

***Disclaimer: These minutes were prepared as a reasonable summary of the essential content of this meeting, not as a transcription.***



**Minutes of the Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting**

**June 27, 2024, 10:00 a.m.**

**Meadows Room**

**12007 Harris Road, Pitt Meadows, BC V3Y 2B5**

Voting Members: J. Bachmann  
S. Howkins  
W. Jack  
L. Kemper  
D. Kosicki  
P. Robinson  
T. Vader  
A. Aquilini\*

Non-Voting Member: Drew Bondar, B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Food

Council Liaison: Councillor Manion

Guests: Applicant 2 – 19731 Richardson Road  
J. Oaten, Deputy Director, Emergency Management Branch, Ministry of Agriculture & Food,

Regrets: H. Bitter  
T. Hopcott  
Councillor Meachen (Alternate)  
J. Parmar

Staff: M. Baski, Project Manager, Agriculture & Environment (Chair)  
A. Dominelli, Sr. Development Services Technician

Recording Clerk: T. McCaw, Committee Clerk II

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1. **CALL TO ORDER**

M. Baski, Project Manager, Agriculture & Environment, acknowledged with respect and gratitude that the City of Pitt Meadows is located on the traditional, unceded territory of ᑕᐱᑖᐱᑦ (Katzie) First Nation who were stewards of this land since time immemorial.

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 AM.

2. **LATE ITEMS**

None.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

There was general consent amongst the Committee to approve the June 27, 2024 Agricultural Advisory Committee agenda.

4. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

There was general consent amongst the Committee to approve the minutes from the May 30, 2024 Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting as circulated.

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

5.1 **Emergency Response**

J. Oaten, Deputy Director, Emergency Management Branch, Ministry of Agriculture & Food, provided a presentation on the Province's plans for emergency response, emergency preparedness, and support for the agricultural community should a disaster take place forming a part of the minutes as **Attachment 1**. Some of the highlights included:

- BC Emergency Management Legislation & Regulations & BC Emergency Response;
- Agricultural Emergency Management in BC, Evacuation orders & BC Premises ID program for registration of all livestock were all discussed; and
- BC Agriculture Council currently undertaking a project in an effort to allow temporary access to disaster zones during an order in an effort to support livestock removal

The Committee participated in a discussion, which included the following main themes:

- Discussions were held around the historical flooding event in Abbotsford and the concerns around farmers not having access to move livestock out of danger;
- The suggestion was made to allow farmers to provide support to their livestock in the event of an emergency;
- Discussions were held around the loss of the facility where farmers were able to dispose of deceased livestock; and
- Discussions were held around what the Evacuation Plan is for temporary migrant farm workers and livestock in the event of an emergency.

## **5.2 City Emergency Planning Presentation**

J. Kloosterboer, Emergency Program Manager, provided a verbal update on the City's Emergency Plan in the event of a disaster or emergency. The following items were discussed:

- Emergency Operation Centre activations;
- Duties and responsibilities of the Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) in the City; and
- Evacuation Alert Order communication and delivery of instructions.

The Committee participated in a discussion, which included the following main theme:

- Questions were raised around the City's evacuation plans for livestock and migrant farm workers in the event of an emergency or a natural disaster.

It was suggested that a working group would be helpful to determine the issues and how to address them. M. Baski to send out an invitation to the AAC for expression of interest in participating on the working group, and then J. Kloosterboer to organize a meeting.

### 5.3 ALC Non-farm Use Application for 17607 and 17890 Ford Rd Detour

A. Dominelli, Planner, provided a presentation on a Non-Farm Use Application at 17607 and 17890 Ford Rd Detour to permit the continued operation of a soil mixing and screening business forming a part of the minutes as **Attachment 2**.

The Committee participated in a discussion which included the following main themes:

- A question was raised around whether there were any recent changes made to the location since the last application;
- The question was raised around whether there were any concerns to the surrounding properties being close to the site which has concerns with cross-contamination;
- Support was given for this application as this property supports many smaller operations in the community; and
- Questions were raised around succession planning for the operation with the ALC approval linking only to the current owner.

