



## Area B Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting

Thursday November 21, 2024  
10:30am – 12:00pm  
Location: Zoom

### INTENT

The purpose of this meeting is to convene the Area B Agricultural Advisory Committee to review, discuss and provide comments/recommendations to the Board on agricultural issues.

Key objectives for the meeting are as follows:

1. Elect Area B AAC Chair and Vice-Chair for 2025;
2. Provide input on the Agriculture Land Trusts issue, referred by the SLRD Board; and
3. Provide input on SLRD Board advocacy Letter to Minister of Agriculture regarding prioritizing buy-local agricultural and food initiatives, referred by the EAD.

### UPDATED PROPOSED AGENDA

Zoom Details: <b>Committee Members emailed a separate panelist link.</b>		
Members of the public attendee access: <a href="https://ca01web.zoom.us/j/61985243943">https://ca01web.zoom.us/j/61985243943</a>		
10:30am – 10:40am	<b>Opening</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome &amp; Introductions</li> <li>• Electronic Meetings Policy – Chair Statement</li> <li>• We would like to recognize that collectively we are joining from the unceded territories of all of the First Nations within our regional boundaries.</li> </ul>	Chair/All
10:40am – 10:50am	<b>Review and Approval of Agenda and Minutes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and Approval of Agenda</li> <li>• Review and Approval of Minutes (April 29, 2024)</li> </ul>	Chair/All
10:50am – 11:00am	<b>AAC Chair and Vice-Chair Election</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zoom Poll (ballots remain secret)</li> </ul>	Voting Committee Members
11:00am – 11:30pm	<b>Agriculture Land Trusts in the SLRD</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SLRD staff presentation and Q&amp;A/Discussion</li> <li>• AAC input &amp; resolution</li> </ul>	Kim/All
11:30pm – 11:40pm	<b>Advocacy Letter to Minister of Agriculture re prioritizing buy-local agricultural and food initiatives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Director’s Report (November 6, 2024) and recommendation to Board: <i>THAT the Board send a letter to the incoming Minister of Agriculture, highlighting the significant costs and challenges farmers and growers face in selling their products locally, requesting that the Minister consider prioritizing buy-local agricultural and food initiatives.</i></li> <li>• AAC discussion/input and potential resolution</li> </ul>	Director Birch-Jones/All
11:40am – 11:55am	<b>Roundtable Updates on Food &amp; Agriculture</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Area A/B ALUI Update</li> <li>• Others</li> </ul>	All

Propose this be "parked" to review next meeting	<p><b>Business Arising from the Minutes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ACTION: LAFS to explore capacity to facilitate/coordinate the first wildlife-agriculture meeting with support from Ministry of Agriculture &amp; Food staff liaison. <b>IN PROGRESS</b></li> <li>• ACTION: SLRD staff to prepare or seek out information regarding ALR parcel sizes in Area B and communicate back to the AAC. This may be in conjunction with the ALUI update work. <b>IN PROGRESS</b></li> <li>• ACTION: LAFS with support from SLRD staff to update the Ag Plan "report card" as a tool to share progress with SLRD Board, DOL, and AAC as appropriate. <b>IN PROGRESS</b></li> <li>• ACTION: Area B AAC to appoint a new Chair at the next AAC meeting and CD to send communications out in advance regarding appointment and process. <b>COMPLETE</b></li> <li>• ACTION: CD to add committee member roundtable updates on food/agriculture as an agenda item to next meeting. <b>COMPLETE</b></li> <li>• ACTION: CD to target 4 meetings per year, with one being held in-person. <b>ONGOING</b></li> </ul>	N/A
11:55am – 12:00pm	<b>Next Steps and Close of Meeting</b>	All

**Meeting Materials:**

1. April 29, 2024 Minutes – for approval (attached)
2. Action Tracking Table updated Fall 2024 – for information (attached)
3. [Agriculture Land Trust Direction Report \(September 11, 2024\)](#) – for background
4. Director’s Report: [Costs for Farmers to Have Produce Sold at Local Stores \(Director Birch-Jones\)](#)

## Squamish-Lillooet Regional District

DRAFT Minutes of an Electoral Area B Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) Meeting of the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District held in person at the Miyazaki House, 643 Russell Lane, Lillooet BC on April 29, 2024 at 11:00 AM.

### In attendance:

**Committee:** J. Rasmussen (Area B AAC Chair); B. Grossler; V. Birch-Jones (SLRD Area B Director); S. Petznick; R. Meredith; S. Senger; S. Quinlan

**Staff:** C. Dewar (SLRD Senior Planner, Staff Liaison)

**Public:** Courtney Andrews, Splitrock - Sekw'el'was initiatives; Rainah Thomas Ucwalmicw (T'it'q'et) and Xwisten initiatives; Rolf DeBriun, DoL Councillor and past AAC Committee member

**Regrets:** M. Chandler Farivar; M. Rogers; W. Shaw (Ministry of Agriculture and Food Regional Agrologist); A. Fox (Ministry of Agriculture and Food Land Use Agrologist)

<b>1</b>	<b>Call to Order</b>
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JR called the meeting to order at 11:05 am.

