

# City of Kelowna

## Regular Council Meeting

### AGENDA



Monday, November 14, 2016

9:00 am

Knox Mountain Meeting Room (#4A)

City Hall, 1435 Water Street

Pages

1. Call to Order
2. Confirmation of Minutes 3 - 5  
Regular AM Meeting - November 7, 2016
3. Reports
  - 3.1 Regional Grant-in-Aid Funding Transition 30 m 6 - 18  
To update Council regarding the transition of grant-in-aid funding from the Regional District of Central Okanagan to the City of Kelowna.
  - 3.2 Agriculture Plan Update: Engagement and Draft Actions 45 m 19 - 77  
To inform Council on the engagement completed to date and to obtain Council's support on the draft recommended actions for each theme area of the Agriculture Plan Update.
4. Resolution Closing the Meeting to the Public  
THAT this meeting be closed to the public pursuant to Section 90(1) (e) and Section 90(2) (b) of the Community Charter for Council to deal with matters relating to the following:
  - Acquisition, Disposition or Expropriation of Land or Improvements
  - Negotiations with another level of Government (Province)
5. Adjourn to Closed Session
6. Reconvene to Open Session
7. Issues Arising from Correspondence & Community Concerns
  - 7.1 Mayor Basran, re: Issues Arising from Correspondence 30 m

## 8. Termination



## City of Kelowna Regular Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, November 7, 2016  
 Location: Knox Mountain Meeting Room (#4A)  
 City Hall, 1435 Water Street

Council Members Present: Mayor Colin Basran, Councillors Maxine DeHart, Ryan Donn, Gail Given\*, Tracy Gray, Charlie Hodge, Brad Sieben, Mohini Singh and Luke Stack

Staff Present: City Manager, Ron Mattiussi; Deputy City Clerk, Karen Needham; Divisional Director, Active Living & Culture, Jim Gabriel\*; Sport & Event Services Manager, Doug Nicholas; Event Development Supervisor, Chris Babcock\*; Divisional Director, Community Planning & Real Estate, Doug Gilchrist\*; Legislative Coordinator (Confidential), Arlene McClelland\*

(\* Denotes partial attendance)

### 1. Call to Order

Mayor Basran called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

### 2. Confirmation of Minutes

Moved By Councillor Hodge/Seconded By Councillor Donn

R832/16/11/07 THAT the Minutes of the Regular AM Meeting of October 31, 2016 be confirmed as circulated

Carried

Councillor Given joined the meeting at 9:03 a.m.

### 3. Reports

#### 3.1 2016 Kelowna Outdoor Events Report

Staff:

- Displayed a PowerPoint presentation summarizing the 2016 Outdoor Events schedule.
- Responded to questions from Council.

Council:

- Would like the 2017 Kelowna Outdoor Events calendar circulated when completed.
- Commented on distinguishing between events based on economic development activities versus community benefit activities.

#### 4. Resolution Closing the Meeting to the Public

Moved By Councillor DeHart/Seconded By Councillor Singh

**R833/16/11/07** THAT this meeting be closed to the public pursuant to Section 90(1)(e) of the Community Charter for Council to deal with matters relating to the following:

- Acquisition, Disposition or Expropriation of Land or Improvements

Carried

#### 5. Adjourn to Closed Session

The meeting adjourned to a closed session at 10:54 a.m.

#### 6. Recess Open Session

The meeting recessed at 12:10 p.m.

#### 7. Reconvene to Open Session

The meeting reconvened to an open session at 3:05 p.m.

#### 8. Issues Arising from Correspondence & Community Concerns

##### 8.1 Park N Ride

Council:

- Inquired about Interior Health Parkade delay.

City Manager:

- Advised that Divisional Director, Community Planning & Real Estate is in close contact with IHA.

##### 8.2 Traffic at Collette and Lakeshore Road

Council:

- Concerns raised regarding traffic during morning and afternoon commute along the Lakeshore corridor.
- The crosswalk for children to cross the street stops traffic.

Moved By Councillor Stack/Seconded By Councillor Donn

**R834/16/11/07** THAT Council directs staff to investigate ways to improve traffic flow along Lakeshore Road and Gordon Drive with consideration given to school zones and crosswalks.

Carried

Council:

- Commented on past practices for Awards of Recognition.
- Commented on use of Social Media for Public Hearing notifications.

9. Termination

The meeting was declared terminated at 3:24 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

/kn/acm

Reedham

Deputy City Clerk

DRAFT

# Report to Council



**Date:** November 9, 2016

**File:** 0710-01

**To:** City Manager

**From:** Jim Gabriel, Division Director, Active Living & Culture

**Subject:** Regional Grant-in-Aid Funding Transition

Report Prepared by: S. Kochan, Cultural Services Manager

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## **Recommendation:**

THAT Council receives for information the report of the Division Director, Active Living & Culture dated November 9, 2016 regarding Regional Grant-in-Aid Funding Transition.

## **Purpose:**

To update Council regarding the transition of grant-in-aid funding from the Regional District of Central Okanagan to the City of Kelowna.

## **Background:**

Staff provided a report to Council on September 28, 2015 with action items arising from a Grant Program Review in the Active Living & Culture Division.

Included in that report was information about the City of Kelowna's participation in the Regional District of Central Okanagan's Grant-in-Aid Program (GIA), and the potential implications of changing or eliminating Kelowna's participation.

Council directed staff to commence discussions with the Regional District of Central Okanagan and report back to Council. Staff were advised by RDCO staff that the RDCO Board had decided to discontinue the GIA program and that communications would be forthcoming.

In May 2016, the Regional District of Central Okanagan (RDCO) advised grant recipients by letter that 2016 would be the final year for the GIA Program, and that all applicants are directed to submit any future requests directly to the individual municipalities or the electoral areas directors.

Staff have analyzed Kelowna's GIA funding contributions for the years 2010 to 2016 and information from that analysis is provided in Appendix A. Of note:

- Kelowna's contribution to GIA ranged from \$178,061 in 2013 to \$119,370 in 2016. Between 2014 and 2016, contributions decreased each year.
- Although some organizations have been supported by Kelowna only once or twice in the seven grant cycles between 2010 and 2016, there are eight organizations which have consistently received funding each year since 2010 or 2011.
- Organizations supported by Kelowna in the GIA can be grouped into four broad categories: health (approximately 12% of Kelowna support between 2010 and 2016); social service (57%); arts/culture/heritage (11%); community (20%). These patterns can inform future allocation of funds in existing City of Kelowna grant programs, depending on other emerging priorities and needs.
- Although City staff have not reviewed all GIA applications received by RDCO for the period 2010 to 2016, a partial scan indicates that support for health and social service organizations was often dedicated to specific projects rather than ongoing operations.

Based on the analysis, staff have prepared a 2017 budget request for Council's consideration for \$100,000 in transitional funding to ensure that elimination of the RDCO GIA program will not create undue hardship in the community in 2017. After completion of the 2017 grant cycle, staff will have more information about the impact that elimination of regional GIA will have in the community and upon City of Kelowna grant programs.

The following discussion points emerge:

- If the 2017 transitional funding is approved, staff will return to Council in early January 2017 with recommendations for allocation of the transitional funding between various grant programs administered by the Active Living & Culture Division. These include Community Social Development, Sport, Event and Culture Grants. Allocation recommendations will be informed by previous funding patterns, but may also reflect new opportunities and priorities emerging in the community;
- The RDCO GIA program typically called for applications at year end, with a mid-January deadline. Some applicants may not be aware that the program has been eliminated. Pro-active and early communication from the City can reassure the non-profit community that funding opportunities through City of Kelowna grant programs continue to be available.
- Some important regional initiatives, such as Community Gardens, may not meet eligibility criteria in existing City of Kelowna programs, and merit consideration for ongoing funding through a mechanism other than an annual grant process.

**Internal Circulation:** Financial Planning Manager, Communications Supervisor, Social Development Manager, Community and Neighbourhood Services Manager

**Financial/Budgetary Considerations:**

If the 2017 budget submission is not approved, transition funding will not be injected into existing City of Kelowna grant programs. Applicants previously supported through RDCO GIA may apply to City of Kelowna grant programs, thereby increasing the demand for the current funding envelope. Some programs are already over-subscribed. For example, in 2016, there were 18 applications, requesting \$178,126, in the Community Social Development Grant program which had a total of \$102,000 available. Increasing the demand without increasing the size of the funding envelope means that worthwhile social development initiatives may be under- or un-funded. This may create hardship for the organizations and the people they serve.

**Considerations not applicable to this report:**

Legal/Statutory Authority

Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements

Existing Policy

Personnel Implications

External Agency/Public Comments

Communications Comments

Alternate Recommendation

**Submitted by:** J. Gabriel, Division Director, Active Living & Culture

**Approved for inclusion:**

Included:

Appendix A: RDCO GIA Applications supported by City of Kelowna 2010-2016

cc: Financial Planning Manager  
Communications Supervisor  
Social Development Manager  
Community and Neighbourhood Services Manager  
Manager - Corporate Services, Regional District of Central Okanagan



**APPENDIX A - COUNCIL REPORT NOVEMBER 14, 2016 - REGIONAL GRANT-IN-AID FUNDING TRANSITION**

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN				
GRANT IN AID APPLICATIONS SUPPORTED BY CITY OF KELOWNA				
2010 TO 2016				
Note:				
a) this list does not include all applicants - only those supported by Kelowna in any year				
b) other applicants may have received funding from other RDCO areas				
c) amount is grant award only and does not include share of administrative overhead				
<b>Name of organization</b>	<b>Organization Type</b>	<b>Grant Year</b>	<b>Kelowna amount</b>	<b>Total Grant Amount</b>
Arts Council of Central Okanagan	Arts, Culture & Heritage	2010	15,155	19,505
		2011	15,000	19,750
		2012	15,000	19,550
		2013	12,500	17,200
		2014	12,000	16,750
		2015	10,000	13,500
		2016	10,000	11,532
BC Fruit Growers (Starling Control)	Community	2013	17,619	20,450
BC Schizophrenia Society	Health	2011	15,000	17,650
		2012	14,000	16,800
		2013	12,500	15,050
		2014	12,500	15,200
		2015	10,000	12,400
		2016	7,500	9,800
Brain Trust Canada	Health	2016	3,370	3,882
CMHA Kelowna	Health	2013	10,000	11,400
		2014	10,034	11,734
		2015	10,000	11,250
		2016	10,000	11,200
Central Okanagan Community Gardens	Community	2010	24,280	30,280
		2011	24,325	32,688
		2012	24,501	32,551
		2013	24,665	32,301
		2014	22,000	29,627
		2015	22,000	29,337
		2016	20,000	27,171
Elizabeth Fry Society	Social Service	2010	10,000	14,700
Father Pandosy Mission	Arts, Culture & Heritage	2010	3,468	4,832
		2011	5,000	6,405

		2012	5,000	6,300
Food for Thought Breakfast Society	Health	2015	6,000	7,800
Freedom's Door Resurrection Recovery Resource Society	Social Service	2013	7,500	9,350
Friends of Fintry Prov Park Society	Arts, Culture & Heritage	2012	3,220	4,628
		2013	3,383	4,956
Hands in Service	Social Service	2012	5,000	5,600
		2013	5,000	5,600
		2014	8,000	8,350
		2015	8,000	8,200
		2016	8,000	8,200
John Howard Society	Social Service	2010	30,689	37,289
		2011	30,689	36,189
		2012	30,000	35,150
		2013	25,000	30,250
		2014	20,000	25,050
		2015	15,000	19,700
		2016	12,000	13,300
Kelowna & District Society for People in Motion	Social Service	2010	14,221	18,167
		2011	12,302	15,853
		2012	10,000	14,750
		2013	7,500	12,591
		2014	7,500	12,404
		2015	7,500	11,738
		2016	5,000	8,412
Kelowna Community Food Bank	Social Service	2011	6,949	7,739
		2012	5,000	5,550
		2013	5,000	5,300
		2014	5,000	5,550
		2015	5,000	5,500
Kelowna Women's Shelter	Social Service	2016	2,000	3,796
Living Positive Resource Centre	Health	2010	3,000	4,590
NOW (New Opportunities for Women)	Social Service	2010	24,973	30,628
		2011	25,019	29,587
		2012	25,000	29,150

		2013	25,371	29,871
		2014	24,058	28,208
		2015	24,000	27,600
		2016	22,000	24,900
Okanagan Humane Society	Community	2010	3,468	5,119
		2011	3,475	6,058
		2012	3,475	4,675
		2013	3,523	4,978
		2014	3,538	5,085
		2015	3,500	4,755
		2016	3,500	4,923
Okanagan Small Dog Rescue Society	Community	2,011	1,000	3,240
Project Literacy	Social Service	2011	20,000	24,250
		2012	10,000	12,700
		2013	7,500	10,050
		2014	7,000	9,350
		2015	5,000	7,061
		2016	5,000	7,042
Seniors Outreach Services Society	Social Service	2011	10,000	10,650
		2012	10,000	10,650
		2013	10,000	11,000
		2014	10,000	10,600
		2016	10,000	10,200
Summer Arts Scene for Youth in Central Okan	Arts, Culture & Heritage	2011	500	850
		2012	500	1,137
Westside Daze	Community	2010	200	685
		2011	500	940
		2012	1,006	1,497
		2013	1,000	1,503
		2014	1,000	1,958
		2015	1,000	1,100
		2016	1,000	1,155



CITY OF KELOWNA PORTION OF RDCO GRANTS IN AID

Note: amounts do not include portion of administration overhead

Year	Total Amount	Health	SocServ	ArtsCultHer	Community
2010	\$129,454	3,000	79,882	18,623	27,948
2011	\$169,759	15,000	104,959	20,500	29,300
2012	\$161,702	14,000	95,000	23,720	28,982
2013	\$178,061	22,500	92,871	15,883	46,807
2014	\$142,629	22,534	81,558	12,000	26,538
2015	\$127,000	20,000	70,500	10,000	26,500
2016	\$119,370	20,870	64,000	10,000	24,500
AVERAGE OVER 7 YEARS	\$147,689	16,843	84,110	15,818	30,082
% of total		11.40%	57%	10.70%	20.30%

# RDCO GRANT IN AID

November 9, 2016



## BACKGROUND

- ▶ Council Service Request
- ▶ September 2015 Grant Overview report - included background on RDCO Grant In Aid program
- ▶ Council direction - to commence discussions with RDCO
- ▶ May 2016 RDCO advised grant recipients that 2016 was the final year of the program

## GIA FUNDING CONTRIBUTIONS

- ▶ Kelowna's contribution 2010-2016
- ▶ General grouping of recipients
  - ▶ Social Service (57%)
  - ▶ Community (20%)
  - ▶ Health (12%)
  - ▶ Arts & Culture (11%)



## NEXT STEPS

- ▶ Council considers a transitional budget request - \$100,000
- ▶ If approved, staff report back with recommendations regarding allocation of funding
- ▶ Consideration for regional services which could be funded through budget instead of annual grants



# Report to Council



**Date:** November 14, 2016  
**File:** 1210-22  
**To:** City Manager  
**From:** Community Planning and Real Estate Division  
**Subject:** Agriculture Plan Update: Engagement and Draft Actions

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## **Recommendation:**

THAT Council receives, for information, the report from the Community Planning and Real Estate Division dated November 14, 2016 with respect to the Agriculture Plan Update: Engagement and Draft Actions.

