

Agriculture & Food Systems

BOUNDARY  COUNTRY



Boundary Area Food and Agriculture Plan

Regional District of Kootenay Boundary

Draft C, April 23, 2018

Acknowledgements

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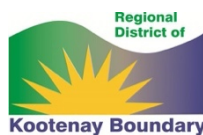
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Disclaimer Statement:

The government of Canada, the government of British Columbia and the Investment Agriculture Foundation of B.C. are pleased to participate in the production of this publication. We are committed to working with our industry partners to address issues of importance to the agriculture and agri-food industry in British Columbia. Opinions expressed in this report are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the government of Canada, the government of British Columbia or the Investment Agriculture Foundation of B.C.

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Executive Summary

The Boundary area of the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary (RDKB) is home to a wide-diversity of food and agriculture activities ranging from ranching, horticulture, and experimental grain production to regional food security networks, emergency food services, and food recovery. Despite these diverse activities, many challenges and untapped opportunities exist across the food and agriculture spectrum. For example, many producers are challenged with increasing costs of inputs and a lack of value added processing. Further, many people in the Boundary are experiencing food insecurity, many of whom are seniors and children. In 2016, in order to address these challenges and potential opportunities, the RDKB began the process to update the 2011 Agriculture Plan. This update expands the scope to include food systems and food security, to ultimately create a Boundary Area Food and Agriculture Plan (BAFAP).

The BAFAP is a 10- to 12-year plan to strengthen and increase the resiliency of food and agriculture in the Boundary. The planning area includes RDKB Electoral Areas C/Christina Lake, D/Rural Grand Forks, and E/West Boundary and the municipalities of Midway, Greenwood, and Grand Forks).

A key aspect of creating this plan was engaging stakeholders and the public in crafting a vision, describing challenges, and identifying potential opportunities for the regional food and agriculture system. Multiple engagement methods were used, including online and mail-in surveys; farm visits; public open houses; and stakeholder meetings. The Boundary Area Food and Agriculture Advisory Council (BAFAAC), an inter-sectoral advisory to the project, provided feedback at key project points and the Steering Committee, comprised of RDKB staff, elected officials, Interior Health, Community Futures and project consultants, had regular check-ins to guide project activities.

Highlights of the plan are presented below. The subsequent chapters provide context and detailed description of each of the goals, objectives, and the associated recommended actions. In total, 107 actions are included, along with a detailed implementation strategy.

This plan also contains a proposed Boundary Area Food and Agriculture Charter and Report Card to help establish common ground for plan implementation and monitor progress towards goals (Please refer to appendices A and B respectively).

Plan Vision: Sustainable agriculture and food systems in the Boundary help create thriving communities, prosperous livelihoods, and healthy environments.

- Goal 1: Protect and Support Farmland For Future Generations
- Goal 2: Improve Local Food and Agriculture Support Services, Infrastructure, and Emergency Preparedness
- Goal 3: Steward the Connections Between Environmental Sustainability and the Regional Food and Agriculture System
- Goal 4: Support Multigenerational Farms and Emerging Farmers
- Goal 5: Strengthen Awareness of and Skills in the Local Food and Agriculture System
- Goal 6: Invest Directly in the Local Food and Agriculture Economy
- Goal 7: Encourage Food Gardening, Gleaning, and Food Recovery
- Goal 8: Increase Capacity and Leadership

As a comprehensive plan that integrates agriculture and food security into a food system plan, many actions that are not fully within the role and jurisdiction of the RDKB have emerged. Overall, this plan contains 1 vision, 8 goals, 31 objectives, and 107 actions. Actions have been presented in a multi- phase work plan in the implementation section. Many of these actions will be led by local government, however support and leadership from community organizations will also be critical in the success of this plan.

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Plan Overview

The Boundary area of the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary (RDKB) is home to a wide-diversity of food and agriculture activities ranging from ranching, horticulture, and experimental grain production to regional food security networks, emergency food services, and food recovery. Despite these diverse activities, many challenges and untapped opportunities exist across the food and agriculture system. For example, many producers are challenged with increasing costs of inputs and a lack of value-added processing. Further, many people in the Boundary are experiencing food insecurity, many of whom are seniors and children. In order to address these challenges and potential opportunities, the RDKB began the process to update the previous Agriculture Plan (created in 2011) in 2016, in order to expand the scope and include food systems and food security and to ultimately create a Boundary Area Food and Agriculture Plan (BAFAP). The BAFAP is a 10-12-year plan to strengthen and increase the resiliency of food and agriculture in the Boundary.

HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

There are five key sections to this plan:

- 1) The Road Here** describes the research and engagement process that lead to the plan's recommendations;
- 2) The Vision, Goals, Objectives, and Recommendations** propose objectives and actions for how the RDKB and other Boundary stakeholders will work to achieve the vision of the plan;
- 3) The Implementation Strategy** sorts recommendations into prioritized categories while indicating roles and responsibilities;
- 4) Appendix A: Boundary Food and Agriculture Charter** sets out a shared vision, values, goals and actions that signify commitment to implementing this plan. It is hoped that local governments, businesses, non-profits, and schools will participate in endorsing the Charter, signalling a collective effort to protect and support farming and increase food security in the Boundary; and
- 5) Appendix B: Food and Agriculture Report Card for Local Government** will be used to measure progress towards goals over time.

PLAN FRAMEWORK

This plan contains several connected layers of information that work from an aspirational vision through to specific recommendations for how to achieve the vision (Figure 1).

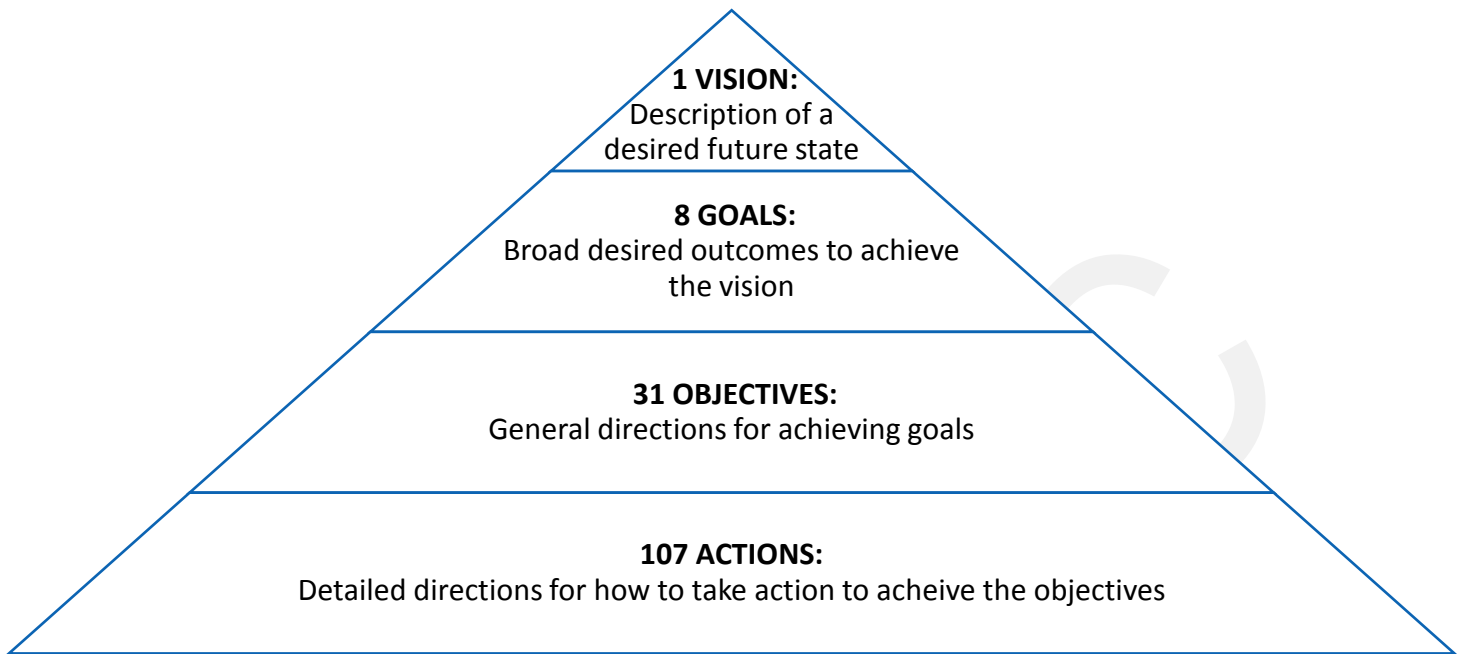


Figure 1: Boundary Area Food and Agriculture Plan Structure

PLANNING AREA

The Boundary Area Food and Agriculture Plan covers the RDKB Boundary Area, including Electoral Areas C/Christina Lake, Area D/Rural Grand Forks, and Area E/West Boundary, and the municipalities of Midway, Greenwood, and Grand Forks. A map of the planning area and the communities included in this planning process is provided in Figure 2.