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee:

- A. Recommends that Council forwards to the Agricultural Land Commission with a recommendation of support, the Non-Farm Use Application for 17607 and 17890 Ford Rd Detour to use the site for a soil mixing and screening operation.

**CARRIED**

### 5.4 Non-Adhering Residential Use Application for 19731 Richardson Rd

A. Dominelli, Planner, provided a presentation on a Non-Adhering Residential Use Application for 19731 Richardson Rd, which is seeking additional housing for temporary farm workers, forming a part of the minutes as **Attachment 3**.

The Committee participated in a discussion which included the following main themes:

- The suggestion was made around streamlining the application process for agricultural operations needing to increase housing for temporary

migrant farm worker as seasonal workers are critical in the farming operation;

- There was general support given for the application; and
- Questions were raised around the application timeline and the approval processes for the applicant.

It was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** THAT the Agricultural Advisory Committee:

- A. Recommends that Council forwards to the Agricultural Land Commission the Non-Adhering Residential Use application for additional farm worker housing at 19731 Richardson Rd, with a recommendation of support;  
AND
- B. Recommends that Council supports an amendment to the Zoning Bylaw to permit greater than 40 workers at 19731 Richardson Rd, if the Non-Adhering Residential Use application is approved by the Agricultural Land Commission for additional farm worker housing.

**CARRIED**

### 5.5 AAC Application Tracker

M. Baski, Project Manager, Agriculture & Environment, provided update on the AAC Application Tracker attached in today's agenda.

*There were no further discussions or comments made by the Committee on this topic.*

### 5.6 AAC Action Items

M. Baski, Project Manager, Agriculture & Environment, provided an update on the AAC Action Item Tracker.

*There were no further discussions or comments made by the Committee on this topic.*

\* A. Aquilini left the meeting at 11:36 AM

## 6. ROUNDTABLE

The Committee participated in a roundtable discussion, there were no motions or recommendations put forward.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 AM

The next ***Agricultural Advisory Committee*** Meeting is scheduled for ***September 12, 2024 at 10:00 AM.***

**Certified as correct:**

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Tatiana McCaw, Committee Clerk II

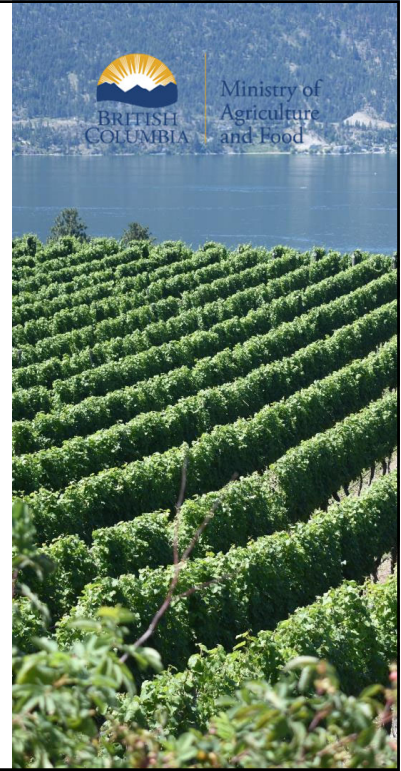
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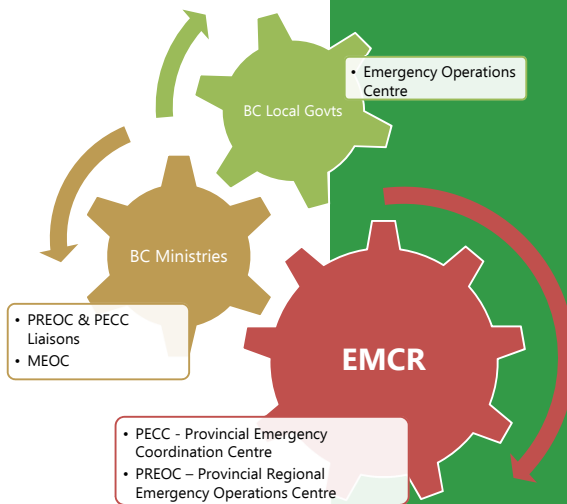
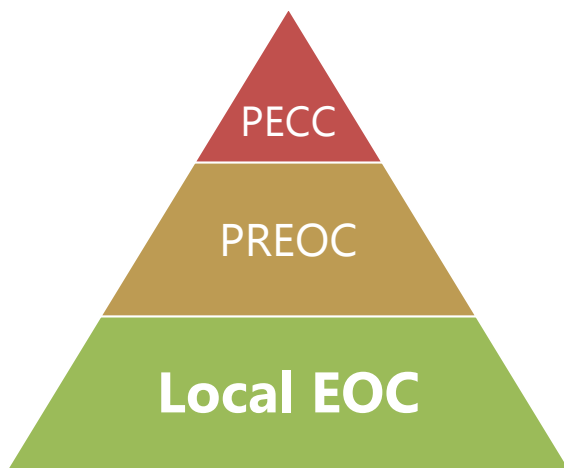