## **Purpose:**

To inform Council on the engagement completed to date and to obtain Council's feedback on the draft recommended actions for each theme area of the Agriculture Plan Update.

## **Background:**

The Agriculture Plan Update, currently underway, will provide direction for the 55 per cent of the land base zoned for agriculture in the City of Kelowna and will allow the following goals to be integrated into a current and responsive policy document:

1. Develop clear policies that serve to protect and promote agriculture while preserving the character of Kelowna;
2. Identify opportunities to strengthen farming and to develop agriculture as an economic driver;
3. Increase the amount of, and access to, locally grown and produced food; and
4. Build resilience in the community against the rising costs of food and risks from changing conditions.

Initiated in the spring of this year, the Agriculture Plan Update has adhered to the following timeline:

- |                     |                             |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Feb. - May, 2016  | Background research         |
| • May - June, 2016  | Issue identification        |
| • July - Oct., 2016 | Draft policy and actions    |
| • Oct. - Dec., 2016 | Refine policies and actions |
| • Jan. - May, 2017  | Draft and present plan      |

Background research was completed and summarized in an Agriculture Background and Profile report. This report reviewed the number and size of farms in the area, the crops being grown, soil and water practices, as well as demographic and financial information for farms. Further, the background research also examined governing policies and environmental constraints (i.e. water, soil and climate).

### **Spring Engagement:**

In June, staff and the consultant engaged stakeholders, industry and the general public to gather input on challenges and opportunities for agriculture in the community (see Schedule A: Agriculture Plan Update Engagement Summary). Over 560 people completed the survey either online or in attendance at one of the two open houses. Of the respondents that completed the survey, 21 per cent self-identified as farmers. Overwhelmingly, 95 per cent of those who completed the survey felt that policies preserving farmland were important or very important and cited the top three reasons for preserving farmland as food security; fresh produce, wine and agricultural products; and the local economy.

Over 73 per cent of the survey respondents also agreed or strongly agreed with the following statement being the vision for the Agriculture Plan Update:

*Kelowna is a resilient, diverse and innovative agricultural community that celebrates farming and values farmland as integral to our healthy food system, economy and culture.*

(It should be noted that 18 per cent of respondents were neutral, leaving only 9 per cent of the respondents who either disagree or strongly disagree with the statement.)

Seven key themes emerged from the input provided through the survey, Get Involved web platform, open houses, stakeholder and industry sessions, and Agricultural Advisory Committee input:

1. Harnessing and stewarding the bio-physical environment: taking advantage of great soil and sun, while minimizing water use and waste.
2. Increasing consumer awareness and support for local agriculture: introducing Kelowna farms to residents and visitors alike.
3. Managing urban and rural growth and development: keeping non-farm uses off the ALR.
4. Supporting economic development of the agricultural sector: creating farms that create a profit.
5. Bridging existing gaps in the food system: getting local food onto local plates.
6. Planning for farm succession: making sure that retirement of the farmer doesn't mean retirement of the farm.
7. Aligning local policies and regulation with the Agriculture Plan's vision: providing clear direction for decision-makers and landowners.

It is recognized that the City's role in each of these theme areas will vary. For example, the City may have a lead role in aligning local policies and regulation with the Agriculture Plan's vision but may only have a supporting role in planning for farm succession.

### **Draft Actions:**

A draft action list was compiled based on best practices research. This list was brought to the Agriculture Advisory Committee last month for their review and input and a more robust list

was created (see Schedule B: List of Recommended Actions DRAFT). The actions identified are intended to achieve the outcomes described in each of the seven themes.

Concurrently, the consultant is working on three policy papers to address several of the theme areas. These policy papers will examine best practices and potential policy options for three key topics:

- Criteria for assessing non-farm uses on ALR;
- Urban-side farmland protection tools (including buffer and vegetative strips); and
- Supporting a farm community identity and culture.

After obtaining Council's input, staff and the consultant will be initiating another round of engagement targeted to gather further input on the draft proposed actions (see Schedule B: List of Recommended Actions DRAFT). Over the course of two days (November 22 and 23) a variety of engagement sessions will occur including:

- Stakeholder session;
- Industry session;
- Farmer conversation session (targeting small to medium size farmers);
- Okanagan Basin Water Board and BC Climate Action Initiative;
- Irrigation Districts;
- Tourism Kelowna and Economic Development Commission; and
- Kelowna Airport staff.

### **Summary and Next Steps:**

After this round of engagement is complete, staff and the consultant will begin to develop the draft Agriculture Plan. Once the draft plan is complete, staff will report back to Council and host public information sessions to gather input prior to the plan being considered for Council endorsement.

### **Internal Circulation:**

Divisional Director, Community Planning & Real Estate  
Department Manager, Policy and Planning  
Planner Specialist, Suburban and Rural Planning  
Communications Advisor  
Director, Economic Development

### **Existing Policy:**

One of the goals of the Official Community Plan is to *Enable Healthy and Productive Agriculture* by promoting healthy and productive agriculture through diverse strategies that protect farmlands and food production. Policies in the OCP that support this goal include:

- OCP Objective 5.33 Protect and enhance local agriculture. (and all associated policies);
- OCP Objective 5.34 Preserve productive agricultural land. (and all associated policies);
- OCP Policy 7.20.1 Water Availability for Agriculture. Work with stakeholders to ensure the continued delivery of sufficient quantities of water as per best practices for water conservation to ensure continued agricultural productivity; and
- OCP Chapter 15 Farm Protection DP Guidelines.

Agriculture policy is also guided by the 1998 Agriculture Plan.

**Financial/Budgetary Considerations:**

The cost to complete the Agricultural Plan Update is \$60,000. The City of Kelowna acknowledges the support of the Real Estate Foundation of BC who granted \$20,000 towards this project. A grant of \$18,590 was also received by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the BC Ministry of Agriculture through programs delivered by the Investment Agriculture Foundation of BC. The remainder of the funds will be funded by existing Community Planning budget.

**External Agency/Public Comments:**

The Agriculture Advisory Committee met with staff and the consultant to review the draft theme areas that emerged from the public engagement on October 13, 2016. As well the Agriculture Advisory Committee reviewed and provided input on draft action items for the Agriculture Plan Update. Please see attached Schedule C, Agriculture Advisory Committee Recommendations to Council on Agriculture Plan Update, from October 13, 2016.

**Considerations not applicable to this report:**

**Legal/Statutory Authority:**

**Legal/Statutory Procedural Requirements:**

**Communications Comments:**

**Personnel Implications:**

**Alternate Recommendation:**

Submitted by:

T. Guidi, Sustainability Coordinator

Approved for inclusion: ☐ TC

cc:

Divisional Director, Community Planning & Real Estate  
Department Manager, Policy and Planning  
Planner Specialist, Suburban and Rural Planning  
Communications Advisor  
Director, Economic Development

**Attachments:**

Schedule A: Agriculture Plan Update: Spring Engagement Summary

Schedule B: Agriculture Plan Update: Draft Recommended Actions

Schedule C: Agriculture Advisory Committee Recommendations to Council

# Agriculture Plan Update Engagement Summary

October 2016

DELIVERED BY

FUNDING PROVIDED BY



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*Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the BC Ministry of Agriculture and the Investment Agriculture Foundation of BC, are pleased to participate in the production of this publication. We are committed to working with our industry partners to address issues of importance to the agriculture and agri-food industry in British Columbia. Opinions expressed in this report are those of the City of Kelowna, and not necessarily those of the Investment Agriculture Foundation, the BC Ministry of Agriculture or Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.*



# Introduction

This report provides a summary of engagement activities that have taken place during the first six months of the City of Kelowna's *Agriculture Plan Update* project. A review of the project's engagement strategy is provided followed by an assessment of who was engaged, and how gaps in engagement are identified.

The feedback heard during this stage, including key issues such as strengths and challenges facing the local agriculture sector, was obtained through the following steps:

- Three meetings with the AAC;
- A stakeholder session;
- An open house;
- A meeting with an agriculture industry group;
- An online survey;
- A mind-mixer; and
- Direct phone calls and face-to-face conversations.

A survey was developed in order to gain some feedback from the Kelowna community on agricultural issues of concern and opportunities for improvement in policies and strategies. A total of 563 people filled out the survey from a variety of backgrounds. The results of this survey may not represent the views of everyone in Kelowna, but it is another tool that can be used to inform the Agriculture Plan Update.

## Methodology

The public had an opportunity to complete a survey online between May 24 to June 30 or a hard copy at one of two Open Houses (June 8 and June 11). Results from open surveys such as this are a collection of opinions and perceptions from interested or potentially affected residents, and not a statistically valid random sample of all Kelowna citizens. The survey was an opt-in and open method, and therefore results are qualitative in nature and cannot be said to represent views of all Kelowna citizens.

Once the survey closed, results were generated using the online survey software. The open-ended questions were coded by theme.

To date, engagement for the *Agriculture Plan Update* has been based on a strategy that was developed at the start of the project to effectively and collaboratively engage the Kelowna community and key stakeholders in the planning process. The strategy uses a combination of the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2)'s core values, principles of Community Based Social Marketing (CBSM), and the Kepner Tregoe approach.

## Agriculture Plan Update Engaging the Community

### PHASE 1

Information  
Sharing &  
Awareness



### PHASE 2

Stakeholder  
Workshops & Vision  
Statement Draft



### PHASE 3

Draft  
Plan  
Consultation



### PHASE 4

In form  
Community of  
Final Plan



Types of engagement will include:

- Agriculture Advisory Committee Workshops
- Stakeholder Workshops
- Public Open Houses
- Online Survey
- Social Media
- One-on-one meetings
- Emails
- Interviews



Institutional  
Groups & Economic  
Development

- Agriculture Advisory Committee
- Agriculture Land Commission
- Ministry of Agriculture
- Westbank First Nation
- Okanagan Indian Band
- Regional District of Central Okanagan
- Interior Health
- UBC Okanagan
- Economic Development Commission
- City of Kelowna
- Economic Development Officer
- Tourism Kelowna



Community

- Central Okanagan Food Policy Council
- BC Young Farmers
- Young Agrarians
- General Public
- Local Farmers
- Landowners
- Okanagan Basin Water Board



Industry  
Associations

- BC Fruit Growers Association
- BC Tree Fruits
- BC Landscape & Nursery Association
- BC Cattleman's Association
- BC Poultry Association
- BC Chicken Growers Association
- BC Grape Growers
- Certified Organics Association of BC
- BC Cherry Association
- BC Honey producers Association
- Horse Council of BC



Retailers,  
processors &  
distributors

- BC Wine Grape Council
- BC Restaurant and food services Association
- Kelowna Farmers & Crafters Market

# Outcomes of Engagement Activities

The following tools were used to engage stakeholders in the Agriculture Plan Update. The purpose of each is provided as well as a description of how the tool has been used in the process to date.

*Table 1. Agriculture Plan Update engagement tools, purpose, and outcomes.*

Tool	Purpose	Activities and Outcomes
Advertising, print & radio, and social media coverage	<p>Advertisements occurred as paid and submitted print and radio media content as well as public signage, emails, invitation letters, and third-party e-newsletters and listservs.</p> <p>Social media was also used to advertise the Open House through Facebook Posts and Twitter tweets.</p> <p>City staff in created media content along with assistance from the consulting team. This included press releases and statements. Media interviews and media briefings/columns/articles were drafted for local media outlets at key points along the project timeline.</p>	<p><u>Print Media:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feb 25 - Kelowna Daily Courier: Kelowna to update agricultural plan.</li> <li>Feb 29 – Kelowna Daily Courier, City wants farmland used more effectively.</li> <li>March 1 – Castanet, Seed planted on farm plan.</li> <li>March 1 - Kelowna Capital News: Kelowna's agriculture plan to get a reboot.</li> <li>March 2 - Kelowna Now: Changes are planned for the 1998 Kelowna Agriculture Plan.</li> <li>March 4 – Kelowna Capital News Council Highlights Agriculture Plan Update.</li> <li>April 24 - Kelowna Capital News: column on the importance of agriculture to the Okanagan.</li> <li>May 18 - Kelowna Daily Courier, Most Agriculture Land not being farmed.</li> <li>May 30 - Infotel, Kelowna to count farms, measure output during update of agriculture plan.</li> <li>May 30 - News Release: Feed us your Agriculture Plan feedback.</li> <li>June 3 – City in Action ad in Kelowna Capital News.</li> <li>June 5 - Kelowna Now: Have your say on Kelowna's updated agriculture plan.</li> <li>June 6 - PSA – Fertile minds needed for Agriculture Plan update</li> <li>June 6 - Castanet, Tilling for fertile minds.</li> <li>June 7 - Infotel, Fertile minds needed for Agriculture Plan Update. Country Life in BC Interview June 30 (publication date unknown).</li> <li>June 10 – City in Action ad in Kelowna Capital News.</li> <li>June 22 - News Release: Final week for Agriculture Plan update survey.</li> <li>July 3 - Kelowna Capital News: Kelowna agricultural plan updated.</li> </ul> <p><u>Radio:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feb 29 – CBC Radio Agriculture Plan Update info.</li> <li>Feb 29 – AM1150 Radio Council Sees Outline for New Agriculture Plan.</li> <li>May 30 - AM1150, Ag Plan Update engagement opportunities.</li> <li>May 30 - CBC Radio, Ag plan update engagement opportunities.</li> </ul>

Tool	Purpose	Activities and Outcomes
		<p><u>Social Media:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• June 8 to 11 - Facebook posts reached a total of 26,647 individuals. The posts received 37 clicks, 43 reactions ('likes'), 18 comments, and 6 shares.</li> <li>• June 8 to 11 – Twitter tweets received 7,477 impressions. An impression means that the tweet was delivered a Twitter users individual stream, and therefore it indicates the potential audience.</li> </ul> <p><u>Other Media:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• June 3 to 12 – Electronic bulletin board and electronic traffic sign erected outside Mission Park.</li> <li>• Invitations, letters or e-updates sent to: email bulletin channels, email invitation to identified interest groups, Urban Harvest customer newsletter.</li> </ul>
Website	A dedicated project page has been created for the <i>Agriculture Plan Update</i> and is hosted by the City of Kelowna. Promotion of public events, such as the Open House and Online Survey, is conducted through the webpage and through the City's Get Involved Kelowna web platform ( <a href="http://getinvolved.kelowna.ca">http://getinvolved.kelowna.ca</a> ). Digital media is an excellent way for people to engage in quick conversations across the community.	<p>The short url <a href="http://kelowna.ca/planningprojects">kelowna.ca/planningprojects</a> is used to promote the website which can be viewed at: <a href="http://www.kelowna.ca/CM/Page4902.aspx">http://www.kelowna.ca/CM/Page4902.aspx</a></p> <p>The page has been 604 times (between April and October) with average time on page of 4:57 minutes.</p>
Council reports	Over the course of the AP update, staff will provide four workshops or reports for City Council to keep them apprised of the project milestones and to request their endorsement of key directions and policies before moving forward to next stages. These touch points are expected to occur at the outset of the project, during the visioning process, for input on draft policy and once the draft AP update is completed, and for endorsement of the final plan.	<p>February 29<sup>th</sup> 2016: provided Council with an overview of the project goals, objectives, and timeline. Discussed funding sources.</p> <p>May 30, 2016: Agriculture Plan Update Engagement Strategy. To obtain Council's input on the draft vision for the update to the Agriculture Plan and to inform Council of the engagement strategy for this plan.</p>
Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC)	The AAC acts as a touchstone throughout the planning process, providing guidance and advice at key junctures.	Meeting #1: Introduction to the project, scoping and review of community engagement strategy and stakeholder mapping exercise – April 14, 2016.

