link to the Bill.

Supply

How do I obtain non-medical cannabis to sell in my store?

The LDB will be the only source of legal wholesale non-medical cannabis. Retailers will not be permitted to purchase any cannabis products directly from licensed producers or any other source.

Can I make financial arrangements with federally licensed producers?

You cannot accept or request any inducement from a producer. This means you must not:

- pay money to secure access to a supplier's product;
- request money from a supplier in return for providing benefits such as preferential shelf space;
- accept money in exchange for agreeing not to stock a competitor's product.
- make agreements that give a retailer exclusive access to a producer's product, or product line.

What types of non-medical cannabis can I sell?

You can sell dried cannabis, cannabis oils and seeds that comply with federal requirements.

Can I sell edibles?

No, the proposed federal *Cannabis Act* does not permit the commercial production of edibles at this time. Therefore, you cannot legally sell them. The federal government has stated that edibles will be regulated within 12 months of legalization.

What else can I sell besides dried cannabis and cannabis oil?

You may sell "cannabis accessories," as defined in the proposed federal Cannabis Act:

"Cannabis accessory" means a thing, including rolling papers or wraps, holders, pipes, water pipes, bongs and vaporizers that is represented to be used in the consumption of cannabis or a thing that is represented to be used in the production of cannabis.

You cannot sell snacks, tobacco or other non-cannabis related items.

What format will cannabis products be distributed in?

LDB will distribute pre-packaged product only, with labelling compliant with federal standards, in readyto-sell formats (no bulk products). The product brands belong to the licensed federal producers.

Retailers will not be authorized to re-package the product with their own branding. Information about specific size formats will be confirmed at a later date.

Inspections and Compliance

To ensure that non-medical cannabis is being sold in a lawful and responsible manner, the Province will establish a compliance program that will include education, inspection and enforcement activities. The focus will be on encouraging voluntary compliance.

How often will I be inspected?

Your store will be inspected at least once annually and any time the LCLB investigates a complaint about your store.

What happens if I am found to be out of compliance?

If an inspector observes a contravention of the provincial legislation at your establishment, you will be issued a Contravention Notice and the inspector may recommend enforcement action. Penalties for contraventions are under development, but could include a monetary penalty or a licence suspension or cancellation. There will be a reconsideration process for licensees that wish to challenge the result of an enforcement hearing.

Can the police enter and inspect my store?

Yes, police can enter and inspect your store to ensure you are operating in compliance with the legal requirements.

What should I do with any product I have obtained from unlicensed sources?

Once you have been issued your licence you must not sell cannabis obtained from a source other than the LDB.

Rural Areas

The Province is aware that it may be necessary to introduce special provisions for rural areas in order to provide access to non-medical cannabis to rural populations.

Can an existing business in a rural area be authorized to sell non-medical cannabis, like they are for liquor?

The Province is considering this possibility because a self-contained non-medical cannabis retail store may not be a viable business in some rural areas.

Will the rural agency store model (RAS) used for liquor be used for cannabis?

Many of the operational requirements of the RAS model used for liquor may be applied to non-medical cannabis. However, the Province is still evaluating how to best meet the need for rural access.

If I operate a RAS, will I automatically be able to sell non-medical cannabis?

No, if a current RAS operator is interested in retailing non-medical cannabis, they will be required to apply for a licence specifically for non-medical cannabis.

Further Resources

Bill C-45 the draft federal Act can be found here http://www.parl.ca/LegisInfo/BillDetails. aspx?billId=8886269

Contact information: cannabisregs@gov.bc.ca

Page 24 of 42

Page 25 of 42



Hayley Graham

From:	ALR and ALC Revitalization AGRI:EX <alr_alcrevitalization@gov.bc.ca></alr_alcrevitalization@gov.bc.ca>	
Sent:	Friday, February 9, 2018 3:10 PM	
То:	Inquiries	
Subject:	Stakeholder Meeting Invitation: Revitalization of the Agricultural Land Reserve and	
	Agricultural Land Commission	
Attachments:	Kamloops - ALR ALC Revitalization Stakeholder Invitation - February 9, 2pdf;	
	Discussion Paper - ALR and ALC Revitalization - February 2018 Final.pdf	

Dear Agriculture Stakeholder,

The Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Committee has invited you to participate in a regional stakeholder meeting (invitation attached). This email confirms the date and location.