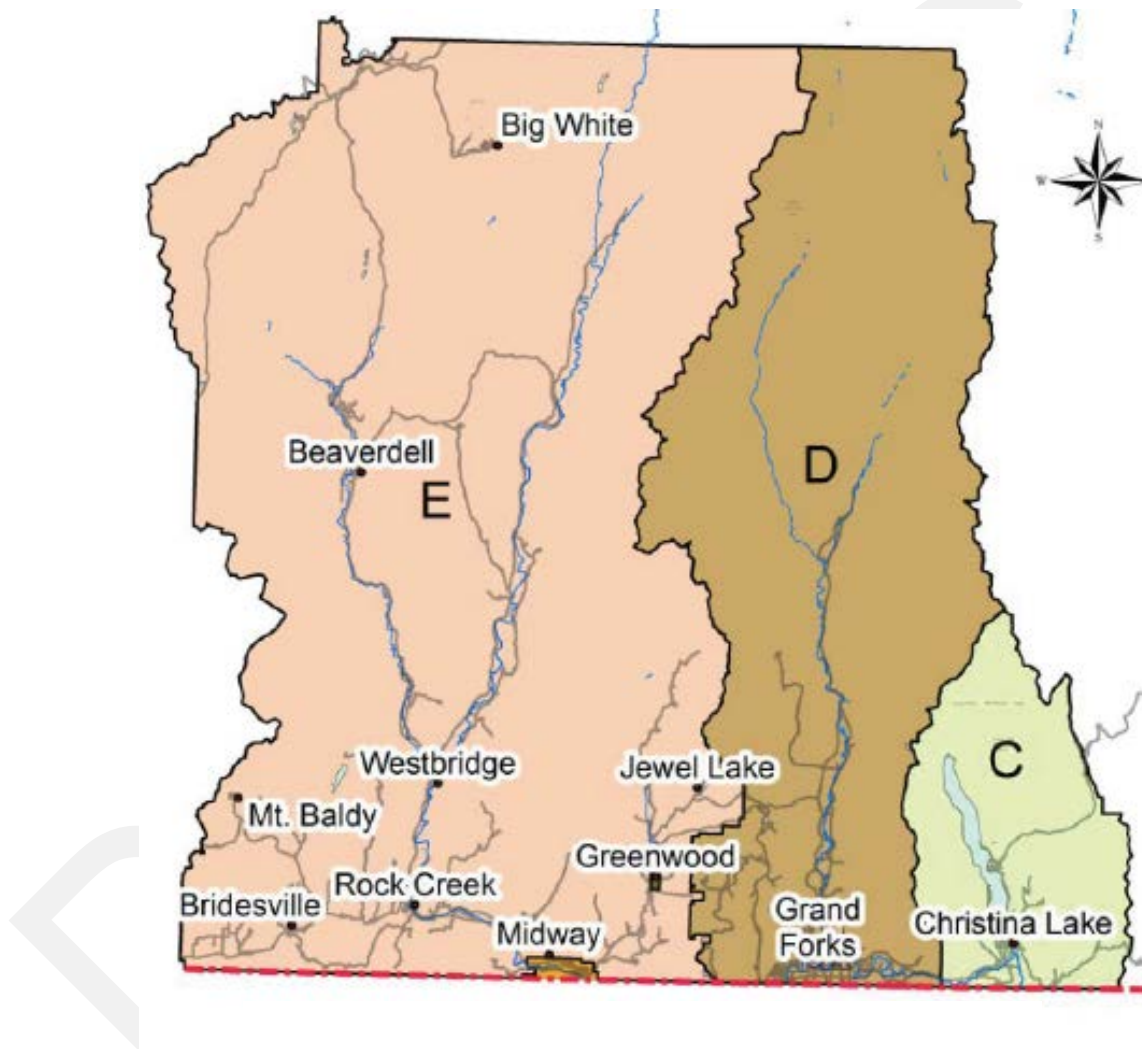


Figure 2: Boundary Area Food and Agriculture Plan Study Area

The Road Here

This section describes the project oversight, participating stakeholders, and engagement process that was undertaken through the process of developing this plan.

PROJECT OVERSIGHT

The Boundary Area Food and Agriculture Plan (BAFAP) has been developed through public and stakeholder consultation, research, and data analysis. There are many organizations and individuals that came together to create this plan.

To provide oversight to the planning process, a project Steering Committee was established. The project Steering Committee included elected officials from the Boundary, RDKB staff, and funders, who provided regular check-in points throughout the development of the plan.

To provide on-going engagement and stakeholder involvement in creating and implementing the plan, the Boundary Area Food and Agriculture Advisory Council (BAFAAC) was also established. The BAFAAC includes members from agriculture and food security sectors, local government staff, and elected officials who have provided guidance at key points in the plan development process.

Organizations and individuals participating in the Steering Committee and BAFAAC are acknowledged in Appendix C.

ENGAGEMENT PROCESS SUMMARY

The engagement events that were held as part of this planning process are summarized in Table 1. The project team sought to both speak with people and groups individually as well as bring stakeholders and the public together.

Table 1: Points and Dates of Stakeholder and Public Engagement

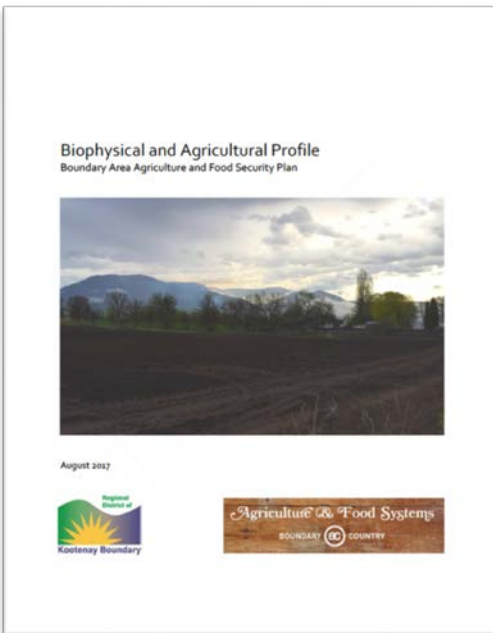
Date	Engagement Point
March-April 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">⇒ Three Steering Committee Meetings⇒ Developed an Engagement Strategy for the project
May 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">⇒ Two open houses (Grand Forks and Westbridge)⇒ 10 farm tours and kitchen table discussions with local farm and ranch operators⇒ Three in person meetings: Kettle Valley Farmer's Co-op, Boundary Food Security Network, McMynn's Foods.
June 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none">⇒ A survey for farmers (from beginning of May to end of June with 45 responses); and⇒ A survey for community members (from beginning of May to end of June with 140 responses)

Table 1: Points and Dates of Stakeholder and Public Engagement

Date	Engagement Point
September 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Steering Committee Meeting (September 20); ⇒ Boundary Area Food and Agriculture Advisory Council (BAFAAC) meeting (September 11)
October 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Meeting with the Boundary Invasive Species Society (October 2); ⇒ Presentation to the Area 'E'/West Boundary Advisory Planning Commission (APC) meeting (October 2); ⇒ Open house in Rock Creek at the Fairgrounds (October 2); ⇒ Presentation to the Boundary Community Development Committee (BCDC) meeting, including Area 'D'/Rural Grand Forks Advisory Planning Commission (October 3); ⇒ Open house in Grand Forks at the USCC Community Hall (October 3); and ⇒ Several comments emailed directly to the consultants, RDKB staff, and Area Directors.
December 2017-February 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Steering Committee Meeting (Jan 26) ⇒ One-on-one phone calls on food security aspects of the plan ⇒ Outreach to the Boundary Food Security Network and School District on draft food security recommendations
March-May 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⇒ Two Steering Committee Meetings (March 19, April 10) ⇒ BAFAAC meeting (April 3) ⇒ Project completion and plan presentation to the public in Rock Creek and Grand Forks (May 26 & 27)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Two background documents were produced during the planning process: 1) Boundary Area Biophysical and Agricultural Profile and 2) Boundary Area Food Security Backgrounder. These documents contain detailed information and data that provide rationale for the recommendations in this plan. These reports can be accessed on the RDKB website:



Plan Vision

The Plan's Vision was developed through community input and is built upon the vision statement that was created for the 2011 plan:

Sustainable agriculture and food systems in the Boundary help create thriving communities, prosperous livelihoods, and healthy environments.

Goals, Objectives, and Recommendations

The following eight goals emerged from the vision statement, each with its own set of objectives and associated actions, which are described in the following pages. These goals are presented in no particular order as follows:

Goal 1: Protect and Support Farmland For Future Generations

Goal 2: Improve Local Food and Agriculture Support Services, Infrastructure, and Emergency Preparedness

Goal 3: Steward the Connections Between Environmental Sustainability and the Regional Food and Agriculture System

Goal 4: Support Multigenerational Farms and Emerging Farmers

Goal 5: Strengthen Awareness of and Skills in the Local Food and Agriculture System

Goal 6: Invest Directly in the Local Food and Agriculture Economy

Goal 7: Encourage Food Gardening, Gleaning, and Food Recovery

Goal 8: Increase Capacity and Leadership

GOAL 1: PROTECT AND SUPPORT FARMLAND FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

The location of productive farmland in the Boundary, both within and outside the ALR, provides for a range of contexts for management and regulation. Trying to manage development expectations for rural residents living adjacent to or near farming operations can be a challenge, particularly where there are no local land use regulations. The isolated nature of some communities presents policy, regulatory, and enforcement challenges as well.

