

DISTRICT OF NORTH SAANICH



BY LAW NO. 1156

CONSOLIDATED FOR CONVENIENCE ONLY

A BYLAW TO ESTABLISH THE NORTH SAANICH AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMISSION

The amending by-laws which have been consolidated into “District of North Saanich Agricultural Advisory Commission Bylaw (2007)”, “A bylaw to establish a Agricultural Advisory Commission” are as follows:

1169, 1192

as of February 2, 2009

***DISTRICT OF NORTH SAANICH AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMISSION
BY-LAW NO. 1156
CONSOLIDATION***

This consolidation of the District of North Saanich Agricultural Advisory Commission By-law (2007) and amendments has been prepared exclusively for the use of the District of North Saanich for convenience only.

The District of North Saanich does not represent that this consolidation is accurate or complete and anyone using this material should confirm its content by reference to the original By-laws.



DISTRICT OF NORTH SAANICH

BYLAW NO. 1156

A BYLAW TO ESTABLISH THE NORTH SAANICH AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMISSION

WHEREAS under section 143 of the *Community Charter*, Council may establish and appoint a Commission to provide advice and recommendations in relation to agricultural issues;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the District of North Saanich has deemed it appropriate to establish an Agricultural Advisory Commission with the responsibilities pertinent to agricultural issues;

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the District of North Saanich, in open meeting assembled, ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. ESTABLISHMENT

There is hereby established a Commission to be known as the “North Saanich Agricultural Advisory Commission”.

2. TERMS OF REFERENCE

2.1 The purpose of the Agricultural Advisory Commission is to provide recommendations to the North Saanich Council on agricultural issues within the District referred to the Commission by the Council, the Committee of the Whole or District staff, which may include but are not limited to:

- a) applications initiated under the Agricultural Land Commission Act (ALCA) and Soil Conservation Act (SCA);
- b) applications to amend official community plans and bylaws;
- c) assisting with comprehensive reviews or development of:
 - bylaws;
 - official community plans;
 - agricultural area plans;
 - farm “edge” policies;
 - transportation plans;
- d) major development proposals with potential impact on agriculture;
- e) irrigation, drainage and other water management issues; and
- f) effectiveness of noxious insect and weed control regulations and programs.

2.2 The Agricultural Advisory Commission may be requested, from time to time, to provide recommendations on:

- a) raising awareness of agriculture;
- b) enhancing an understanding of agriculture's role in the local and /or regional economy;
- c) examining legislation to identify improvements to support agriculture;
- d) improving opportunities for joint funding of drainage and irrigation works;
- e) reporting on the impacts of park and recreation proposals on agriculture; and
- f) identifying and effecting change regarding the impact of transportation and utility corridors on agriculture.

3. MEMBERSHIP

BYLAW 1192 3.1 The North Saanich Agricultural Advisory Commission shall consist of nine voting members as follows:

BYLAW 1192 a) Seven representatives as appointed by the Council from the North Saanich agricultural community which may include members from the Peninsula

Agricultural Commission, the Southern Vancouver Island Direct Farm Marketing Association, and the agricultural community at large;

- a) one member from the Advisory Planning Commission; and
- b) one member from the Environmental Advisory Commission.

3.2 Other non-voting members of the Agricultural Advisory Commission shall consist of:

- a) one member from Council to serve as Council Liaison to the Commission for a one-year term;
- b) one ex-officio member from Staff;
- c) one ex-officio member from the BC Ministry of Agriculture and Lands; and,
- d) one recording secretary who may be a member of the Commission or an employee of the District.

3.3 Four voting members will be appointed at the second regular meeting of Council held in January of each odd-numbered year for a two-year term.

3.4 Three voting members will be appointed at the second regular meeting of Council held in January of each even-numbered year for a two-year term.

3.5 All members shall be residents or property owners in North Saanich unless otherwise authorized by the Council.

3.6 All members are subject to removal at the pleasure of Council during their appointment.

3.7 In the event of a vacancy, Council shall appoint a member to complete the requisite number of members for the remainder of the applicable term as soon as possible after the position becomes vacant.

3.8 A quorum shall consist of four voting members of the Commission.

3.9 If a member of the Commission is continuously absent, except with leave of the Council, from meetings of the Commission for a period of three months, the member shall be dismissed, and the position shall be filled by resolution of Council.

3.10 All terms shall expire on January 31st.

BL 1169

3.11 Commission members may not serve on the Commission for more than three consecutive terms unless authorized by Council.

4. MEETINGS

4.1 The Commission shall, at its first regular meeting each year, elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair.

4.2 The Commission shall meet as required to consider referrals from the Council, the Committee of the Whole or District staff.

4.3 All questions before any meeting of the Commission shall be decided by a majority of the members present, including the Chair.

4.4 The recording secretary of the Commission shall cause minutes of all meetings and proceedings of the Commission to be recorded and kept.

4.5 Rules of Order acceptable to the Agricultural Advisory Commission shall apply.

5. REFERRAL OF MATTERS TO THE AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMISSION

5.1 The Agricultural Advisory Commission shall consider all matters respecting agricultural issues as referred to it by the Council.

5.2 The Agricultural Advisory Commission shall deliver a written report to the Corporate Officer on all matters referred to it by the Council within a reasonable period of time

which shall not exceed 60 days unless determined otherwise by the Council.

- 5.3 In its review of ALCA and SCA applications and bylaw amendments, the Commission shall comment on the following:
- a) the effect of the proposal on the agricultural potential of the subject property;
 - b) the effect of the proposal on adjacent ALR properties and surrounding agricultural production;
 - c) the effect of the proposal on water resources and transportation issues;
 - d) a rating of the priority or impact of the application on the maintenance of the ALR;
 - e) where appropriate, possible alternatives to the proposal; and
 - f) the identification of issues relating to the protection of the ALR lands specific to the application, including the use of appropriate buffering techniques aimed at enhancing land use compatibility.

6. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- 6.1 Where any member of the Agricultural Advisory Commission attending a meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Commission considers that he or she is not entitled to participate in the discussion of a matter, or to vote on a question in respect of a matter, because the member has:
- a) a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the matter; or
 - b) another interest in the matter that constitutes a conflict of interest, the member must declare this and state in general terms the reason why the member considers this to be the case.
- 6.2 After making a declaration under subsection 6.1, the member of the Agricultural Advisory Commission must not:
- a) remain or attend at any part of the meeting referred to in subsection 6.1 during which the matter is under consideration;
 - b) participate in any discussion of the matter at such a meeting;
 - c) vote on a question in respect of the matter at such a meeting; or
 - d) attempt in any way, whether before, during or after such a meeting, to influence the voting on the question in respect of the matter.

7. CITATION

This Bylaw may be cited for all purposes as the “**North Saanich Agricultural Advisory Commission Establishment Bylaw No. 1156 (2007)**”.

READ A FIRST TIME the 13th day of **August, 2007**.

READ A SECONDTIME the 13th day of **August, 2007**.

READ A THIRD TIME the 13th day of **August, 2007**.

FINALLY ADOPTED the 17th day of **September, 2007**.

Signed by: Ted Daly
Mayor

Signed by: Sandy Bowden
Corporate Officer