

## **Wendland, Justine AGRI:EX**

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**From:** Atkinson, Gregory AGRI:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 8, 2018 2:14 PM  
**To:** Minister, AGRI AGRI:EX  
**Subject:** ALR/ALC Revitalization Consultation  
**Attachments:** Contact Info.pdf; 2018AGRI0007-000149.pdf

Hello Constituency Offices,

We are looking to get the word out about the consultation process currently underway for revitalizing the ALR and ALC. Folks can participate by providing written submissions to the Advisory Committee and by filling out the online survey found at this link: <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/agriculturallandreserve/>

Please consider sharing the following information with your constituents. I have attached an Information Note with details around the purpose and process of the consultation, as well as a pdf containing contact information and a link to the online survey.

We would also like to suggest the following tweets:

- ATTN: #BC'ers, you have until April 30 to submit feedback on revitalizing the ALR and ALC by mail, email or through the online survey, visit <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/agriculturallandreserve/>
- Share your ideas for revitalizing the ALR and ALC today, online survey for your opinions and feedback is live now, <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/agriculturallandreserve/>
- If you eat, you are involved in #BCAGRI – take part in the online consultation now to help shape the revitalization of the ALR, <https://engage.gov.bc.ca/agriculturallandreserve/>

Thanks all for your help in getting the word out!

**Greg Atkinson**

Executive Assistant to Hon Lana Popham  
Minister of Agriculture

## Wendland, Justine AGRI:EX

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**From:** Wendland, Justine AGRI:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, February 19, 2018 10:09 AM  
**To:** Hansen, Erin AGRI:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Stakeholder Meeting Invitation: Revitalization of the Agricultural Land Reserve and Agricultural Land Commission  
**Attachments:** ALR Stakeholder advisory committee.

Hi Erin,

Our office has received multiple calls about the ALR/ALC Revitalization stakeholder sessions being held all over the province. Callers indicate that there is no confirmation e-mail when they respond and are interested in attending a session and are concerned that their email has not been received. I spoke with Britney Irvine and you can see the correspondence below, but we are getting calls often from people wanting to attend and the invites are not sent out from our office and I cannot provide people very much direction on this as our office has had no part in arranging these nor been provided any details on when and where these stakeholder consultations are being held. Attached is an example of an email I received today as those interested in participating are left in the dark as to details and times of when these consultations are occurring. I told the caller who forwarded me the attached email he sent when responding to the ALR\_ALC revitalization email as Can the team sending out these emails of the location where consultations are being held please have an automatic "Thank you for your Email" with details about the process so stakeholders are not calling our office for assistance.

Thanks,

**Justine Wendland, Administrative Assistant**  
Office of the Honourable Lana Popham  
Minister of Agriculture  
250-387-1023 | [Justine.Wendland@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Justine.Wendland@gov.bc.ca)

**From:** Irvine, Britney AGRI:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 10:23 AM  
**To:** Shust, Susan D AGRI:EX  
**Cc:** Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX; Wendland, Justine AGRI:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Stakeholder Meeting Invitation: Revitalization of the Agricultural Land Reserve and Agricultural Land Commission

Hi Susan – I don't quite understand the request; did Ruby Shea contact the Minister's Office to see if her RSVP came through to the [ALR\\_ALCRevitalization@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ALR_ALCRevitalization@gov.bc.ca) address?

We aren't able to give out contact information for Committee members, but we are acting for the Committee as their secretariat. Any questions should be directed to the email address above.

I hope that helps. Thanks!  
Britney.

**Britney Irvine**  
Senior Policy Analyst  
BC Ministry of Agriculture  
[Britney.Irvine@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Britney.Irvine@gov.bc.ca) | P: 778-698-4029

**From:** Shust, Susan D AGRI:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:55 AM  
**To:** Irvine, Britney AGRI:EX  
**Cc:** Skogstad, Holly AGRI:EX; Wendland, Justine AGRI:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Stakeholder Meeting Invitation: Revitalization of the Agricultural Land Reserve and Agricultural Land Commission

Hi Britney – please see the question from the Minister’s office. Do you have a contact number for Jennifer Dyson?

**From:** Wendland, Justine AGRI:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:52 AM  
**To:** Shust, Susan D AGRI:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Stakeholder Meeting Invitation: Revitalization of the Agricultural Land Reserve and Agricultural Land Commission

Hi Susan,

I had Ruby Shea call inquiring as to how she can confirm that her email to the MAAC Stakeholder meeting was received when sent to the below email. She called here asking for Jennifer Dyson. Do you know who might be the best person to direct her to too confirm if her email of interest to attend the meeting was received?

Thanks,  
Justine

**From:** Municipal Hall [<mailto:Municipal.Hall@csaanich.ca>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 30, 2018 9:45 AM  
**To:** Minister, AGRI AGRI:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Stakeholder Meeting Invitation: Revitalization of the Agricultural Land Reserve and Agricultural Land Commission

Hi Justine,

Below is the email we just spoke of, as requested.

Regards,



Ruby Shea, Administrative Assistant  
1903 Mount Newton Cross Road, Saanichton BC V8M 2A9  
P 250.652.4444  
[centralsaanich.ca](http://centralsaanich.ca)

**From:** Correspondence Unit AGRI:EX [<mailto:MCU@gov.bc.ca>]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 26, 2018 12:15 PM  
**To:** Correspondence Unit AGRI:EX <[MCU@gov.bc.ca](mailto:MCU@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Stakeholder Meeting Invitation: Revitalization of the Agricultural Land Reserve and Agricultural Land Commission

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: Tuesday, February 6, 2018**

**Meeting Location: Days Inn, 809 Island Highway South, Nanaimo, BC**

Please RSVP by Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018 to the Advisory Committee at: [ALR ALCRevitalization@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ALR_ALCRevitalization@gov.bc.ca). Please indicate your preference for a morning, mid-day or afternoon meeting time. The Advisory Committee will do its best to accommodate your preference. Please note you may share meeting time with other stakeholders if needed.

Written submissions are also encouraged to the Advisory Committee by email and mail. An online public survey will also be available for submissions to the Advisory Committee beginning in early February 2018.

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

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"Please visit our new Civic Web Portal at [www.centralsaanich.ca](http://www.centralsaanich.ca) to find information on upcoming meetings and past Council decisions, to search for background reports, and/or to sign up for e-notifications."



## Wendland, Justine AGRI:EX

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**From:** Minister, AGRI AGRI:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, February 19, 2018 10:38 AM  
**To:** s.22  
**Subject:** RE: ALR Stakeholder advisory committee.