Goal 1 Objectives

1.1 Support and Enforce Land Use Policies and Regulations

Aligning local planning strategies and policies with provincial regulations will help minimize conflicts between producers and non-producers. For example, the Ministry of Agriculture has several guidelines and standards regarding development planning within agricultural areas that could be adopted. Regional Growth Strategies, Official Community Plans (OCP), zoning, and other land use bylaw documents can offer growth management and farmland protection policies, which help to offer clarity for landowners.

1.2 Update and Enhance Land Use Zoning

Lack of local land use policy and regulations can lead to conflicts between neighbours. Complaints of noise, odour, trespass, and vandalism are common when a lack of clarity between residential and farming areas exist.

While most of the plan area has land use planning, the majority of Electoral Area 'E'/West Boundary does not.

Encouraging the adoption of OCPs in all the plan area and ensuring regulatory documents, such as zoning bylaws and development permit areas, are up-to-date with best rural planning practices, can assist in reducing the amount of complaints that arise.



Figure 3. Rock Creek Fairgrounds.

1.3 Manage Agri-Tourism and Gathering Events

The BC Ministry of Agriculture has released a policy document regarding agri-tourism and gathering events. This presents an opportunity for the Boundary to develop a well-defined agri-tourism strategy to provide clarity regarding what types of activities are and are not permitted, and which specific regulations apply.

Goal 1 Objectives and Recommended Actions

Objective	Recommended Actions	Priority	Local Government Role
1.1 Support and Enforce Land Use Policies and Regulations	1.1.1 Perform regular reviews of the OCPs and Zoning Bylaws to ensure that a commitment to agriculture and the local food system is embedded and reflected in these key documents and bylaws and create OCPs and Zoning Bylaws for those areas where they do not exist.	High	RDKB (Planning) and member municipalities.
	1.1.2 Using BC Ministry of Agriculture standards, develop home plate specifications to limit the siting and size of the home plate and residential building footprint within the ALR in the Boundary.	Medium	RDKB (Planning) and member municipalities.
	1.1.3 Develop a compliance and enforcement strategy for rural areas to address ongoing egregious land use issues over the longer term.	Low	RDKB (Planning and Administration), member municipalities and the ALC.
	1.1.4 In areas with a high potential of risk or conflict consider establishing a Development Permit Area for the protection of farmland that encompasses land on either side of the ALR boundary and requires Agricultural Impact Assessments, performed by a Professional Agrologist, to accompany development and/or subdivision applications within the DPA.	Low	RDKB (Planning) and member municipalities.
	1.1.5 Establish buffer requirements for non-ALR properties adjacent to the ALR (different criteria for different edge scenarios).	Medium	RDKB (Planning) and member municipalities
	1.1.6 When updating OCPs and zoning bylaws, permit non-intensive farming on all non-ALR land.	High	RDKB (Planning) and member municipalities).

Objective	Recommended Actions	Priority	Local Government Role
1.2 Update and Enhance Land Use Zoning	1.2.1 Minimize the negative impacts of development, transportation corridors and infrastructure networks (for example roads, trails and utility corridors) on farmland with appropriate zoning and design guidelines.	Low	RDKB (Planning) and member municipalities
	1.2.2 Report annually on the outcomes of all ALR applications in order to get a complete perspective as to how the various applications may alter (or have altered) the farming landscape.	High	RDKB (Planning) and member municipalities
	1.2.3 Develop a system to inform potential landowners near and within the ALR about normal farm practices and the <i>Farm Practices Protection (Right to Farm) Act</i> (for example liaise with Real Estate Board of Realtor's Association).	Low	RDKB (Board)
1.3 Manage Agri-Tourism and Gathering Events	1.3.1 Develop an agri-tourism strategy and include clarity around agri-tourism accommodation regulations.	Medium	RDKB (BCDC with support from Planning as required)
	1.3.2 Coordinate regionally-appropriate agri-tourism activities (e.g. trail rides) tied into other events or tourism promotion activities (e.g. harvest festivals).	Medium	RDKB (BCDC) to support tourism organizations and individuals
	1.3.3 Determine a location for a permanent fair ground in Grand Forks.	High	RDKB (BCDC) to co-lead with City of Grand Forks.

GOAL 2: IMPROVE LOCAL FOOD AND AGRICULTURE SUPPORT SERVICES, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Despite the demand and interest in locally grown, raised, and made products, the majority of small-scale growers are unable to sell regionally on a consistent basis. Food processing infrastructure and support services were identified as a key barrier. Similarly, the non-profit sector also requires physical infrastructure and support services to increase food security, including being prepared for emergencies. Success may be achieved by coordinating regional activities and growing, processing, skill-building, marketing, and preparing for emergencies in a collaborative manner.

Goal 2 Objectives

2.1 Extension Services for Producers and Ranchers

Opportunities exist to capitalize on the Kootenay Boundary Farm Advisors (KBFA) program being managed through a partnership between the three Kootenay regional districts and the Columbia Basin Trust. In particular, farmers will be able to access agrologist extension services to gain crop and animal husbandry advice, and farm planning.

2.2 Stabilize Supporting Processing Infrastructure

A concern raised by local ranchers is the limited supporting infrastructure for meat processing, including adequate cut & wrap services, processing facilities, cold storage and distribution opportunities.

2.3 Improve Transportation to Healthy Food Sources

Many people noted that the lack of transportation to and from healthy food sources as a key challenge for food security. Moving healthy food around and from outside the region, was also identified as a need by social service organizations in order to better access healthy food for meal programs within the Boundary and from other nearby regions like the South Okanagan.



Figure 4. Rock Creek Market.

2.4 Emergency Food Preparedness

The need for emergency food sources was magnified during the 2015 Rock Creek fire that displaced many people and dramatically increased the demand for emergency food. Some households that were previously food secure lost gardens, preserves, and freezers. Food bank use spiked and these organizations became an important part of the emergency response. Pre-planning may include community-wide livestock evacuation planning, assessing community food preparation infrastructure, and other factors. These emergencies highlight the need for local food to sustain Boundary residents during an extreme weather event. Therefore, consideration should be given to farming operations from an emergency preparedness perspective.

2.5 Anticipate Climate Change

The need for climate adaptation and mitigation measures was commonly noted by stakeholders. Climate change is also closely tied to extreme weather emergency planning -

farmers are expecting to deal with emergency weather events such as drought, flooding, and wildfires more frequently. Examples of mitigation include: needed changes in farm activities to reduce the use of fossil fuels at the farm level, improved irrigation efficiency, and water storage on the farm. Re-localizing the food system generally has a net positive outcome on fossil fuel reduction at the community level, as the footprint of food transportation is minimized.

2.6 Support and Work with Social Service Organizations

Many people in the Boundary invest personally in the form of volunteer hours, food and cash donations, and in-kind contributions to support people who are experiencing emergency or chronic food insecurity. Many people may not realize that poverty and homelessness is a reality for many individuals and families living in the Boundary. Food security stakeholders identified the need for additional supports such as physical facilities, low-cost leases, website and social media communications, and letters of support for funding applications to be better prepared for emergency and longer-term use of food programs.

Goal 2 Objectives and Recommended Actions

Objective	Recommended Actions	Priority	Local Government Role
2.1 Expand extension Services for Producers and Ranchers	2.1.1 Continue to support the KBFA pilot program being coordinated and funded by the Kootenay/Boundary Regional Districts and Columbia Basin Trust.	High	RDKB (Board)
	2.1.2 Address the need for large animal veterinary services in the Boundary in collaboration with the coordinator(s) of the new extension services program to determine what practical solutions may exist, including direct recruitment.	High	RDKB (BCDC)
	2.1.3 Meet with representatives from provincial agencies to develop a long-term plan for expansion of extension services in the Boundary area.	Medium	RDKB (Board)
2.2 Stabilize Supporting Food Storage and Processing Infrastructure	2.2.1 Seek grant and community investment opportunities to find investment and ownership solutions to the regional need for additional meat processing.	High	RDKB (BCDC)