Tool	Purpose	Activities and Outcomes
meetings	<p>The AAC will provide input on vision, goals, and priorities; identify approaches to help engage the community in the process; provide feedback on draft policy directions; and review the draft AP Update before it is presented to the public.</p> <p>There are four AAC meetings planned to provide project updates, to develop a strong rapport with AAC members, and to ensure that their feedback is incorporated into all deliverables. Additional attendance by the consultant may occur in order to provide regular updates to the AAC.</p>	<p>Meeting #2: Vision statement was drafted and a SWOT analysis was discussed – May 11, 2016.</p> <p>Project Update: The consultant attended an additional AAC meeting on June 9<sup>th</sup> to provide an update on the Open House and Stakeholder Session.</p> <p>Meeting #3: October 2016</p> <p>Meeting #4: is planned for January 2017.</p>
Stakeholder Sessions	<p>These targeted in-depth discussions provide a deeper level of feedback than from the general public at open houses. The 3 sessions will be facilitated to address the following topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Refine and finalize the vision statement, develop a SWOT analysis;</li> <li>2. Provide input on draft recommendations and priority policy issues; and</li> <li>3. Provide feedback on draft Agriculture Plan Update.</li> </ol> <p>The sessions are invitation-only, with 10-12 targeted individuals invited to each session. It is expected that the same group of individuals will attend each session, to ensure continuity of the discussion.</p>	<p>The first stakeholder meeting was held from 11am to 1pm on June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at the EECO Centre in Mission Creek Park. A total of 9 stakeholders attended.</p> <p>Stakeholder session #2 is planned for November 2016 and session #3 is planned for February 2017.</p>
Invited meetings	<p>Based on invitations, City staff and consultants conducted additional meetings with stakeholders during the month of June 2016.</p>	<p>Young Agrarians: The consultant took part in a phone discussion with the Executive Director of the Young Agrarians, on June 13th. The Director expressed interest in continuing to be involved with the stakeholder sessions and noted that she will try to get local YA members to attend events.</p> <p>Agriculture Industry Group: On June 22<sup>nd</sup>, City staff were invited to attend a meeting with the Agriculture Industry Group. Staff facilitated a lively discussion that focused on</p>

Tool	Purpose	Activities and Outcomes
		<p>challenges and opportunities for the local agriculture sector. The group expressed interest in other sessions as the plan progresses and staff will try to meet with them at similar times to stakeholder sessions (November and February).</p> <p>Food Policy Council: The consultant took part in a phone discussion with the Director of the Central Okanagan Food Policy Council, on June 30th. The Food Policy Council subsequently submitted specific comments to be considered as the project moves into the next stages.</p>
Open houses	<p>The intent of the open house is to provide members of the public with information regarding the Agriculture Plan Update, the project's progress, and to allow opportunities to collect input and feedback on draft deliverables.</p> <p>Three Open Houses are planned for the project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- #1: June 2016: refine vision statement, obtain feedback on issues and opportunities, and launch survey,</li> <li>- #2: February 2017: review and comment on draft plan.</li> </ul>	<p>The first Open House was held from 4pm to 6pm on June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at Mission Creek park. Open House #1 was held after Stakeholder Session #1. The purpose of the first Open House was to launch the project publically, refine the vision statement, and obtain initial feedback on issues and opportunities. Launching the survey was another objective of the first Open House. Paper copies of the survey were available for attendees to fill out.</p> <p>There were approximately 29 people who participated in the first Open House. City councillors, staff and consultants also attended. The weather was windy and rainy and it likely had a negative impact on attendance. There was good discussion with those members of the public who attended regarding a diversity of topics including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Non-farm use of agricultural land.</li> <li>- Compliance and enforcement issues within the ALR.</li> <li>- The cost of water for agricultural users.</li> <li>- Future outreach and engagement opportunities regarding the Agriculture Plan Update.</li> </ul> <p>Approximately 40 people attended an additional Mini Open House from 10am to 12pm on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at the Save On Foods, Cooper Road location. This event included an information booth that was used by staff to provide information and copies of the survey to members of the public. Common themes echoed the June 8<sup>th</sup> Open House and also included housing for temporary farm workers, community-based farming and the use of farm land for gravel pits (both in east Kelowna and near airport).</p>
Survey	<p>A survey was developed to solicit feedback from both farmers and the general public on a proposed vision for the Agriculture Plan Update and potential policy opportunities, alternatives, and strategies.</p> <p>The survey was prepared in</p>	<p>An open, online survey was made available from May 24 to June 30 by the City of Kelowna staff. Hardcopies of the same questions were also available for completion at the Open House.</p> <p>A total of 563 people filled out the survey. Most of the responses were generated through the website (32%), followed by Get Involved (25%) and then Facebook organic posts (19%) and outreach (19%). Out of the 563</p>

Tool	Purpose	Activities and Outcomes
	<p>both digital and hard copy formats. A flyer was also developed to guide people to the online survey. The fliers were left at locations that are frequented by the public such as transit stops, the library, farmers market, and recreation centres.</p> <p>The survey was open online during May and June 2016.</p>	<p>respondents, 115 (20%) identified themselves as farmers.</p> <p>The survey was divided up into a number of topics including: Farmland Preservation, Farmer Overview, Community Agricultural Knowledge and Awareness, Local Food Purchasing, Knowledge of Agricultural Regulations and Policies, and Agricultural Plan Update.</p>

## Results

552 people participated in the survey. Most of the responses were generated through the website (32%), followed by Get Involved Kelowna (25%) and then Facebook posts (19%) and outreach (19%). The survey was divided up into a number of main topics to be explored including: Farmland Preservation, Farmer Overview, Community Agricultural Knowledge and Awareness, Local Food Purchasing, Knowledge of Agricultural Regulations and Policies, and Agricultural Plan Update.

Of the respondents that filled out the survey, 79 per cent (437 out of 552) identified themselves as non-farmers and the majority of those overall respondents classified themselves as gardeners (64%). Only 24 per cent had no direct connection to food production, while 42% had previous generations as food producers in their families. 21 per cent (115) of the respondents self-identified as farmers.

### Farmland Preservation

Ninety-five per cent of respondents indicated that policies preserving farmland were important or very important (524/552).

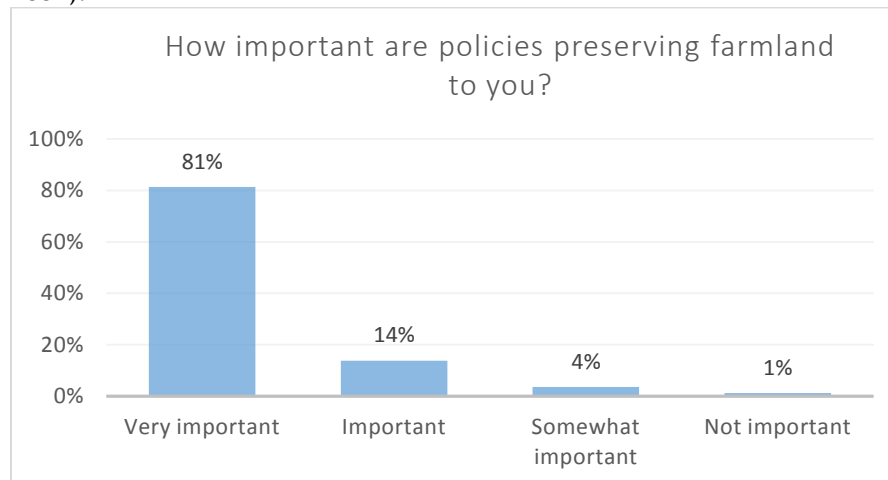


Figure 1. Question 1 - How important are policies preserving farmland to you? (552 Responses)

Survey respondents prioritized reasons to protect farmland in order of importance. By attaching a score to each rank (1 being the most and 5 being the least important), The results were as follows:

1. Food security
2. Fresh produce, wine, and agricultural products
3. Local economy

4. Maintaining views/greenscapes
5. Food tourism



*Figure 2. Other reasons for protecting farmland.*

When respondents were asked to indicate other reasons for protecting farmland, 25 per cent cited preserving land for farmers (particularly young farmers) and for future generations. Another 22 per cent mentioned that it was important to keep food production local and provide fresh, healthy food to the Kelowna community as opposed to importing food from outside of the region or country. Other reasons can be found in Figure 2.



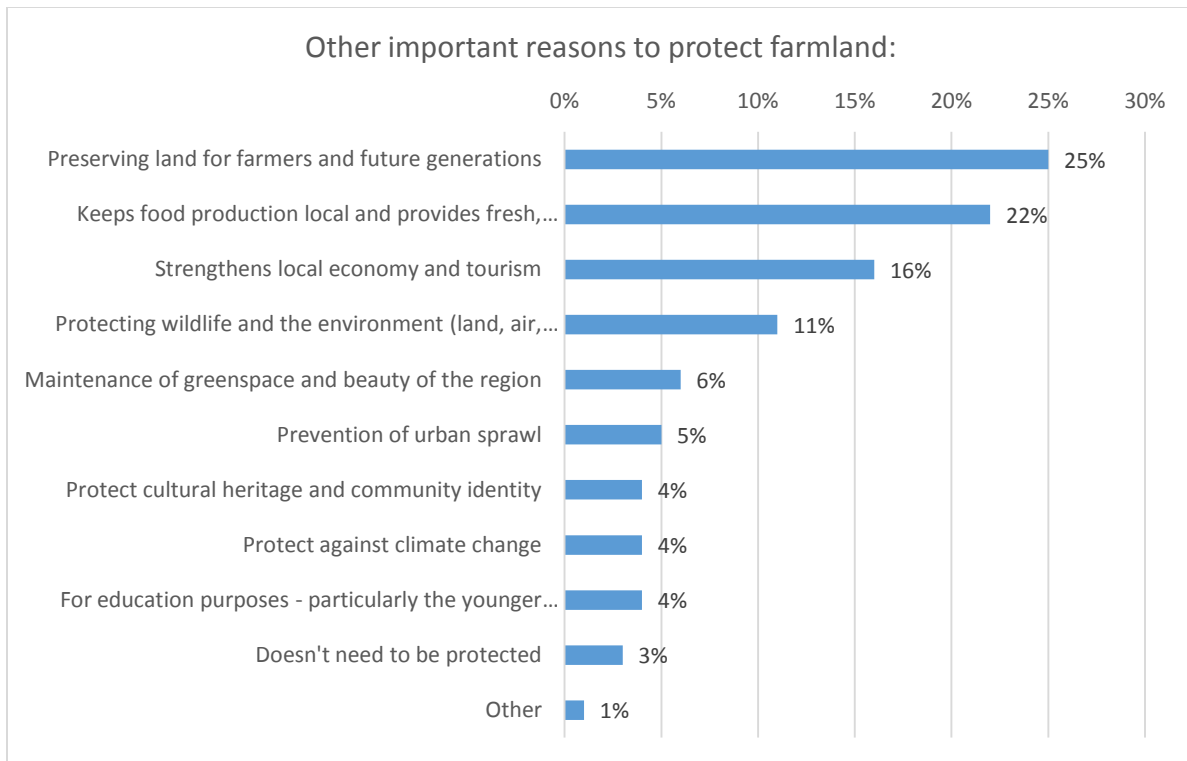


Figure 3. Question 2 - What is the most important reason to protect farmland ("Other")? (226 Responses)

### Farmer Overview

To gain a better understanding of agriculture in the Kelowna area, farmers were asked to fill out questions specific to their operations and experiences.

Farm operations amongst the farmers who completed the survey were evenly spread across the size ranges (Figure 3)

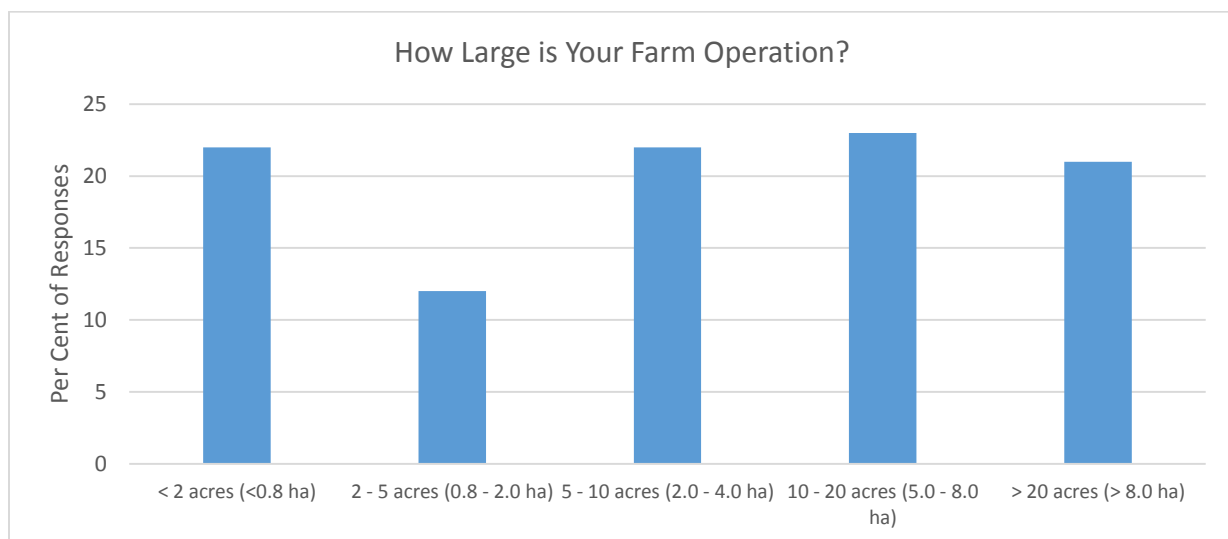


Figure 4. Question 5 - How large is your farm operation? (104 Responses)

However, when asked how much land was actively being farmed, 51 per cent responded that they were actively farming less than 5 acres.