## BC EM Legislation & Regulations

- The Emergency and Disaster Program Act (EDMA) governs how to manage an emergency or disaster in British Columbia
- The province's lead emergency response agency is the **Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR)**
- ICS is used throughout BC, and EMCR provides higher level support for responder EOCs and ICPs



## BC Emergency Response





# BC Emergency Management System - BCEMS

British Columbia Emergency Management System (**BCEMS**) is an EM framework that helps ensure a **coordinated and organized approach** to emergencies and disasters.

## Response Goals

- 1) Ensure the health and safety of responders
- 2) Save lives
- 3) Reduce suffering
- 4) Protect public health
- 5) Protect infrastructure
- 6) Protect property
- 7) Protect the environment
- 8) Reduce economic and social losses**



Ministry of  
Agriculture  
and Food



BRITISH  
COLUMBIA  
Emergency  
Management  
System  
2016



Part 2:

## Agricultural Emergency Management in BC



Ministry of  
Agriculture  
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# AF Legislated EM Responsibilities

The Emergency Program Management Regulation outlines key hazard responsibilities:

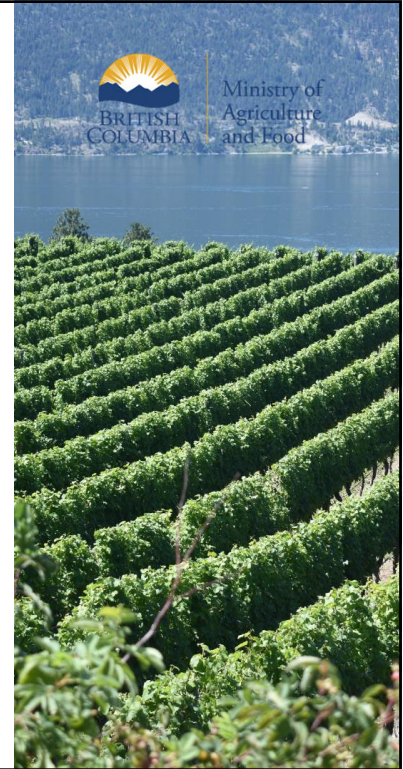
Hazard Group	Hazard Type	Key Ministers
Disease and Epidemics	Human diseases	Health
	Animal diseases	Agriculture and Food
	Plant diseases	Agriculture and Food
	Pest infestations	Agriculture and Food

In an emergency or disaster, ministries are responsible for:

- Implementing their **ministry emergency plan and procedures**
- **Making staff and resources available**
- **Providing advice and assistance** to local authorities if requested

## MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

- **Provide advice to farmers, aquaculturists and fishers** on the protection of crops, livestock and Provincially managed fish and marine plant stocks;
- **Coordinate the emergency evacuation** and care of poultry and livestock;
- **Inspect and regulate** food quality;
- **Identify food and potable water** supplies;
- **Assist the Minister of Health** in the inspection and regulation of food safety.












