

Central Kootenay Food Policy Council  
All Council Teleconference Meeting  
January 29, 2020

**Present:** Ari Derfel, Hailey Troock, Tara Stark, Leah Main, Elizabeth Quinn, Patrick Steiner, Ramona Faust, Kevin Murphy, Rachael Roussin, Alys Forde, Abra Brynne

**Notes:** Hailey Troock

**Called to order at 10:00 am**

**Action Points** (requested by Ramona Faust):

1. Develop Evidence-Based Policy Project resources into kid and youth-friendly material and find teachers that are open, engaged and excited about this thing  
Lead: Abra  
Support: Alice, Ari/Co-op and others
2. Proposal to change Council's Purposes, if needed, at AGM for CRA  
Lead: Abra  
Support: Elizabeth
3. Go over work plan every meeting and look at the progress of line items and format is manageable and we can measure progress  
Lead: Abra  
Support: Ari
4. Get financials from bookkeeper but there are errors that need to be changed; will be resolved early February  
Lead: Abra:  
Support: Elizabeth
5. Executive to discuss September 21 meeting change at the next meeting to adjust it so it doesn't conflict with UBCM  
Lead: Abra  
Support: Hailey
6. There will be further public input up until April this year for ALCA residential flexibility options policy intentions paper - proposing a change that there be no required application to the ALC; send out info to Council members  
Lead: Kevin  
Support: Abra/Hailey
7. Send out grant info, Food Basket survey info (when available) and Hailey to gather contacts for food literacy workshop  
Lead: Tara  
Support: Abra/Hailey
8. Questions around the role of the CKFPC in helping micro-processors; need to figure out how to make regional and who to partner with  
Lead: Elizabeth  
Support: Rachael, Abra, Ari
9. Inviting non-farming folks to come out to KOGS AGM to see what they do: 4 meetings a year and certification meets 2 times a year and one AGM and always one hour or less from Nelson; send out info to Council members  
Lead: Alice  
Support: Abra

10. Co-op is looking for marketing manager (full-time temporary to run until October when person is back in October); send out vacancy to Council members/network  
Lead: Ari  
Support: Abra
11. Request to be consulted about Co-op's distribution discussion by Abra  
Lead: Ari
12. Request to see the update on CBT's logistics study feasibility study by Ari  
Lead: Abra
13. If want to know what RDCK is doing, can check sustainability page on website and there is an agriculture link on their site; if interested in organic waste recovery program, that should be on resource recovery  
Lead: Ramona
14. Non-family farm transition toolkit in research mode by YA - looking for case stories etc or any other info; send to Hailey  
Lead: Hailey
15. Role of organizations in implementing outcomes of public surveys - potential place for CKFPC to develop tools and resources for local governments  
Lead: Patrick

#### **Adoption of minutes from July 16, 2019 meeting**

- Moved: Ari
- Second: Ramona
- Opposed: None

#### **Coordinator Report and Discussion**

- Abra highlighted a few issues that are relevant for food systems and their viability; for example, the impact of smoke cover on livestock and crops
  - Looking at this in EBPP - changing climate on cropping and management systems
  - Report - more precipitation across area and not coming in the summer
  - Policy adaptation to support high quality craft industry here - Health Canada bad fit for cannabis industry here
  - Mention of event on Feb 7
  - Mention of Climate Change project with City of Nelson
- How to develop EBPP resources into kid-friendly material
  - Who can support: Alice, Ari and Co-op can support through youth education goal, others can join later
  - Find teachers that are open, engaged and excited about this thing
  - Leah: Lucerne school contact is Julia Greenlaw (Hailey also knows her)
  - Alice: focus on highschool age youth that would be excited to get involved
- Comments and remarks related to work plan
  - Elizabeth: Flagged that work plan is ambitious; work plan has calendar to help Abra stay on track
  - Council received an offer from a lawyer who works with charities to offer support for free through BC Healthy Communities contact
    - Purposes registered as society
      - Elizabeth: Since CRA needs purposes, we can change them with BC Societies act at next AGM - knowing what to have as purposes that aligns with charitable requirements that is important

- Abra: Thought-piece themes published in province wide E-news
- UN Universal Days of note - World Water Day, Eradication of Poverty Day
- Ari: Suggestion to go over work plan every meeting and look at the progress of line items and format is manageable and we can measure progress
- Elizabeth: Suggestion that as Abra brings forward new ideas (education in schools), she can also bring forward what may not get done in lieu of
- Abra: Goals that if anything new added, additional resources are added
- Council received funding from CBT to support a guide for chefs and caterers for local procurement and sourcing
- Tara: Where are we at with funding for ED?
  - Abra: Got financials from bookkeeper but there are errors that need to be changed; will be resolved early February but the funding ballpark is 2 - 2.5 days per week until fall 2020
- Ari: Question about formal calculations for projects in relation to work plan
  - Abra: None
- Comments on proposed CKFPC Calendar for 2020
  - Leah: happy to have calendar now and happy it's in Nelson
  - Tara: Question about using Zoom in person as well
  - Hailey: Suggestion of looking into Google Hangouts - could consider because browser based not app based (revisit)
  - Ari: Give people advance time of thinking of stepping into new roles
  - Ramona: Resolutions can come from local government to UBCM (Feb 13) - regional district does not have another meeting before that date - would need to be a municipal government
    - AKBLG (regional grouping) - has premeeting to consider motions to approve what will go to provincial event in September - conduit for policy change recommendations
    - Low subscription to resolutions so far - check council calendars and get something added on - helps inform discussion at national level (sits on rural forum and gets to bring pieces to national body that make it into the policy stream)
  - Sept 21 meeting - Executive can discuss at the next meeting to adjust it so it doesn't conflict with UBCM