Meeting Date: Thursday, March 1, 2018 Meeting Location: Sandman Signature Kamloops Hotel, 225 Lorne St, Kamloops

Please RSVP by February 20, 2018 to the Advisory Committee at: <u>ALR ALCRevitalization@gov.bc.ca</u>. Please indicate your preference for a morning, mid-day or afternoon meeting time. The Advisory Committee will do its best to accommodate your preference. Each meeting will be scheduled for approximately one hour. Please note you may share meeting time with other stakeholders if needed.

The Advisory Committee envisions conversation-style meetings, with short presentations by stakeholders if needed. Stakeholders are welcome to leave the Committee with other presentation material for the Committee's consideration.

Written'submissions are also encouraged to the Advisory Committee by email and mail, and an online public survey is also available via the BC Government's engagement website. Please follow this link to the engagement webpage: https://engage.gov.bc.ca/agriculturallandreserve.

Further details are provided in the invitation attached to this email. The Minister's Advisory Committee looks forward to meeting with you and hearing your views on this important topic.

Sincerely, Jennifer Dyson Chair, Minister's Advisory Committee ALR and ALC Revitalization

RC

DCAO Venda Ownership: **Works** Reg Board □In Camera File# in/Adm TOU Ec Dev Ack Sent: □Staff to Report □Staff to Respond □Staff Info Only DParks DSEF □Fax DHR □Mail □Other DEmail via email please



February 9, 2018

File: 0280-30

Dear Stakeholder:

The Minister of Agriculture, the Honourable Lana Popham, has established an independent advisory committee to provide strategic advice and policy guidance on revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC). The Minister's Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee) is responsible for delivering recommendations through consultation and engagement with stakeholders and the general public. The Advisory Committee is tasked with a forward-looking focus on the future of the ALR and ALC.

The Advisory Committee is seeking the input of farmers, ranchers, agricultural industry groups and other stakeholders across the province, to help inform their recommendations. It is the Advisory Committee's hope to change the conversation about agricultural land preservation from the short-term to the long-term in order to more fully support and enable agriculture in BC well into the future.

To guide consultation and engagement and support recommendations to the Minister, the Advisory Committee has identified three general ALR and ALC revitalization objectives:

- 1. Preserve the productive capacity of land in the ALR;
- 2. Encourage farming of land in the ALR for uses related to agriculture and food production; and,
- 3. Strengthen the administration and governance of the ALR and ALC to both increase public confidence and to ensure that land use regulation and land use decisions are preserving agricultural land and encouraging farming and ranching in the ALR.

You are invited to participate in a regional stakeholder consultation. Please refer to your email for the specific date, location and RSVP date. Please RSVP to: ALR ALCRevitalization@gov.bc.ca

If you cannot attend a consultation, other equally important opportunities for participation in this engagement include written submissions and an online survey, which is available via the BC Government's engagement website. Please follow this link to the engagement webpage: https://engage.gov.bc.ca/agriculturallandreserve.

.../2

Ministry of Agriculture

Telephone: 250 387-1023 Facsimile: 250 387-1522 In order to help stimulate discussion, a Discussion Paper has been sent to you. This paper identifies some of the important themes the Advisory Committee would like to discuss, along with any other issues or ideas you would like to raise.

The Advisory Committee looks forward to meeting with you and hearing your views.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Dyson, Chair Minister's Advisory Committee on Revitalizing the ALR and ALC

Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Committee

Revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve and the Agricultural Land Commission Discussion Paper for Stakeholder Consultation and Public Engagement

Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Committee

The Minister of Agriculture, the Hon. Lana Popham, was tasked in her mandate letter with "Revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC)". To deliver on this important commitment, the Minister established an independent advisory committee to provide the Province with strategic advice and policy guidance.

The Minister <u>announced the Minister's Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee) members</u> on January 4, 2018. The Advisory Committee has been tasked with delivering to the Minister a set of interim recommendations by spring 2018. The guiding principles for the Advisory Committee's work include:

- Focus on the future of the ALR and ALC
- Evaluate policy issues that inhibit the purposes of the ALR and ALC
- Evaluate what is working well
- Develop recommendations that:
 - work toward improving the purposes of the ALR and ALC;
 - clearly identify the issues, goals and objectives that will strengthen the ALR and ALC in pursuing the purposes;
 - o suggest a strategy on how to achieve the goals and objectives;
 - o include, where possible, data/information that validates the issue as defined; and,
 - o are legally sound and are achievable.