Objective	Recommended Actions	Priority	Local Government Role
	2.2.2 Continue to ensure that local policies and zoning facilitate the establishment of value-added processing on farmland, in alignment with ALC policies as well as off-farm in rural residential and industrial zones.	High	RDKB (Planning) and member municipalities
	2.2.3 Support pilot programs and business support services to food system infrastructure initiatives, including a review of past programs that encountered challenges.	Medium	RDKB (BCDC) to support Community Futures
	2.2.4 Establish, coordinate, and promote community-accessible food storage areas, including the existing cold storage in Grand Forks and Midway.	Med	RDKB (BCDC) to support NGOs
	2.2.5 Strengthen facilities and systems for community food processing (e.g. drying, canning, fermenting, community kitchens, juicing, packing) that serves both urban and rural people.	High	RDKB (BCDC) to support NGOs
2.3 Improve Transportation Options for Food Access	2.3.1 Support transportation options that would provide access to farmers markets, emergency food sources, and other healthy and local food. This may include adjusting transit routes, fees and schedules to match up with markets and other food programs.	Med	RDKB (BCDC)
	2.3.2 Support improvements to the distribution system for transportation of regional foods to regional markets. This may include a local distribution inventory or feasibility study.	High	RDKB (BCDC) to support NGOs and business associations
2.4 Emergency Food Preparedness	2.4.1 Develop strategies for communicating emergency information, including to those without access to phones and/or internet (for example physical information boards).	High	RDKB (Emergency Management)
	2.4.2 Include food and agriculture components in the RDKB's emergency planning in two key areas: a) livestock	High	RDKB (Emergency Management)

Objective	Recommended Actions	Priority	Local Government Role
	evacuation plans and b) food access in emergencies.		
	2.4.3 Work with ranchers, farmers and BCCA to review RDKB emergency plans ensure to include a producer perspective.	High	RDKB (Emergency Management)
	2.4.4 Recognize the essential requirements of agriculture operators' ability to access and manage livestock and crops during emergencies. This could involve encouraging participation in the Premises ID program before an emergency arises (work with the Province, ranchers and BCCA)	High	RDKB (Emergency Management)
2.5 Anticipate Climate Change	2.5.1 Complete a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and Implementation Plan specific to the Boundary Area that includes a focus on food systems and agriculture.	Medium	RDKB (Planning) and member municipalities
	2.5.2 Urge the Province to create a fuel management plan to reduce the risk to agriculture resources from wildfire.	Medium	RDKB (Board)
	2.5.3 Share emergency preparedness educational resources and have hard copies and digital copies of the resources, reports and maps available.	High	RDKB (Emergency Management) and member municipalities
	2.5.4 Develop flood response and relief protocols that are specific to agricultural land that may have livestock, buildings/barns, and equipment in flood zones. Minimize risks resulting from floods (e.g. fuel leaks and spills, on-farm waste management).	Medium	Producers, EFP Program, RDKB (Emergency Management and KBFA) to support
	2.5.5 Increase regional climate resiliency by supporting existing seed banks, and establishing a seed lending program through community libraries.	High	RDKB (KBFA) to support Boundary Seed Bank and libraries

Objective	Recommended Actions	Priority	Local Government Role
	2.5.6 Continue to work towards the adoption of a Boundary Drought Management Plan.	High	RDKB (Planning/KRWA)
2.6 Support and work with Social Service Organizations	2.6.1 Support the operation of food programs in publicly owned facilities, with low cost leases, where appropriate.	High	RDKB (Board) and member municipalities to support NGOS
	2.6.2 Support local organizations that are working in the areas of food security, food access, and food self-sufficiency.	High	RDKB (Board) and member municipalities

GOAL 3: STEWARD THE CONNECTIONS BETWEEN ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND THE REGIONAL FOOD AND AGRICULTURE SYSTEM

The Boundary region is a well-known area for ranching, nursery production, and market gardening. However, there are environmental challenges facing farmers in the region. Water was listed as both an opportunity and a threat, with excess water causing flooding in the spring and drought conditions causing pressure on irrigation infrastructure during the summer, and risks of crop failure in emergency drought scenarios with mandated irrigation stoppages. Climate change was raised as a consideration that will have effects on nearly all the other issues in this Goal, including invasive species and water management. Objectives and actions for climate change have also been included in objective 2.5- anticipate climate change.

Goal 3 Objectives

3.1 Address Wildlife Concerns

Ungulates (deer, elk), predators (wolf, cougar, coyotes), and even waterfowl pose threats to farmers' livelihoods in the region. Interviews with cattle ranchers as well as forage and grain producers indicated that damage to crops and fencing is a significant challenge to agriculture in the region.

3.2 Minimize Impacts of Invasive Species and Noxious Weeds

Invasive species and noxious weeds have known impacts to the agriculture industry. Fallow agricultural land often helps the proliferation of invasive species in the Boundary. Some of these species are toxic to livestock and may encroach onto agricultural land from drainage ditches, roadways, trails, rights of way, and empty or neglected lots.



Figure 5. Mixed Vegetable Farm, Christina Lake.

3.3 Manage Water Resources Sustainably

Concerns over water resource management were raised during engagement, particularly spring freshet and irrigation requirements (summer drought). Watershed needs of fish populations were also mentioned, as was the need to protect riparian areas of the Kettle River from livestock access.

3.4 Encourage Agroecological Practices

Stakeholders and survey respondents commented on the importance of the natural ecology of the land and environmentally sound farming practices to help replenish the soil, recharge water sources and provide habitat for natural pollinators, beneficial plants, and wildlife diversity. A balance of farm use and retention of the natural ecosystem can support healthy farming.

Goal 3 Objectives and Recommended Actions

Objective	Recommended Actions	Priority	Local Government Role
3.1 Address Wildlife Concerns	3.1.1 Initiate discussions with Provincial agencies to seek management solutions to passively and actively deter wildlife populations from damaging crops, fencing, and livestock. This includes Crown rangelands.	High	RDKB (Board)
	3.1.2 Research best practices to minimizing wildlife and agriculture conflicts (for example previous IAF projects).	Medium	RDKB (KBFA)
	3.1.3 Urge the province to establish management protocols for harvesting wildlife to manage populations and protect food producing areas.	Medium	RDKB (Board)
3.2 Minimize Impacts of Invasive Species and Noxious Weeds	3.2.1 Work with BISS to set priorities for the focus of an Invasive Species & Noxious Weeds bylaw for the Boundary; draft and adopt the bylaw.	High	RDKB (Boundary Weed Service)
	3.2.2 Complete the bylaw adjudication process.	Medium	RDKB (Administration)
	3.2.3 Provide mapping of invasive species and make them publicly accessible and interactive.	Medium	RDKB (Boundary Weed Service and Planning)
	3.2.4 Support the extension of biological control programs into the Boundary area (for example the Okanagan Kootenay Sterile Insect Release program)	Low	RDKB (Boundary Weed Service)
	3.2.5 Support the work that the BISS is doing with SD51 and community groups to plan events to remove invasive species from public areas.	Medium	RDKB (Boundary Weed Service)

Objective	Recommended Actions	Priority	Local Government Role
3.3 Manage Water Resources Sustainably	3.3.1. Encourage the continued development and implementation of agricultural water conservation measures by continuing the implementing of the Kettle River Watershed Management Plan.	High	RDKB (Planning/KRWA and KBFA)
	3.3.2 Include and consider agricultural needs in all drought, flooding, and groundwater management plans. See the Kettle River Agricultural Water Demand Model report for specific recommendations.	Medium	RDKB (Planning/KRWA) and member municipalities)
	3.3.3 Support efforts for producers who would like to improve water intake systems and storage of water on their property for the dual purposes of reduced water access costs and farming using principles of water conservation. This could include ensuring that necessary permits are in place.	Medium	RDKB (KBFA) to support Landowners
	3.3.4 Promote the implementation of best management practices for riparian management, irrigation, and water conservation on farms through the EFP Program and other programs.	Medium	RDKB (Planning/KRWA and KBFA).
	3.3.5 Encourage optimal water management in new builds (for example through the BC Building Code and Development Permits).	High	RDKB (Board, Building, Planning)
3.4 Encourage Agroecological Practices	3.4.1 Support honeybees, butterflies, and other pollinators through habitat preservation and adoption of agroecological principles. ¹	HIGH	RDKB with member municipalities to support producers and land owners; KFBA

¹ Agroecology is the study of ecological processes applied to agricultural production systems.

Objective	Recommended Actions	Priority	Local Government Role
	3.4.2 Encourage farmers, through outreach, to use environmental programs and the Scientific Research and Experimental Development Program to develop beneficial programs for the re-use of waste products.	Medium	RDKB (KBFA) to encourage

GOAL 4: SUPPORT MULTIGENERATIONAL FARMS AND EMERGING FARMERS

The overarching theme of this Plan relates to ensuring that farmland is farmed to its fullest capacity over the long term. Whether a producer is just starting out or coming from a long family history of farming, obtaining land is challenging. Farmers may require capital to switch crop varieties, upgrade equipment and fencing, or modernize practices. These activities all entail investment costs. Many of the actions that fall within this Goal would require that the RDKB play a supporting role.

Goal 4 Objectives

4.1 Engage in Succession Planning for Farms

Succession planning and the need to support new farmers was noted by many stakeholders as a significant challenge for Boundary farmers and ranchers. Strategies can be developed to encourage young farmers and make it possible for them to earn a living as a farmer. Organizations such as Young Agrarians and FarmFolk/CityFolk are making inroads on this critical issue.