# AF EM Activities

Responders work with producers, local governments, First Nations, and other provincial and federal agencies during emergencies to support:

- **Evacuation of livestock** threatened by a hazard
- Provision of **emergency feed or veterinary services** for livestock
- Identifying areas where evacuated livestock may be housed and cared for
- Assisting producers with **re-entry into evacuation zones** to mitigate impacts
- **Filling Incident Command System positions in a foreign animal disease or other type of incident**
- Providing information on the number and type of agricultural operations in an emergency zone
- **Communications and engagement with the agriculture sector**
- Other support as required

## Key EM Functions within the Ministry



	<b>Emergency Management Branch</b>	Preparedness & Response
	<b>Premises ID / GIS</b>	Geographic info on livestock & poultry operations
	<b>Animal Health Center</b>	Surveillance and diagnostics
	<b>Chief Veterinary Office</b>	Animal welfare, biosecurity, disease specialists
	<b>Industry and Technical Specialists</b>	Commodity & subject matter expertise
	<b>Emergency Management Team</b>	Support response and ICS structures
	<b>Climate Initiatives and Extension Support Services</b>	Prevention & Mitigation
	<b>Business Risk Management</b>	Recovery programming and supports
	<b>Critical Incident Stress Management</b>	Mental health support

## BC Premises ID Program



**BE PREPARED FOR FARM EMERGENCIES KEEP YOUR PREMISES ID UP TO DATE**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:** [www.gov.bc.ca/premisesidprogram](http://www.gov.bc.ca/premisesidprogram)

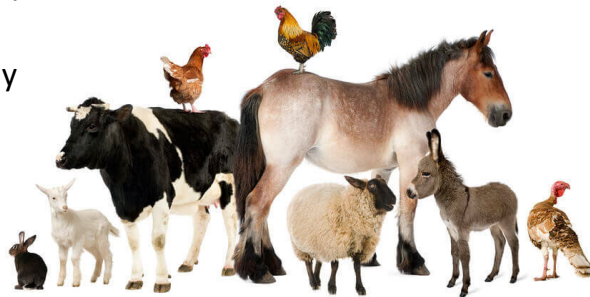





## What is BCPID...



- All farm animals are required to be registered – list of species is in brochure and online
- Supports agriculture emergency response offering farm locations, size and contact information quickly
- No Cost for producers
- Initially was voluntary but as of July 2022 is mandatory
- Agreements in place with some producer groups



Part 3:

## Foreign Animal Disease Response in BC

# Federally Reportable Diseases

- CFIA lead agency
- Outlined in the Health of Animals Act and Reportable Diseases Regulations
- Usually of significant importance to human or animal health or to the Canadian economy.
- Animal owners, veterinarians and laboratories are required to immediately report the presence of an animal that is contaminated or suspected of being contaminated with one of these diseases to a CFIA district veterinarian.

## 2023

Disease	Total
<a href="#">Avian Influenza</a>	133 ( <a href="#">data by month</a> )
<a href="#">Bovine tuberculosis</a>	1 ( <a href="#">data by month</a> )
<a href="#">Chronic wasting disease</a>	8 ( <a href="#">data by month</a> )
<a href="#">Equine infectious anemia</a>	7 ( <a href="#">data by month</a> )



Ministry of Agriculture and Food



# BC FADES Plan

- **Multi-agency plan to manage FADs** in BC with a **joint ICS** structure for BC specific disease outbreaks
- Framework for other FAD responses

### Signatories:

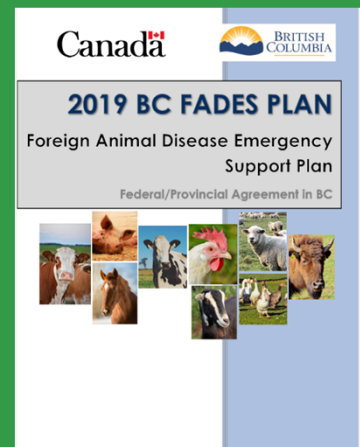
- CFIA and public Safety Canada,
- BC EMCR, and Ministries of Agriculture and Food, Health, and Environment

### Plan is intended to:

- Outline roles and responsibilities of principal response organizations and inform others to enhance collaboration
- Support training
- Guide



Ministry of Agriculture and Food



# HPAI: Multi-Agency Response



**CFIA:**

- HPAI eradication through destruction of infected flocks, quarantine, decontamination, testing & movement controls, and compensation for destroyed things
- Liaise with provinces, industry, other stakeholders

