



Agenda No: 5.1

Mtg. Date: June 11, 2015

## Regional Board Report

**TO:** Regional Board  
**FROM:** Ron Fralick  
Manager of Planning  
**DATE:** June 3, 2015  
**SUBJECT:** Agricultural Advisory Commission Membership (File: 0540-20)

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**Purpose:**

To consider appointing one new member and re-appointing one existing member to the Agricultural Advisory Commission (AAC) to three-year terms in accord with the Agricultural Advisory Commission Terms of Reference (TOR).

**Executive Summary:**

The AAC provides advice to the Board, other Commissions, and staff regarding agricultural issues and the potential impact of planning decisions on agriculture. All members are volunteers and appointed by the Regional Board. To maintain six members on the AAC, it is recommended that one member whose term is expiring be re-appointed and a new member be appointed.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the Regional Board endorses the following appointments to the Agricultural Advisory Commission:

- Emma Rantucci and Sandra Gesi appointed for three-year terms (expiring June 2018).

Respectfully Submitted:

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R. Fralick, MCIP, RPP  
Manager of Planning

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C. Radford  
Director of Community Services

*Prepared by: Janelle Taylor, Planner 1*

Approved for Board's Consideration

  
Brian Reardon, CAO

**Implications of Recommendation:****Strategic Plan:**

The Agricultural Advisory Commission fulfils the Regional District of Central Okanagan Strategic Plan (Internal Goals for Providing All Services) by engaging our citizens and using their input to find innovative solutions. Furthermore, the mandate of the Commission works toward achieving the Regional Board's desire to be a "region that respects, protects, and strengthens its agriculture and rural assets".

**Policy:**

Appointments are in keeping with Regional District of Central Okanagan Agricultural Advisory Commission Terms of Reference.

**Legal/Statutory Authority:**

Membership and operation of the Agricultural Advisory Commission is in accord with Section 898 of the Local Government Act.

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**Background:****History:**

The AAC, established in 1994, is an Advisory Commission of the Regional Board. The Commission provides advice to the Board, other Commissions, and staff regarding agricultural issues and the potential impact of planning decisions on agriculture.

The TOR amended in August of 2006 indicates that the membership of the AAC shall be comprised of not less than three or more than seven volunteer individuals who reside within the Regional District of Central Okanagan. Furthermore, the membership will reflect a diversity of agricultural professions, practices, sectors and commodity groups and will include a designated representative of the provincial Ministry of Agriculture. Appointments are for a three-year term. A member may be re-appointed to serve a maximum of two consecutive three-year terms.

**Current:**

There are currently six volunteer members on the AAC, with two terms expiring. One of the members has expressed interest in not pursuing a second term; therefore, Planning staff is recommending to re-appoint one member whose term is expiring and to appoint a new member. This will maintain six members on the AAC and ensure the Commission remains in compliance with the TOR.

The first-term appointment is for Sandra Gesi of 11137 Pretty Court. Sandra is a Fire Communications Operator with 19 years of experience in the Emergency Services field. She was raised on a farm in an active agricultural area; she was involved in proper farming practices, which included recognizing potential impacts on the environment. Sandra believes that her experience and knowledge of farming will be an asset to the AAC.

**Attachment(s):**

None

**Considerations not applicable to this report:**

- Financial Considerations
- Alternatives
- Organizational Issues
- External Implications