Hi s.22

Thank you for your call earlier. This email is to confirm that I received a copy of your email that you had sent to the ALR\_ALCRevitalization email to confirm your interest in attending the Fort Saint John Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> Stakeholder consultation. I have reached out to our Deputy Ministers Office to let them know you are interested and connect you with the correct people for more information on the consultation.

Thanks!  
Justine

**Justine Wendland, Administrative Assistant**  
Office of the Honourable Lana Popham  
Minister of Agriculture  
250-387-1023 | [Justine.Wendland@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Justine.Wendland@gov.bc.ca)

**From:** s.22 s.22  
**Sent:** Monday, February 19, 2018 9:59 AM  
**To:** Minister, AGRI AGRI:EX  
**Subject:** ALR Stakeholder advisory committee.

The Sweetwater Parkland Farmers Institiut has requested to attend the meeting in Fort St John BC. Feb 22. We have requested 4 seats if possible.  
s.22



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

## Wendland, Justine AGRI:EX

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**From:** Atkinson, Gregory AGRI:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, February 19, 2018 4:19 PM  
**To:** Hrycuik, Lorie AGRI:EX  
**Cc:** Hodson, Georgina AGRI:EX; Smith, Jessica C AGRI:EX; Wendland, Justine AGRI:EX  
**Subject:** FW: ALR/ALC Revitalization Stakeholder Meeting

Hi Lorie,

Are you folks able to accommodate Mayor Jackson's request?

Thanks!

**Greg Atkinson**

Executive Assistant to Hon Lana Popham  
Minister of Agriculture

**From:** Wendland, Justine AGRI:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, February 19, 2018 2:26 PM  
**To:** Atkinson, Gregory AGRI:EX  
**Subject:** FW: ALR/ALC Revitalization Stakeholder Meeting

Hello Greg,

We received this piece of correspondence from the Mayor of Delta regarding attending the ALR/ALC Revitalization Stakeholder Meetings. I think that I should thank them for their email and forward it to the [ALR\\_ALCRevitalization@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ALR_ALCRevitalization@gov.bc.ca) email for their information to schedule a spot for the Mayor where possible.

Thoughts?  
Justine

**From:** Mayor Lois Jackson [<mailto:Mayor@delta.ca>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 14, 2018 7:21 PM  
**To:** Minister, AGRI AGRI:EX; Ken Kuntz; Sean McGill; Steven Lan; Marcy Sangret; Dona Packer; Tanya Bader  
**Cc:** ALR and ALC Revitalization AGRI:EX  
**Subject:** FW: ALR/ALC Revitalization Stakeholder Meeting

**My Dear Madame Minister:**  
s.13,s.16

Yesterday, I received the invitation to attend in Abbotsford on February 21, and the letter stated that we were to voice our choice of times to come before the Committee. The regular meeting of Translink Mayors is scheduled for the morning of February 21 which extends normally to 12:30 or 1:00 pm. Of course, I wanted to leave New Westminster and head directly

for Abbotsford in the afternoon. Therefore, I requested that I be slotted into their meeting as late in the day as possible in order to travel from New Westminster to Abbotsford.

My staff have received the following note from the "Minister's Advisory Committee Secretariat" (I regret I have no name of the Secretariat), stating that "due to the Advisory Committee's travel and time constraints the consultation meetings in Abbotsford will only go until 1:45 pm on the 21<sup>st</sup>". I respectfully suggest that this timeframe from 9:00 am to 1:45 is not a full day of consultation and I was under the assumption that the committee was trying to accommodate the representatives of local government.

Is it possible therefore, to request that we be given an opportunity to present at another venue, or perhaps on another date. As you may be aware we have some very major current and future concerns regarding the Agricultural Lands and the Reserve, not only in Delta but in the entire Province of B.C.

My feeling is that you would wish to ensure that all who wished to be heard, could be heard. Thank you for your kind consideration in this matter, as I remain,

Lois E. Jackson  
Mayor of Delta

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**From:** ALR and ALC Revitalization AGRI:EX [[mailto:ALR\\_ALCRevitalization@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ALR_ALCRevitalization@gov.bc.ca)]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 14, 2018 2:24 PM  
**To:** Mayor Lois Jackson  
**Subject:** RE: ALR/ALC Revitalization Stakeholder Meeting

Hello Dona,

Thank you for your email and RSVP to the Abbotsford stakeholder consultation meeting, on behalf of Mayor Jackson.

The consultation meetings in Abbotsford will only go until 1:45pm on the 21<sup>st</sup>; this is due to the Advisory Committee's travel and time constraints. Would Mayor Jackson be able to make it to Abbotsford for 1:00 pm?

Please advise if this time slot will work, and we can send you through more details.

Minister's Advisory Committee Secretariat

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**From:** Mayor Lois Jackson [<mailto:Mayor@delta.ca>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 13, 2018 4:30 PM  
**To:** ALR and ALC Revitalization AGRI:EX  
**Cc:** Ken Kuntz; Sean McGill; Marcy Sangret  
**Subject:** ALR/ALC Revitalization Stakeholder Meeting

Dear Minister's Advisory Committee,

On behalf of Delta Mayor Lois E. Jackson, I would like to thank you for the invitation to participate in a regional stakeholder meeting in Abbotsford on Wednesday, February 21st.

Mayor Jackson wishes to participate and make a short presentation. She respectfully requests an afternoon meeting time as she is committed to a regional Mayors TransLink meeting in the morning in New Westminster. The earliest Mayor Jackson could expect to arrive in Abbotsford would be 2:00pm.

Mayor Jackson appreciates the opportunity to participate and looks forward to hearing from you.

Yours truly,

Dona Packer  
Executive Assistant to the Mayor  
City of Delta  
4500 Clarence Taylor Crescent | Delta, BC V4K 3E2  
Office 604 946 3210 | Direct 604 946 3221

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## Wendland, Justine AGRI:EX

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**From:** Minister, AGRI AGRI:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, March 19, 2018 2:24 PM  
**To:** s.22  
**Subject:** RE: ALR review

Dear s.22

Thank you for your email regarding the production of cannabis in BC. A Minister's Advisory Committee was struck in order to study and provide recommendations to the Minister on ALR revitalization. The question of Cannabis production on ALR land is being examined by this committee as part of their process. Given the importance of this topic, our office is extending an offer to those who have written to the Minister, in MLA or Minister capacity, on the topic of cannabis and ALR land to forward their correspondence to the Minister's Advisory Committee for their review. If you would like your correspondence forwarded to the Minister's Advisory Committee please reply to this email indicating that you consent to the Minister's Office forwarding your correspondence to the Minister's Advisory Committee. Given there has been a significant influx of expression on this topic we will do our best to respond to those who have sent in correspondence before the end of March. You can also provide written submissions to the committee directly by emailing [ALR\\_ALCRevitalization@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ALR_ALCRevitalization@gov.bc.ca).