Stakeholder Consultation and Public Engagement

The Advisory Committee is responsible for delivering recommendations through consultation and engagement with stakeholders and the general public, with secretariat support from the Ministry of Agriculture (the Ministry). In examining measures to revitalize the ALC and ALR, stakeholders and the public will be asked to consider the purpose of the ALC as set out in Section 6 of the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* (the Act):

(a) to preserve agricultural land;

(b) to encourage farming on agricultural land in collaboration with other communities of interest; and,

(c) to encourage local governments, first nations, the government and its agents to enable and accommodate farm use of agricultural land and uses compatible with agriculture in their plans, bylaws and policies.

1|Page

Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Committee Revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve and the Agricultural Land Commission Discussion Paper for Stakeholder Consultation and Public Engagement The Advisory Committee consultation and engagement activities in early 2018 will include:

- Providing this background Discussion Paper with a view of seeking opinions and feedback on issues that will lead to the revitalizing of the ALR and ALC;
- Regional meetings to hear opinions and feedback directly from key stakeholders in farming and ranching communities. Meetings are expected to be held in Abbotsford, Cranbrook, Fort St. John, Kelowna, Kamloops, Nanaimo and Prince George; and,
- An online consultation process/survey to seek opinion and feedback from other stakeholders and interested parties.

The Advisory Committee will use the consultation process, along with other information, to develop its recommendations to the Minister. The recommendations may include changes to the current legislative, regulatory, and administrative framework that guides the ALR and the ALC.

It should be noted that this Discussion Paper is intended to stimulate conversation during the consultation process. It is not intended to direct participants toward specific issues, questions or outcomes.

Revitalization Objectives

To date, the Advisory Committee has identified three general objectives:

- 1. Preserve the productive capacity of land in the ALR;
- 2. Encourage farming of land in the ALR for uses related to agriculture and food production; and,
- 3. Strengthen the administration and governance of the ALR and ALC to both increase public confidence and to ensure that land use regulation and land use decisions are preserving agricultural land and encouraging farming and ranching in the ALR.

Common Issues/Themes

Upholding the integrity of the ALR, the ALC and the agricultural land base is critical. This conversation seeks to ensure there is a legacy of farmland for future generations of British Columbians. Common issues and themes raised to date include:

1. <u>A Defensible and Defended ALR</u>:

During the past 45 years, the ALR boundary has been refined through early boundary reviews, local government land use planning exercises and over 48,000 individual applications. The ALR boundary is often viewed as temporary and adjustable. The perspective that the ALR is available for urban uses perpetuates land use pressure on farmland. Continued speculation of this nature results in a focus on applications made by individual landowners to modify the ALR and detracts from pro-active work such as focussing on regional-level land use planning, analysis of permitted uses and the preservation and encouraging farm use mandate.

2. ALR Resilience:

Pressure for non-agricultural uses persists on the ALR land base and on the administrative body (the ALC) that oversees it. The ALR, ALC, and agriculture in BC should be stable and resilient for generations to come.

3. Stable Governance:

The ALC governance and decision making model can be easily changed through legislative amendments and changing government direction. The ALC's independence is often threatened from interests outside of the ALC. Independence is vital to strengthening the ALC and ALR into the future. More information about ALC governance can be found on the ALC Operations & Governance webpage.

4. Efficacy of Zone 1 and 2:

The passage of Bill 24 in May 2014 introduced amendments to the Act that included the division of the ALR into Zone 1 and Zone 2.

Zone 1: Includes Vancouver Island, South Coast, and Okanagan Panel regions.

Zone 2: Includes Interior, Kootenay, and North Panel regions.

In Zone 1, land use decisions are based on the agricultural purposes of the ALC laid out in section 6 of the ALC Act. The Act considers preservation of agricultural land, encouraging farming in collaboration with other communities of interest; and encourages local governments, First Nations, and other agencies to enable farm use and uses compatible with agriculture in their plans, bylaws and policies.

In Zone 2, the Commission is required to consider the agricultural purposes of the Commission (Section 6 of the Act as identified above), as well as Section 4.3 of the Act pertaining to economic, cultural and social values, and regional and community planning objections.