**Ministry of Agriculture and Food (AF):**

- Develop policies/programs to monitor & mitigate HPAI risks
- Liaise with the CFIA, industry, and stakeholders to prevent the spread of HPAI
- Communications to producers and the public
- Surveillance, testing and public education (AHC)
- *Animal Health Act* Orders (OCV)
- Provide coordination, communications and operational support (MEOC)

**Industry:**

- Poultry Emergency Operations Centre, staffed by poultry industry reps from Marketing Boards
- Communications, operations, producer support
- Support movement permits

**Ministry of Environment (ENV):**  
Approvals under the *Environmental Management Act* for composting infected carcasses

**Health Authorities:**  
Public health response focused on contact tracing, monitoring and follow-up for household, farm worker and other community contacts exposed on IPs

**Regional Districts:**  
Approve disposal of small flock infected waste in landfills (authorization under the Hazardous Waste Regulation by ENV)



## Contact Us

For any questions or clarifications

Website:

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/agriculture-seafood/business-market-development/emergency-management>

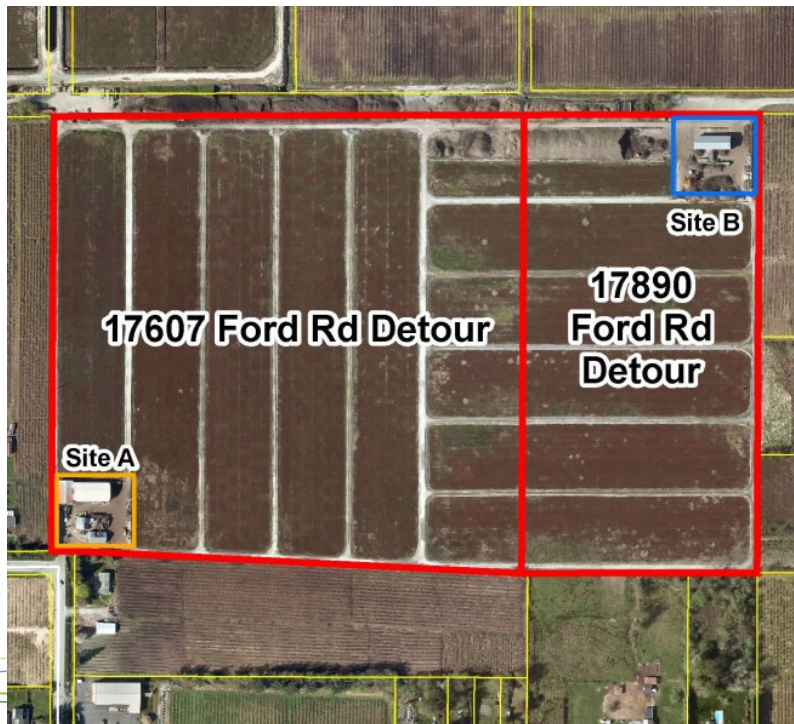
Email Address:

AF.Emergency.Management@gov.bc.ca



# Non-farm Use Application for 17607 and 17890 Ford Rd Detour

AAC Meeting June 27, 2024

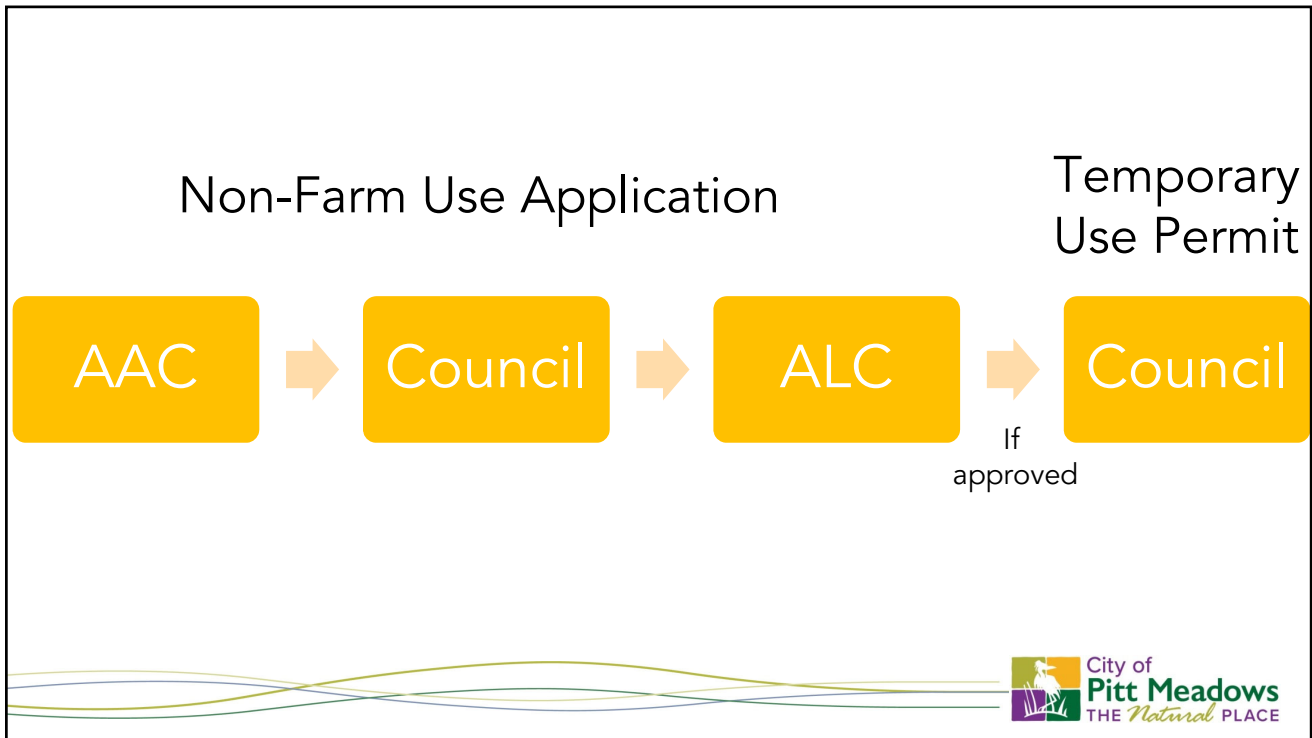


**Property Size:**  
23.2 ha/57.3 ac (combined)

**Area of Non-farm Use:**  
0.8 ha/2 ac (combined)

**Remainder of Site:**  
Cranberry farming





## Recommendation: THAT the AAC:

- A. Recommends that Council forwards to the Agricultural Land Commission the non-farm use application for 17607 and 17890 Ford Rd Detour to use the site for a soil mixing and screening operation, with a recommendation of support; OR
- B. Other.

# Non-adhering Residential Use Application for 19731 Richardson Road

Agricultural Advisory Committee June 27, 2024



## Hollandia Greenhouses

- 19731 Richardson Rd
  - 18.29 ha/45.17 ac
  - Greenhouses, hay
  - SFD, farm worker housing
- 19611 Richardson Rd
  - 15.1 ha/39.3 ac
  - Hay
  - SFD
- 19746 Richardson Rd
  - 2.02 ha/5 ac
  - Hay
  - SFD