The Chair recognized that collectively we are on the unceded territory of the St'a'timc Nation. Welcome and roundtable introductions.

<b>2</b>	<b>Approval of Agenda and Minutes</b>
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**It was moved and seconded:**

*THAT the agenda be approved.*

**CARRIED (MOTION 1)**

**It was moved and seconded:**

*THAT the July 25, 2023 minutes be approved.*

**CARRIED (MOTION 2)**

JR shared that she is interested in stepping down as Chair and requested that electing a new Chair be added to the agenda for next meeting, with communications sent out in advance regarding process, etc.

<b>3</b>	<b>Business Arising from the Minutes</b>
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- ACTION: JR to connect with St'a'timc around the potential for joint food and agriculture updates, meeting, etc. CD to support.

JR acknowledged that this work is ongoing, and that having CA and RT attending the meeting to share about St'a'timc initiatives is really exciting.

<b>4</b>	<b>St'at'imc Nation Initiatives</b>
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**CA** shared information about Splitrock - Sekw'el'was initiatives, including their seed saving and propagation work, connection with the Indigenous Seed Saving Program (National), National Tree Centre, education around seed saving, mitigation and adaptation to Climate Change and Wildfire.

**RT** shared information about the Xwisten Agriculture training program, which started in January 2024 with 2 classes per week offered through KPU online and hands on. Physical garden plots are to come and the community garden is being used in the meantime. Elders are involved in the classes.

**RT** also shared information about Ucwalmicw (T'it'q'et) initiatives, including the incubator project, perennial garden, LAFS and Ucwalmicw funding partnership for a new greenhouse, continuing to work on Food Security building, 4000 lbs of produce harvested last year from vegetable gardens and fruit tree – all donated to the food bank and Elder food boxes.

LAFS, Splitrock and T'it'q'et to connect on partnership and granting opportunities.

<b>5</b>	<b>SLRD FireSmart Initiatives</b>
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**CD** shared updates on SLRD FireSmart initiatives and opportunities underway related to farmers and ranchers. **CD** noted that the SLRD is hiring an EOC Agriculture Unit Coordinator and has retained a consultant to prepare an Agriculture Emergency Plan and Disaster Resilience Education Materials.

<b>6</b>	<b>Updates</b>
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**CD** shared updates on the Area A/B ALR digital orthophotography project that completed in December 2023, as well as the ALUI update that is underway, which includes an updated Water Demand Model for Area A/B.

**VBJ** provided an update on the Service Establishment Bylaw (covering Area D and DOL for various economic development including agriculture plan implementation), noting that the structure is now in place to requisition funds. Advocacy efforts will continue with DOL. PILT funds will be used in 2024 to support LAFS and Ag plan implementation work.

**SS** shared information about the McKay Fire recovery work underway, using traditional plans, seed balls, with a focus on trying to recover high burn areas, winter range corridors and habitat. **SS** also shared that work is to come around recovery of the Gun Creek and Casper Fire and comparing to works completed 15 years ago. It was also noted that the Mule Deer habitat has been drastically impacted by wildfires.

**RDB** shared updated from the DOL, including that the new CAO is starting June 1, 2024, as well as opportunities to connect around Wildfire Preparedness and Agriculture.

There was general discussion around advocacy efforts of the committee and how to contribute to local and regional governments. It was noted that there is an opportunity around the AAC and Food lens.

It was also requested, again, that information be obtained about ALR parcel sizes in Area B (this is noted as an action item from previous meetings). **CD** to continue to explore opportunities here.

<b>7</b>	<b>Other Business</b>
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Outstanding Action items (listed below) to be discussed at the next AAC meeting (focus of this meeting was on sharing opportunities with St'at'imc community members. Action Tracking Table attached for information.

<b>8</b>	<b>Correspondence</b>
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None.

<b>9</b>	<b>Late Items</b>
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None.

