

To: CAO for the Electoral Area Services Committee

Date: 2019-05-08

From: Graham Daneluz, Deputy Director of Planning & Dev't

File No: 3015-20

**Subject: Policy – Non-Farm Use Applications for Cannabis Production Facilities in the ALR**

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### RECOMMENDATION

**THAT** the Fraser Valley Regional District Board adopt the policy titled *Non-Farm Use Application for Cannabis Production Facilities in the ALR*.

#### STRATEGIC AREA(S) OF FOCUS

Support Environmental Stewardship  
Foster a Strong & Diverse Economy  
Support Healthy & Sustainable Community  
Provide Responsive & Effective Public Services

#### PRIORITIES

Priority #1 Waste Management  
Priority #2 Air & Water Quality

### BACKGROUND

With recent changes to the Agricultural Land Reserve Regulation, cannabis production is a farm use permitted outright within the ALR only if it is grown in the soil, in a structure with a soil base, or in a structure built for the growing of crops before July 13, 2018. This means that many new cannabis production facilities (CPFs) in the ALR will require Non-farm Use approvals.

Non-farm Use applications are submitted by the applicant to the ALC Application Portal and the application is sent directly to FVRD. The FVRD Board may either:

1. forward the application - with 'support' or any other comments it deems appropriate - to the ALC so that the Commission may make a decision on it; or,
2. do not forward the application to the ALC in which case the application will not proceed.

To date, FVRD has received four Non-Farm Use applications for CPFs and more are anticipated.

### DISCUSSION

A draft policy to assist the Board in evaluating Non-Farm Use application is attached for consideration by Electoral Area Directors. The policy takes into account direction provided at the December 2018 and April 2019 EASC meetings. A staff presentation from December 2018 is attached for reference.

**COMMENTS BY:**

**Margaret Thornton, Director of Planning & Development**

Reviewed and supported

**Mike Veenbaas, Director of Financial Services**

Not available for comment

**Jennifer Kinneman, Acting Chief Administrative Officer**

Reviewed and supported