



City of Maple Ridge
Agricultural Advisory Committee
AGENDA

Thursday, January 27, 2022 at 7:00 pm
Held via Zoom Teleconference

Meeting Access Information

To practice social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic we will be holding the Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) meeting via Zoom teleconference. All participants including members of the AAC and the public are asked to join the meeting from home using the following access information:

Join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone

<https://mapleridge-ca.zoom.us/j/87396540974?pwd=a0xBSG1Kby9id300L25ucnl3ckNSdz09>

Or join the meeting using your phone

Dial: +17789072071 Meeting ID: **873 9654 0974** Passcode: **260111**

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
3. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES** – December 2, 2021
4. **DELEGATIONS** – NIL
5. **NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - 5.1. Welcome/Member Introductions
 - 5.2. Committee Orientation
 - 5.3. 2022 Meeting Schedule
 - 5.4. Chair and Vice Chair Selection
 - 5.5. 2022 Work Plan
 - 5.6. Lougheed Transit Corridor Area Plan
 - 5.7. Flooding Response Update
6. **LIAISON UPDATES**
 - 6.1. Staff Liaison
 - 6.2. Council Liaison
7. **TASK FORCE UPDATES**
 - 7.1. 2021 Food and Garden Contest
8. **QUESTION PERIOD FOR THE PUBLIC**
9. **ROUNDTABLE**
10. **ADJOURNMENT**

Next Meeting: April 28, 2022 / Agenda Submission Deadline: April 14, 2022

QUESTION PERIOD

Question Period provides the public with the opportunity to ask questions or make comments on subjects that are of concern to them. Each person will be given 2 minutes to speak.
Up to ten minutes in total is allotted for Question Period.

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Committee,
held via Zoom teleconference on December 2, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillor Gordy Robson	Council Liaison
Bill Hardy, Chair	Member at Large
Carla Schiller, Vice Chair	Member at Large
Alex Pope	Fraser North Farmers Market Society Representative

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Adam Rieu	Staff Liaison, Planner 1
Mike McLean	Committee Clerk, Legal and Legislative Services

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Lorraine Bates	Agricultural Fair Board Representative
Shannon Lambie	Agriculture Land Commission (Non-voting member)
Conley Keyes	B.C. Ministry of Agriculture (Non-voting member)

1. CALL TO ORDER – 7:09 pm

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

R/2021-016

It was moved and seconded

That the agenda for the December 2, 2021 Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting be approved as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

R/2021-017

It was moved and seconded

That the minutes of the October 4, 2021 Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. DELEGATIONS – NIL

5. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5.1 Community Gardens

The Staff Liaison provided an update on the Community Gardens.

6. LIAISON UPDATES

6.1 Staff Liaison

The Staff Liaison acknowledged the contributions of outgoing members, including Chair Hardy, Carla Schiller and Councillor Gordy Robson. Chair Hardy discussed the speaker series and the limitations of compostable plastic.

6.2 Council Liaison

Council Robson provided an update on the following:

- The evolving focus of the Agricultural Advisory Committee
- The success of the 2021 Food and Garden Contest
- The need to archive presentations from the Committee's speaker series
- The development of agricultural area and community gardens

7. TASK FORCE UPDATES

7.1 2021 Food and Garden Contest

The Staff Liaison provided an update on the 2021 Food and Garden Contest and delivery of prizes to recipients. C. Schiller discussed the progress of the 2021 Food and Garden Contest. Chair Hardy spoke about the potential of utilizing LIDAR imagery to better understand agricultural practices and the contributions of Alternative Land Use Systems (ALUS).

8. QUESTION PERIOD FOR THE PUBLIC – NIL

9. ROUNDTABLE

C. Schiller discussed the impacts of flooding and the importance of flood mitigation efforts. Alex Pope spoke about the Fraser North Farmers Market Society's holiday market and the progression of its online market and deliveries. Councillor Robson discussed tax rates for agricultural properties and the economic difficulties of maintaining an agricultural hub. Chair Hardy recalled attending recent COP 26 meetings in Glasgow and discussions about the electricification of the vehicle fleet, carbon capture efforts and the future of animal agriculture.

10. ADJOURNMENT – 8:12 p.m.

Bill Hardy, Chair

Agricultural Advisory Committee Terms of Reference

Mandate

To advise Council on agricultural matters and to undertake and support activities in the City that promote farming and assist in the protection of agricultural lands.

The Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) Committee may:

1. develop and implement educational and public awareness programs related to agriculture in the City;
2. support projects that promote local agriculture; and
3. make recommendations on agricultural policies and advise Council on policy issues relating to agricultural land and appropriate land uses in agricultural areas.

Membership Composition

The Committee will be comprised of the following 7 voting members:

- One Council Liaison (or alternate)
- One representative from the Fraser North Farmers Market Society Board (or alternate)
- One representative from the Agricultural Fair Board (or alternate)
- Four Members at Large appointed by Council, with a goal of appointing individuals whom are actively farming or engaged in the agricultural industry in Maple Ridge and represent the youth, senior and business communities

Standing Invitation Members (non-voting):

- One representative from the Agricultural Land Commission
- One representative from the Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Fisheries

Quorum

- Majority of voting members (4)

Meetings

- Typically meetings are scheduled for the fourth Thursday each month at 7:00 pm in the Blaney Room, City Hall, 11995 Haney Place
- Meetings are typically held from January to June and September to November

Subcommittees

- N/A

Tentative Meeting Dates - 7:00 pm via Zoom (subject to change)

- Thursday, January 27, 2022
- Thursday, April 28, 2022
- Thursday, June 23, 2022

- Thursday, September 29, 2022
- Thursday, November 24, 2022

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Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC)

TO: Committee Members **MEETING:** January 27, 2022
FROM: Committee Clerk
SUBJECT: Chair and Vice Chair Selection

BACKGROUND:

The goal of the Chairperson is to ensure that the Committee functions properly, that there is full participation during meetings, that all relevant matters are discussed, and that effective decisions are made and carried out.