4.2 Clarify Regulations for Farm Workers and Farmworker Housing

There is a need for clarity regarding farm worker housing on farms within the Boundary. Due to the need for temporary workers (from local areas, across Canada, or outside the country), on-farm housing is often needed. Temporary rental housing for seasonal farm workers is more difficult to find. On the other hand, construction of farm worker housing on the farm opens the possibility for the structures being converted to other non-farm uses in the off-season or when land ownership changes hands. Many producers are unclear as to what options are available regarding on-farm dwellings, therefore opportunities exist to improve communications on this topic.



Figure 6. Farmworkers in the Nursery, Grand Forks.

4.3 Support Alternative Tenure Arrangements

Land tenure can be an indication of farm stability. Despite the association with long term instability, leasing (or licensing) farmland can be one of the most affordable ways for farms to become established. With appropriate policies and community initiatives in place, some of the burden of accessing land can be alleviated. In order to ensure land continues to be farmed and accessed for farming, the regional government can explore opportunities such as land trusts or zoning for the use of public land for agriculture. Local planning documents can also continue to offer support for farmland protection policies and growth management tools.

Goal 4 Objectives and Recommended Actions

Objective	Recommended Actions	Priority	Local Government Role
4.1 Engage in Succession Planning for Farms	4.1.1 Continue to support Boundary 4H programs.	High	RDKB (Board) to support
	4.1.2 Support the use of land-linking programs, such as the Young Agrarians U-Map that matches land with people who want to farm.	High	RDKB (BCDC and KBFA) to support
	4.1.3 Support farm families dealing with the challenge of farm succession by connecting them with professional support services and information.	Medium	RDKB (BCDC and KBFA) to support
	4.1.4 Promote and support apprenticeship and mentorship program(s) that connect new and emerging farmers with those who are transitioning into retirement.	High	RDKB (KBFA and BCDC) to support BC Agriculture Council, BCCA, BC Fruit Growers Association, educational institutions, and the Province.
	4.1.5 Work with Selkirk College to create farm apprenticeships and mentorship.	High	RDKB (KBFA) to support
4.2 Clarify Regulations for Farm Workers and Farmworker Housing	4.2.1 Develop a clear communications document outlining current ALC and local government policies for housing on farmland. The document should address differences in dwelling regulations for farmworkers and non-farmworkers.	High	RDKB (Planning)
	4.2.2 Promote programs that offer funding or other resources to farms for seasonal help (for example provide links via webpage and hard copies for producers).	Low	RDKB (KBFA and BCDC)
4.3 Support Alternative	4.3.1 Conduct a land inventory to determine the potential of publicly owned lands to	High	RDKB (Planning) and municipalities

Objective	Recommended Actions	Priority	Local Government Role
Tenure Arrangements	accommodate food production, food storage, and food processing operations.		
	4.3.2 Investigate the feasibility of an incubator farm on publicly-owned land. This could be supported through zoning and policy.	High	RDKB (Board)
	4.3.3 Support efforts to initiate a process to establish or join a regional food and farmland trust ² by convening meetings with other regional districts and levels of government.	Low	RDKB (Board)

² Farmland trusts actively protect and preserve farmlands and associated agricultural, natural, and cultural features through direct land securement, stewardship, policy research, and education.

GOAL 5: STRENGTHEN AWARENESS OF AND SKILLS IN THE LOCAL FOOD AND AGRICULTURE SYSTEM

The support for a local food system is largely based on general public knowledge and awareness of local food products and processes. The need to share knowledge and (re)introduce food skills around growing, preserving, and preparing healthy local foods was identified by stakeholders. However, communication systems are needed in order to be able to share information and knowledge. Broad-based and specific educational needs for producers, consumers, food purchasers, food donators, and elected officials are key opportunities raised by stakeholders.

Goal Five Objectives

5.1 Strengthen Online Food System Resources

Establishing a food system webpage specifically for the Boundary area would be a low-cost way to help raise the profile of the regional food system. It would also provide an effective avenue to share information with both the farming community and the general public. A webpage was developed for the Boundary Agriculture and Food Security project to share information on the progress of the update process and elicit feedback from the public. This website could be dedicated to more broadly to provide a platform for the Boundary agriculture and food system.

5.2 Refresh and Expand Road and Trail Signage for Agriculture

A food and agricultural signage program can increase visibility of the regional food system and raise awareness and appreciation for agricultural areas within the Boundary.

5.3 Support Food System Education in Schools

Stakeholders mentioned the need to reinforce primary and secondary curriculum to bolster the amount of information about the local food system in the education system. There was also interest in securing a site for a new post-secondary educational establishment focused on agriculture, such as an agricultural college. It remains challenging for the regional government to play a lead role in this area, however exploring locations and zoning to allow this type of development is an option.



Figure 7. Example of Agricultural Signage Program from Oregon, USA.

5.4 Support and Strengthen Knowledge of the Boundary Food System

The need for general, community-wide food systems knowledge is a key opportunity identified by stakeholders. Topics ranging from distributing information about regional farmers and ranchers to learning tangible food skills were identified as key areas of interest.

5.5 Boost Agriculture and Food System Communication Channels

Building the awareness of and knowledge base in regional food and agriculture requires that existing communication methods are strengthened and expanded. These channels of information are critical to not only food and agriculture, but also the many other topics that the RDKB is increasing awareness and understanding from emergency preparedness and alerts to regional branding and messaging around agriculture and food.

Goal 5 Objectives and Recommended Actions

Objective	Recommended Actions	Priority	Local Government Role
5.1 Strengthen Online Food System Resources	5.1.1 Showcase local farms, food businesses, food organizations online through RDKB-affiliated online media and in tourism based materials.	Medium	RDKB (BCDC)
	5.1.2 Encourage local businesses to show their support for local food and local producers online through social media (websites, apps, etc.).	Medium	RDKB (BCDC) to encourage
	5.1.3 Develop an App for local food resources for the region or connecting the Boundary community to existing apps and online resources.	Low	RDKB (BCDC)
	5.1.4 Encourage the development of educational materials on seed saving, native plants, pollinators, and food systems for dissemination through the community through social media.	Medium	RDKB (Board)
	5.1.5 Develop an online educational awareness program specific to the Boundary for those living on or adjacent to the ALR and of the dispute resolution process established under the <i>Farm Practices Protection Act</i> and promote this information online.	Low	RDKB (Planning)

Objective	Recommended Actions	Priority	Local Government Role
5.2 Refresh and Expand Road and Trail Signage for Agriculture	5.2.1 Install signage along Highway 3 and 33 to remind drivers that they are traveling through active farming areas and to respect and celebrate the agricultural work.	Low	MOTI, RDKB (BCDC)
	5.2.2 Install signage along the Rail Trail indicating farming areas, reminding users of rights and responsibilities, and using the opportunity to include historical agricultural information.	Low	RDKB (BCDC) to support Trail Users Association, RSTBC,
	5.2.3 Support the use of signs to highlight livestock and crops being raised/grown in various farm fields. This would also help to raise awareness about farming practices.	Low	RDKB (BCDC) with involvement from producers
	5.2.4 Communicate locations of physical community information boards and establish new ones where required. Communications may include food security assets and programs, emergency food sources, and volunteering opportunities.	High	RDKB (Administration)
5.3 Support Food System Education in Schools	5.3.1 Encourage food security organizations to offer school presentations on a cost-recovery basis.	High	NGOs, RDKB to support
	5.3.2 Encourage schools to continue to participate in the BC Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program and encourage the use of local products.	Medium	RDKB (Board) to support SD51
	5.3.3 Support schools to grow food on school grounds. This may include providing soil or compost, fencing, or other infrastructure for these projects.	High	RDKB (Board) to support SD51
	5.3.4 Support School District 51 and partnering organizations in providing food and agriculture programs such as food literacy, access to educational	Medium	RDKB (Board) to support SD51

Objective	Recommended Actions	Priority	Local Government Role
	food gardens, and animal, agricultural, and plant/soil science.		
	5.3.5 Encourage farm tours by school classes through funding from the BC Farm 2 School grant program or other.	Medium	RDKB (Board) to support SD 51 alongside local producers to support
	5.3.6 Explore opportunities to link with First Nation school initiatives and programs as well as identify shared opportunities and gaps.	High	RDKB (Board) to support SD51 and First Nations
5.4 Support and Strengthen Knowledge of the Boundary Food System	5.4.1 Help build knowledge and skills for non-profit organizations (e.g. board training, food safety and certification).	Medium	RDKB (Board), IH
	5.4.2 Provide education and learning opportunities targeted at elected officials.	High	RDKB (Board)
	5.4.3 Help to develop and promote a 'did you know' campaign geared towards dispelling myths around mental health, poverty, and use of community and/or social services.	High	RDKB (Planning) to support NGOs and Interior Health
5.5 Boost Agriculture and Food System Communication Channels	5.5.1 Establish a communication plan and systems for creating a central portal for information on food and agriculture in the Boundary and cross-promoting food and agriculture activities from the non-profit, local government, business, school, and other sectors.	Med	RDKB (BCDC)
	5.5.2 Establish, enhance, and promote a volunteer database specific to food security initiatives and programs.	Med	NGOs to lead; RDKB (Board) to support
	5.5.3 Expand and strengthen existing databases of food security and meal	Med	RDKB (Board) to support NGOs

Objective	Recommended Actions	Priority	Local Government Role
	services and eligibility (for example Fetch BC) ³ .		