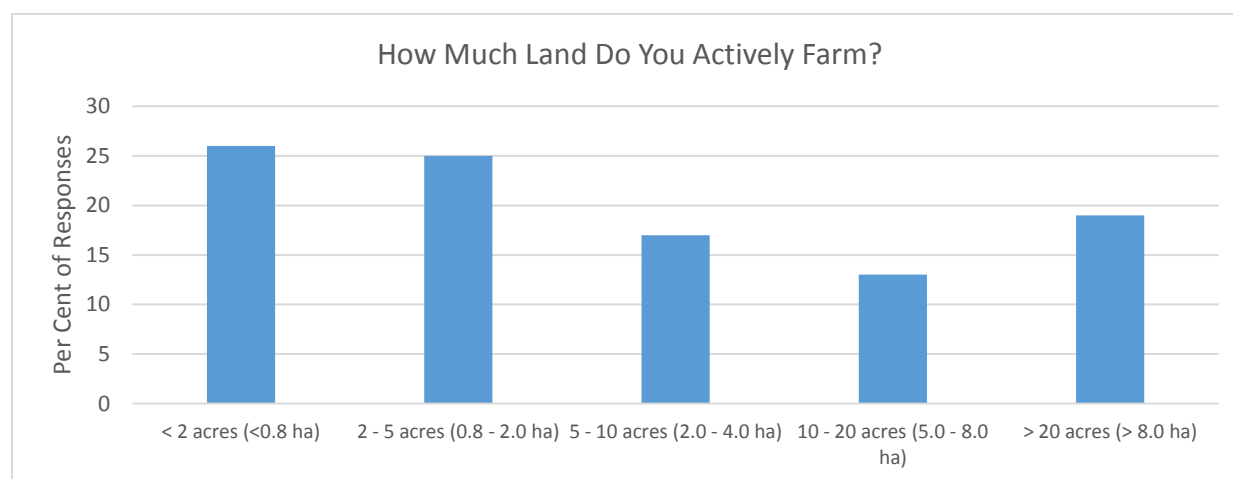


Figure 5. Question 6 - How much land within that farm operation do you actively farm? (104 Responses)

Farmers were asked to indicate and list which agricultural products they produced. The results matched the Agricultural Land Use Inventory (ALUI) results that were reported last year.

- Fruit orchards: 47% (cherries (24 farms), apples (24 farms))
- Vegetable production: 39% (mixed vegetables (25 farms), tomatoes (17 farms))
- Herbs: 30% (culinary herbs (23 farms))
- Berries: 23% (raspberries (10 farms))
- Other: 24% (hay and forage (9 farms), horses (9 farms), layer chickens (11 farms))

Table 2. Most common crops produced.

Response	Percentage	Count
Fruit orchard	47%	49
Vegetables	39%	41
Herbs	30%	31
Berries	23%	24
Livestock	22%	23
Flowers	19%	20
Poultry	19%	20
Honeybees	12%	12
Grapes for wine making	8%	8
Nuts	8%	8
Medicinal crops	6%	6
Grains	3%	3
Other	24%	25
<b>Total Responses</b>		<b>104</b>

A total of 83 per cent (86 Responses) of the farmer respondents indicated that they were not involved in agri-tourism on their farm. Of the respondents that indicated they were, 71 per cent sell at the farm

gate, while 35% host farm tours and sell at farmers' markets, 24 per cent have harvest festivals/events and weddings or non-farm-related events. Only one person indicated that they allow camping/RVs on their farm.

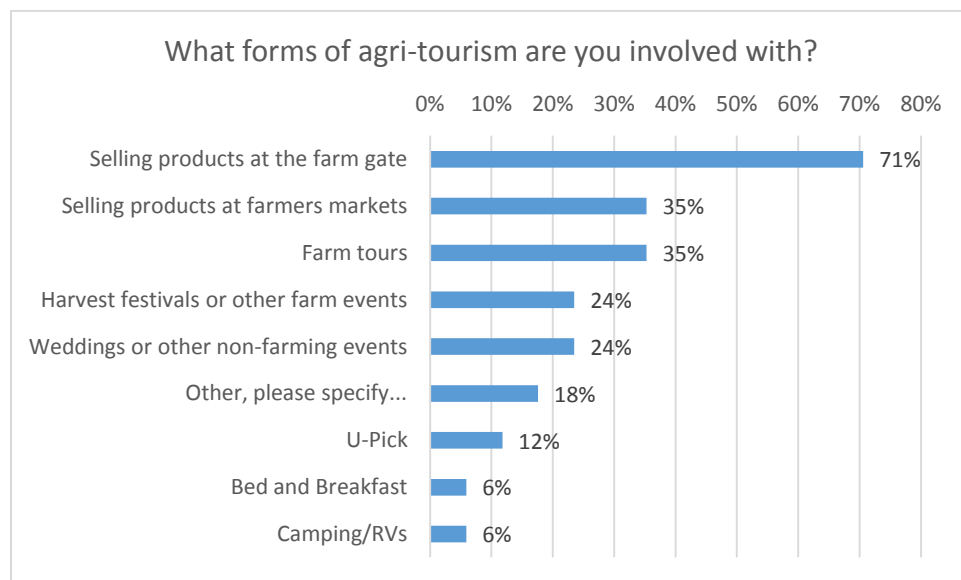


Figure 6. Question 8 - What forms of agri-tourism are you involved with? (17 Responses)

### Agricultural Knowledge and Awareness

When asking all respondents (farmers and non-farmers alike), most indicated that they had a good (41%) or limited (36%) knowledge of agriculture in the City of Kelowna.

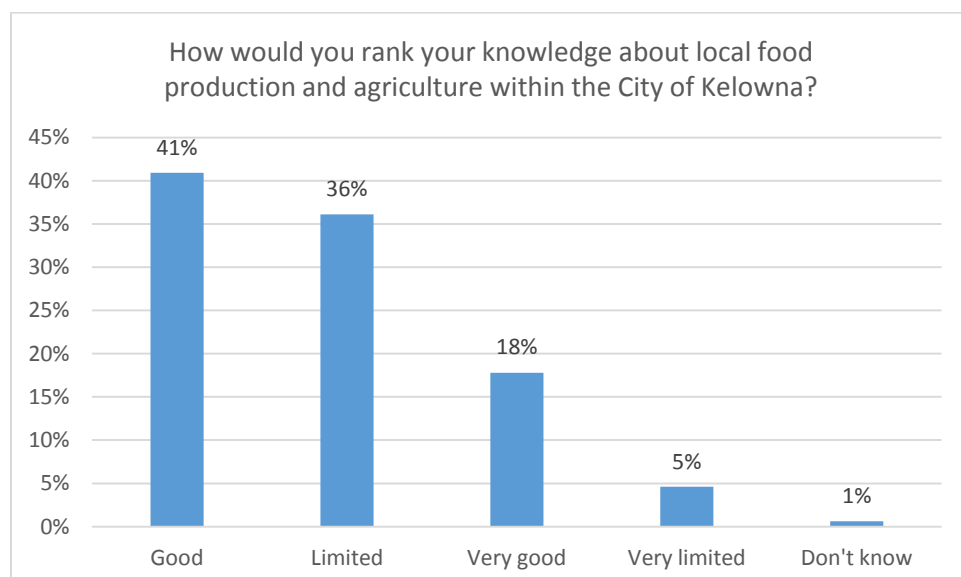


Figure 7. Question 9 - How would you rank your knowledge about local food production and agriculture within the City of Kelowna? (523 Responses)

When asked to describe the change in agriculture in Kelowna over the past five years, 25% said that they noticed slight growth in the agriculture sector, while 23% noticed a slight decline.

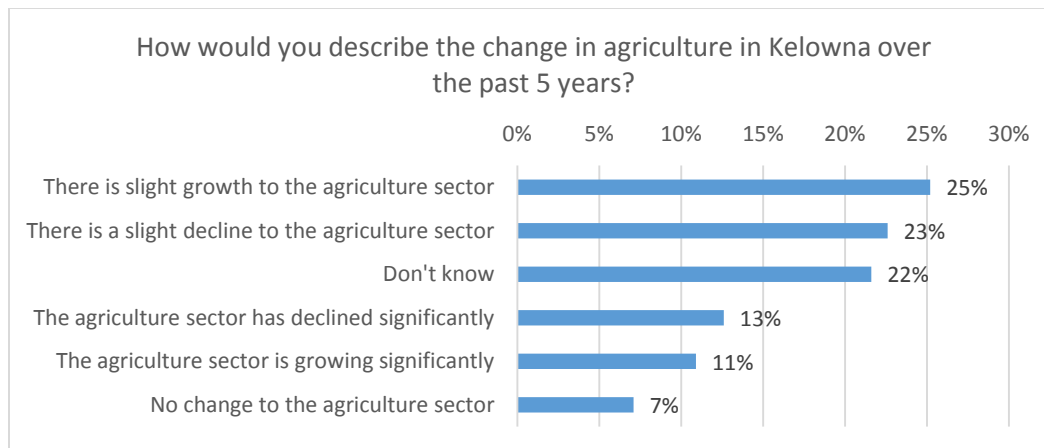


Figure 8. Question 10 - How would you describe the change in agriculture in Kelowna over the past 5 years? (523 Responses)

Respondents were asked if their children learn about gardening, farming and food production in school, of those that did have children, 20% (104 Responses) indicated that they do discuss these topics in school, while 12% (62 Responses) do not and 5% (27 Responses) did not know.

### Local Food Purchasing

The definition of local varies widely from person to person. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) recently expanded its definition of local from:

- The food originated within a 50 km radius of the place where it was sold, or
- The food sold originated within the same local government unit (e.g. municipality) or adjacent government unit.

To:

- Food produced in the province or territory in which it is sold, or
- Food sold across provincial borders within 50 km or the originating province or territory.

When asked to define local, Kelowna respondents indicated that they believed the Okanagan Valley and the Central Okanagan were considered local. Fewer respondents chose Kelowna or their own property, while only a few chose Alberta or Washington.

Table 3. How do you define local?

Response	Percentage	Count
Okanagan Valley (including North Okanagan and Okanagan-Similkameen)	73%	380
Central Okanagan (Kelowna, West Kelowna, Lake Country, Peachland)	55%	288
Kelowna	43%	223
My property	33%	171
Within BC	29%	152
Alberta and/or Washington, USA	3%	14
Other	4%	21
<b>Total Responses</b>		<b>520</b>

Within the “other” category (20 Responses), 30% mentioned that they considered local to be “as close as possible” and 20% mentioned that it was “in the same community”. Other responses included: within Canada, within 100-150 km, and depends on the product.

Respondents mentioned that when they have the option to buy locally grown food, food products, or beverages that 97 per cent (502 Responses) said they did, while only four per cent (18 Responses) did not choose local.

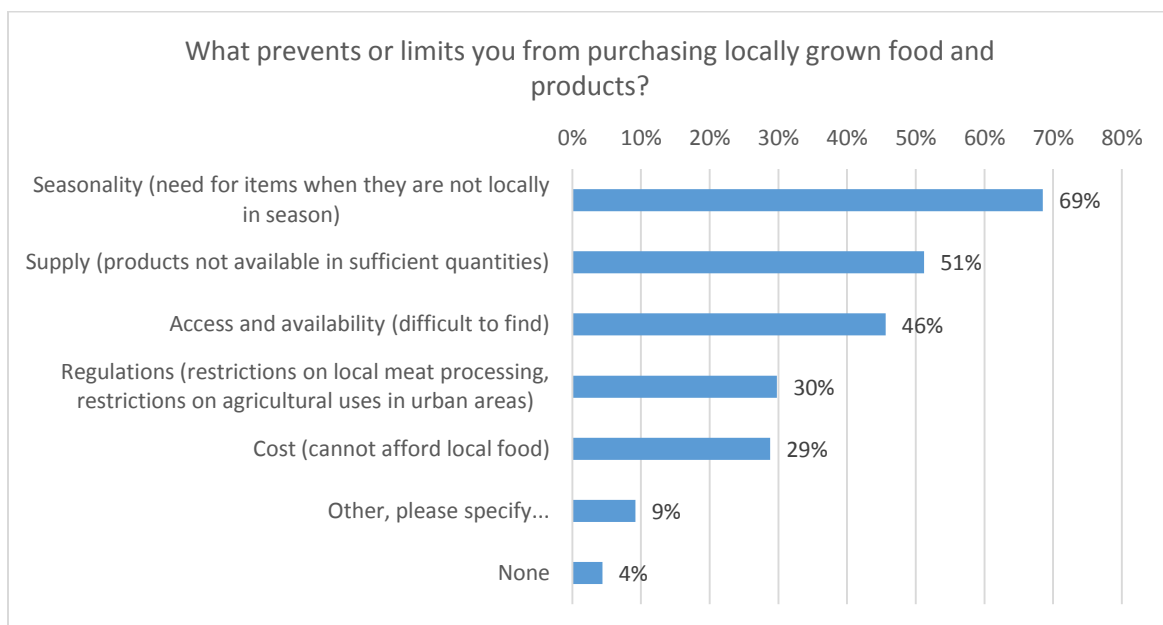


Figure 9. Question 13 - What prevents or limits you from purchasing locally grown food and products? (520 Responses)

Some of the respondents chose “other” (44 Responses) as a reason that they will not, or are unable to, purchase local products. Of those in the other category, “convenience” and “lack of product in grocery stores” were the most common responses. Respondents said that they didn’t have time to run around to different farms to purchase product and that farmers’ markets were not at convenient times or locations. It was suggested that if local products were easily accessible in the major grocery store chains that they would be more likely to purchase them.