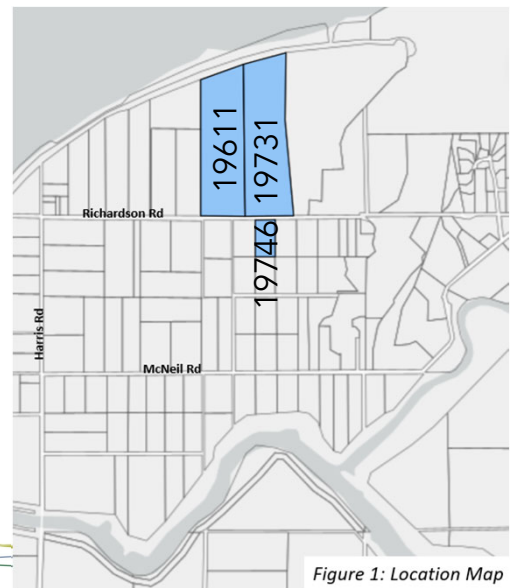
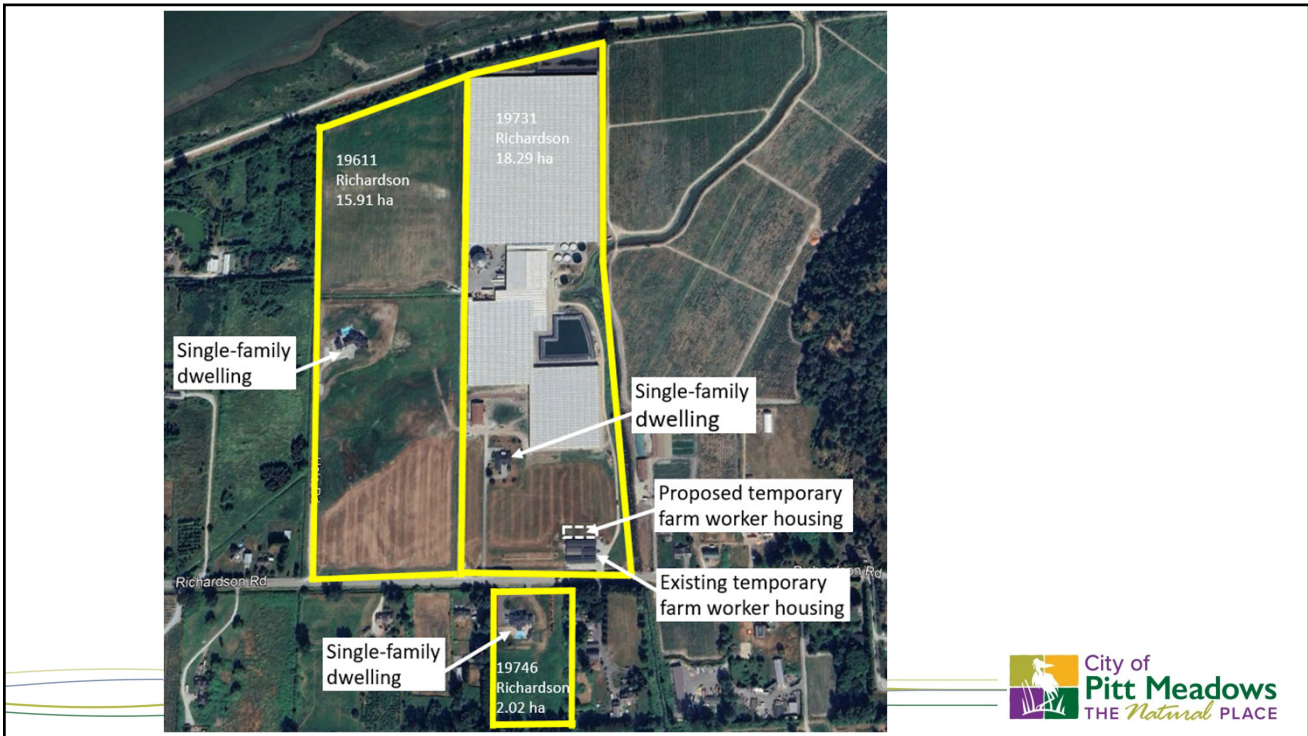


Figure 1: Location Map





## Regulations

- Complies with ALC Policy for temporary farm worker housing
  - Temporary foundation
  - Minimize impact to ag land
- Complies with City Zoning Bylaw, except:
  - Exceeds 40 workers for farm operation <40.5 ha



## Recommendation: THAT AAC:

- A. Recommends that Council forwards to the Agricultural Land Commission the non-adhering residential use application for additional farm worker housing at 19731 Richardson Rd, with a recommendation of support; AND
- B. Recommends that Council supports an amendment to the Zoning Bylaw to permit greater than 40 workers at 19731 Richardson Rd., if the Non-Adhering Residential Use application is approved by the Agricultural Land Commission for additional farm worker housing; OR
- C. Other.

