

March 17, 2026

# Fraser Basin Council

Presentation to FVRD Intergovernmental Relations Committee

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## Our Mandate

Formed in 1997, the Fraser Basin Council is a charitable, non-profit organization committed to advancing sustainability solutions and practices across British Columbia

## Our Vision

Social well-being supported by a vibrant economy and sustained by a healthy environment.



# Our Key Roles



Fraser Basin Council



**1. Facilitator and Strategic Convener**



**2. Educator and connector on Sustainability**



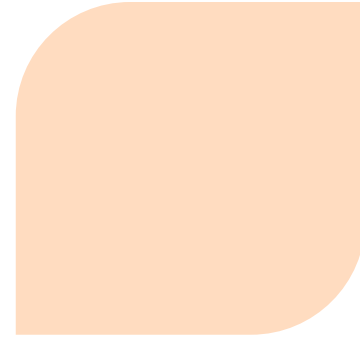
**3. Program Manager**

# Our Strategic Priorities



Fraser Basin Council





**Discussion**

# Illegal Soil Dumping Issue

Goal: To find collaborative solutions to addressing the issue of illegal dumping of contaminated soils on agricultural lands in the FVRD.

## Proposed Working Group

# FBC's Role



- Experience as convener and collaborative process facilitator for practical solutions to complex issues
- Advise and support the establishment of a regional working work
  - Coordinating outreach, engagement, communications
  - Organizing and facilitating workshops and meetings
  - Helping document discussions and identifying shared priorities / recommendations
  - Supporting the group to move from dialogue to practical action and solutions

**Are there other roles FBC could play that would be helpful in supporting the FVRD on this issue?**

# Proposed Objectives

- Convene a collaborative forum for local governments, communities, industry representatives, and other stakeholders to discuss the issue of illegal soil deposition and identify potential solutions.
- Improve shared understanding of the issue by providing information on the current legislative framework, enforcement authorities, and the roles of different agencies, while identifying key knowledge gaps.
- Support the development of a coordinated regional voice that can bring forward recommendations to relevant provincial ministries and agencies and advocate for policy improvements and additional enforcement resources.
- Identify and explore collaborative solutions, which may include education and awareness initiatives, improved coordination among agencies, and potential advocacy efforts to address the issue.

# Proposed Outcomes

### Short term (3 – 6 months):

- Key stakeholders and affected communities have a clearer understanding of the scope and impacts of illegal soil dumping in the region.
- Relevant jurisdictions, agencies, and industrial representatives are connected through a collaborative forum to discuss the issue and share information.
- Priority concerns and potential opportunities for action are identified through dialogue and partners.

### Medium term (6 months – 1 year):

- The working group identifies practical actions that could be taken to address the issue locally and regionally.
- Lessons learned and approaches from other jurisdictions dealing with similar issues – such as Metro Vancouver and the Capital Regional District – are explored and considered.
- A coordinated set of recommendations or options is developed for consideration by local governments and relevant provincial ministries.

# Proposed Outcomes

### Long term (1+ years):

- Improved coordination among local governments, provincial agencies, and industry to prevent and respond to illegal soil dumping.
- Increased awareness and compliance among landowners and industry regarding soil management and agricultural land protections.
- Progress towards stronger enforcement tools, improved policy frameworks, or other collaborative solutions that help reduce illegal soil dumping in the region.
- Find collaborative solutions through education, enforcement, and advocacy that will bring an end to the rampant problem of illegal dumping.

**Are these objectives and outcomes timely and achievable? If not, do you have any suggested changes or additions?**

# Potential Output Examples

- Meeting summaries and documentation that capture key discussions, perspectives, and areas of agreement among partners.
- A “What We Heard” report summarizing input from participating jurisdictions, agencies, industry representatives, and community stakeholders.
- A recommendations or options report outlining potential actions that could be taken by local governments, provincial agencies, or other partners.
- An action plan for the working group, identifying priority next steps, roles, and opportunities for collaboration.
- Information and education materials to help improve awareness among landowners, industry, and the public regarding soil management rules and responsibilities.

**What other outputs would be most beneficial for FVRD and for moving forward on this issue?**

# Potential Collaborators

### Local government:

- Fraser Valley Regional District
- Other municipalities / electoral areas
- Metro Vancouver

### Provincial agencies:

- Agricultural Land Commission
- Ministry of Agriculture
- Ministry of Environment and Parks
- Ministry of Transportation and Transit  
(Commercial Vehicle Safety Enforcement)

### First Nations:

- E.g. Cheam First Nation, Leq'á:mel First Nation

### Community organizations:

- Cultus Lake Stewardship Society
- Cultus-Columbia Valley Action Committee
- Hatzic Valley Action Committee

### Industry representatives:

- Urban Development Institute
- BC Trucking Association
- BC Agricultural Council

### Enforcement partners:

- DFO
- RCMP

**Are there certain groups that should be prioritized? Are there others who need to be included?**

## Next Steps



### **Regional Working Group on Illegal Soil Dumping on Agricultural Lands**

Should FVRD and  
FBC further explore  
establishing a regional  
working group?



In Closing

**Thank you!**

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