More information about Bill 24 amendments can be found on the <u>ALC Act and ALR</u> <u>Regulation</u> webpage. For example, the Regulation was amended to include additional uses that allow a residential lease for a retiring farmer to remain on their property subject to conditions, and to allow a second single family dwelling if the property is at least 50 hectares and subject to conditions of siting of structures.

5. Interpretation/Implementation of the Act and Regulation:

As drafted, parts of the Act and Agricultural Land Reserve Use, Subdivision and Procedure Regulation (the Regulation) are 'permissive', which means that it lists the activities that are permitted in the ALR without requiring approval of the ALC; it does not list what activities are not permitted. In some instances, definitions, criteria, thresholds, and intent of the Act and Regulation are interpreted differently by local governments, ALR land owners, farmers and ranchers and the general public across the province. There is a need for clearer regulations and consistency in interpretation. The ALC is not aware when a permitted activity takes place or when a permitted activity is misinterpreted.

3 | Page

Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Committee

Revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve and the Agricultural Land Commission Discussion Paper for Stakeholder Consultation and Public Engagement

6. Food Security and BC's Agricultural Contribution:

Concern over the source and quality of food we eat has raised public attention to the issue of food security and to the long-term ability of the ALR to provide a safe and adequate agricultural land base to accommodate continuous, secure food production for domestic consumption and export. Often agriculture's vital role in the BC economy and the potential for export and trade opportunities is forgotten in the discussion around competing land uses. More information on BC's Agrifood and Seafood Sector contributions can be found on the Ministry of Agriculture's Agriculture and Seafood Statistics webpage.

7. Residential Uses in the ALR:

Additional dwellings, farm worker housing, "mega homes" and 'lifestyle estates' in the ALR occupy agricultural land. In some circumstances additional dwellings are necessary for intensive agricultural operations; however there is also demand on the ALR for additional dwellings solely for residential purposes. When there is a subdivision of ALR land, it is usually for development of another parcel and residence. In addition, the large footprint occupied by "mega homes" and acreages purchased for lifestyle estates (with little or no agricultural production) has raised concerns about use of arable land for housing and increased residential assessment values of ALR land. While not currently legislated provincially, some local governments have adopted restrictions on sizing and siting of residential uses in the ALR.

8. Farm Processing and Sales in the ALR:

The Regulation permits landowners in the ALR to process and retail farm products on a parcel of land subject to criteria that attempts to ensure that the product is associated with the farm or a registered co-operative. The Regulation affords farmers and ranchers the ability to produce "value added" products (e.g. berry processing, alcohol production, farm stands). Processing and retail facilities range in size and sometimes incorporate other ancillary uses such as parking lots, food services, patios, galleries, event spaces, meeting rooms, etc.; however, there is concern that some facilities are occupying large areas of arable ALR land with little connection to agricultural production on the farm. There is also concern that ALR land is purchased for the other ancillary permitted uses, but there is no agricultural production (i.e. building a retail store with extremely limited farm products for sale).

9. Unauthorized Uses:

Agricultural land is sometimes used for unauthorized non-agricultural uses and some landowners expand beyond what is permitted. ALC Compliance and Enforcement officers currently handle between 300 to 400 files annually related to complaints, investigations, or actions on unauthorized uses. Some of these unauthorized uses include illegal filling (e.g. dumping soil, construction waste, concrete), commercial uses (e.g. commercial truck parking, recreational vehicle storage, scrap vehicle yards), and residential uses (e.g. additional dwellings). These activities may directly damage the agricultural land base and in some cases the damage is permanent. These activities can sometimes be more damaging to agricultural land than applications for exclusion considered by and approved by the ALC.

Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Committee

Revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve and the Agricultural Land Commission Discussion Paper for Stakeholder Consultation and Public Engagement

10. Non-Farm Uses and Resource Extraction in the ALR:

Other activities, from agri-tourism and agri-tourism accommodation to resource extraction such as oil and gas and aggregate (sand and gravel) can take place in the ALR. Concerns about cumulative impacts of these activities and remediation of agricultural land have been raised.

Background

BC's current approach to the ALR attempts to balance the needs of farmers and ranchers to carry out their daily work with the need for land use decision-making that best supports Government's goals and objectives for the ALR.