Thanks again for writing. Please don't hesitate to reach out to our office if you have further questions.

Sincerely,  
Office of the Minister

**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 17, 2018 8:49 PM  
**To:** Simpson.MLA, Shane <[Shane.Simpson.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Shane.Simpson.MLA@leg.bc.ca)>; Popham.MLA, Lana <[Lana.Popham.MLA@leg.bc.ca](mailto:Lana.Popham.MLA@leg.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** s.22 s.22  
**Subject:** ALR review

An independent commission will hold consultations across the province in order to recommend ways to revitalize the Agricultural Land Reserve.

That is very good.

Please publicise the dates of those public meetings and how a person can contribute online. In one article I read that there was an online survey for everyone including eaters.

I am an eater and want land in the ALR to be used for growing food, not for dumping or growing marijuana or for development or the building of huge homes. I would like the opportunity to express these views.

Please respond quickly as possible these meetings are happening as we speak.

Sincerely,

s.22

## Wendland, Justine AGRI:EX

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**From:** Hansen, Erin AGRI:EX on behalf of Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 25, 2018 1:28 PM  
**To:** Johnson, Lisa E AGRI:EX; Wendland, Justine AGRI:EX  
**Cc:** Hodson, Georgina AGRI:EX; Vajgel, Beatriz AGRI:EX; McRae, Meghan GCPE:EX; Boelens, Robert GCPE:EX; Lalani, Arif AGRI:EX; Cameron, Sandra AGRI:EX; Mack, James AGRI:EX; Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX  
**Subject:** Materials for Minister's briefing on ALR Report and ALC Revitalization April 26  
**Attachments:** Letter to Minister Popham - Minister's Advisory Committee on Revitalizing the ALR and ALC - April 24, 2018.pdf; Minister Advisory Committee Interim Report to Minister of Agriculture - ALR and ALC Revitalization - April 24 2018.pdf  
  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Good afternoon.

Attached documents for Minister's briefing tomorrow at 11:45 am.

Thanks,

*Erin Hansen*

Senior Executive Assistant to Wes Shoemaker  
Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture  
250-356-1800 [Erin.Hansen@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Erin.Hansen@gov.bc.ca)

**From:** ALR and ALC Revitalization AGRI:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 24, 2018 4:55 PM  
**To:** Minister, AGRI AGRI:EX  
**Cc:** Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX; Hrycuik, Lorie AGRI:EX  
**Subject:** Interim Report to the Minister of Agriculture Including Recommendations for Immediate Legislative Change

Minister Popham,

On behalf of Jennifer Dyson, Chair of the Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Committee for Revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve and the Agricultural Land Commission and the members, please find attached to this email a letter from the Committee as well as the Committee's *Interim Report to the Minister of Agriculture Including Recommendations for Immediate Legislative Change* (April, 2018).

Thank you,  
Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Committee Secretariat

April 24, 2018

Honourable Lana Popham  
BC Minister of Agriculture

Dear Minister Popham,

On behalf of the Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Committee (Committee) for Revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve and the Agricultural Land Commission, I am pleased to submit the Committee's ***Interim Report to the Minister of Agriculture Including Recommendations for Immediate Legislative Change.***

s.12,s.13

Page 12 to/à Page 56

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12;s.13



## **Wendland, Justine AGRI:EX**

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**From:** Hansen, Erin AGRI:EX  
**Sent:** Monday, May 7, 2018 1:38 PM  
**To:** Johnson, Lisa E AGRI:EX; Wendland, Justine AGRI:EX  
**Subject:** ALRR Briefing Materials  
**Attachments:** ALR and ALC Revitalization - s.12.s.13  
s.12,s.13

Good afternoon.

These were sent directly to Sam on Friday so not sure if you received them for the briefing this afternoon at 4:15pm for  
s.12,s.13

Thanks,  
Erin

Page 58 to/à Page 76

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12;s.13



# Agricultural Land Reserve



Share your ideas for revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC).

B.C.'s Minister of Agriculture, Lana Popham, announced the formation of an independent committee to lead a public engagement process and provide recommendations to the provincial government around this important topic. The Advisory Committee will consider best approaches to revitalizing the ALR and the ALC into the future.

The Minister's Advisory Committee is seeking your views to deliver recommendations for a strong and robust agricultural land reserve well into the future.

Please read the discussion paper the committee has prepared before completing the online survey.

The survey focuses on collecting British Columbians opinions and views on these common themes:

- A defensible and defended ALR
- ALR resilience
- Stable governance
- Efficacy of zones 1 and 2
- Interpretation and implementation of the Act and regulation
- Food security and B.C.'s agricultural contribution
- Residential uses in the ALR
- Farm processing and sales in the ALR
- Unauthorized uses
- Non-Farm uses and resource extraction in the ALR

Other ideas to support revitalization are also welcome.

The Advisory Committee will provide a final report to the Minister in fall 2018.

Submit your ideas by April 30, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.

[Read the Discussion Paper](#)



[Complete the Online Survey](#)





## About the Project and Why its Needed

An independent committee made up of members with diverse agricultural backgrounds and experiences is building recommendations for the revitalization of the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) through consultation and engagement with agriculture stakeholders and the public.

The Minister of Agriculture 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 Advisory Committee has been tasked with leading consultation and engagement with stakeholders and the general public, and delivering to the Minister a set of recommendations.

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.

Read the Discussion Paper



Complete the Online  
Survey





## Background

B.C.'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 was a bold initiative in 1973 that acknowledged that B.C. 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. Approximately five percent of B.C.'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.

The ALC is an independent administrative tribunal dedicated to preserving agricultural land and encouraging farming in B.C. 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 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.

For more information on the purpose and the background of this initiative, please read the Advisory Committee's Discussion Paper.

[Read the Discussion Paper](#)



[Complete the Online Survey](#)





## Ministers Message



As the Minister of Agriculture for British Columbia, it's my goal to help create opportunities for B.C.'s farmers, ranchers and food producers. One of these goals includes revitalizing our Agriculture Land Reserve. To do this, I have established an independent advisory committee to lead a public engagement process that will look at how we can begin to revitalize the ALR.