Respondents were asked whether they purchase food directly from producers at farmers' markets, U-picks, fruit stands, wineries, etc. A small percentage purchase directly all of the time, but most purchase local products directly occasionally or most of the time.

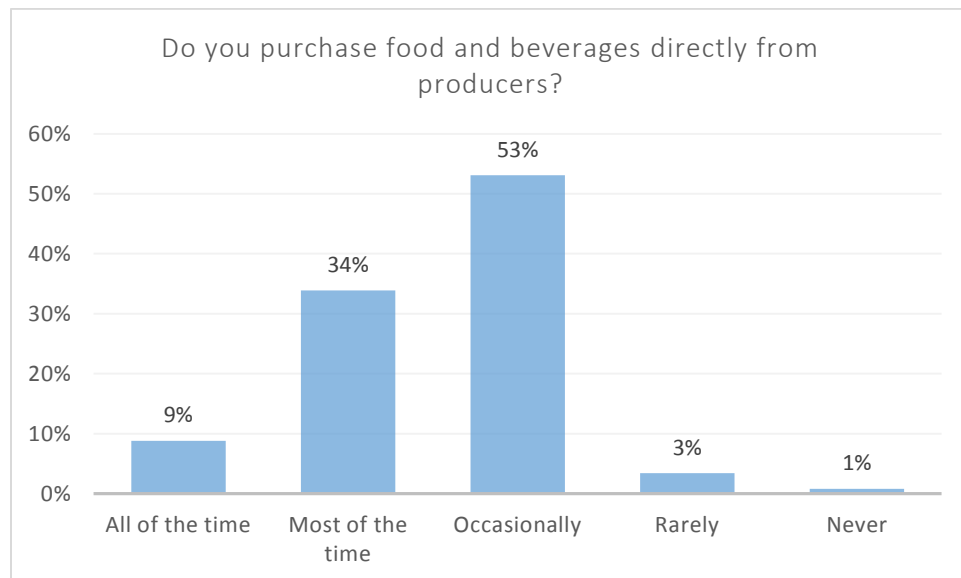


Figure 10. Question 14 - Do you purchase food and beverages directly from producers? (501 Responses)

When asked if respondents would purchase directly from producers if they were located closer to their home (i.e. within walking distance, or a 5-minute drive) 44% said that they definitely would.

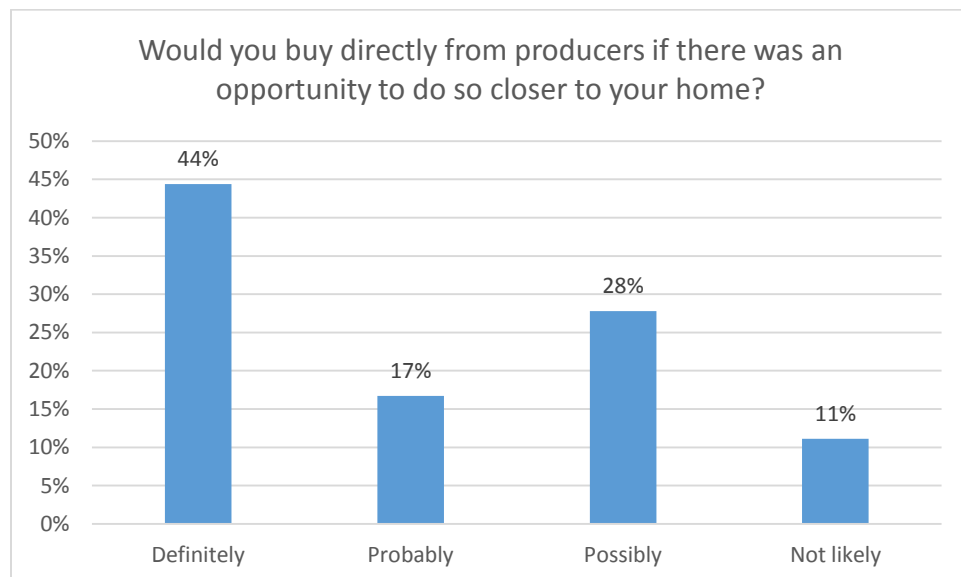


Figure 11. Question 15 - Would you buy directly from producers if there was an opportunity to do so closer to your home? (18 Responses)

## Knowledge of Regulations and Policies

To gauge consumer knowledge on agricultural regulations and policies, both City and Provincial policies, respondents were asked a series of questions.

When asked about the level of knowledge regarding the Right to Farm Act (Farm Practices Protection Act) and normal farm practices, 55% of respondents indicated that they were not knowledgeable.

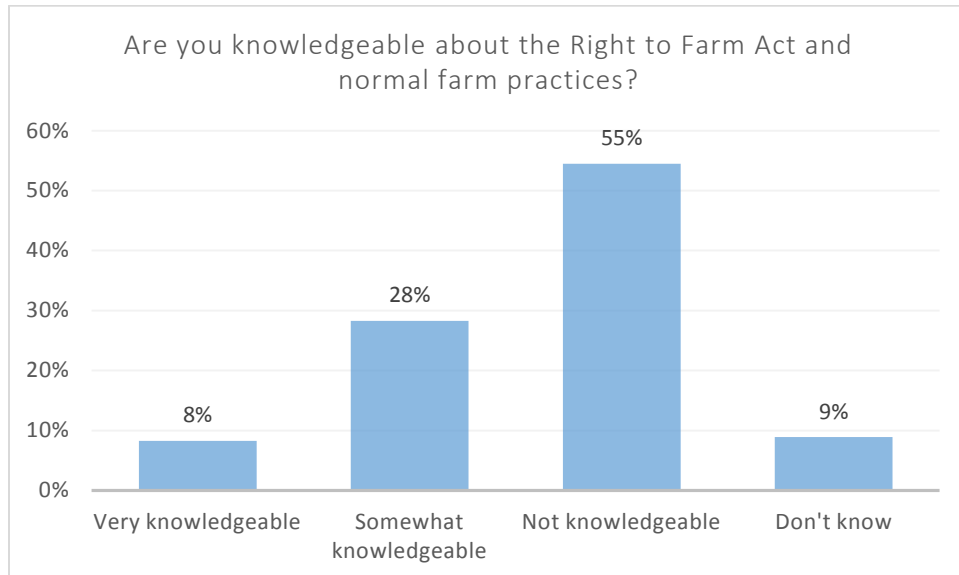


Figure 12. Question 16 - Are you knowledgeable about the Right to Farm Act and normal farm practices? (516 Responses)

When asked if the City of Kelowna is doing enough to enforce non-farm use of farmland to ensure that only permitted uses are occurring in agricultural areas 34% of respondents said they did not know, indicating that there is a low level of knowledge amongst respondents on City policies regarding farmland protection. A total of 31% said that they didn't think the City was doing enough.

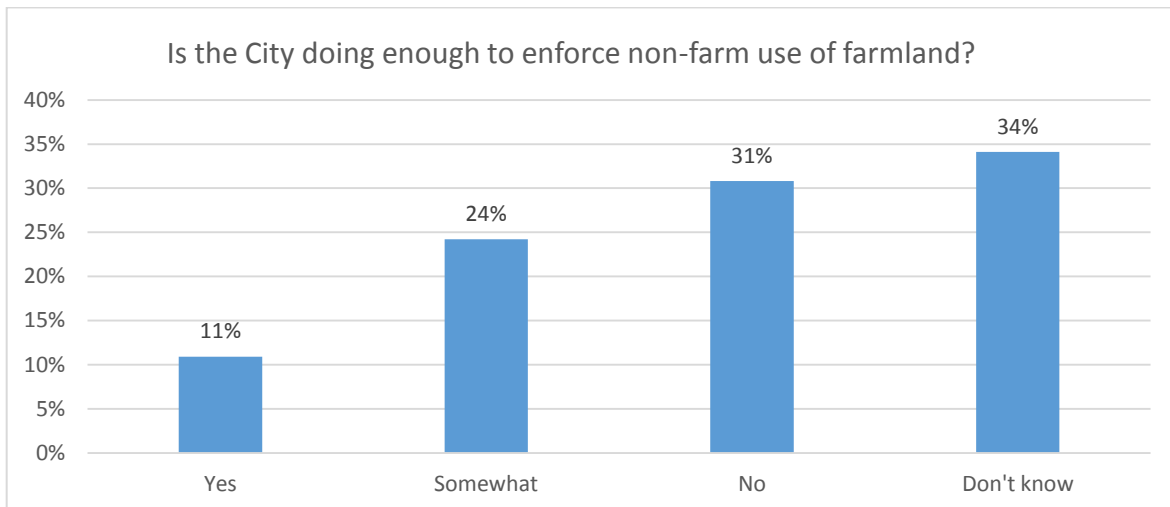


Figure 13. Question 17 - Is the City doing enough to enforce non-farm use of farmland to ensure that only permitted uses are occurring in agricultural areas? (516 Responses)

Respondents were also asked to indicate areas and issues if they didn't agree that the City was doing enough to enforce non-farm uses. A total of 39% of the respondents cited a lack of enforcement on

non-permitted uses specifically such as RV/boat storage, camping, golf courses, landscaping, gravel pits, etc. There was also some concern over estate properties on farmland that were benefiting from tax breaks even though they were not genuine farmers.

*Table 4. What issues in particular does the City need to address in terms of enforcement?*

<b>Enforcement Issue</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Non-permitted uses are too prevalent (RV/boat storage, golf courses, landscaping, gravel pits, etc.)	72	39%
Allowing estate properties on farmland for tax breaks	20	11%
Supporting ALR exclusion applications	14	8%
Expansion of residential into agricultural land and subdivision in and around farmland	13	7%
Not enough enforcement of bylaws and non-permitted uses	13	7%
Farmland only being used for hay production, wineries, or horse boarding and not food production	8	4%
Allowing multiple dwellings or buildings on farmland	5	3%
Urban-rural edge conflicts - complaints from neighbours	5	3%
ALR land lying unused and slated for development	4	2%
Problems are more at the Provincial level and not at the City level	4	2%
Limiting irrigation access	2	1%
Not sure	2	1%
Not enough education for the public	1	1%
Other	22	12%
<b>Total</b>	<b>185</b>	

Respondents were asked to indicate whether they thought climate change would have an effect on food production in the Kelowna region. A total of 58% of the respondents thought that some food production would benefit from climate change and some will be negatively impacted.



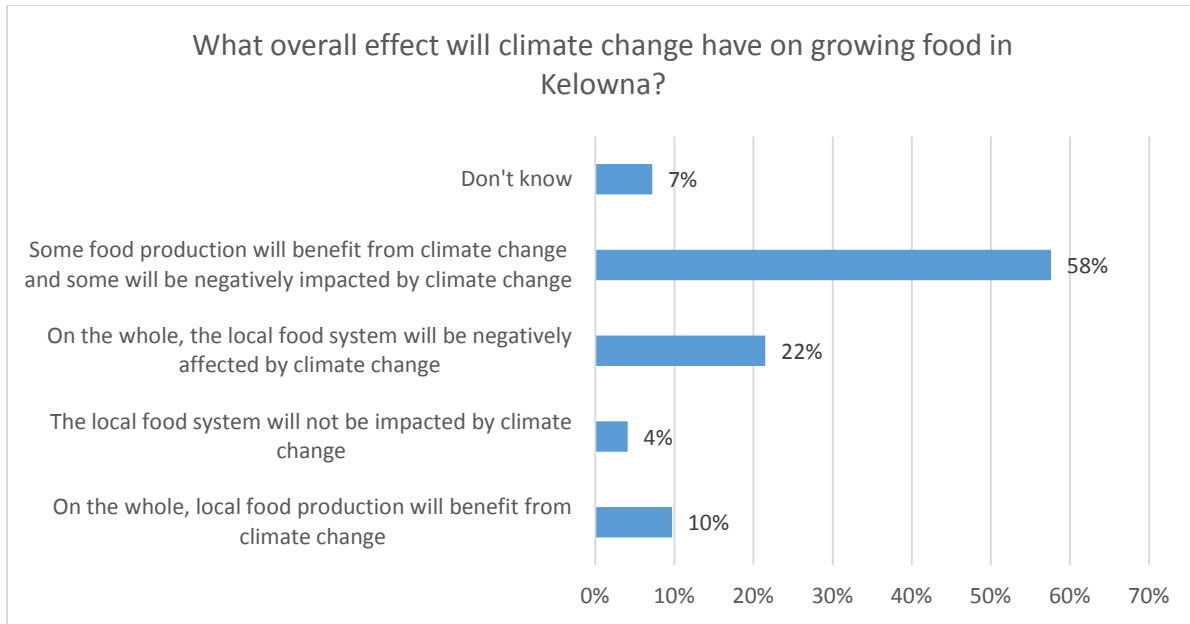


Figure 14. Question 19 - In your opinion, what overall effect will climate change have on growing food? (516 Responses)

### Vision Statement

A draft vision statement was presented in the survey for comment:

*Kelowna is a resilient, diverse and innovative agricultural community that celebrates farming and values farmland as integral to our healthy food system, economy and culture.*

Respondents generally agreed with the vision statement. A total of 73% either agreed or strongly agreed with the statement.