The ALR

The ALR was a bold initiative in 1973 that acknowledged that BC has a limited agricultural land resource which should be available for current and future generations of farmers and ranchers to operate agricultural businesses for local consumption and export. Soil is most fertile in valley bottoms where other competing land uses including urban development also take place. The ALR was established in the face of rapidly expanding urban areas and non-farm development in rural areas.

Approximately five percent of BC's land base is within the ALR, a provincial zone within which agriculture is recognized as the priority activity. The ALR includes public (Crown) and privately held land in all regions of the province.



Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Committee Revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve and the Agricultural Land Commission Discussion Paper for Stakeholder Consultation and Public Engagement 5 | Page

The ALC

The ALC is an independent administrative tribunal dedicated to preserving agricultural land and encouraging farming in BC. The ALC occupies a distinctive role within the Canadian legal system. While it is part of "government" broadly defined, it is not part of any government ministry. The ALC is instead part of the Canadian community of independent administrative tribunals, vested with important statutory powers, whose members are obliged to exercise those statutory powers in accordance with the law.

The Agricultural Land Commission Act (the Act) empowers the ALC to delegate certain decision making powers, allowing local government and other authorities to make non-farm land use and subdivision decisions in the ALR. For more information, see the <u>ALC Delegation of Decision</u> <u>Making</u> webpage.

The ALC has been preserving agricultural lands for 45 years through its land use planning work with local governments and decision making on land use applications. The ALR forms the foundation for the business of agriculture in BC. When the ALR was designated it was done so with a long-term focus knowing that pressures on this limited resource would only increase with time. The ALR and the ALC enjoy strong and consistent public support.

The ALC is mandated to encourage others, including the provincial government and its agents, to take the interests of the ALR and agriculture into account when generating new policies, participating in land use planning initiatives, changing legislation and regulation, and planning for future developments.

Government ministries and agencies can have considerable impact on agricultural land through such things as transportation planning, wildlife habitat management and conservation, forest and water management and energy planning. Accordingly, the ALC is both proactive and collaborative in working with ministries, supporting and helping them to implement their plans, bylaws and policies to enable and accommodate farm use of agricultural land and/or to support uses compatible with agriculture.

As set out in the Act, Commissioners are individuals knowledgeable in agriculture, land use planning and local and First Nations governments, and are supported by an ALC staff secretariat to carry out Commissioners duties under the Act.

The Legislation

The Agricultural Land Commission Act (the Act) sets the legislative framework for the establishment, administration, and procedures of BC's agricultural land preservation program. The Act is the high-level statute that sets out principles and broad rules for the protection of agricultural land in BC. The Act takes precedence over, but does not replace other legislation and bylaws that may apply to the land. Local and regional governments, as well as other provincial agencies, are expected to plan and make decisions in accordance with the provincial policy of preserving agricultural land.

Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Committee Revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve and the Agricultural Land Commission Discussion Paper for Stakeholder Consultation and Public Engagement While the purpose of the Act has remained generally the same with some minor changes over 45 years, there have been a series of major changes to the Act and Regulation as well as the ALC's structure and operations over the past 3.5 years. For more information about these changes, please see the <u>ALC Act and ALR Regulation</u> webpage.

The Regulation

<u>The Regulation</u> identifies specific land uses allowable on farmland in the ALR without an application to the ALC. Current examples include such things as growing plants and raising animals, putting up buildings necessary for farm use, selling agricultural products direct to the public as well as specified farm and non-farm activities such as the construction of buildings for alcohol production, farm product processing, agri-tourism activities, gatherings for events, agri-tourism accommodation, additional dwellings, home based businesses, composting operations, deposition of fill and removal of soil, and others. The Regulation is a permissive regulation, meaning that it lists the activities that are permitted in the ALR without requiring approval of the Commission. Any activities not permitted by the Regulation require an application to and approval of the ALC.

The Regulation also sets out the process for making an application to include and exclude land from the ALR, use ALR land for activities not permitted in the Regulation and subdivide land within the ALR. The Ministry maintains the Act and the Regulation.

Local Governments and the ALR

Approximately 150 BC local governments have lands in the ALR, some extensive, and others not. Local governments play an important role in enabling farm businesses to thrive on protected farmlands, therefore contributing to the local, regional and provincial economy. The ALC supports coordinated and collaborative planning with local governments to ensure agricultural lands are protected and available to provide food and other agricultural products for generations to come.