There are three main spheres that the Chairperson has to manage:

- Assisting with the planning of meetings
- Running the meetings
- Ensuring that the Committee is achieving its goals

The previous Chair or Council Liaison will chair the meeting as the Acting Chair until a new Chair is appointed or for the duration of the meeting. During the meeting, the floor will be opened for Committee members to nominate fellow members for the position of Chair and Vice Chair. In order for their name to stand, an individual must accept the nomination.

If there are multiple nominations (and nominees are willing to serve), voting will be done virtually via Zoom. Each member will send a private Zoom chat message to the Committee Clerk with their vote. The Committee Clerk will compile all the votes and submit the results to the Acting Chair.

The Acting Chair will then ask if any member would like to put forward a motion that the selected individual be appointed as Chair or Vice Chair for 2022. Once the Chair and Vice Chair have been appointed, the meeting can be turned over or the previous Chair or Council Liaison can continue as the Acting Chair for the remainder of the meeting with approval from the newly elected Chair.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That _____ be appointed as Chair of the Agricultural Advisory Committee for 2022.

That _____ be appointed as Vice Chair of the Agricultural Advisory Committee for 2022.

2022 Agricultural Advisory Committee Work Plan

Committee Overview

The Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) is involved in and supports projects aimed at promoting public awareness and protecting agricultural activities. The Committee is actively involved in the implementation of the Agricultural Plan to support agriculture in the future.

The Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) will advise Council on agricultural matters and to undertake and support activities in the City that promote farming and assist in the protection of agricultural lands. The Committee works in collaboration with related agencies and organizations involved in the promotion of agriculture, the protection of farmland and the recognition of the need for food security.

Progress Report

Action Item	Update & Next Steps	Planning Tier	Status
		Priority	
Research the potential of a joint Metro Vancouver 'Agriculture Land Trust' feasibility study	Researched and met with Metro Vancouver (MV). This item has not been explored with any level of detail at MV level as resources have been used elsewhere to help support agriculture. An already identified workplan, feasibility and staff resources are some items preventing a land trust from being explored at MV level until at least 2023.	Business Plan Deliverable Growth	Complete 100 % Q4 2021
Explore the potential of Maple Ridge becoming an official 'Bee City'	Will no longer pursue this item and will instead promote overall pollinator health through our education and speaker series as well as the community gardens and food garden contest.	Business Plan Deliverable Environment	Complete 100 % Q4 2021
Implement a Booth In a Box (resource kit for special events)	Public engagement opportunities have been impacted by COVID-19, therefore, other opportunities have been identified as part of 2022 workplan to reach out and engage with the public. No further work required for Booth in a Box.	Business Plan Deliverable Pride	Complete 100 % Q4 2021
New identified priorities (when approved by Council)	Presentation by AAC Chair upcoming; priorities to be determined with the 2022 Business Plan	Business Plan Deliverable Environment	In Progress 50 % Q4 2021
Develop recommendations for reductions in water metering rates to make Maple Ridge more hospitable for farmers	Researched and compared other municipalities in Metro Vancouver to see if any reductions are being provided (none). Item was also brought up with Metro Vancouver at the regional level with no further action required.	Business Plan Deliverable Environment	Complete 100 % Q4 2021
Develop recommendations regarding land use and site coverage for agricultural zoned properties	Researched and compared CMR zoning bylaw to surrounding municipalities for lot coverage of agricultural and residential zoned properties. No further action required.	Business Plan Deliverable Environment	Complete 100 % Q4 2021

Progress Report

Action Item	Update & Next Steps	Planning Tier	Status
		Priority	
Improve awareness and preparedness of Maple Ridge agriculture with regard to climate change	Climate change is seen as a high level policy item. The theme of climate change will continue into 2022 workplan under education and awareness through the presentation / speaker series and food security.	Business Plan Deliverable Environment	In Progress 25% Q4 2022
Review and establish priorities for new projects in the development and implementation of the Agricultural Plan	Research ongoing	Business Plan Deliverable Environment	In Progress 25% Q4 2022
Support the development of Community Gardens in the City of Maple Ridge	Researched current locations and updated contact list. Future work to involve further research on best practices and more educational opportunities for the public.	Business Plan Deliverable Pride	In Progress 40% Q4 2022
Implementation of a presentation / speaker series on agriculture related items.	Presentations provided from experts to the public (online) on various agriculture-related topics including pollination and composting. Educational opportunities in this form have been identified as part of the 2022 workplan.	Business Plan Found Milestone Pride	In Progress 50% Q4 2021
Implementation of a Garden Contest	Garden contest had over 60 participants with judges determining the 'winners' through photo submission. Each participant received some type of prize for participating through donations from local businesses and support from the AAC. Food security and education have been identified as part of the 2022 workplan	Business Plan Found Milestone Pride	Complete 90% Q4 2021

New 2022 Workplan Deliverables

Action Item	Priority	ETA
Provide opportunities for the public to participate in learning about and contributing to food security through the development of community gardens	Pride	Q4 2022
Provide opportunities for the public to participate in learning about and contributing to food security through the implementation of a food garden contest	Pride	Q4 2022
Provide opportunities for education and public engagement through a presentation / speaker series on agriculturally-related topics.	Pride	Q4 2022
Explore alternative options for underutilized fallow lands within the City.	Environment	Q4 2022
Provide education and awareness of farm vehicles on City roads.	Safety	Q4 2022
Review and establish priorities for new projects in the development and implementation of the Agricultural Plan.	Environment	Q4 2022