³ <http://kb.fetchbc.ca/index.html?t=3&page=2>

GOAL 6: INVEST DIRECTLY IN THE LOCAL FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ECONOMY

The local food and agriculture sector is a key element of the regional economy. The strength of the regional economy largely determines how many jobs there are and how much income is being generated. This economic activity is then linked to affordability of housing and food, among others. By investing in the regional food and agriculture economy, the Boundary can make dollars recirculate and generate additional value for the region.

Goal Six Objectives

6.1 Expand Marketing and Retail Opportunities for Local Food

The lack of a coordinated effort by Boundary farms to access local retailers is in part due to a lack of marketing skills and distribution options for small and medium scale producers. A permanent year-round farmers market or food hub could alleviate this pressure, as could the permitting of pop-up vendors across the region.

6.2 Build a Recognizable Brand for Boundary Food and Fiber Products

The regional district could play a role in assisting local producers with a simple exercise to create a logo and tagline that could be used collectively and consistently by Boundary farmers. This could build upon the existing *Boundary Country – Taste Unlimited* marketing.

The use of a single brand to identify Boundary-grown food and food products could help solidify support from the public while enhancing their understanding of the local food system.



6.3 Enable Farm to Table Procurement

Although the RDKB budget for purchasing food and catering services is nominal, it is a potent opportunity to demonstrate leadership in finding ways to effectively buy from regional producers and food providers. By providing this leadership, other institutions and/or corporations will be encouraged to also develop farm to table procurement policies and systems. The supply-side of institutional procurement may need on-going training and support to meet health and safety standards required by food purchasers.

Goal 6: Objectives and Recommended Actions

Objective	Recommended Actions	Priority	Local Government Role
6.1 Expand Marketing and Retail Opportunities for Local Food	6.1.1 Support the rebranding the Kettle Valley Food Co-op explicitly as a food hub ⁴ , this could include help with zoning for a year-round mobile market ⁵ selling Boundary food, promotion, or in-kind support for rent.	Medium	RDKB (BCDC and Planning) and municipalities to support Kettle Valley Co-op.
	6.1.2 Explore year-round indoor farmers' market venues for selling and accessing local food. Investigate zoning requirements and conduct stakeholder engagement.	High	RDKB (BCDC and Planning) and member municipalities to support Farmers Market organizers
	6.1.3 Present the Association of Farmers' Markets guidelines (make it, bake it, grow it) to farmers' markets for consideration of the benefits.	Medium	RDKB (BCDC)
	6.1.4 Support SD51 in working towards purchasing local foods for meal programs (e.g. fruit program, vegetables, salad bars, local milk, Farm to School Program).	Medium	RDKB (BCDC) to support SD51
	6.1.5 Support business / economic development opportunities towards connecting local farm products to retailers (virtually and practically).	Medium	RDKB (BCDC) to support
6.2 Build a Recognizable Brand for Boundary	6.2.1 Leverage the existing Boundary Country – Taste Unlimited logo and taglines to connect and centralize the regional food system.	High	RDKB (BCDC)

⁴ A Food Hub, as defined by the USDA, is “a centrally located facility with a business management structure facilitating the aggregation, storage, processing, distribution, and/or marketing of locally/regionally produced food products.”

⁵ Mobile markets bring fresh, high quality, affordable fruit and vegetables to neighbourhoods with food access issues.

Objective	Recommended Actions	Priority	Local Government Role
Food and Fiber Products	6.2.2 Create an interactive map of the Boundary area to highlight farms and farm products and provide links to existing resources.	High	RDKB (BCDC) (provide links to existing resources)
	6.2.3 Consider supporting a regional certification program that would help identify local products.	Medium	RDKB (KBFA)
6.3 Enable Farm to Table Procurement	6.3.1 Formulate partnerships between farmers and retailers to improve communication, promote contract growing opportunities, and identify and access distribution opportunities.	Medium	RDKB (BCDC)
	6.3.2 Update procurement policies to include local purchasing targets.	High	RDKB (Finance), member municipalities, other government, NGOs, and businesses

GOAL 7: ENCOURAGE FOOD GARDENING, GLEANING, AND FOOD RECOVERY

Gardening is one of Canada's top pastimes. More than growing for a household, food gardening connects people to natural systems such as soil, water, and sun. Food gardening also gives the appreciation that growing a good tomato takes some luck and a lot of skill. This helps to increase the awareness of and appreciation of farming and ranching, creating an important link between towns and the rural areas surrounding them. Sometimes a food garden or farm will produce a surplus that can be recovered, or gleaned. Food gleaning and recovery is the practice of saving high-quality foods from being composted or otherwise wasted. Food recovery applies across the food system and also includes grocery stores and restaurants.

Goal Seven Objectives

7.1 Encourage and Promote Food Gardening

Many people in the Boundary have back and front yards large enough to have food gardens and small orchards. Although many people already have established food gardens, there is untapped potential to expand food gardening and increase opportunities for people to recreate, rehabilitate, and socialize through food gardening. Local governments can help to encourage and promote food gardening in private lands as well as public ones.

7.2 Expand Capacity for Food Gleaning

Food gleaning is the practice of capturing produce that is left unharvested. This can apply to field/greenhouse crops and fruit trees, among others. In addition to providing a healthy food source, gleaning can be a community builder by bringing volunteers together to share harvests.

7.3 Recover High-Quality Food for Re-Distribution

The amount of food waste in North American food systems is shocking- conservative estimates indicate that over 40% of food is wasted before it gets to the consumer. Often times food is disposed of not due to its quality or nutritional content, but for a myriad of other reasons such as consumer preferences and industry standards for *perfect* looking foods. With many people going hungry every day in the Boundary, recovering high-quality food for distribution to meal and food providers is a key opportunity to increase healthy food sources



Figure 8: Farmers Market Radishes

Goal 7: Objectives and Recommended Actions

Objective	Recommended Actions	Priority	Local Government Role
7.1 Encourage and Promote Food gardening	7.1.1 Create an action plan to engage the community in planting and harvesting of food producing trees and plants in public areas (for example. incrEDIBLE Trail, raised garden beds, edible landscaping).	Medium	RDKB (BCDC) and member municipalities
	7.1.2 Ensure that zoning allows gardening and food production within towns and cities and that community gardens are a key component of public land use planning.	Medium	RDKB (Planning) and member municipalities
7.2 Expand Capacity for Food Gleaning	7.2.1 Support community gleaning programs carried out by NGOs to harvest and share surplus produce with the community (for example: Fruit Tree Project).	Medium	RDKB (Board) and member municipalities to support NGOs
	7.2.2 Support the sharing of hunted meat by establishing mechanisms for the donation of meat. ⁶	Medium	RDKB (BCDC)
7.3 Recover High-Quality Food for Re-Distribution	7.3.1 Examine ways to raise awareness of food retailers and producers of <i>The Food Donor Encouragement Act</i> .	Medium	RDKB (BCDC)
	7.3.2 Capture high-quality surplus product that would otherwise be disposed of (refer to BC CDC Providing Nutritious and Safe Food: <i>Guidelines for Food Distribution Organizations with Grocery or Meal Programs</i>)	High	RDKB to support NGOs

⁶ BCCDC (2012). Standards for the Donation of Culled Game Meat. Accessed March 27, 2018: <http://www.bccdc.ca/resource-gallery/Documents/Guidelines%20and%20Forms/Guidelines%20and%20Manuals/EH/FPS/Meat/StandardsfortheDonationofCulledGameMeatsFINALDec2012.pdf>

GOAL 8: INCREASE CAPACITY AND LEADERSHIP

In order to begin implementation of the recommended actions, increasing the capacity of the RDKB and municipal governments is critical. This can involve leveraging existing efforts and determining where the RDKB and member municipalities can incorporate recommended actions into what they are already doing. This can also involve identifying and acquiring new resources including staff time, physical infrastructure, and funding sources. Demonstrating leadership in implementing actions gives this plan legitimacy and contributes to the overall momentum behind food and agriculture systems in the Boundary. Monitoring and evaluating progress towards the plan vision and goals is central to building capacity to adapt to new conditions and opportunities.

Goal Eight Objectives

8.1 Foster Leadership and Collaboration within the Boundary Agriculture and Food System

Food and agriculture are cross cutting topics that often require responses that are inter-disciplinary and inter-departmental and inter-sectoral collaboration. This can introduce a new level of complexity to already strapped organizations. Providing leadership in these complex discussions is critical to building momentum and normalizing new ways of working together.

