Township of Langley

Est. 1873

AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 26, 2025 at 7:00pm
Salmon River Committee Room
4th Floor, 20338-65 Avenue, Langley, BC

M I N U T E S

Present:
J. Caldarella, Community Co-Chair
Councillor M. Pratt, Council Co-Chair

C. Alison, J. Green, A. Hamer, R. Ross, O. Smid, A. Smith, B. Venechuk and J. Walker.

Guest:
J. Liu, Ministry of Agriculture and Food
A. Coca

Staff:
M. Gunn, Planner, Community and Policy Planning
C. Quin, Recording Secretary

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL TERRITORIES OF THE COAST SALISH PEOPLES

J. Caldarella acknowledged the Traditional Territories of the Coast Salish Peoples.

A. APPROVAL AND RECEIPT OF AGENDA ITEMS

1. Agricultural Advisory Committee – November 26, 2025

Moved by C. Allison,
Seconded by A. Hamer,
That the Agricultural Advisory Committee approve the agenda and receive the agenda items of the November 26, 2025 meeting, as amended.
CARRIED

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Agricultural Advisory Committee – October 22, 2025

Moved by O. Smid,
Seconded by R. Ross,
That the Agricultural Advisory Committee adopt the minutes of the October 22, 2025 meeting.
CARRIED

C. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

D. REPORTS

1. Co-Chair Reports

J. Caldarella reported on the Connecting the Drops Workshop hosted by Langley Sustainable Agricultural Foundation on November 1, 2025. Topics included water sources, rainwater harvesting, policy, earthworks and plant selections.

J. Caldarella reported on Surrey's Mayor's Forum on the Future of Agriculture in Surrey on November 22, 2025. Surrey and Simon Fraser University (SFU) partnered to create the SFU Frontier Hub, a new centre for agritech and technology development. The initiative will help farmers explore and adopt new technologies and develop more efficient, sustainable, and resilient farming practices.

E. CORRESPONDENCE

F. WORK PROGRAM

1. Review Terms of Reference

M. Gunn provided an overview of the AAC Terms of Reference, including the Committee's purpose and mandate. Discussion ensued and no changes were recommended by the Committee.

2. 2025 Annual Report

M. Gunn reviewed the 2025 Annual Report.

MOTION
Moved by B. Venechuk,
Seconded by R. Ross,
That the Agricultural Advisory Committee receive and endorse the Agricultural Advisory Committee 2025 Annual Report and ask staff to forward it to Council for information.
CARRIED

3. 2026 Work Program

Committee members brainstormed ideas for the 2026 Work Program.

F. WORK PROGRAM

4. Sign Bylaw Update

The Committee reviewed possible sign bylaw updates from Permits, Licenses and Inspection (PLI).

Discussion ensued on Section 4.1 and Section 4.2. Committee feedback to be sent to the PLI department for further discussions.

G. COUNCIL REFERRALS

H. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1. Farmers' Institute Update

A. Smith reported that she had a meeting with TOL staff regarding the Township's Rural Plan.

A. Smith will be meeting with TOL Fire Department regarding fines that were issued to a farmer for using a flame throwing device to combat weed control.

A. Smith raised concerns with the practice of sending non-farm use applications to the Agricultural Land Commission for a decision rather than denying such applications at the local government level.

2. Ministry of Agriculture and Food Update

J. Liu, Regional Agrologist, Sea to Sky & Central Fraser Valley spoke to funding and other updates related to:

- Agriculture Water Infrastructure Program Stream 1: Producer Projects
- Enhanced Replant Program Stream 4: Berry Removal/Renewal
- Enhanced Replant Program Stream 2: Wine Grape Replant
- BC Agri-Business Planning Program
- Fraser River Freshwater Ecosystem Initiative
- The Ministry of Water Land and Resource Stewardship inviting public to share input to improve permitting processes such as groundwater licenses

Ministry News

- Shift to focus on competitiveness, growth, and resilience
- New Programs and Services Branch

I. NEXT MEETING

Date: Wednesday, December 17, 2025
Location: Salmon River Committee Room
4th Floor, 20338-65 Avenue, Langley, BC
Time: 7:00pm

J. TERMINATE

Moved by O. Smid,
Seconded by B. Venechuk,
That the meeting terminate at 8:55pm.
CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Community Representative Co-Chair

Council Representative Co-Chair