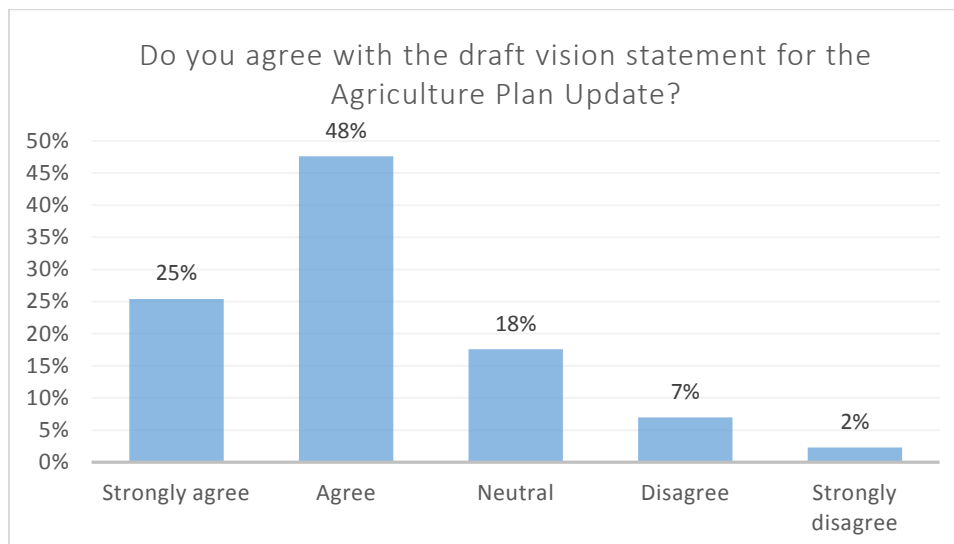


Figure 15. Question 20 - Do you agree with the draft vision statement for the Agricultural Plan Update? (511 Responses)

Those that didn't agree were asked for feedback. The following are the responses:

*Table 5. Please specify why you disagree with the Vision Statement.*

Response	Number	Percent
Nothing in the statement about preserving agricultural land	11	20%
City is not supportive enough of farmers	9	16%
The vision statement is too far of a stretch from current reality	8	14%
Kelowna is not just an agricultural community - other elements are just as, or more, important	7	13%
Kelowna is currently too focused on tourism dollars and catering to the wine industry	5	9%
Agriculture is currently not very diverse	3	5%
Environmental considerations need to be included (i.e. organic and sustainable production)	3	5%
Other	10	18%
<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>	

For those in the "other" category, here were some of the responses:

*"I think that a city ought to be allowed to grow organically. I also think that the City already is too involved in dictating to people what they can do on their property. Agritourism is already well developed in Kelowna and is the past-time of the wealthy (no short supply in Kelowna) and will survive/flourish without the City interfering. Local product purchasing is also the past-time of the middle class and the wealthy. This motto is class specific."*

*"Be clear about your goal and create structure to achieve that goal. A vision statement will appeal to the masses but will be laughable to the farmers who control the land. Many of them will continue to do as they please, which will involve plans to exploit the land, not preserve it."*

*"Not specific enough to the City's role in ensuring achievement of vision."*

#### Strengths and Challenges to Farming in Kelowna

To help guide the development of the Agriculture Plan Update, respondents were asked to share what they felt were the top strengths and challenges to farming in the region.

The top strengths were: great climate, soils and water (77%), strong cultural history of farming in the area (63%) and local market is large enough to support farm businesses (53%).

Table 6. What are the top strengths to farming in Kelowna?

Response	Percentage	Count
Great climate, soils, and water	77%	382
Strong cultural history of farming in the area	63%	313
Local market is large enough to support farm businesses	53%	263
Local farmers are supportive of one another	45%	221
Strong protection of Agriculture Land Reserve boundary	32%	156
Fair water pricing (for irrigation and livestock watering)	29%	145
Wildlife and ecology is managed to compliment and support a healthy farm (e.g. bees, birds, windrow of natural areas, setbacks to streams)	23%	115
Farmers receive support from various levels of government (i.e. through regulations and extension services)	20%	97
Public is well educated about local food	18%	87
Easy access to storage, value-added processing, and distribution channels for food products	15%	72
Good labour force available when needed	12%	59
Farmland is affordable and accessible through either purchase or lease	10%	48
Other, please specify...	8%	38
<b>Total Responses</b>		<b>495</b>

Some of the other responses were:

- The farming community - innovative, passionate, etc. (15%)
- Agritourism and tourism in general (15%)
- Supportive wealthy consumers (9%)
- Farmers markets (6%)
- Pest management practices (6%)

When the farmer responses were queried for both questions (98 Responses for Strengths, 97 Responses for Challenges), the results only varied by one or two percentage points and the top strengths and challenges remained the same.

The top three challenges were:

- Difficulties accessing land for farming due to speculation, high costs, and capital inputs (73%),
- Competing non-farm uses for farmland (urban - rural edge issues) (70%),
- Lack of succession planning (age of farmers, no new young farmers) (56%).

Table 7. What are the top challenges to farming in Kelowna?

Response	Percentage	Count
Difficulties accessing land for farming due to speculation, high costs, and capital inputs	73%	361
Competing non-farm uses for farmland (urban - rural edge issues)	70%	345
Lack of succession planning (age of farmers, no new young farmers)	56%	274
Lack of education or misconceptions about food amongst the public	50%	248
Lack of regulatory support for farmers at the provincial and federal levels (meat processing, supply management, etc.)	44%	218
Restrictive regulations at local government levels (i.e. zoning, signage, etc.)	36%	177
Lack of water (access or cost barriers)	33%	161
Climate change	30%	148
Lack of opportunities and support to sell locally	24%	116
Lack of supporting infrastructure (processing, cold storage, distribution etc.)	21%	103
Lack of time and capacity for farm industry to work together to support each other (growers' associations etc.)	15%	75
Wildlife threats to livestock and crops	13%	65
Poor soils and climate	7%	36
Other, please specify...	13%	62
<b>Total Responses</b>		<b>493</b>

Some of the other responses were:

- Not enough support of local farmers by local businesses or governments (21%)
- Not enough education and awareness amongst consumers (16%)
- Lack of farm workers (12%)
- Development pressures on farmland (7%)
- Water issues (drainage and lack of irrigation) (7%)
- Environmental impacts (pests, climate change, soil erosion, etc.) (7%)
- Not enough local greenhouses to extend production (5%)
- Inconsistent decisions at the City level (4%)
- Not enough enforcement of rules (4%)
- Treatment of migrant farm workers (4%)

### The Role of the City of Kelowna

Respondents were asked what they specifically would like to see the City of Kelowna do to support aspects of the local food system. There were 266 responses and results include:

- Support farmers and food processors (i.e. marketing, access to land, technical production skills, farm worker access, value-added production, farm gate sales, etc.) (21%)
- Protect farmland and prevent urban sprawl (15%)
- More education around local food (i.e. in schools, at events, etc.) (9%)
- Encourage backyard and urban agriculture including rooftops, boulevards, etc. (7%)
- Promote and encourage sustainable agriculture production (i.e. organic, biodynamic, non-GMO, water conservation, etc.) (7%)

- Bylaw enforcement for non-farm uses and non-compliances (5%)
- Permanent year-round farmers market (5%)
- Raise taxes for land that is not being farmed (4%)
- Allow non-farm uses and agritourism opportunities to let farmers diversify their incomes (4%)
- Partnerships with other organizations in Kelowna (4%)
- Encourage locals to purchase local food (3%)
- Develop local procurement policies to purchase local first (2%)
- Allow backyard animal production (i.e. chickens, rabbits, etc.) (2%)
- Central, large-scale composting facility for green waste (2%)
- Control the deer population (2%)
- Other (8%) including:
  - *"Incentives for door-to-door delivery of produce. It is timely for CoK to support organic material recycling.."*
  - *"Tax breaks to those who prominently display and market Okanagan produce and animal products."*
  - *"Let people do what they want with their land."*
  - *"Get the new farmer's market built on Springfield and Benvoulin ASAP with ample parking to free the streets."*
  - *"Redefine their thought process that the majority of agriculture is an "industrial" activity and must be treated as such. This means no encouraging the public to fetter with, obstruct or otherwise impede normalized farm activities. For operations that choose to have interactions with the public (agri-tourism /non-farm use activities) allow them to shape, how, when and why they choose this."*

In the Get Involved Kelowna Idea Report, two ideas were brought forward, which echoed the sentiments recorded in the online survey. One idea was to allow backyard chickens. This idea received 16 stars and 4 comments supporting the idea. One comment suggested that chickens "should be allowed, but only on lots of a certain size and with approval of neighbours". There were a couple of other concerns regarding attraction of wildlife, such as coyotes, avian flu, and potential noise.

The other idea was that agricultural land will become more valuable to society and should be protected for food security reasons. This comment received 5 stars and 3 comments that were in agreement with protection of ALR from development. The overall concern centered around land being held with speculation by developers with no agriculture occurring in hopes it will be developed

## Demographics and Respondent Profile

Table 8. Age range of survey respondents.

Age Category	Percentage
15 - 24	2%
25 - 34	16%
35 - 44	21%
45 - 54	23%
55 - 64	25%
65 - 74	12%
75+	3%

Respondents were asked to provide their postal code so that the geographic range of respondents could be recorded. Of the 368 respondents who provided their postal code, 84% were from Kelowna:

- South West Kelowna (V1W) - 30%
- Central Kelowna (V1Y) - 26%
- East Kelowna (V1V and V1P) - 14%
- North Kelowna (V1X) - 13%

V4V, which includes Winfield, Oyama, and Lake Country was noted the most often as an out-of-town response area.

When asked what group affiliations respondents had, 187 people (33%) responded that they were affiliated with some kind of group in Kelowna.

Table 9. Affiliations to local groups.

Response	Percentage	Count
Local food organization(s)	21%	40
Education organization(s)	21%	39
Farmer or producer association(s)	19%	36
Community association(s)	19%	35
Residents / property owners association(s)	12%	22
Gardening or growing organization(s)	12%	22
Local advocacy group(s)	11%	20
Cultural organization(s)	6%	12
Social services organization(s)	5%	10
Restaurant or food retail business(es)	5%	9
Real estate development organization(s)	2%	3
Other	23%	42
<b>Total Responses</b>		<b>187</b>

# Agriculture Plan Update

List of Recommended Actions - DRAFT

October 2016

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*Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the BC Ministry of Agriculture and the Investment Agriculture Foundation of BC, are pleased to participate in the production of this publication. We are committed to working with our industry partners to address issues of importance to the agriculture and agri-food industry in British Columbia. Opinions expressed in this report are those of the City of Kelowna, and not necessarily those of the Investment Agriculture Foundation, the BC Ministry of Agriculture or Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.*



## Introduction

This list of recommended actions is based on a review of comparable best practices, consideration of professional planning principles and has been developed with the input of the AAC. The actions stem from key issues that have been identified through engagement efforts with the agricultural community and the public. These key issues relate directly back to the Agriculture Plan Update's Vision Statement.

## Vision Statement

*Kelowna is a resilient, diverse, and innovative agricultural community that celebrates farming and values farmland and food producers as integral to our healthy food system, economy, and culture.*

## Key Themes

The themes presented here reflect both the vision statement and the amalgamated feedback received during engagement events. The themes will be used in the Agriculture Plan Update to identify recommendations that the City of Kelowna can take to address issues facing agriculture and food security. In order to remain focused on issues that the City is able to provide leadership on (from a jurisdictional perspective), priority is given to issues and actions that can be tackled by local government.

The following 7 key themes are presented according to the order in which they are referred to in the Vision Statement.

1. Harnessing and stewarding the bio-physical environment: taking advantage of great soil and sun, while minimizing water use and waste.
2. Increasing consumer awareness and support for local agriculture: introducing Kelowna farms to residents and visitors alike.
3. Managing urban and rural growth & development: keeping non-farm uses off the ALR.
4. Supporting economic development of the agricultural sector: creating farms that create a profit.
5. Bridging existing gaps in the food system: getting local food onto local plates.
6. Planning for farm succession: making sure that retirement of the farmer doesn't mean retirement of the farm.
7. Aligning local policies and regulations with the Agriculture Plan's vision: providing clear direction for decision-makers and landowners.

This list identifies recommended actions for each of the seven major themes and the issues associated with each of them.

## Recommended Actions

### Theme 1:

**Harnessing and stewarding the bio-physical environment: taking advantage of great soil and sun, while minimizing water use and waste.**

The Central Okanagan, is one of the best growing regions in Canada. With its warm summer climate and fertile soil, it can support a wide variety of crops. Climate and soil were listed as the top strengths of farming and food production in Kelowna by survey respondents. However, there are still some environmental challenges facing farmers in the region. Stakeholders and survey respondents commented on the importance of the natural ecology of the land and environmentally sound farming practices to help replenish the soil, recharge water sources and provide habitat for natural pollinators, while using water conservation methods and efficient waste management. Climate change was listed as both an opportunity and a threat by 58% of survey respondents and was a key issue of focus at meetings with stakeholders. It will have effects on nearly all the other issues in this theme, including invasive species and water management.

Issues related to this theme include climate change, soil and resource mapping, invasive species, wildlife conflicts and water management.

List of recommended actions for Theme 1:

- Work with the Invasive Species Council of BC and Regional District of Central Okanagan on initiative to control noxious weeds and invasive species.
- Include agriculture in climate change strategies and plans.
- Develop emergency plans (i.e. wildfire, drought) that are inclusive of agriculture.
- Work with AAFC Summerland Research Station and BC Ministry of Environment to determine opportunities for soil maps to be digitized and made available online.
- Enforce and ensure City bylaws (Maintenance of Boulevard Bylaw, Noxious Weeds & Grass Control Bylaw) contain up-to-date list of species of concern.
- Maintain fair water pricing for agricultural users.
- Provide support for water reclaim and re-use projects on farmland.
- Explore impacts of increasing access to treated water and sewer for agriculture.

### Theme 2:

**Increasing consumer awareness and support for local agriculture: introducing Kelowna farms to residents and visitors alike.**

Support for local agriculture is strong in Kelowna. Almost all of the survey respondents (97%) indicated that they “always” or “sometimes” buy locally grown items when they have that option. However, over half (55%) indicated that were not knowledgeable about the *Right to Farm Act* and normal farm practices. Education of community members in regards to agriculture and educational needs for farmers were both key concerns raised by stakeholders at community meetings. Farmers themselves indicated they would like opportunities to enhance professional development, yet lack the time. A total of 83% of the farmer survey respondents indicated that they were not involved in agri-tourism, which points to an opportunity to create a community-wide agricultural identity that would include agri-tourism and branding. The use of a single brand to identify Kelowna-grown food and food products could help solidify support from the public while enhancing their understanding of the local food system. Over half (52%) of the survey respondents noted that a lack of education about the local food system was a challenge for the agricultural sector. Stakeholders also mentioned the need to reinforce primary, secondary, and post-secondary curriculum to bolster the amount of information about the local food system in the education system. Respondents were asked if their children learn about gardening, farming and food production in school. Of those that did have children, only 20% think that they discuss these topics in school.

Issues related to this theme agri-tourism, local marketing and branding, local food support and partnerships with other institutions.

#### List of recommended actions for Theme 2:

- Explore opportunities to participate in a agri-tourism strategy with other agencies.
- Develop historical interpretive signage regarding agriculture for local parks.
- Investigate signage opportunities along roads in farming areas to indicate specific farms, crops, etc.
- Support agricultural events, festivals, fairs, and celebrations.
- Develop policies and bylaws to increase opportunities to sell local food within the community.
- Work with school districts to explore the possibility of using school grounds for pop-up markets or other agricultural events.
- Support curriculum in schools and community-level programming that educates residents about the history of agriculture in Kelowna.
- Investigate the costs and benefits of a local food procurement policy.
- Develop an identity for Kelowna that highlights a diverse agricultural sector.