Creating the ALR was an amazing decision that was made in the 1970's to protect our farmlands, but we couldn't have foreseen the pressures that were to come that would shape and influence the land in the ALR today. Now, the committee wants to hear from you. They will be looking at ways to make it easier and more efficient for the Agriculture Land Commission to fulfill their mandate of preserving farmland and encouraging farming.

Please take the time to participate in the survey on this website, or if you prefer, contribute your feedback through the e-mail or mail options. We need to hear from you! Following the consultation, the advisory committee will provide strategic advice, policy guidance and recommendations on how to help revitalize the ALR and ALC.

Together we are going to revitalize the ALR to preserve farmland and encourage farming and make B.C. better for farmers and ranchers.

Lana Popham  
Minister of Agriculture

Read the Discussion Paper



Complete the Online  
Survey





## Advisory Committee 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 re-elected in May 2013. She was the first Independent elected to the B.C. legislature in over 60 years and her re-election as an Independent is a first in modern B.C. 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.

Read the Discussion Paper



Complete the Online  
Survey





## Process and Timelines

Regional stakeholder consultations will take place throughout the province in February and March 2018. Written submissions and online survey responses will be accepted until April 30, 2018 at 4:00 p.m. The Advisory Committee has been tasked with delivering a final recommendations report by fall 2018.

### What Happens to your Input

Ideas and feedback received at stakeholder consultation meetings as well as written submissions (via mail or email) and survey responses will be provided to the Advisory Committee for their consideration in determining recommendations to the Minister.

Public input is vital to the success of this initiative. The committee will use the input it receives during the engagement 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.

Read the Discussion Paper



Complete the Online  
Survey







## Stakeholder Submissions Process

The Minister of Agriculture has asked the Advisory Committee to consider submissions from British Columbians, farmers and ranchers, agricultural organizations, and other stakeholders as part of their review. The Advisory Committee would like to hear from people throughout the province. Along with completing the online survey, interested organizations and individuals can make a written submission to [ALR\\_ALCRevitalization@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ALR_ALCRevitalization@gov.bc.ca) or to

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

Please submit your feedback by April 30, 2018.

[Read the Discussion Paper](#)



[Complete the Online Survey](#)





## Useful Resources

For more information on the purpose and the background of this initiative, please read the Advisory Committee's Discussion Paper (provide link)

### Farm Credit Canada Reports

<https://www.fcc-fac.ca/en/about-fcc/governance/reports/2016-fcc-farmland-values-report.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-local-governments/delegation-to-local-governments>

Read the Discussion Paper



Complete the Online  
Survey





[Read the Discussion Paper](#)



[Complete the Online Survey](#)



## In the News

The following is a list of news releases and articles about this engagement:

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

B.C. Newsroom | January 4, 2018



## Ways to Participate

There are several ways to provide written feedback to the Advisory Committee by:

1. Read the Discussion Paper and complete the online survey
2. Email the Advisory Committee at [ALR\\_ALCRevitalization@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ALR_ALCRevitalization@gov.bc.ca)
3. Send your submission my mail to:

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

Read the Discussion Paper



Complete the Online  
Survey



## Welcome to the ALR and ALC Revitalization 2018 Online Survey

The Minister of Agriculture, 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 (Advisory Committee) to provide recommendations to government through consultation and engagement with stakeholders and the public, including through an online survey.

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.

### Discussion Paper:

To better answer the questions in the survey and provide input, the Advisory Committee requests that you read this Discussion Paper: Discussion Paper

### Survey Length:

Note: It is anticipated that the online survey should take no more than 10-30 minutes to complete, depending on the content you provide.

For more detailed submissions to the Advisory Committee, please send them by email or mail:

Email: [ALR\\_ALCRevitalization@gov.bc.ca](mailto:ALR_ALCRevitalization@gov.bc.ca)

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

#### Privacy Policy

Your comments and feedback are collected by the Ministry of Agriculture on behalf of the Minister's Advisory Committee under sections 26(c) and 26(e) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act ("FOIPPA"), for the purpose of soliciting the public's feedback on Revitalization of the Agricultural Land Reserve and the Agricultural Land Commission. To protect your own privacy and the privacy of others, please do not include any personal information including phone numbers and email addresses in the body of your comments. Please do not share personal information about others. Should you have any questions about the collection of this information please contact: Martha Anslow, Director of Policy, [Martha.Anslow@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Martha.Anslow@gov.bc.ca), 250-387-3232.

#### What stakeholder group(s) do you identify with?

- ☐ Farmer or Rancher
- ☐ Agricultural Processor
- ☐ Agriculture industry group
- ☐ Agricultural interest group
- ☐ Farm land preservation group
- ☐ Agriculture sector specialist (e.g. Agrologist)
- ☐ General public
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ First Nation government
- ☐ Elected official
- ☐ Other

#### What is your age group?

- ☐ 0-29 years old
- ☐ 30-49 years old
- ☐ 50-64 years old
- ☐ 65 years and over
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

#### Do you own land in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR)?

- ☐ Yes, less than 2 hectares in size (approximately 5 acres)
- ☐ Yes, between 2 hectares and 8 hectares in size (approximately 5 and 20 acres)
- ☐ Yes, between 8 hectares and 16 hectares in size (approximately 20 and 40 acres)
- ☐ Yes, between 16 hectares and 40 hectares in size (approximately 40 and 100 acres)
- ☐ Yes, greater than 40 hectares in size (approximately 100 acres)
- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

**Do you lease or rent land in the ALR?**

- ☐ Yes, less than 2 hectares in size (approximately 5 acres)
- ☐ Yes, between 2 hectares and 8 hectares in size (approximately 5 and 20 acres)
- ☐ Yes, between 8 hectares and 16 hectares in size (approximately 20 and 40 acres)
- ☐ Yes, between 16 hectares and 40 hectares in size (approximately 40 and 100 acres)
- ☐ Yes, greater than 40 hectares in size (approximately 100 acres)
- ☐ No
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

**In what region(s) of the province do you live?**



- ☐ Interior
- ☐ Island
- ☐ Kootenay
- ☐ North
- ☐ Okanagan
- ☐ South Coast
- ☐ Non-BC resident
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

**Would you consider your property to be in a rural, urban, or urban fringe area?**

- ☐ Rural
- ☐ Urban



- ☐ Urban fringe
- ☐ Prefer not to answer
- ☐ Other

If you said "Other", please specify:

**To guide consultation and engagement and support recommendations to the Minister, the Advisory Committee has identified three general ALR and ALC 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.