8.2 Monitor and Evaluate Progress within the Food System

Stakeholders identified the need to be able to evaluate progress, or the lack-there-of, over time. This is as a key aspect of accountability and essential to building trust between sectors.

8.3 Grow Capacity to Implement the Boundary Agriculture and Food Plan

The need to develop greater capacity to implement this plan, not only within the RDKB and member municipalities, but also in non-profit, for-profit, and education sectors is critical for success.

8.4 Advocate for the Sustainability of the Boundary Food and Agriculture System

There are many aspects to this plan that are all or in-part outside of the jurisdiction of local government and other sectors in the Boundary. In these cases, developing and promoting shared advocacy positions is a way to signal to senior levels of government, industry associations, and others that changes are needed. This includes the need to address the root causes of food insecurity, which includes housing affordability and underlying poverty issues.



Figure 9: West Boundary ranch lands

Goal 8: Objectives and Recommended Actions

Objective	Recommended Actions	Priority	Local Government Role
8.1 Foster Leadership and collaboration within the Boundary Agriculture and Food System	8.1.1 Endorse Boundary Food and Agriculture Charter.	High	RDKB (Board) , member municipalities, other government agencies, NGOs, and local businesses
	8.1.2 Facilitate the on-going role of the Boundary Area Food and Agriculture Advisory Council (BAFAAC).	High	RDKB (Board) to lead, IH to support
8.2 Monitor and evaluate progress within the food system	8.2.1 Conduct annual review of the action items in this Plan to determine progress towards plan vision and goals as well as required adjustments to priorities. This could include use of the report card and detailed review of all action items as data is available.	Medium	RDKB (BCDC)
	8.2.2 Use <i>Program Sustainability Assessment Tool</i> to monitor program sustainability over time.	Medium	RDKB (Planning)
8.3 Grow Capacity to Implement the Boundary Agriculture and Food System Plan	8.3.1 Confirm the implementation strategy for the plan including funding sources and in-kind contributions.	High	RDKB (BCDC)
	8.3.2 Allocate staff time and consider establishing a regional food and agriculture coordinator position (see implementation plan for more details).	High	RDKB (Board)
	8.3.3 Develop a policy around grant application decision-	Medium	RDKB (Board)

Objective	Recommended Actions	Priority	Local Government Role
	making and hosting including criteria regarding staff time.		
	8.3.4 Continue to reimburse BAFAAC members for mileage to attend meetings in person	High	RDKB (BCDC)
	8.3.5 Coordinate actions between departments to minimize overlap and maximize resources (e.g. planning, environmental services).	High	RDKB (Board)
8.4 Advocate for the Sustainability of the Boundary Food and Agriculture System	8.4.1 Work with all levels of government, the non-profit, for-profit, and education sectors to advocate for poverty reduction strategies as well as job creation.	Med	RDKB (Board and BCDC)
	8.4.2 Discuss regional food and agriculture system issues with other levels of government, through motions at UBCM as well as direct meetings with Interior Health, the Ministry of Agriculture, and the Ministry of Health, among others.	Med	RDKB (Planning, Board and BCDC)

Implementation Strategy

The *Boundary Area Food and Agriculture Plan* recommends policies and actions to ensure that the region is food secure, farming is protected as a profession, and farmland is productive. The implementation strategy scopes the anticipated timeline and resources required to successfully complete the actions and policies recommended in the Plan.

Of the 107 recommended actions, local government is listed as key lead for 68 and support for 34 actions.

It is anticipated that the full amount of work identified in actions where the RDKB can take a lead role will require:

- 1.0 FTE (full time equivalent) staff – With existing staff resources and workloads, additional staff would be required to implement the actions in the timeline desired. This staff person could be affiliated with one department (e.g. planning) or shared among several departments or services (e.g. planning, emergency management, Boundary weed service, administration and electoral area services, and communications). A staff-based approach will result in more focused attention on the implementation strategy and provide direct staffing resources over a number of years. The staff person will provide a central point of contact for the projects.
- 0.5 FTE bylaw officer – Several of the policies and actions have bylaw implications. Due to the current staff resourcing and workloads, a 0.5 FTE bylaw officer dedicated to agriculture will help ensure success of the implemented policies and actions.

The table also identifies some actions that require additional budget beyond staff resourcing. For these actions, funding options will be investigated and/or budget requests will be made as part of the annual budget cycle. Further, there are dozens of additional actions that would require the leadership of other key stakeholders, with the local government playing a supporting role. As the local government is not the lead in these remaining actions, a timeline has not been assigned to them

It should be noted that no commitments have been made from external organizations that have been identified to be involved with implementing this plan, however they have been identified as a first step in implementation engagement. Most of these organizations have been represented at BAFAAC meetings and/or have been involved in the engagement for the plan, therefore none of these recommendations are likely to come as a surprise. Whenever possible, leadership is further identified within the implementation strategy. It should be reiterated that additional support (both financial support and staff support) will be required to execute all the identified actions.

The summary of RDKB lead and support actions is provided in Tables 2 and 3.

Table 2. Number of actions with RDKB proposed as the lead organization.

	High Priority	Med Priority	Low Priority	Total
Ongoing	10	6	0	16
Phase 1	16	6	1	23
Phase 2	9	14	4	27
Phase 3	0	1	4	5
Total	35	27	9	71

Table 3. Number of actions with RDKB proposed as the support organization.

	High Priority	Med Priority	Low Priority	Total
Ongoing	8	9	1	18
Phase 1	1	0	0	1
Phase 2	6	7	1	14
Phase 3	0	3	0	3
Total	14	19	3	36

A proposed implementation work plan is provided to show where local government can lead in Tables 4, 5, 6, and 7 in the following pages. Shaded actions indicate an RDKB lead, actions without a highlight indicate a support role for the RDKB.

Actions in each table are organized according to a proposed implementation timeline:

- **Ongoing:** Actions identified as ongoing are required to be addressed throughout the life of the plan. (Table 4)
- **Phase 1:** This phase tackles the short term, high and medium priority actions with a completion goal of one to two years (2018-2020) after the plan is adopted/endorsed. (Table 5)
- **Phase 2:** This phase includes medium term, medium priority actions. The goal is to be addressing them approximately 3-5 (2021 – 2024) years after the plan is adopted/endorsed. (Table 6)
- **Phase 3:** This phase addresses actions that are longer term in nature and address them approximately 5-10 (2025 – 2028) years after the plan is adopted/endorsed. (Table 7)

ONGOING ACTIONS

Table 4: Ongoing Actions																	
Action IDs	Short Description	PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Administration	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others		
Shaded Actions = RDKB Lead	Not Shaded= RDKB Support																
1.1.6	When updating OCPs and zoning bylaws, permit non-intensive farming on all non-ALR land.	HIGH	X									X					
1.2.2	Report annually on the outcomes of all ALR applications	HIGH	X									X					
2.2.2	Continue to ensure that local policies and zoning facilitate the establishment of value-added processing on farmland, in alignment with ALC policies as well as off-farm in rural residential and industrial zones.	HIGH	X									X					
2.4.3	Work with ranchers, farmers and BCCA to review RDKB emergency plans ensure to include a producer perspective.	HIGH				X							x				BCCA

Table 4: Ongoing Actions																	
Action IDs	Short Description	PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Administration	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others		
Shaded Actions = RDKB Lead	Not Shaded= RDKB Support																
2.5.6	Continue to work towards the adoption of a Boundary Drought Management Plan.	HIGH	X								X						
3.3.1.	Encourage the continued development and implementation of agricultural water conservation measures by implementing the Kettle River Watershed Management Plan.	HIGH	X							X	X						
3.3.5	Encourage optimal water management in new builds (for example through the BC Building Code and Development Permits).	HIGH	X					X	X								
6.2.1	Leverage the existing Boundary Country logo and taglines to connect and centralize the regional food system.	HIGH		X				X									
8.1.2	Facilitate the on-going role of the Boundary Area Food and Agriculture Advisory Council (BAFAAC).	HIGH	X														IH

Table 4: Ongoing Actions																	
Action IDs	Short Description	PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Administration	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others		
Shaded Actions = RDKB Lead	Not Shaded= RDKB Support																
2.1.1	Continue to support the new Kootenay Boundary Farm Advisors (KBFA) program being coordinated and funded by the Kootenay Regional Districts and the Columbia Basin Trust.	HIGH							X								
3.4.1	Support the health of honeybees, butterflies, and other pollinators through habitat preservation and adoption of agroecological principles.	HIGH								X		X					Landowners
4.1.1	Continue to support Boundary 4H programs.	HIGH							X								
4.1.2	Support the use of land-linking programs, such as the Young Agrarians U-Map that matches land with people who want to farm.	HIGH		X						X							