## Member Updates

### Kevin Murphy, MOA

- Public Engagement: Last Feb 2019 the MOA made amendments to ALCA - phasing out secondary residence allowance without ALC approval, as long as manufactured home for immediate family members
- Grandfathering deadline has been extended, in addition the news release included a policy intentions paper
- There will be further public input up until April this year - proposing a change - no required application to the ALC
- Due to 2019 disease that impacted deer population in Montana; Animal Health Act required hunters to submit head → 1000 submissions made out of 4 units in SE - all came back negative but concern it could show up so there is continued surveillance
- Production agriculture perspective - forage - hay and pasture, crop seeding - online tool to help producers select new species that are suitable for their sites

### Tara Stark, Interior Health

- Single year grant applications out now - due February 21 - preference given to communities who haven't yet received funds in the last decade - feel free to talk to Tara with your questions
- Pro D Day Workshop in SD 20 (Central Kootenay)
  - For Elementary teachers - how to use food in classrooms / food literacy for kids
  - Hailey: Knows someone who would be interested - will pass info to Tara
- Food Basket survey
  - People on income support often have to choose between rent and eating well; the Nutritious food basket sample is an advocacy tool that takes a random sample from stores and each basket is costed; takes 1.5 hours to cost a store
  - Looking for highschool age+ people to do it in May
  - Ari: Curious about this - engaged in price comparison - Coop actually less expensive in comparison to other local shops despite popular belief
  - Tara: Nutritious food basket is based on what it costs for a family of 4 based on the Canadian Food Guide (national standard, no distinction between organic and conventional) - if store gets selected and most products are organic, those prices go into the mix with the other stores in the area that gets costed and it's an average that comes out
  - Ari: Coop Staff would be interested in doing that - to get data - how we compare to this "notional nutritious basket" - point to interesting work as Council - making organic and sustainable affordable to all people (price gap exists)
  - Leah: Wants more info - is there a place in survey for items that aren't available locally?
  - Tara: Not sure - speaking to Ari's points, maintains anonymity of the store - don't know store to store or compare communities directly, it's done regionally
  - Tara: Will send previous report to read more about it and how data is being used - used in poverty reduction community to highlight cost of feed family and live on social assistance
  - Tara: Specified that the list is very basic (not seasonal, no organic specified, doesn't include Farmers Markets). The list is based on [Health Canada's nutritious food basket information](#).
  - Abra: Great for policy work - price of food basket regionally - important data sets for people to understand - support from dieticians has been very valuable over the years; interesting to look at how it evolves with different national food guides now
  - Alice: Needs participation of adolescent?
    - Tara: Can be suitable volunteers
- Abra: Tara to send follow up email to council - call to action
- Tara: [2017 BC report infographic](#) [2017 Food Costing full report](#); will send out training and costing when available - Centre for Disease Control runs it - Tara provided links

#### **Elizabeth Quinn, Fields Forward Society**

- Applied for innovation funding from MOA - food hub - processing - applied in July - came 4th out of 9 submissions in RFP - FF did this application to learn what they needed to know, didn't expect to do as well as they did
- Food processing equipment to support microprocessors to scale up businesses
- Abra was on feasibility study for food hubs - Nelson, Invermere, Creston identified as brick and mortar hubs
- Reapplying - finding in application process - as we all know, the Basin and regional district have huge area and compete with Kamloops that has 90k people in concentrated area

- Not easy to reflect in application that they are regional (being asked something very difficult)
- Need partnerships (reached out to group in Invermere that is trying to develop structure to help local growers and processors)
- Questions around the role of the CKFPC in helping micro-processors; need to figure out how to make regional and who to partner with
- Rachael: Would be happy to chat and how that could be structured - Rock Creek interested in pursuing food hub (opportunity for regional collaboration) KB food hub? Different areas with different services)
- Processors who could rent equipment in Creston that would love this service but how to reflect this in the application (contact Ari, Rachael, Abra)
- Abra: Would be happy to participate --> rationale: highway 3 coordinator that links communities
- Elizabeth: Know now that we need to make it regional and had ignored that when applying the first time; the location before had obstacles - contacted processors who thought would be interested and three had just expanded using borrowed funding because of transportation challenges or don't want things to go over passes - knowing personal challenges that weren't aware of before - equipment list would support a few processors but only three anchor tenants, which isn't enough
- Abra: One of the Council's roles can be intermediary for CBT - leveraging CBT interest in supporting brick and mortar food hubs and how to align with MOA timeline and priorities
- FF and Elizabeth have support from CBT already but it's conditional
- CBT has provided them with funding to help with the application and other ways if certain things are aligning; would be helpful to chat with Ari, Abra and Rachael