Through the *Local Government Act* (LGA) and the *Community Charter*, which fall under the responsibility of the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Province has delegated community planning and zoning bylaw powers to local governments, provided they are consistent with the Act and the Regulation. For more information, see the <u>ALC Working with Local Government</u> webpage.

Public Feedback

The Minister of Agriculture has directed the Advisory Committee to consider the future of BC's land base for agriculture and farming, fairly and without bias, in order to improve the ALR and the ALC. While the ALR and the ALC generally enjoy strong public support, the issues, themes and information in this Discussion Paper highlight some of the areas for improvement and for strengthening BC's agricultural land preservation system.

Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Committee Revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve and the Agricultural Land Commission Discussion Paper for Stakeholder Consultation and Public Engagement 7 | Page

On behalf of the Advisory Committee, the Ministry of Agriculture will provide further information to the public through news releases during the stakeholder consultation and public engagement process. Feedback from stakeholders and the public will help the Advisory Committee provide substantive recommendations to the Province for revitalizing the ALR and the ALC. For questions about how to provide input and feedback, please email ALR_ALCRevitalization@gov.bc.ca.

Written Submissions

In addition to regional stakeholder consultation meetings, there are several ways to provide written feedback to the Advisory Committee by:

Mail:

Minister's Advisory Committee Revitalization of ALR and ALC C/o Ministry of Agriculture PO Box 9120 Stn. Prov. Govt. Victoria BC V8W 9B4

- Email: ALR_ALCRevitalization@gov.bc.ca
- Online survey: An online survey will be initiated in February 2018 to seek feedback from the general public.

Appendix 1 – Ministry of Agriculture News Release

For Immediate Release

2018AGRI0002-000009

Jan. 4, 2018

Ministry of Agriculture - NEWS RELEASE

B.C. farmers, communities, public to shape revitalization of the Agricultural Land Reserve

VICTORIA - An independent committee with members from diverse agricultural backgrounds and experiences will lead the revitalization of the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) through an authentic and meaningful consultation process with stakeholders and British Columbians, Minister of Agriculture Lana Popham announced today.

"I am proud and grateful to have attracted British Columbians with the knowledge, expertise, passion and experience that the committee members possess for agriculture," said Popham. "The ALR and the ALC are incredibly important to the health and economic well-being of our province's future, and making it easier and more efficient for the commission to fulfill its mandate of protecting farmland and encouraging farming is a commitment the B.C. government is delivering on."

The nine-member Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Committee will provide strategic advice, policy guidance, and recommendations on how to help revitalize the ALR and ALC to ensure the provincial goals of preserving agricultural land and encouraging farming and ranching in British Columbia continue to be a priority. The committee will be chaired by Jennifer Dyson, with members from throughout the province with diverse agricultural knowledge and experience.

"As we embark on this consultation, our collective mandate is to ensure that the ALC and agriculture is positioned for the future," said Dyson. "I am asking that each of our review committee members listen to what is being said, honestly, impartially, professionally and in a principled fashion. I am looking forward to the conversations."

Beginning in early 2018, the committee will:

- Share a consultation paper to seek opinions and feedback on revitalizing the ALR and ALC;
- Host regional meetings to hear opinions and feedback directly from the local farming and ranching communities in Abbotsford, Cranbrook, Fort St. John, Kelowna, Kamloops, Nanaimo and Prince George; and
- Open an online consultation process to seek public opinion.

9 | Page

Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Committee Revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve and the Agricultural Land Commission Discussion Paper for Stakeholder Consultation and Public Engagement The committee will use the input it receives during the consultation process to develop recommendations for the provincial government's consideration. The recommendations may include changes to the current legislative, regulatory, and administrative framework to revitalize the ALR and the ALC. Any legislative changes that support the revitalization of the commission and the reserve are targeted for late 2018 or early 2019.

The ministerial mandate letter for the Minister of Agriculture identifies as a priority the revitalization of the Agricultural Land Reserve and the Agricultural Land Commission, an independent administrative tribunal dedicated to preserving agricultural land and encouraging farming and ranching in British Columbia.

