

DATE: March 22, 2024

SUBJECT: A PRESENTATION ON LAND USE PLANNING FOR AGRICULTURE - INVITATION

Dear Local Government Council or Board,

With increasing pressures on provincial farming areas and the importance of agricultural land use planning in the province, B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Food (Ministry) staff are pleased to offer interested Councils and Boards an opportunity for a Ministry staff delegation presentation on agricultural land use planning and the legislative tools available for consideration by local government elected officials.

The-presentation:

- Will consist of a slide-deck that provides an update on the current economic and socioeconomic state of the agricultural sector in B.C. and discusses available land use planning tools local governments can use to help ensure farmers can continue to farm successfully in the province;
- Are approximately 15 minutes in length. Ministry staff are available for questions following the presentation; and
- Are intended for local government Council, Board or Committee regularly scheduled meetings.

TIMELINE: Given available Ministry staff resources, presentations are anticipated be held either virtually, or in-person, between <u>April 2024 to June 2024</u> at the convenience of each local government. Other dates are potentially available.

NEXT STEPS: Please reach out to myself Jeff Weightman, Acting Director, Land Use and Geospatial Unit, Corporate Policy and Priorities Branch at <u>Jeffrey.Weightman@gov.bc.ca</u> to discuss further details and confirm presentation dates and times.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Jeff Weightman Acting Director, Land Use and Geospatial Unit B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Food

NOTE: Please place this letter for consideration on your next Council or Regional District Board