The Advisory Committee has also identified 10 common revitalization themes. For each of the themes below, please provide your views and comments.

1. Theme 1: A defensible and defended ALR
2. Theme 2: ALR resilience
3. Theme 3: Stable governance
4. Theme 4: Efficacy of zone 1 and zone 2
5. Theme 5: Interpretation and implementation of the Act and regulation
6. Theme 6: Food security and B.C.'s agricultural contribution
7. Theme 7: Residential uses in the ALR
8. Theme 8: Farm processing and sales in the ALR
9. Theme 9: Unauthorized uses
10. Theme 10: Non-Farm uses and resource extraction in the ALR

### **Theme 1: A Defensible and Defended ALR**

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.

**Do you have any comments about ensuring a defensible and defended ALR into the future?**

### **Theme 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.

**What do you see as the top three challenges to ALR and ALC resilience into the future?**

### **Theme 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](#).

**Do you have any comments on ensuring stable ALC governance into the future?**

#### **Theme 4: Efficacy of Zones 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 [ALC Act and ALR Regulation 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.

**What are your thoughts on the current two-zone approach?**

#### **Theme 5: Interpretation and 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.

**Do you have comments or suggestions for improving clarity and consistency?**

### Theme 6: Food Security and B.C.'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 B.C. economy and the potential for export and trade opportunities is forgotten in the discussion around competing land uses. More information on B.C.'s Agriculture and Seafood Sector contributions can be found on the Ministry of Agriculture's Agriculture and Seafood Statistics webpage.

**What is your level of agreement with the following statements?**

	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important	Not sure
How important is the province's ability to produce and provide food to the residents of BC?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How important is the province's ability to produce and provide food for export?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Do you have any additional comments about food security and B.C.'s agricultural contribution?**

### Theme 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.

**Should residential uses in the ALR (such as number, size and siting) be regulated?**

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No  
☐ Sometimes  
☐ Not sure

Comments

**Who should regulate residential land uses in the ALR?**

- ☐ Local governments  
☐ Provincial government  
☐ The ALC  
☐ All the above

**Do you have any additional comments about residential uses in the ALR?**

### Theme 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).

**Should ancillary uses on the parcel be tied to agricultural production?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Sometimes
- ☐ Not sure

**Do you have any additional comments about farm processing and sales in the ALR?**

### Theme 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.

**What do you think would decrease the instances of unauthorized use in the ALR? (can choose multiple)**

- ☐ Awareness and education
- ☐ Fines and penalties
- ☐ More enforcement
- ☐ Ticketing
- ☐ Other sanctions
- ☐ None of the above

**Do you have any additional comments on unauthorized uses in the ALR?**

### Theme 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.

**Do you have any comments about non-farm uses and/or resource extraction in the ALR?**

After considering each theme, please select what you think are the top three (3) most important themes to be addressed:

- ☐ Theme 1: Defensible and Defended ALR
- ☐ Theme 2: ALR Resilience
- ☐ Theme 3: Stable Governance
- ☐ Theme 4: Efficacy of Zone 1 and Zone 2
- ☐ Theme 5: Interpretation and Implementation of the Act and Regulation
- ☐ Theme 6: Food Security and B.C.'s Agricultural Contribution
- ☐ Theme 7: Residential Uses in the ALR
- ☐ Theme 8: Farm Processing and Sales in the ALR
- ☐ Theme 9: Unauthorized Uses
- ☐ Theme 10: Non-Farm Uses and Resource Extraction in the ALR
- ☐ Other

If you said "Other", please specify:

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## Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX

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**From:** Beale, William AGRI:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 15, 2018 10:14 PM  
**To:** McRae, Meghan GCPE:EX  
**Cc:** Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX  
**Subject:** Re: Clean Version for approval CBC

Good if Wes is.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 15, 2018, at 9:50 PM, Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX <[Wes.Shoemaker@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Wes.Shoemaker@gov.bc.ca)> wrote:

Okay by me.

*Wes*

**From:** Beale, William AGRI:EX  
**Sent:** March 15, 2018 9:47 PM  
**To:** Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX <[Wes.Shoemaker@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Wes.Shoemaker@gov.bc.ca)>; McRae, Meghan GCPE:EX <[McRae.McRae@gov.bc.ca](mailto:McRae.McRae@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Clean Version for approval CBC

To the top

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "McRae, Meghan GCPE:EX" <[McRae.McRae@gov.bc.ca](mailto:McRae.McRae@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** March 15, 2018 at 3:57:12 PM PDT  
**To:** "Beale, William AGRI:EX" <[William.Beale@gov.bc.ca](mailto:William.Beale@gov.bc.ca)>, "Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX" <[Wes.Shoemaker@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Wes.Shoemaker@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Clean Version for approval CBC

Any concerns with this going out, as background from Ministry.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Townsend, Dave H GCPE:EX" <[Dave.H.Townsend@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Dave.H.Townsend@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Date:** March 15, 2018 at 3:53:43 PM PDT  
**To:** "McRae, Meghan GCPE:EX" <[McRae.McRae@gov.bc.ca](mailto:McRae.McRae@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Cc:** "Boelens, Robert GCPE:EX" <[Robert.Boelens@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Robert.Boelens@gov.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Clean Version for approval CBC

Hi,

For when you have a minute, here is the clean version for MO approval. It has been approved by PSSG.

**Reporter**

Jon Hernandez, Reporter  
CBC - Vancouver  
[jon.hernandez@cbc.ca](mailto:jon.hernandez@cbc.ca)  
604-662-6117 c: 778-938-0620

**Deadline** ASAP**Request**

Regarding the response last week from the Ministry of Agriculture:

"There are still many decisions to be made which are dependent on having better clarity regarding federal legislation and regulation, including those regarding the production of recreational marijuana, both in and outside of the ALR."

I'm just wondering what specific information your ministry needs in regards to deciding whether or not marijuana will be grown in the ALR. What's unclear, and has the ministry been engaging with farmers and the public?

**Background**

This is a follow-up to a media request from March 8, 2018.

**REQUEST:**

I'm putting together a piece for our ongoing marijuana legalization series. I was wondering if there were any updates as to whether recreational marijuana will be allowed to be grown on the ALR.

**RESPONSE:**

Provided Background

There are still many decisions to be made which are dependent on having better clarity regarding federal legislation and regulation, including those regarding the production of recreational marijuana, both in and outside of the ALR.