Contact:

Dave Townsend

Government Communications and Public Engagement Ministry of Agriculture

250 356-7098

250 889-5945 (cell)

Appendix 2 – Minister's Advisory Committee Members: Biographies

Jennifer Dyson (Chair)

Jennifer Dyson has been involved in many aspects of agriculture; as a producer, consultant, chair, commissioner and industry member. Dyson has participated in the Partnership Committee on Agriculture and the Environment, Environmental Farm Plan Working Group, and Island Agri-Food Initiative. She was appointed to the Agricultural Land Commission in 2008 and served as chair of the Island Panel until 2017. Dyson served the agriculture industry, province and federal government as the executive director of the Agricultural Workforce Policy Board formed to respond to human resources challenges. Dyson was one of a handful of people who formed the Island Farmers Alliance and served as the Western Women's representative appointed by the BC Agriculture Council to the Canadian Federation of Agriculture. Dyson and her family operate an innovative water buffalo dairy and direct farm market in the Alberni Valley.

Vicki Huntington

Victoria Huntington is a native of Vancouver and has a degree in political science. She spent much of her early career in the RCMP security service and subsequently working with ministers of the Crown in Ottawa. She served five terms as an elected councillor in the municipality of Delta. Huntington was elected as an Independent MLA for Delta South in May 2009 and reelected in May 2013. She was the first Independent elected to the BC Legislature in over 60 years and her reelection as an Independent is a first in modern BC political history. She recently retired in 2017. Huntington served as band manager for the Gitanmaax Indian Reserve in Hazelton, subsequently becoming a policy assistant to the federal Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. She was vice-chair of the Lower Mainland Treaty Advisory Committee (LMTAC) and its representative on the Provincial Treaty Negotiating Team. Huntington has shown a particular interest in environmental and agricultural matters.

Chief Byron Louis

Chief Byron Louis has over 25 years of knowledge and experience, at various levels of the political spectrum. First, elected to Council in 1991, then designated as chair of the Okanagan Nation Fisheries Commission in 1995 and as a title and rights advisor at the Tribal Council and regional level, and political liaison designate with U.S.-based tribal, public and private utilities (hydroelectric generation) and state and federal authorities. Over the course of his career he has served in various facets of political office involving natural resource management, economic development, public works, community planning, liaison and strategic development and negotiation with various levels of senior government and the private sector. Louis continues to work extensively on First Nations social and economic issues and interests and is currently Ministry of Agriculture serving his fourth term as Chief of the Okanagan Indian Band. In 2015, he took on the role of director with the New Relationship Trust, an independent non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening First Nations in BC through capacity building.

Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Committee Revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve and the Agricultural Land Commission Discussion Paper for Stakeholder Consultation and Public Engagement 11 | Page

Lenore Newman

Lenore Newman holds a Canada Research chair in Food Security and Environment at the University of the Fraser Valley, where she is an associate professor in the department of geography and the environment and the director of the Centre for Food and Farmland Innovation. She runs a research program focused on farmland preservation, agriculture on the rural/urban fringe, culinary development, and food innovation, and consults widely on how to protect the world's farmland while growing the agricultural industry. Her opinion pieces on the future of farmland use and other food-related issues have been published in the Globe and Mail, the Vancouver Sun, and the Georgia Straight. Her first book, Speaking in Cod Tongues: A Canadian Culinary Journey, was published in 2017. She holds a PhD in environmental studies from York University. Newman is a member of the Royal Society of Canada's New College, and the patron of the Newman Heritage Farm. She splits her time between Vancouver and the Sunshine Coast.

Chris Kloot

Chris Kloot was born and raised on a dairy farm in Chilliwack. Today, with his wife and sons, he owns and operates a poultry farm in Rosedale, just east of Chilliwack. Recently, the pair became partners in the purchase of a vacant dairy farm with the intent to branch into dairy farming, as all three of their sons work on dairy farms and display a natural affinity for the industry. Kloot is also a real estate agent, and is serving his first term on Chilliwack City Council. His tremendous passion for agriculture has been recognized by the council. Kloot is the chair of the city's Agricultural and Rural Advisory Committee and was instrumental in the implementation of the Farm Home Plate bylaw in 2017. He is a member of the Chilliwack Agricultural Commission and devoted to the promotion and success of agriculture and agri-business in Chilliwack. You may recognize him as one of the lead roles in the flashy humorous action trailer of the "Chicken Squad", a savvy innovative online marketing campaign to promote BC Chicken and share accurate facts to educate consumers about Canadian chicken growing practices. This was produced in 2014 by the BC Chicken Marketing Board and BC Chicken Growers Association.