#### Theme 3:

##### **Managing urban and rural growth & development: keeping non-farm uses off the ALR.**

Kelowna residents are very supportive of the ALR - 96% of survey respondents indicated that policies preserving farmland were important or very important to them. Farmland protection opportunities were identified throughout the stakeholder engagement process, such as vegetative buffers along the urban/rural boundary. These additional initiatives include tools that will help to limit non-agricultural development, minimize conflicts between producers and non-producers, and proactively use and manage farmland for agriculture. Stakeholder groups expressed challenges with regard to land use planning, where islands of residential areas have been created in farmland that now require connecting roads and other infrastructure. Concern over the non-farm use of ALR also remains. Some parcels of farmland are being purchased with no intention of farming, followed by construction of extremely large homes. Over half (51%) of farmers who responded to the survey indicated that they were only actively farming less than 5 acres of land. Many farmers expressed frustration at restrictions placed on non-farm activities that may otherwise provide economic returns over and above allowable farming activities. This tension was also acknowledged during the stakeholder session, where some producers expressed a desire to increase the diversity of activities that should be allowed on farmland. While the Provincial Agricultural Land Commission ultimately has the jurisdiction to permit activities on the ALR, the City has the jurisdiction to regulate them. The City of Kelowna's ALR compliance and enforcement strategy has been in force for the last two years and has already resulted in successful changes. However, when asked if the City was doing enough to enforce non-farm use of farmland, 31% of survey respondents said no and another 34% said that they did not know, indicating that there is a lack of knowledge amongst the public regarding farmland protection.

This theme includes the following issues: non-farm use on ALR land; reducing speculation; compliance and enforcement; underutilized ALR lands; island effect of farmland parcelization; and residential footprint policies.

#### List of recommended actions for Theme 3:

- Address known non-compliance issues and hot spots through bylaw enforcement.
- Support the Farm Practices Protection Act and associated dispute resolution process.
- Work with the real estate industry to develop a "Good Neighbour" policy that provides new landowners with information about normal farm practices and development restrictions.
- Provide information to real estate industry about impacts of farmland speculation.
- Adopt permanent growth boundary protection tools to further protect the ALR.
- Plan roads, sewer, and other services such that the island effect for farmland is minimized.
- Adopt a policy such that ALR applications are only forwarded to the ALC if an Agrologist report indicates an overall benefit to agriculture.
- Develop a homeplate policy to limit overall footprint of residential uses on ALR.
- Meet with other local governments to discuss common concerns and advocate for changes at the provincial level (e.g. property transactions and disclosures).

#### **Theme 4:**

##### **Supporting economic development of the agricultural sector: creating farms that create a profit.**

Kelowna farmers are able to produce a fairly wide variety of crops and livestock products and local retailers have a keen interest in offering local products for sale. Support for new farming initiatives is important for growing the sector; however, support is also needed to enhance current farming operations and allow farmers to capitalize on economies of scale. The majority of small-scale produce growers are unable to provide enough quantity of products for export out of the region independently, or to sell to retail outlets and restaurants on a consistent basis. The need to encourage farm product processing and other value-added opportunities regionally is recognized as a way to increase economic viability. Innovation enhances profitability and allows farmers to develop entrepreneurial ideas, gain useful marketing and business management skills, and access capital. The community is split as to whether or not the local agricultural sector is growing or declining, with 36% indicating they feel the sector is growing and another 36% who believe that it is declining. Stakeholders indicate that making a profit is challenging because input costs are high and competition from imported goods is strong. During engagement, producers indicated that they need assistance, in the form of extension services (e.g. providing administrative tools for farmers, local information about soils, succession planning resources, etc.), from the City as well as accessible business development resources. Farm profitability is also closely tied to labour and farmworker housing. Some Kelowna farms find it difficult to retain farm workers due to lack of housing and temporary rental housing for seasonal farm workers is difficult to find. Lack of skilled labour was listed in the survey as one of the top challenges to farming in Kelowna. Rental housing off the farm and transportation for the worker also creates added expenses for farm operators. On the other hand, construction of farm worker housing on the farm opens the possibility for the structures being converted to other non-farm uses in the future.

Issues related to this theme include extension services; farmworker housing; farm-scale business planning; and sector innovation.

##### **List of recommended actions for Theme 4:**

- Enhance connections between producers, small businesses, non-governmental organizations, and small scale food processors.
- Conduct an inventory of food storage, distribution, and processing capacity for small and medium-scale producers.
- Support staff in professional development towards agricultural and rural planning.
- Provide templates and other guidelines and support for farmworker housing development.
- Continue to communicate third-party business planning sessions and workshops to the agricultural community.
- Support the agricultural economic development goals of the Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission (COEDC).
- Advocate for general support from higher levels of government.
- Support the development of a local Farmers Institute.
- Support community-level agricultural facilities for food preparation, processing, and cold storage and investigate possible funding sources.

#### **Theme 5:**

##### **Bridging existing gaps in the food system: getting local food onto local plates.**

The main components of the local food system include: production, storage, processing, distribution, retail, and waste management. Gaps, or weak links, may exist between various components of any community's food system. Residents of Kelowna have indicated strong levels of interest in purchasing local foods, however 46% of survey respondents noted that limited access to local products is a challenge. This points to an opportunity to develop alternative local retail opportunities. Even with increased availability some barriers to improving food self-sufficiency remains. For non-farmers, 29% of respondents mentioned cost as a barrier to purchasing local food. While it is difficult for the City to provide leadership in influencing the price of food, it can play a role in continuing to support local organizations with mandates to improve access to fresh, local, healthy foods for at-risk sectors of the community. Another concern raised by local farmers and other stakeholders was the limited amount of supporting infrastructure for agriculture, including secure processing facilities, cold storage and distribution opportunities. This is particularly true for smaller, independent

farmers that are not members of larger industry groups. A large-scale commercial composting facility was identified as a resource that would be used by urban and rural food producers alike. Many respondents to the survey cited the need to expand urban food production opportunities, in particular: increase the number of community gardens (there are 11 community gardens in Kelowna); increase the number of school gardens; and promote edible landscaping and agriculture in City gardens and parks.

This theme includes the following issues food security; food processing infrastructure and storage needs; distribution channels; retail opportunities; managing food waste; and community gardening and urban farming.

List of recommended actions for Theme 5:

- Conduct an inventory of urban (public land) farming opportunities.
- Investigate grant/funding stream opportunities for projects that support local food system initiatives.
- Endorse/support the visions of other local organizations working in food security, food access, and food self-sufficiency.
- Explore the possibilities of incubator farming on public lands.
- Explore needs and opportunities for a community food hub (a centralized location with a commercial-scale kitchen and simple processing equipment for small-scale food and beverage products).
- Support the development of a healthy food strategy as a theme of the Healthy City Strategy.

#### **Theme 6:**

**Planning for farm succession: making sure that retirement of the farmer doesn't mean retirement of the farm.**

Whether a producer is just starting out or coming from a long family history of farming, the question whether and how to obtain land is challenging. Sometimes a family's younger generation of farmers may decide to switch crop varieties, upgrade equipment, or modernize practices. These activities all entail investment costs. The cost of farmland in most regions of BC is prohibitive: not only for new farmers but also for those who are taking over longstanding family farm businesses. There is also pressure from the real estate industry to develop large estate homes on farmland, or to sell ALR parcels as holding properties. The top challenges to farming and food production in Kelowna, indicated by survey results, were: Difficulties accessing land for farming due to speculation, high costs, and capital inputs (73%); competing non-farm uses for farmland (urban - rural edge issues) (70%); and Lack of succession planning (age of farmers, no new young farmers) (56%). The Kelowna farming community also noted that it was difficult to find information and advice regarding the most appropriate type of access agreement for land (purchases, rentals, and leases) and affordable farm financing. This is where mentorships and apprenticeships can be a useful resource. Leasing (and/or licensing) farmland can be one of the most affordable ways for farms to become established and expand. During stakeholder meetings, there was interest raised by both farmers and non-governmental groups in having the City pursue the option of establishing a farmland trust. With appropriate policies and community initiatives in place, some of the burden of accessing land can be alleviated.

Issues related to this theme include farmland trust models; alternative tenure arrangements; and mentorships and apprenticeships.

List of recommended actions for Theme 6:

- Support dissemination of guides, factsheets, reports, on alternatives to buying/selling of farmland.
- Explore opportunities to establish a farmland trust (possibly regional).
- Promote land linking and mentorship programs (i.e. Young Agrarians).
- Work with the real estate industry to provide those selling ALR with alternative options to fee-simple sales.

#### **Theme 7:**

**Aligning local policies and regulations with the Agriculture Plan Update-'s vision: providing clear direction for decision-makers and landowners.**

Land use regulation by local governments is established under the *Community Charter* and the *Local Government Act*, which contains extensive land use regulations, zoning powers and subdivision powers. This enables local governments to adopt regional growth strategies and OCPs that create a framework for land use regulation, including zoning bylaws. The City of Kelowna's OCP can recognize agriculture as a significant contributor to the community's landscape, identity and economy and include policies to support and enhance this role. Zoning bylaws can influence agricultural land in several ways, including the setting of minimum parcel sizes and maximum building footprints, setting parameters around secondary dwellings, setbacks, and establishing the potential for subdivision of agricultural lands, to name a few. Collectively, these plans and bylaws express a commitment to the preservation and strengthening of farmland, including the protection of lands capable of agricultural productivity, encouraging a diverse and profitable agricultural sector and supporting a sustainable and resilient local food system. Awareness of jurisdictional responsibilities and authority can be useful in defining policy, strategies, actions and projects that can be taken by local government and those that require broader collaboration.

This theme includes the following issues: updating bylaws; innovative OCP policies; guidelines and strategies; and supporting third-party initiatives.

- Perform regular review of OCP and Zoning Bylaw to ensure that commitment to agriculture and food system is embedded and reflected.
- Convene with local government planners to discuss common agricultural and food security goals to ensure the best practices and regional alignment.
- Meet with other Farm Bylaw municipalities (Abbotsford, Langley, Delta) to discuss common issues.
- Provide support (endorsements, funding) for non-governmental groups working on projects/initiatives that the Agriculture Plan Update supports.
- Explore the development of a local food procurement strategy.
- Re-examine ALR minimum lot sizes and determine whether they support or constrict a diversity of agricultural activities.
- Explore compensation for ecosystem services provided by agriculture.

**Schedule C: Agriculture Advisory Committee Recommendations to Council on Agriculture Plan Update, from October 13, 2016.**

The Agriculture Advisory Committee met with staff and the consultant to review the draft theme areas that emerged from the public engagement on October 13, 2016. As well the Agriculture Advisory Committee reviewed and provided input on draft action items for the Agriculture Plan Update. At the meeting, the following recommendations were passed:

**Moved by Dominic Rampone/Seconded by Keith Duhaime**

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee recommends that Council support the key themes for the Agricultural Plan update with the following amendments for consideration:

1. Theme 1 - The City should take the 'lead' role rather than a 'supporting' role when addressing wildlife conflicts and concerns;
2. Theme 2 - Deepening partnerships with schools should be changed to deepening partnerships with schools and other public institutions;
3. Theme 4 - The City should play a 'supporting' role rather than 'no role' in cultivating farm-scale business planning and advancing sector innovation.
4. Theme 5 - Need to be more specific regarding 'food security' and clarify it by stating either 'community food security' or 'household food security'.

**Carried**

**Moved by Dominic Rampone/Seconded by Yvonne Herbison**

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee recommends that Council adopt Theme 1 - Harnessing and stewarding the bio-physical environment: taking advantage of great soil and sun, while minimizing water use and waste, with the following recommended actions:

- Work with the Invasive Species Council of BC and Regional District of Central Okanagan on initiative to control noxious weeds and invasive species.
- Include agriculture in climate change strategies and plans.
- Develop emergency plans (i.e. wildfire, drought) that are inclusive of agriculture.
- Work with AAFC Summerland Research Station and BC Ministry of Environment to determine opportunities for soil maps to be digitized and made available online.
- Ensure City bylaws (Maintenance of Boulevard Bylaw, Noxious Weeds & Grass Control Bylaw) contain up-to-date list of species of concern.
- Maintain fair water pricing for agricultural users.
- Provide support for water reclaim and re-use projects on farmland.
- Explore impacts of increasing access to treated water and sewer for agriculture.
- Enforce existing weed bylaws.

**Carried**

**Moved by Keith Duhaime/Seconded by Dominic Rampone**

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee recommends that Council adopt Theme 2 - Increasing consumer awareness and support for local agriculture: introducing Kelowna farms to residents and visitors alike, with the following recommended actions:

- Explore opportunities to develop an agri-tourism strategy with RDCO and Tourism Kelowna.
- Develop historical interpretive signage regarding agriculture for local parks.
- Support agricultural events, festivals, fairs, and celebrations.
- Develop policies and bylaws to increase opportunities to sell local food within the community.
- Install signs along roads in farming areas to indicate specific farms, crops, etc.
- Work with school districts to explore the possibility of using school grounds for pop-up markets or other agricultural events.
- Support curriculum in schools and community-level programming that educates residents about the history of agriculture in Kelowna.
- Explore the development of a local food procurement policy.
- Develop an identity for Kelowna that highlights a diverse agricultural sector.

**Carried**

**Moved by Jeff Ricketts/Seconded by Dominic Rampone**

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee recommends that Council adopt Theme 3 - Managing urban and rural growth & development: keeping non-farm uses off the ALR, with the following recommended actions:

- Address known non-compliance issues and hot spots through bylaw enforcement.
- Support the Farm Practices Protection Act and associated dispute resolution process.
- Work with the real estate industry to develop a "Good Neighbour" policy that provides new landowners with information about normal farm practices.
- Adopt permanent growth boundary protection tools to further protect the ALR.
- Plan roads, sewer, and other services such that the island effect for farmland is minimized.
- Adopt a policy such that ALR applications are only forwarded to the ALC if an Agrologist report indicates an overall benefit to agriculture.
- Develop a homeplate policy to limit overall footprint of residential uses on ALR.
- Provide information to real estate industry about impacts of farmland speculation.
- Encourage city officials to meet with real estate governing bodies to communicate development restrictions on farmland.
- Meet with other local governments to discuss common concerns and advocate for changes at the provincial level (e.g. property transactions and disclosures).

**Carried**

**Moved by Jeff Ricketts/Seconded by Yvonne Herbison**



THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee recommends that Council adopt Theme 4 - Supporting economic development of the agricultural sector: creating farms that create a profit, with the following recommended actions:

- Enhance connections between producers, small businesses, non-governmental organizations, and small scale food processors.
- Conduct an inventory of food storage, distribution, and processing capacity for small and medium-scale producers.
- Support staff in professional development towards agricultural and rural planning.
- Provide templates and other guidelines and support for farmworker housing development.
- Continue to communicate third-party business planning sessions and workshops to the agricultural community.
- Support the agricultural economic development goals of the Central Okanagan Economic Development Commission (COEDC).
- Advocate for general support from higher levels of government.
- Facilitate the development of a local Farmers Institute.
- Support community-level agricultural facilities for food preparation, processing, and cold storage and investigate possible funding sources.

