



DISTRICT OF METCHOSIN

AGENDA

AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY SELECT COMMITTEE MEETING

April 6, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Council Chambers

Metchosin Municipal Hall

1. **Agenda, Additions, Approval**
2. **Election of Chair**
3. **Public Participation**
4. **Adoption of Minutes**
 - a) Agricultural Advisory Select Committee, March 2, 2023 1
5. **Receipt of Minutes**
 - a) Finance Committee, March 6, 2023 5
6. **Business Arising from the Minutes**
 - a) Agricultural Advisory Committee Terms of Reference..... 7
 - b) Metchosin Agricultural Plan, Next Steps
 - c) Metchosin Producers Guide, Update
 - d) AASC joint meeting with Council
 - e) Annual Municipal Report, AASC 2022 Report
7. **New Business**
8. **Correspondence**
9. **Adjournment and Next Meeting Date**

District of Metchosin

Minutes

Agricultural Advisory Select Committee Meeting

Thursday, March 2, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.

Council Chamber

Metchosin Municipal Hall

Present: Robin Tunnicliffe, John Buchanan, Brent Donaldson, Alex Fletcher, Karen Hoffman, Councillor Donaldson

Guests: Lorraine Buchanan, Morgan Bley, Peter Chettleburgh, Sharie Rourke, Eric White, Tamara Ballard

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

1. Agenda, Additions and Approval

Additions to New Business

7 h) New Members

7 i) Stormwater

Moved and seconded by Karen Hoffman, Brent Donaldson

2. Presentations

None

3. Public Participation

Sasha Kubicek – shared concerns of development of farmable land i.e. Arden Road and Rocky Pt Rd. ALR Land Use guidelines regarding setbacks of buildings including sizes, driveway placement, removal and depositing of materials outside of these guidelines. Farmland designated ALR is held in reserve for farming practice, benefit to that is the taxation cost.

Sharie Rourke – addressed limitations of secondary dwellings on ALR properties; added that funding for Ag Plan can be sought from Industrial Site revenue (Land Swap site).

4. Adoption of Minutes

a) Agricultural Advisory Select Committee, August 31 2022

Moved and seconded by Alex Fletcher and Brent Donaldson

5. Receipt of Minutes

- a) Finance Committee, February 6, 2023
Moved and seconded by Karen Hoffman and John Buchanan

6. New Business Arising from the Minutes

- a) Tiny Homes – S. 259 of ALC states secondary dwellings are permitted for farmhands.
working 20h/week. Discussion of which types of dwellings were permitted including Tiny Homes, RV's, modular homes. Clarification needed on acceptable dwellings and approval process.
- b) Metchosin Agricultural Plan, Next Steps – Alex spoke favourably to Council at the February 28th Special Finance Meeting (budget) stating the value of investing in an Agricultural Plan = Business Plan – important to access further funding from province supporting successful agricultural projects. Establish a baseline about demographics, our characteristics, types of farming, trends, income, trends to measure progress as we implement projects. A plan gives council clear priorities to strengthen agriculture in Metchosin and collaborate with the region and advocate at the CRD level. identify key challenges and barriers that exist for new farmers. Protect food security locally and for the region especially with the threat of supply chain issues as witnessed through the pandemic, floods and fires. Climate change mitigation & adaptation can be dovetailed into a plan to be more relevant and better able to access funds and build something meaningful with our food production resources.

7. New Business

- a) Central Saanich Food Hub Feasibility Study Final Report – Are they valuable? Would the public use them sufficiently to be viable? Discussion about pros and cons; compete with grocery store franchises.
- b) Metchosin Grown Event, 2023 – Farm Tour; after informal discussion with several farmers, it was decided that a formal farm tour event isn't feasible because of parking, insurance and volume. We decided instead to resurrect the Metchosin Producers Guide for the MUSE. We endeavour to have this printed with a map for the May edition.
- c) Letter to CRD re: Increased Goose Pressure in Metchosin – food safety issues, laborious efforts removing excrement multiple times per day; more information coming from the PACC next week.
- d) Building Permits, Decision making in the ALR – PAC reviews permits affecting farmland. Advocacy of ALR farmland – our responsibility to protect land for farming, it is exempt for this purpose.
- e) Discussion on rabbits – district staff are addressing the issue.
- f) AASC joint meeting with Council – Robin will be in touch with district Deputy –

Corporate Officer to arrange a meeting.

Motion: *THAT* AASC be consulted by district with new construction on properties with potential to farm so the committee can provide input on land use setbacks and parameters favorable to preserving potential farming activities.

- g) Annual Municipal Report, AASC 2022 Report – Robin will compose a short report for staff describing AASC goals and actions.
- h) New Members – AASC seeking new members to fill vacant committee positions. Applicants need to send an application letter to the district expressing experience and purpose of participating on the AASC.
- i) Stormwater – Brent gave a report on the recent CRD workshop – water courses and ponds, drainage, land management and farm assessment – retention, forward grazing, grass growth, mapping/wells, soil, manure management and regulations, specific time of year to fertilize, protecting land.