<b>10</b>	<b>Next Steps</b>
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- A. ACTION: **AAC & LAFS** to connect with St'at'imc around the potential for joint food and agriculture updates, meeting, etc. ONGOING
- B. ACTION: **LAFS** to continue work towards facilitation/coordination of a wildlife-agriculture meeting with support of Ministry of Agriculture staff liaison, targeted for Winter 2024. IN PROGRESS
- C. ACTION: **SLRD staff** to prepare or seek out information regarding ALR parcel sizes in Area B and communicate back to the AAC. This may be in conjunction with the ALUI update work. IN PROGRSS
- D. ACTION: **LAFS** with support from SLRD staff to update the Ag Plan "report card" as a tool to share progress with SLRD Board, DOL, and AAC as appropriate. IN PROGRESS
- E. ACTION: **Area B AAC** to appoint a new Chair at the next AAC meeting and **CD** to send communications out in advance regarding appointment and process. NEXT MEETING
- F. ACTION: **CD** to add committee member roundtable updates on food and agriculture as an agenda item to next meeting. COMPLETE
- G. ACTION: **CD** to explore opportunities for hybrid or in-person meetings for the next Area B AAC meeting. COMPLETE
- H. ACTION: **CD** to target 4 meetings per year, with one being held in-person. ONGOING

<b>11</b>	<b>Next Meeting / Adjournment</b>
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Next meeting to be scheduled in June 2024, to be an electronic meeting to address outstanding action items.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 1:45 pm

*Jacqueline J. Rasmussen*

*C. Dewar*

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J. Rasmussen  
Chair

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C. Dewar  
Senior Planner  
Recording Secretary

DRAFT

**YELLOW** is short-term/urgent action  
**ORANGE** is longer-term action  
**GREEN** is completed action

<b>SLRD Electoral Area B Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) – Action Item Tracking</b>				
<b>Date Initiated</b>	<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Member(s) Responsible</b>	<b>Status Update</b>	<b>Target Date of Completion</b>
January, 2023	ALUI and WDM Update	C. Dewar (Staff Liaison)	CD in discussions with Ministry staff to update ALUI and WDM. Imagery acquisition completed in 2023 in support of an ALUI update (2025).	Imagery acquisition completed in 2023 ALUI update underway
July 25, 2023	Prepare or seek out information regarding ALR parcel sizes in Area B	SLRD Staff		
November 27, 2020	AAC and St'at'mic – joint food and agriculture updates	J. Rasmussen (AAC Chair)	Ongoing; AAC to connect with St'at'imc around the potential for joint food and agriculture updates	Spring 2024/Ongoing
November 12, 2019	Revise DRAFT Zoning Amendment Bylaw to reflect ALC changes as well as AAC motions.	A. McKay	Zoning Amendment Bylaw Adopted March 2024	Complete
November 27, 2020	Fire Smarting Webinar for farmers was discussed to address the action item around “fuel management to reduce the risk of agriculture resources to wildfire”	This could be a joint initiative of LAFS, SLRD and BC Wildfire.	CD worked to support Ministry of Agriculture and Climate Action Initiative to host two Wildfire Preparedness Webinar Workshops for Farmers and Ranchers in April 2021	Complete
September 30, 2020	CanadaGap Program – Ministry Letter	C. Dewar (Staff Liaison)	CD to draft letter to Ministry of Agriculture providing input on the CanadaGap Program.	Complete
September 30, 2020	Ag Plan integration into DoL OCP update	C. Dewar (Staff Liaison) S. Petznick (LAFS)	SP to continue connecting with OCP consultants on Ag Plan integration into OCP project and CD to connect Kevin Taylor directly with the Ag Plan.	Complete
September 30, 2020	Ag Plan Implementation Update	C. Dewar (Staff Liaison) S. Petznick (LAFS)	CD to work with SP on implementation update for Agriculture Plan. CD to identify what Ag Plan actions are still to be implemented and SP to identify what Ag Plan actions LAFS can implement.	Complete

**YELLOW** is short-term/urgent action  
**ORANGE** is longer-term action  
**GREEN** is completed action

November 12, 2019	Update on TNRD agricultural planning – Staff to confirm if there is an active AAC in the TNRD	A. MacKay (Staff Liaison)	TNRD has one AAC for the entire region	Complete
November 12, 2019	Staff to review the SLRD bylaw exemption for ALR land and report back to the AAC if there is anything that can be done to address this concern	A. MacKay (Staff Liaison)	Staff reviewed bylaw exemption – note that these exemptions do not preclude the prohibition of invasive species in fill	Complete
November 12, 2019	Report back on asphalt disposal regulations	A. MacKay (Staff Liaison)	Asphalt can be disposed of in the Lillooet Landfill (subject to tipping fee)	Complete
November 12, 2019	Update the AAC on action items from the Ag Plan (what has been implemented) in a table form	C. Dewar (Staff Liaison) with support from S. Petznick of LAFS	In progress	Complete
November 12, 2019	Confirm with Building Department what is required to move a shipping container on to your property	A. MacKay (Staff Liaison)	No “move on permit” for shipping containers; if no services there are no building code requirements – with services, it is considered a building and must meet code	Complete
November 12, 2019	Update the AAC ToR to include Motion 1 & 4 November 12, 2019 meeting and decisions from May 3, 2018 meeting	A. MacKay (Staff Liaison)	ToR Amendment Bylaw adopted April 2020	Complete