

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Agriculture Advisory Committee is to advise City Council on agricultural issues. The Agriculture Advisory Committee will be a liaison and communication channel between the agricultural community and City Council, and will provide a forum where agriculture related issues can be discussed with other agencies, committees and interest groups.

2. AUTHORITY

Community Charter, Abbotsford City Council.

3. MANDATE

The mandate of the Agriculture Advisory Committee is to make recommendations on agriculture matters, more specifically:

- a) provide recommendations to Council on the development of strategies, policies, plans and regulations dealing with agricultural issues, enhancing agriculture and agricultural areas of the City, such as farm 'edge' policies, farm bylaws, and environment, etc.;
- b) review and provide recommendations to Council on development applications, referred by staff or Council, on the effect of the proposal on agriculture;
- c) provide recommendations to Council on the operation and maintenance of the City's dyking, drainage and irrigation programs to address the needs of the agriculture industry; and
- d) provide input on the development on the City's Agriculture Strategy.

4. MEMBERSHIP

1. Appointments, and removal, of members to the Agriculture Advisory Committee will be made in accordance with the City's Committee Protocol Policy.
2. Terms of appointments will be in accordance with the City's Committee Protocol Policy.
3. The Agriculture Advisory Committee will be comprised of nine (9) voting members appointed by Council:
 - a) one (1) member of Council, and an alternate;
 - b) four (4) members from the farming industry
(e.g. berry, dairy, greenhouse, poultry, or other farming type);



AGRICULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- c) one (1) member from the Agriculture Committee of the Abbotsford Chamber of Commerce;
 - d) one (1) member from the BC Agriculture Council; and
 - e) two (2) members at large.
4. The Chair of the Agriculture Advisory Committee will be the appointed Council representative.
5. The staff liaisons to the Agriculture Advisory Committee will consist of the following:
 - a) General Manager, Planning and Development Services, or their designate; and
 - b) General Manager, Engineering and Regional Utilities, or their designate.
6. From time to time, other City staff members may be required to attend to provide technical advice and assistance.
7. Representative liaisons from the following public agencies will consist of the following:
 - a) a representative from the Ministry of Agriculture; and
 - b) a representative from the Agricultural Land Commission.
5. **RELATED PROCEDURES, GUIDELINES AND PUBLICATIONS**
 1. The Agriculture Advisory Committee will operate in accordance with the *Community Charter*, the City's Council Procedure Bylaw, the City's Committee Protocol Policy, and any other applicable enactments, bylaws or policies, as amended or replaced from time to time.
 2. Meetings will normally be held monthly, beginning in February of each calendar year, excluding August, December and January, or at the call of the Chair.
 3. Quorum will be determined in accordance with the City's Committee Protocol Policy. Vacancies (but not absences) are excluded when counting the voting members in order to establish the quorum.
 4. Committee members must avoid conflicts of interest, in accordance with the *Community Charter* and the City's Committee Protocol Policy.
 5. The Committee will report to Council, in accordance with the City's Committee Protocol Policy.