**Suggested Response**

- From Sept. 25 to Nov. 1, 2017, the public and stakeholders were asked to share their input and expertise on a range of issues related to the regulation of non-medical cannabis in B.C., including minimum age, personal possession, public consumption, drug-impaired driving, personal cultivation, wholesale distribution and retail models.

- The public engagement received input from 48,951 British Columbians, and submissions from 141 local and Indigenous governments and a range of other interested stakeholders.
- More information is available here:  
<http://engage.gov.bc.ca/BCcannabisregulation/>
- The Province has been working with local governments through the Joint Provincial-Local Government Committee on Cannabis Regulation and issues related to the ALR have been raised.
- The committee was established by the B.C. government and the Union of B.C. Municipalities to provide an ongoing forum for communication and consultation with local governments as the Province develops the regulatory framework for legalized non-medical cannabis.
- The B.C. government is committed to food security and has also established the ALR committee review which is part of the minister's mandate to increase food production.
- B.C. farmers, communities, and the public are going to shape the revitalization of the ALR.
- The revitalization will look at ways we can make it easier and more efficient for the Agricultural Land Commission to fulfill their mandate of protecting farmland and encouraging farming.
- British Columbians have until April 30 to submit their feedback on revitalizing the ALR and ALC by mail, email or through the online survey at  
<http://engage.gov.bc.ca/govtogetherbc/consultation/agricultural-land-reserve/>
- Before moving forward, the B.C. government is awaiting clarity on federal licensing around the overall production of non-medical cannabis and the provincial roles defined within that federal system.

**Dave Townsend**

Government Communications and Public Engagement  
Ministry of Agriculture  
Office: 250 356-7098 Cell: 250 889-5945  
Email: [dave.h.townsend@gov.bc.ca](mailto:dave.h.townsend@gov.bc.ca)



Page 023 to/à Page 046

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.14

## Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX

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**From:** Mack, James AGRI:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 17, 2018 5:47 PM  
**To:** Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX  
**Cc:** Hansen, Erin AGRI:EX; Hodson, Georgina AGRI:EX; Hrycuik, Lorie AGRI:EX; Anderson, Arlene AGRI:EX  
**Subject:** s.12,s.13  
**Attachments:**

Wes,

As you probably noticed by now, the DMs' meeting on cannabis was cancelled for tomorrow morning.

Attached is the latest draft of the powerpoint s.13  
s.13

*James Mack*  
*Assistant Deputy Minister – Agriculture Science and Policy*  
*Ministry of Agriculture*  
*Phone: 250-356-1821*  
*Fax: 250-356-7279*  
*e-mail: [James.mack@gov.bc.ca](mailto:James.mack@gov.bc.ca)*

Page 048 to/à Page 063

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12;s.13

## Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX

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**From:** Godfrey, Sam AGRI:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 17, 2018 5:57 PM  
**To:** McRae, Meghan GCPE:EX  
**Cc:** Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX  
**Subject:** RE: MEDIA REQUEST: CBC French -Cannabis on ALR

Hi,

Sorry about the delay. MLP has a conflict with respect to cannabis and Ministerial responsibility has been formally transferred to Minister Donaldson. He will make Minister-level decisions and work with the Min of Agri. Media requests should go to the Deputy, I believe.

### Sam Godfrey

Senior Ministerial Assistant to the Honourable Lana Popham  
Minister of Agriculture, British Columbia  
Mobile: 250 208 1359 | Office: 250 387 1023  
Rm 325, Parliament Buildings, 501 Belleville St., Victoria, B.C. V8V 1X4

*This message, including any attachments to it, is not to be disclosed outside of the Provincial Government without prior written approval from the Ministry of Agriculture. If you have received this communication in error, please destroy the email message and any attachments immediately and notify me by telephone or by email.*

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**From:** McRae, Meghan GCPE:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 17, 2018 2:36 PM  
**To:** Godfrey, Sam AGRI:EX  
**Subject:** MEDIA REQUEST: CBC French -Cannabis on ALR

Here's one request we need signed off by the MO today. These are the standard lines we're using when asked for interviews on this, consistent with what we've sent all other media so far.

I'm also about to call the reporter about the Meat Regs stuff, and have a convo with her on her absolute drop dead date for writing the story. She may ask that we give her some of the info she had requested, so she can get something drafted.

Thanks,  
Meghan

### Reporter

Noémie Moukanda, Reporter  
CBC Radio Canada  
[noemie.moukanda@radio-canada.ca](mailto:noemie.moukanda@radio-canada.ca)  
604-828-5368

**Deadline** ASAP

### Request

Would like to interview someone to explain BC govt response to concerns that farmland is being bought for greenhouse production of marijuana.

**Recommendation**

- There are still many decisions to be made which are dependent on having better clarity regarding federal legislation and regulation, including those regarding the production of recreational marijuana, both in and outside of the ALR.
- The B.C. government is committed to food security and established the ALR review committee which is part of the minister's mandate to increase food production.
- The ALR review committee's role is to provide recommendations to the Minister of Agriculture based on their consultation. Any future changes to regulations or policies would then be considered and potentially implemented by the B.C. government.
- British Columbians have until April 30 to submit their feedback on revitalizing the ALR and ALC by mail, email or through the online survey at <http://engage.gov.bc.ca/govtogetherbc/consultation/agricultural-land-reserve/>

Meghan McRae  
Communications Director,  
Ministry of Agriculture  
Government Communications and Public Engagement  
P:250-952-0622

**Ministry of Agriculture**  
**BRIEFING NOTE FOR MINISTER FOR INFORMATION FOR MEETING PORT OF**  
**VANCOUVER**

Ref: 187248

Date: April 18, 2018

**Title:** Port of Vancouver Burrard Inlet Tour.

**Issue:** CEO Robin Silvester would like to meet with Minister Popham to discuss trade enabling and industrial lands; how the port authority promotes growth of the provincial agriculture sector; and shared sustainability goals.

**Background:** The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority (the Port) is a federal entity that exists to facilitate trade and the national economy. It is Canada's largest port, hosting a sizable portion of all of Canada's trade activity. Industry reports indicate that the international marine industry carries 90 per cent of all trade.

CEO Robin Silvester has written a short article called *Industrial and agricultural land and land use planning* which appears on the Port of Vancouver website. (see Appendix A). The Port owns 236 acres of Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR), which is currently farmed under long-term leases and is located next to port owned industrial land.

Federally, the Agri-Food Economic Strategy Table, which will report on recommendations of how Canada can meet the target of \$75 billion in agricultural exports by 2025, has indicated transportation infrastructure as a key theme guiding their work. Infrastructure plays a key role in meeting the growing demand and changing composition of the outputs and inputs of the agri-food sector.