### **Alys, KOGS & Ravine Creek Farm**

#### **KOGS Update**

- Not currently on KOGS board but on Certification Committee
- Have AGM on Feb 16 - Nelson - location TBA
- KOGS still small - perennial need is to have more members involved
- Inviting non-farming folks to come out to AGM to see what they do: 4 meetings a year and certification meets 2 times a year and one AGM and always one hour or less from Nelson
- Have grown slowly but steadily in the last 8 years - over 20 farms being certified in Kootenays
- Run high risk of burnout with this organization - core group of long time members who keep things afloat; if know anyone who is interested, share the info

#### **Ravine Creek Farm update**

- 10th year at location - climate change council report about impacts of smoke in West Kootenay; smoke is new issue
- Water shortages (already an issue) and weird weather have always been a part of farming but smoke for weeks on end is novel - psychological impacts from smoke (never a reprieve) → added stress
- Have had conversations about getting out of farming / leaving the Kootenays because of increasing stress because of climate change in an already stressful business
- Going to explore no-till because due to running out of water in 2018 and 2019 weeds
- In last 2-3 years, research at popular level about small-scale no-till movement (Notillgrowers.com)

#### **Ari Derfel, Kootenay Co-op**

- How to double down on making healthy food affordable to everyone in the region

- Looking at building a commissary and shared kitchen like the Valley Kitchen
- Have 100-150 true local processors: do audit to see how many would want to take advantage
- Talking about distribution and associated regional challenges
- Recently learned more history from Corky Evans and John Steinman
- Threat to thriving regional food economy and local food production without monopoly on shelving, buying, distributing, selling that food
- Is there a way for the Co-op to get into this distribution game?
- Keen to get involved in regional food system issues - have measurable impact on regional food economy - success is diverting \$ to local problems
- Wants to know projects of members of Council and how Co-op can be serving them
- Trying to figure out how they can create reporting procedure to identify those who can receive extreme discounts to purchase at Coop
- Looking for marketing manager (full-time temporary to run until October when person is back in October)
- Abra: asking to be consulted about distribution
- Ari would like to see the update on CBT's study - anything on that?

#### **Leah Main**

- Don't have anything to report - has learned a lot - happy to receive minutes

#### **Rachael Roussin, KBFA**

- Climate Action Initiative projects that have now been implemented
  - Regional plan created for this region - funding to action some projects
  - Weather network stations and irrigation and water optimization
  - RFP - contractors have been hired in last two weeks for those projects commencing this spring
- March 12 workshop on climate change adaptation research as it relates to production (irrigation and soil management) - researchers coming to talk about relevant findings that are suitable for audience in this region
- Working with veggie producers in the Central Kootenay - collaboration with UBC and Crooked Horn, Bent Plow, Linden Lane Farms and Salix & Sedge
- Events and field days this summer - events planned until March - newsletter coming out Feb 1

#### **Ramona Faust, RDCK**

- Impressed with work that YA is doing and happy to pass along info from KBFA
- Delegation from MOA - thinking it would be great collaboration with KBFA - how this program will continue is on their mind
- Changes in secondary homes - subdividing and staying on agricultural land and staying in the ALR - to age out and stay on land and keep land as farmland
- Recommendation on smaller homes has come up - debate at regional district - what to do with ageing parents and children - AKBLG resolution coming forward - seats but smaller-lot agriculture and asking for placement of smaller homes on subdivided foot prints to enable farmers to afford land that is expensive, allowing for niche agriculture like in places like Salmon Arm, the Central Kootenay and Vancouver Island, which differ from Grand Forks or East Kootenay that are more expansive and larger animal herds and lot size
- If want to know what RDCK is doing, can check sustainability page on website and there is ag link on their site; if interested in organic waste recovery program, that should be on resource recovery

**Hailey Troock, Young Agrarians**

- 9 events coming up this year, some collabs with RLF1, KLAS); learnings from last three event seasons
- Meeting deliverables for Land Matching - everything going smoothly
- Non-family farm transition toolkit with support from Real Estate Foundation of BC in research mode - ask: info, contacts, case stories etc.

**Patrick Steiner, KBFA & Kaslo Food Hub**

- Kaslo Food Hub update
- Report: RDCK, village, organic waste diversion
- In rural areas, will be awhile before RDCK will work on strategies
- Working on public surveys
  - Who implements plans? Involves bylaw changes, resolutions from councils - potential place for CKFPC to develop tools and resources for local governments
- Continued funding for 2020 - program for community meals
- Working with another group in Kaslo delivering community meals around Christmas and summer picnic
- Goals: Providing nutritious food but whole idea to reduce social isolation, as social isolation identified as problem in towns and cities
- Food recovery program funding secured for another year - food bank depends on it

**No additional comments**

**Meeting adjourned at 11:40 am**

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**Minutes adopted at the 30 March 2020 Council meeting.**