8. Correspondence

None

9. Adjournment and Next Meeting Date

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm

Next meeting: April 6, 2023

District of Metchosin

Minutes

**Finance Committee Meeting
March 6, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.**

Metchosin Municipal Hall
Council Chambers

PLEASE NOTE: The meeting has been recorded.

Present: Councillor Donaldson in the Chair, Mayor Little, Councillors Epp, Gray and Shukin. Also present was Sue-Lin Tarnowski, Interim CAO/Corporate Officer, and Tina Hansen, Deputy Corporate Officer.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Councillor Donaldson took the opportunity to acknowledge that the Finance Committee was taking place on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish peoples including our neighbours the Sc'ianew and T'Sou-ke First Nations. A beautiful place where we live, work, and grow.

1. Agenda, Additions and Approval

Moved and Seconded by Mayor Little and Councillor Shukin that the Committee approve the agenda as amended by removing the minutes and recommendations of the January 18, 2023 Firehall Steering Committee meeting. These items will be placed on an upcoming Public Works and Protective Services Committee agenda.

Carried

2. Public Participation

Jennifer Burgis, resident commented as to the recent announcement from the province on the \$44 million dollars in funding for West Shore communities including the \$2,438,000 in funding for Metchosin to enable the community to fund key projects.

Bonnie Bouveur took the opportunity to thank the Finance Committee for their hard work with the budget deliberations. Ms. Bouveur spoke to various items in the budget noting that it was important for the Committee to be fiscally responsible during these difficult times.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved and Seconded by Councillor Shukin and Mayor Little that the Committee adopt the minutes of the Special Finance Committee Meeting held on February 6, 2023.

Carried

Moved and Seconded by Councillors Shukin and Gray that the Committee adopt the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on February 6, 2023.

Carried

4. **Reports**

a) **Councillor's Update**

Councillor Donaldson reported on the following in her Councillor's Update:

- Update on Budget presentations
- Attendance at the Local Government Leadership Academy Forum in February
- West Shore Parks and Recreation
- Greater Victoria Public Library Board
- Minister of Agriculture Advisory Group on Regenerative Agriculture and Agritech
- Attendance at the Coldest Night of the Year 2023

5. **Correspondence**

a) **Robin Tunnicliffe, Chair, Agricultural Advisory Select Committee**

Councillor Donaldson reported that the Agricultural Advisory Select Committee met last week, and the Chair will be contacting staff to coordinate a joint meeting between Council and the Agricultural Advisory Select Committee.

Moved and Seconded by Mayor Little and Councillor Shukin that the Committee receive the correspondence from Robin Tunnicliffe, Chair, Agricultural Advisory Select Committee for information.

Carried

6. **Adjournment**

Moved and Seconded by Councillor Gray and Mayor Little that the Committee adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Carried

Certified Correct

Chair

Corporate Officer

DISTRICT OF METCHOSIN

SUBJECT:	COUNCIL Terms of Reference Agricultural Advisory Committee	SECTION:	C-100
		POLICY:	C-100.75
		COUNCIL:	March 3, 2008
		AMENDS:	

PURPOSE OF THE COMMITTEE:

To assist Metchosin Council in developing a plan to sustain and promote the agricultural community and improve agricultural viability within Metchosin.

MEMBERSHIP

- a) The Committee will comprise of five to eight members from the community, the majority of whom are bonafide producing farmers, if possible representing a balance of varied farming activities practiced in Metchosin, including processing. A municipal Councillor will also be appointed to the Committee.
- b) The first AAC will be appointed by Council, thereafter the vacancies will be advertised in the manner utilized by the District and Council, and will receive advice from the Committee prior to making appointments.
- c) For the year 2008, three members shall be appointed for a one year term, and two members for a two year term, and thereafter all members shall be appointed for a two year term.
- d) The Chairperson shall be appointed by Council, and shall preside at all meetings where possible, and in his/her absence an acting chairperson shall be appointed for that meeting.

MEETINGS

- a) The Committee shall meet a minimum of three times a year. The meetings shall be open meetings held at the Municipal Hall.
- b) At all meetings, three voting members shall constitute a quorum. Recommendations of the quorum shall be considered those of the full committee.
- c) Minutes shall be taken of each meeting and kept in the Municipal offices.

FUNCTION AND ROLES

- a) Advise and assist Metchosin Council in developing a plan to sustain the agricultural community and improve agricultural viability within Metchosin, with assistance from the Agricultural Land Commission and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food.
- b) Receive, consider and provide information on requested matters to Council and/or staff regarding agricultural matters in a timely manner.
- c) Inform Council of important information relative to agricultural matters, with suggestions for appropriate action.
- d) Promote awareness and education on agricultural issues in the community.
- e) Coordinate, when required, with other Select Committees.
- f) Work, in conjunction with staff, regarding submissions to other levels of government.
- g) Be informed of, and participate as required and appropriate in, other agriculture and compatible organizations in (southern) Vancouver Island.