**Carried**

**Moved by Yvonne Herbison/Seconded by Keith Duhaime**

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee recommends that Council adopt Theme 5 - Bridging existing gaps in the food system: getting local food onto local plates, with the following recommended actions:

- Conduct an inventory of urban (public land) farming opportunities.
- Create grant/funding stream for projects that support local food system initiatives.
- Endorse/support the visions of other local organizations working in food security, food access, and food self-sufficiency.
- Explore the possibilities of incubator farming on public lands.
- Convene a meeting with stakeholders about the needs and opportunities for a community food hub.
- Support the development of a healthy food strategy.

**Carried**

**Moved by Yvonne Herbison/Seconded by Ed Schiller**

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee recommends that Council adopt Theme 6 - Planning for farm succession: making sure that retirement of the farmer doesn't mean retirement of the farm, with the following recommended actions:

- Support dissemination of guides, factsheets, reports, on alternatives to buying/selling of farmland.
- Explore opportunities to establish a farmland trust (possibly regional).
- Promote land linking and mentorship programs (i.e. Young Agrarians).

- Work with the real estate industry to provide those selling ALR with alternative options to fee-simple sales.

**Carried**

**Moved by Dominic Rampone/Seconded by Ed Schiller**

THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee recommends that Council adopt Theme 7 - Aligning local policies and regulations with the Agriculture Plan Update-'s vision: providing clear direction for decision-makers and landowners, with the following recommended actions:

- Perform regular review of OCP and Zoning Bylaw to ensure that commitment to agriculture and food system is embedded and reflected.
- Meet with RDCO, RDNO, other nearby local government planners to discuss common agricultural and food security goals.
- Meet with other Farm Bylaw municipalities (Abbotsford, Langley, Delta) to discuss common issues.
- Provide support (endorsements, funding) for non-governmental groups working on projects/initiatives that the Agriculture Plan Update supports.
- Explore the development of a local food procurement strategy.
- Re-examine ALR minimum lot sizes and determine whether they support or constrict a diversity of agricultural activities.
- Explore compensation for ecosystem services provided by agriculture.

**Carried**

# AGRICULTURE PLAN UPDATE: ENGAGEMENT AND DRAFT ACTIONS

November 14, 2016





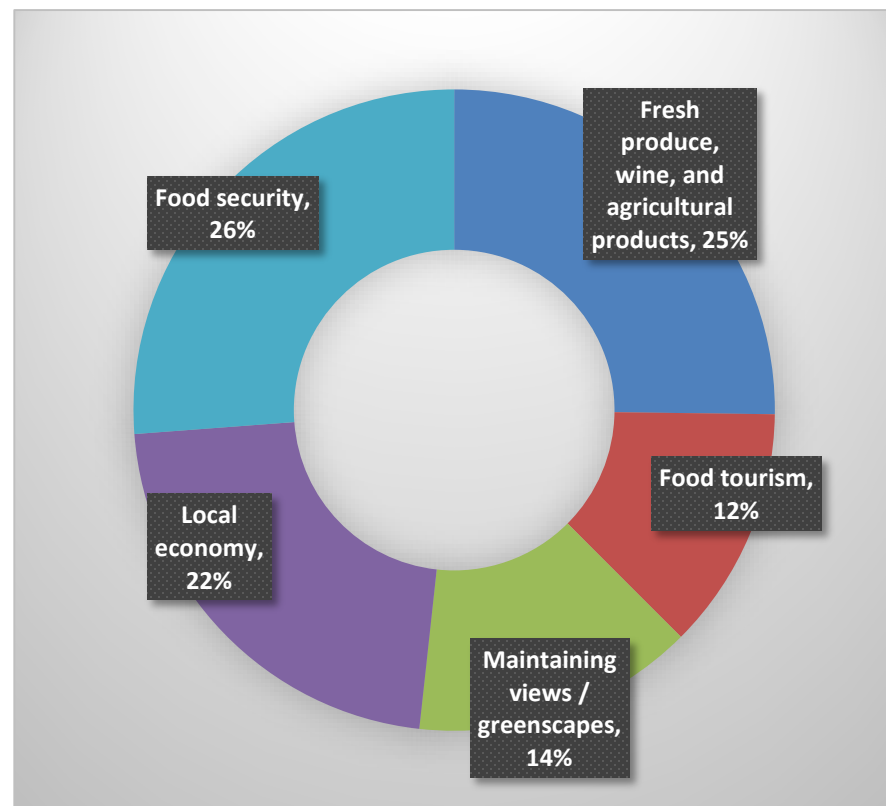
## ENGAGEMENT TO DATE

- ▶ AAC (April 14, May 11, Oct. 13)
- ▶ Public survey (May 24 - June 30)
- ▶ Stakeholder session (June 8)
- ▶ Public Open Houses (June 8 and 11)
- ▶ Young Agrarians (June 13 via phone)
- ▶ Industry session (June 22)
- ▶ Food Policy Council (June 30 via phone)



## SURVEY RESULTS

- ▶ 563 surveys filled out
- ▶ 115 identified as farmers
- ▶ 95% policies preserving farmland were important or very important

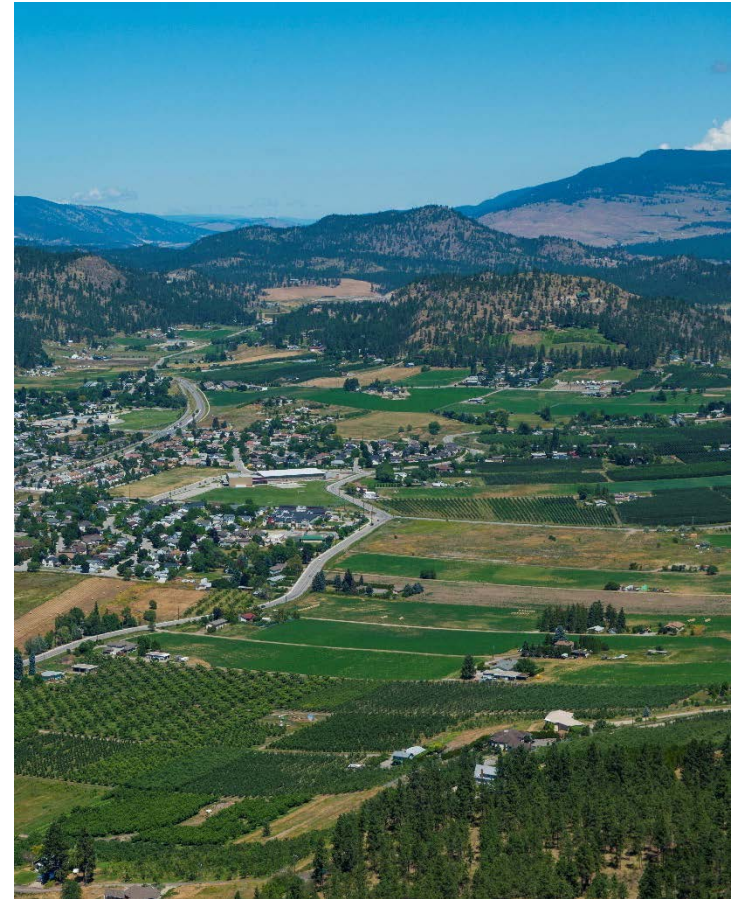


*Reasons to protect farmland*



## VISION STATEMENT

Kelowna is a resilient, diverse and innovative agricultural community that celebrates farming and values farmland as integral to our healthy food system, economy and culture.



## KEY THEMES

1. Harnessing and stewarding the bio-physical environment
2. Increasing consumer awareness and support for local agriculture
3. Managing urban and rural growth and development
4. Supporting economic development of agriculture sector





## KEY THEMES CON'T

4. Bridging existing gaps in the food system
5. Planning for farm succession
6. Aligning local policies and regulation with the Agriculture Plan's vision



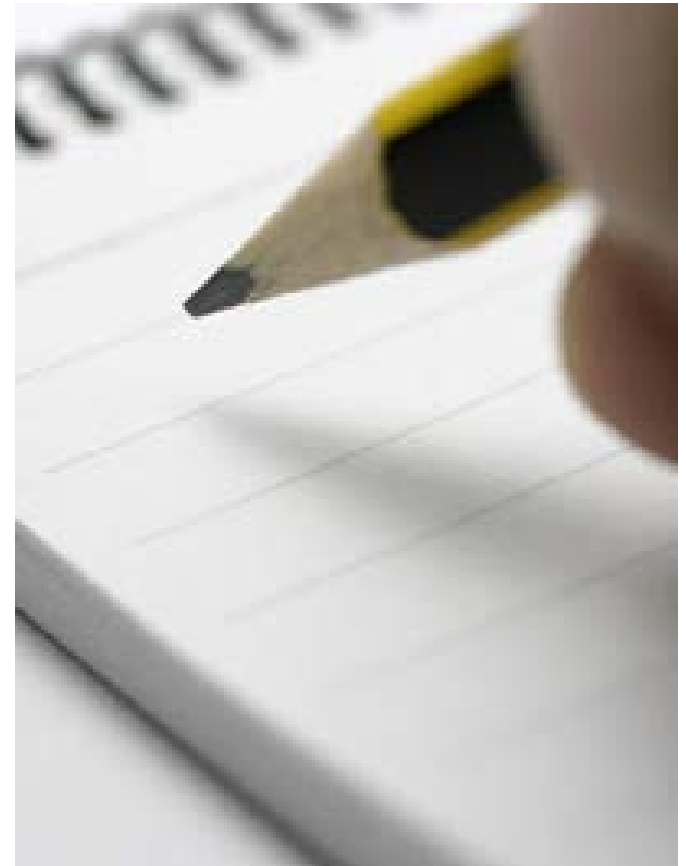
## POLICY DEVELOPMENT

- ▶ Criteria for assessing non-farm uses on ALR
- ▶ Urban-side farmland protection tools
- ▶ Supporting a farm community identity and culture



## DRAFTING THE ACTIONS

- ▶ Actions are:
  - ▶ DRAFT
  - ▶ Based on best practices
  - ▶ Based on AAC input
  - ▶ City may lead, support, or have no role in action
- ▶ Gaps in draft actions
- ▶ Actions will be refined with engagement this month



## DRAFT ACTIONS:

### 1. BIO-PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

- ▶ invasive species;
- ▶ climate change;
- ▶ emergency plans;
- ▶ soil mapping;
- ▶ fair water pricing;
- ▶ Reclamation and re-use of water; and
- ▶ Access to treated water and sewer.





## DRAFT ACTIONS:

### 2. CONSUMER AWARENESS AND SUPPORT

- ▶ Agri-tourism strategy;
- ▶ Signage;
- ▶ Policies to sell local food;
- ▶ Agricultural events;
- ▶ School grounds for markets or events;
- ▶ Education;
- ▶ Local food procurement policy; and
- ▶ Agriculture sector identity.



## DRAFT ACTIONS:

### 3. URBAN AND RURAL GROWTH

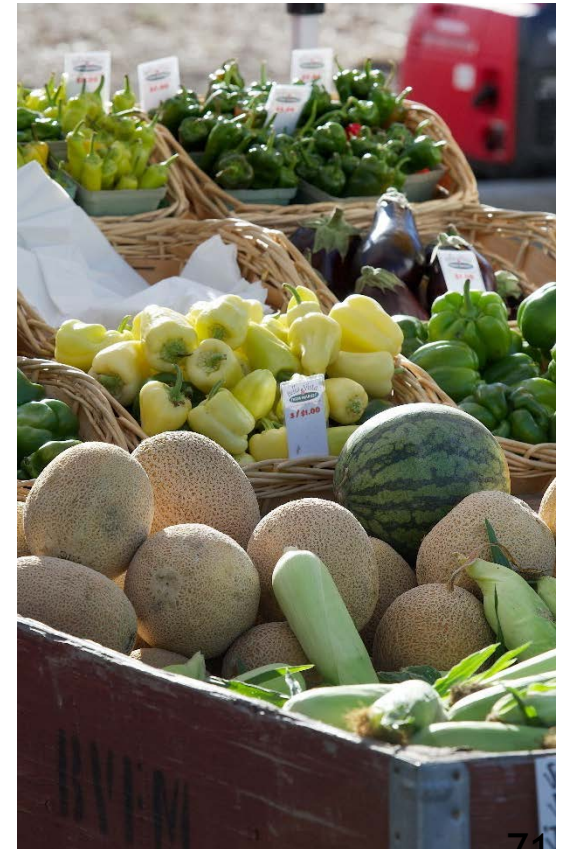
- ▶ Non-compliance issues;
- ▶ Farm Practices Protection Act;
- ▶ Real estate industry;
- ▶ Permanent growth boundary protection tools;
- ▶ Minimize island effect;
- ▶ ALR application to ALC policy;
- ▶ Homeplate policy; and
- ▶ Local government discussions.



## DRAFT ACTIONS:

### 4. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- ▶ Enhance connections;
- ▶ Food storage, distribution, and processing capacity;
- ▶ Professional development;
- ▶ Farmworker housing development
- ▶ Business planning sessions;
- ▶ Agricultural economic development goals; and
- ▶ Local Farmers Institute





## DRAFT ACTIONS:

### 5. BRIDGING EXISTING GAPS

- ▶ Inventory urban farming opportunities;
- ▶ Grants for local food system initiatives;
- ▶ Local organizations vision support;
- ▶ Incubator farming;
- ▶ Community food hub; and
- ▶ Healthy food strategy.





## DRAFT ACTIONS:

### 6. FARM SUCCESSION

- ▶ Alternatives to buying/selling farmland;
- ▶ Farmland trust;
- ▶ Land linking and mentorship programs; and
- ▶ Options to fee-simple sales.



## DRAFT ACTIONS:

### 7. ALIGNING POLICES WITH VISION

- ▶ OCP and Zoning Bylaw review;
- ▶ Local government discussions;
- ▶ Support for local food system initiatives;
- ▶ Local food procurement policy;
- ▶ ALR minimum lot sizes; and
- ▶ Ecosystem services compensation.



# UPCOMING ENGAGEMENT

November 22:

- ▶ Farmer conversation
- ▶ OBWB and Climate Action Initiative
- ▶ Irrigation Districts\*
- ▶ Airport\*

November 23

- ▶ Stakeholder session
- ▶ Industry session
- ▶ Tourism and EDC

\* *Date to be confirmed*







# QUESTIONS?