The Port considers sustainability to include: economic prosperity through trade, a healthy environment, and thriving communities, and the Port attempts to balance commercial, environmental, and public interests. Their jurisdiction borders 16 municipalities and intersects the asserted and established traditional territories and treaty lands of several Coast Salish First Nations.

**Discussion** s.13,s.16

s.13,s.16

**Suggested Response:**

- **The BC government is committed to revitalizing the ALR, and the ALC, as the independent decision-making tribunal responsible for preserving B.C.'s farmland and encouraging farming and ranching in B.C.**
- **I appreciate your commitment to focus on the use of industrial lands for Port expansion where possible and to engage in the ALC process where ALR lands are impacted.**
- **I believe to this end, we have mutual goals in supporting agricultural land to continue to be available for current and future farming in B.C.**
- **I also see the value of the Port in that it supports our producers and processors to access important international economic markets.**
- **BC hopes that the Agri-food Economic Strategy Table, when reviewing transportation infrastructure, will look at the long-term role and to connect with you on this important topic.**
- **I am looking forward to providing this same tour to my colleagues during the Annual Conference of FPT Ministers and Deputy Ministers of Agriculture in July.**

Contact: Anna North, Project Manager, Corporate Governance, Policy and Legislation 250-356-5814

ED \_\_\_\_\_ ADM \_\_\_\_\_ DM \_\_\_\_\_

## *Appendix A - Industrial and agricultural land and land use planning*

Vancouver Fraser Port Authority is a federal entity that exists to facilitate trade and the national economy. It is Canada's largest port, hosting a sizable portion of all of Canada's trade activity, especially from Asia. All projections indicate Canada's trade with Asia will continue to grow, and the port will need to grow with it. At the same time, the region is expecting a million new residents over the next 25 years who will need places to live and work.

Given the Lower Mainland is constricted by mountains and ocean, how should the region best plan to develop land for residential, recreational, commercial and industrial use?

At Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, we work hard to make the best use of the federal land we manage. We work with terminal operators to ensure land is being used as efficiently as possible. We are also required to have a land use plan, similar to a municipality's community plan. Our current plan was released in 2014 after three years of consultation with communities, Aboriginal groups and other stakeholders. The plan sets out present and proposed uses of land as well as areas that will need further study and consultation before their uses can be determined.

Beyond federal port lands, municipal governments are responsible for managing and zoning their lands. Alarming, much of that land intended for industrial activities is being converted to other uses, such as residential and commercial.

It's common to think of industrial land in terms of heavy machinery and factory chimneys. However, in the Lower Mainland industrial land is needed for the smooth and efficient movement of goods. Canadians are buying, and trading, more than ever. When you purchase something from your local store, consider how it got there. It quite likely came from overseas, and it needed not only a ship to get here, but also a port terminal, a distribution centre, a truck or two, perhaps a train, and a warehouse at the very least. The closer those things can be together to each other, the more efficient goods movement can be. Forcing distribution centres and warehouses to locate outside the Lower Mainland means more traffic on our roads, increased emissions, higher prices for consumers, and challenges for companies seeking to import and export their goods.

Here are some facts to consider. There are approximately 28,000 acres of industrial land in Metro Vancouver, of which:

- about 6,600 acres remain vacant
- only about 3,100 acres of unconstrained industrial land remain available for near-term development
- of that, only about 1,000 acres are suitable for trade-related businesses from a size and location perspective
- Vancouver Fraser Port Authority holds only about 200 acres of industrial land suitable for near-term development

Demand for industrial land is projected to absorb between 1,500 and 3,000 acres of land within the next five to 10 years. At that rate, the inventory of remaining land suitable for port and related goods-movement businesses will potentially be exhausted within the next decade.



According to analysis completed by Site Economics Ltd. for Vancouver Fraser Port Authority<sup>1</sup>, every 100 acres of industrial land that is developed results in \$1.9 billion of direct and secondary economic benefits. Metro Vancouver reports about 23 per cent (275,000) of the region's jobs are accommodated on industrial lands. Without a secure industrial land base, we simply cannot compete for new investment and new jobs – jobs for us now and jobs for the next generation.

Protection of industrial land must be a top priority, and protection of land that enables trade must be seen as absolutely critical to our long-term quality of life. What's more, preserving our current stock of industrial land eases pressure to convert much-valued agricultural land.

The port authority currently owns 236 acres of farmland – or about 0.07 per cent of all Lower Mainland farmland. The land owned by the port authority is currently farmed under long-term leases and is located next to industrial land also owned by the port authority.

We would rather not purchase farmland, but if we cannot find trade-enabling industrial land, Canada's ability to trade is threatened, which will impact us all.

Protecting agricultural land is important, and the Agricultural Land Commission has done an exceptional job of just that. Unfortunately, we don't have the same protection for trade-enabling industrial land, which means the port authority and other goods movement businesses may have no choice but to consider agricultural land for expansion.

Our intent is to work with all potentially affected stakeholders, including the Agricultural Land Commission, to ensure we appropriately mitigate for any agricultural lands we convert to transportation and trade use.

We could look at land swaps, development of new agricultural land elsewhere or outside the Lower Mainland, and better use of existing agricultural land, among other ideas. We are open to input from stakeholders including the Agricultural Land Commission for the mutual benefit of the region and the country.

Vancouver Fraser Port Authority is advocating for a halt to the rezoning of industrial land, and a more thoughtful, multi-party discussion about management of land planning that will protect the region's agricultural land and ensure Canada's trade interests are similarly protected. Together, working with municipalities and others, we must protect what's left before it is too late.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.portvancouver.com/news-and-media/news/new-study-reveals-looming-shortage-of-trade-enabling-industrial-land-in-lower-mainland/?doing\\_wp\\_cron=1524094324.5718169212341308593750](https://www.portvancouver.com/news-and-media/news/new-study-reveals-looming-shortage-of-trade-enabling-industrial-land-in-lower-mainland/?doing_wp_cron=1524094324.5718169212341308593750)

## Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX

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**From:** Mack, James AGRI:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, April 20, 2018 6:48 PM  
**To:** Godfrey, Sam AGRI:EX; Smith, Jessica C AGRI:EX; Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX  
**Cc:** Hodson, Georgina AGRI:EX; Lalani, Arif AGRI:EX  
**Subject:** Briefing note for Monday on greenhouses  
**Attachments:** 188018 Designation of Greenhouses on ALR March 27 (2).docx

Attached is a note to be discussed at roundtable on Monday re: greenhouses. This is a draft and note yet approved by the DM so just for info.