Shaundehl Runka

Shaundehl Runka has worked in land-use planning and resource management in British Columbia since the early 1990s. With a background in geography, Runka operated as a consultant dealing with a broad range of land- and water-use issues, across all regions of the province. In 2001, Runka joined the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) as a policy analyst, ending her career there in early 2017 in the policy planner position. Runka gained extensive experience interpreting the *Agricultural Land Commission Act*, regulation and policies and in working with Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) stakeholders throughout the province on a day-to-day basis. During her tenure at the ALC, she participated in legislative and regulatory reviews and carried out an extensive re-write of ALC policies to reflect government direction and the commission mandate. Runka was raised in in the Okanagan Valley, has lived in Vancouver for

30 years and is co-owner of a family farm in Baldonnel in the Peace region. Her professional life has taken her to all regions of the province.

Irmi Critcher

Irmi Critcher and her husband Barry own and operate a first generation grain and oilseed farm.

The 1,600 hectare farm is located near Taylor, in the Peace River District. Critcher has always taken a very active role on the farm and jointly manages it with her husband. They have been farming for over 25 years and grow wheat, barley, oats, canola, peas and grass seeds. Critcher has been the past president of the BC Grain Producer's Association and has held director positions on provincial and federal agriculture Industry boards including the BC Grain Industry Development Council, Investment Ag Foundation and Grain Growers of Canada. She has chaired numerous committees within these associations including Localized Crop Research, Environment and Climate Action Initiatives.

Arzeena Hamir

Arzeena Hamir is a farmer and agronomist from the Comox Valley. She earned her bachelor's degree in crop science from the University of Guelph and her master's degree in Sustainable Agriculture from the University of London, England. In 2007, she spoke at her first city council meeting to save the Garden City Lands in Richmond. Since then, she has advocated for community food security, farmland conservation and supports for new farmers. She is currently president of the Mid Island Farmers Institute and a director of the Investment Agriculture Foundation.

Brian Underhill

Brian Underhill worked in varying capacities at the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) since 1980 and most recently, he was the ALC's deputy chief executive officer, before retiring in 2015. In his leadership role, Underhill was responsible for the management and administration of the ALC staff secretariat which included functions related to land-use planning, policy development and interpretation, as well as compliance and enforcement and land information services. Underhill worked closely with the chair of the ALC and its appointed commissioners, providing strategic advice and recommended courses of action. He also performed statutory land-use decision-making duties, consultation and co-ordination with local governments throughout the province and collaboration with provincial government ministries, agencies and other administrative tribunals to ensure consistency between policies and legislation and community and regional planning and the Agricultural Land Commission Act and regulations. By way of his experience at the Agricultural Land Commission, his background in geography and resource management studies and extensive travel throughout the province, Underhill has developed considerable knowledge of land-use issues in relation to community planning and the agriculture industry. Underhill resides in Vancouver and has a special interest in promoting education and awareness of farmland protection and how it is related to the provincial policy to preserve agricultural land and encourage farming throughout British Columbia.

Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Committee Revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve and the Agricultural Land Commission Discussion Paper for Stakeholder Consultation and Public Engagement 13 | Page

Appendix 3 – Background Information

• Farm Credit Canada Reports

https://www.fcc-fac.ca/en/about-fcc/governance/reports/2016-fcc-farmland-valuesreport.html

ALC Annual Reports

https://www.alc.gov.bc.ca/alc/content/library/commission-reports

• ALC Act and the ALR Regulation and Recent Amendments

https://www.alc.gov.bc.ca/alc/content/legislation-regulation/the-alc-act-and-alr-regulation

ALC's Delegation of Decision Making

https://www.alc.gov.bc.ca/alc/content/about-the-alc/working-with-localgovernments/delegation-to-local-governments

• ALC's Working with Local Governments

https://www.alc.gov.bc.ca/alc/content/about-the-alc/working-with-local-governments

• ALC website Library

https://www.alc.gov.bc.ca/alc/content/library

ALR Values and Benefits

https://www.alc.gov.bc.ca/alc/content/alr-maps/living-in-the-alr/alr-values-and-benefits