*James Mack*  
*Assistant Deputy Minister – Agriculture Science and Policy*  
*Ministry of Agriculture*  
*Phone: 250-356-1821*  
*Fax: 250-356-7279*  
*e-mail: [James.mack@gov.bc.ca](mailto:James.mack@gov.bc.ca)*

**Ministry of Agriculture**  
**BRIEFING NOTE FOR MINISTER FOR INFORMATION**

Ref: 188018

Date: April 9, 2018

**Title:** Greenhouses on the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR).

**Issue:** Currently local governments cannot prohibit the construction of greenhouses on the ALR and some are requesting this authority.

**Background:** In the early 2000's, concerns related to greenhouses including air emissions, land reclamation after a greenhouse goes out of business, light pollution and negative impacts on migratory birds were raised by Delta which then moved to prohibit greenhouses within their jurisdiction. Given that the greenhouse industry is important to the agricultural sector, and is considered a farm use, government made the decision in 2000, to make Delta a regulated community under the *Local Government Act*, and in 2002, designated a greenhouse as a farm use that local governments cannot prohibit in the Agricultural Land Reserve Use, Subdivision and Procedure Regulation (Regulation). This regulatory amendment removed the authority from a local government to make bylaws to prohibit greenhouses from being constructed on ALR land; however, left the authority to regulate greenhouses (e.g., siting and size).

The British Columbia (BC) commercial greenhouse industry is the second largest in Canada, producing vegetables, landscape nursery, forest seedlings and floriculture products in year-round crop production. BC greenhouse vegetables and floriculture are a significant component of the agricultural sector and were responsible for \$600 M of provincial agricultural farm cash receipts in 2016. The sector consists of 160 greenhouse vegetable operations and 313 floriculture operations, employing 2,800 full time and an additional 3,345 seasonal workers. Greenhouses typically yield eight times more product than conventional open field cultivation. The BC greenhouse vegetable sector accounts for 21% of total crop revenues in BC but uses only 0.05% of the land used for crop production.

**Discussion** s.13

s.13

s.13

**Summary:**

s.13

## Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX

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**From:** ALR and ALC Revitalization AGRI:EX  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 24, 2018 4:55 PM  
**To:** Minister, AGRI AGRI:EX  
**Cc:** Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX; Hrycuik, Lorie AGRI:EX  
**Subject:** Interim Report to the Minister of Agriculture Including Recommendations for Immediate Legislative Change  
**Attachments:** Letter to Minister Popham - Minister's Advisory Committee on Revitalizing the ALR and ALC - April 24, 2018.pdf; Minister Advisory Committee Interim Report to Minister of Agriculture - ALR and ALC Revitalization - April 24 2018.pdf

Minister Popham,

On behalf of Jennifer Dyson, Chair of the Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Committee for Revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve and the Agricultural Land Commission and the members, please find attached to this email a letter from the Committee as well as the Committee's *Interim Report to the Minister of Agriculture Including Recommendations for Immediate Legislative Change* (April, 2018).

Thank you,  
Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Committee Secretariat

April 24, 2018

Honourable Lana Popham  
BC Minister of Agriculture

Dear Minister Popham,

On behalf of the Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Committee (Committee) for Revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve and the Agricultural Land Commission, I am pleased to submit the Committee's ***Interim Report to the Minister of Agriculture Including Recommendations for Immediate Legislative Change.***

s.12,s.13

Page 075 to/à Page 077

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12;s.13

## Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX

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**From:** Hodson, Georgina AGRI:EX  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 26, 2018 3:15 PM  
**To:** Renneberg, Tim FLNR:EX  
**Cc:** Eckardt, Dana R FLNR:EX; Shoemaker, Wes AGRI:EX; Mack, James AGRI:EX; Silverio, Lisa FLNR:EX; Barwin, Gabrielle FLNR:EX; Scott, Melissa AGRI:EX; Hansen, Erin AGRI:EX; Sieben, Mark PSSG:EX; Moffat, Diana PSSG:EX  
**Subject:** CONFIDENTIAL: Materials for Briefing, Friday, April 26th 3:45PM  
**Attachments:** s.12,s.13

Good afternoon Tim,

In advance of the briefing scheduled with Minister Donaldson tomorrow afternoon, in addition to the briefing note I sent to you earlier this week on the specific topic requested **s. 13** I have attached two additional related documents which we would like to bring Minister Donaldson's attention to. Deputy Minister Wes Shoemaker and ADM James Mack will speak to these materials at the briefing tomorrow.

I have also reattached the briefing note I sent earlier this week, on the subject of **S.13** – for your convenience.

To all on the distribution list, all of the documents attached are confidential and embargoed and not for further distribution.

Thank you, and please contact me should you have any questions.  
Georgina



Georgina Hodson  
*Manager of Executive Operations*  
**Deputy Ministers' Office**  
**Ministry of Agriculture**  
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s.12;s.13

**Ministry of Agriculture**  
**BRIEFING NOTE FOR MINISTER FOR INFORMATION**

Ref: 188018

Date: April 9, 2018

**Title:** Greenhouses on the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR).

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**Background:** In the early 2000's, concerns related to greenhouses including air emissions, land reclamation after a greenhouse goes out of business, light pollution and negative impacts on migratory birds were raised by Delta which then moved to prohibit greenhouses within their jurisdiction. Given that the greenhouse industry is important to the agricultural sector, and is considered a farm use, government made the decision in 2000, to make Delta a regulated community under the *Local Government Act*, and in 2002, designated a greenhouse as a farm use that local governments cannot prohibit in the Agricultural Land Reserve Use, Subdivision and Procedure Regulation (Regulation). This regulatory amendment removed the authority from a local government to make bylaws to prohibit greenhouses from being constructed on ALR land; however, left the authority to regulate greenhouses (e.g., siting and size).

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**Discussion** s.13  
s.13

s.13

**Summary:**

s.13

Page 123 to/à Page 180

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12;s.13

April 24, 2018

Honourable Lana Popham  
BC Minister of Agriculture

Dear Minister Popham,

On behalf of the Minister of Agriculture's Advisory Committee (Committee) for Revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve and the Agricultural Land Commission, I am pleased to submit the Committee's ***Interim Report to the Minister of Agriculture Including Recommendations for Immediate Legislative Change.***

s.12,s.13

Page 182 to/à Page 184

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s.12;s.13