Table 4: Ongoing Actions																	
Action IDs	Short Description	PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Administration	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others		
Shaded Actions = RDKB Lead	Not Shaded= RDKB Support																
4.1.4	Promote and support apprenticeship and mentorship program(s) that connect new and emerging farmers with those who are transitioning into retirement.	HIGH		X											BC Ag. Council, BCCA, BC Fruit Growers Association, educational institutions, and the Province		
4.1.5	Work with Selkirk College to create farm apprenticeships and mentorship.	HIGH								X							
5.3.1	Encourage food security organizations to offer school presentations on a cost-recovery basis.	HIGH							X						SD51		
5.3.3	Support schools to grow food on school grounds	HIGH							X						SD51		
5.3.6	Explore opportunities to link with First Nation school initiatives and programs as	HIGH						X							SD51, First Nations		

Table 4: Ongoing Actions																	
Action IDs	Short Description	PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Administration	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others		
Shaded Actions = RDKB Lead	Not Shaded= RDKB Support																
	well as identify shared opportunities and gaps.																
3.2.2	Complete the bylaw adjudication process.	MED			X												
3.2.5	Support the work that the BISS is doing with SD51 and community groups to plan events to remove invasive species from public areas.	MED					X										
3.3.2	Include and consider agricultural needs in all drought, flooding, and groundwater management plans.	MED	X								X	X					
5.1.1	Showcase local farms, food businesses, food organizations online through RDKB-affiliated online media and in tourism based materials.	MED		X													

Table 4: Ongoing Actions																	
Action IDs	Short Description	PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Administration	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others		
Shaded Actions = RDKB Lead	Not Shaded= RDKB Support																
8.2.1	Conduct annual review of the action items in this Plan to determine progress towards plan vision and goals as well as required adjustments to priorities.	MED	X														
8.2.2	Use Program Sustainability Assessment Tool to monitor program sustainability over time.	MED	X														
2.2.3	Support pilot programs and business support services to food system infrastructure initiatives, including a review of past programs that encountered challenges.	MED		X													
3.3.3	Support efforts for farmers who would like to improve water intake systems and storage of water on their property for the dual purposes of reduced water access	MED								X							Landowners

Table 4: Ongoing Actions																
Action IDs	Short Description	PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Administration	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others	
Shaded Actions = RDKB Lead	Not Shaded= RDKB Support															
	costs and farming using principles of water conservation.															
3.3.4	Promote the implementation of best management practices for riparian management, irrigation, and water conservation on farms through the EFP and other programs.	MED	X							X	X					
3.4.2	Encourage farmers to use environmental programs and the Scientific Research and Experimental Development Program to develop beneficial programs for the re-use of waste products.	MED								X			X			
4.1.3	Assist farm families dealing with the challenge of farm succession by connecting them with professional support services and information.	MED		X						X						

Table 4: Ongoing Actions																	
Action IDs	Short Description	PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Administration	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others		
Shaded Actions = RDKB Lead	Not Shaded= RDKB Support																
5.1.2	Encourage local businesses to show their support for local food and local producers online through social media	MED		X													Local Businesses
5.3.2	Encourage schools to continue to participate in the BC Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program and encourage the use of local products. Prioritize expanding and developing youth programs.	MED							X								SD51
5.3.5	Encourage farm tours by school classes through funding from the BC Farm 2 School grant program or other.	MED						X					X				SD51
6.1.5	Support business / economic development opportunities towards connecting local farm products to retailers (virtually and practically).	MED		X													Community Futures

Table 4: Ongoing Actions																	
Action IDs	Short Description	PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Administration	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others		
Shaded Actions = RDKB Lead	Not Shaded= RDKB Support																
3.4.1	Support the health of honeybees, butterflies, and other pollinators through habitat preservation and adoption of agroecological principles.	HIGH								X		X			Landowners		
4.2.2	Promote programs that offer funding or other resources to farms for seasonal help.	LOW		X						X							

PHASE 1 SHORT TERM ACTIONS (2018-2020)

Table 5: PHASE 1 SHORT-TERM (2018-2020)																	
Action IDs	Short Description	PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Administration	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others		
Shaded Actions= RDKB Lead		Not Shaded= RDKB Support															
1.3.3	Determine a location for a permanent fair ground in Grand Forks.	HIGH		X												City of Grand Forks	
2.2.1	Seek grant and community investment opportunities to find investment and ownership solutions to the regional need for additional meat processing.	HIGH		X													
2.4.1	Develop strategies for communicating emergency information.	HIGH				X											
2.4.2	Include food and agriculture components in the Boundary's emergency planning.	HIGH				X											
2.4.4	Recognize the essential requirements of agriculture operators' ability to access and manage livestock and crops during emergencies.	HIGH				X										Province, BCCA	
2.5.3	Share emergency preparedness educational resources and have hard	HIGH				X						X					

Table 5: PHASE 1 SHORT-TERM (2018-2020)																
Action IDs			PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Administration	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others
Shaded Actions= RDKB Lead		Not Shaded= RDKB Support														
	copies and digital copies of the resources, reports and maps available.															
2.6.2	Support local organizations that are working in the areas of food security, food access, and food self-sufficiency.		HIGH							X			X			
3.1.1	Initiate discussions with Provincial agencies to seek management solutions to passively and actively deter wildlife populations from damaging crops, fencing, and livestock. This includes Crown rangelands.		HIGH							X						
3.2.1	Work with BISS to set priorities for the focus of an Invasive Species & Noxious Weeds bylaw for the Boundary; draft and adopt the bylaw.		HIGH					X								
4.2.1	Develop a clear communications document outlining current ALC and local		HIGH	X												

Table 5: PHASE 1 SHORT-TERM (2018-2020)																
Action IDs	Short Description		PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Administration	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others
Shaded Actions= RDKB Lead		Not Shaded= RDKB Support														
	government policies for housing on farmland.															
8.1.1	Endorse Boundary Food and Agriculture Charter.		HIGH							X			X		X	Local businesses
8.3.1	Confirm the implementation strategy for plan implementation including funding sources and in-kind contributions.		HIGH													
8.3.2	Allocate staff time and consider establishing a regional food and agriculture coordinator position.		HIGH							X						
2.1.2	Address the need for large animal veterinary services in the Boundary		HIGH		X				X							
8.3.4	Continue reimburse BAFAAC members for mileage to attend meetings in person		HIGH		X											
8.3.5	Coordinate actions between departments to minimize overlap and maximize		HIGH													

Table 5: PHASE 1 SHORT-TERM (2018-2020)																
Action IDs	Short Description		PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Administration	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others
Shaded Actions= RDKB Lead		Not Shaded= RDKB Support														
	resources (e.g. planning, environmental services).															
2.6.1	Support food programs locating in publicly owned facilities, with low cost leases, where appropriate.		HIGH							X			X		X	
1.1.2	Develop home plate specifications to limit the siting and size of the home plate and residential building footprint within the ALR in the Boundary.		MED	X									X			
2.1.3	Meet with representatives from provincial agencies to develop a long-term plan for expansion of extension services in the Boundary area.		MED							X						
8.4.2	Discuss regional food and agriculture system issues with other levels of government		MED	X	X					X						

Table 5: PHASE 1 SHORT-TERM (2018-2020)																
Action IDs			PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Administration	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others
Shaded Actions= RDKB Lead		Not Shaded= RDKB Support														
3.1.2	Research best practices to minimizing wildlife and agriculture conflicts		MED								X					
7.1.2	Ensure that zoning allows gardening and food production within towns and cities and that community gardens are a key component of public land use planning.		MED	X									X			
8.3.3	Develop a policy around grant application decision-making and hosting including criteria regarding staff time.		MED							X						
1.2.3	Develop a system to inform potential landowners near and within the ALR about normal farm practices and the <i>Farm Practices Protection (Right to Farm) Act</i>		LOW							X						

PHASE 2 MEDIUM TERM (2021-2024)

Table 6: PHASE 2 MEDIUM-TERM (2021-2024)																
Action IDs	Short Description		PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Admin/ Finance	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others
Shaded Actions= RDKB Lead		Not Shaded= RDKB Support														
1.1.1	Perform regular reviews of the OCPs and Zoning Bylaws.		HIGH	X									X			
1.1.4	In areas with a high potential of risk or conflict consider establishing a Development Permit Area for the protection of farmland.		HIGH	X									X			
3.1.3	Urge the province to establish management protocols for harvesting wildlife to manage populations and protect food producing areas.		HIGH							X						
4.3.1	Conduct a land inventory to determine the potential of publicly owned lands to accommodate food production, food storage, and food processing operations.		HIGH	X										X		
4.3.2	Investigate the feasibility of an incubator farm on publicly-owned land.		HIGH							X						

Table 6: PHASE 2 MEDIUM-TERM (2021-2024)																
Action IDs	Short Description		PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Admin/ Finance	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others
Shaded Actions= RDKB Lead		Not Shaded= RDKB Support														
5.2.4	Communicate locations of physical community information boards establish new ones where required.		HIGH			X										
5.4.2	Provide education and learning opportunities targeted at elected officials.		HIGH							X						
6.2.2	Create an interactive map of the Boundary area to highlight farms and farm products.		HIGH		X											
6.3.2	Update procurement policies to include local purchasing targets		HIGH			X							X			NGOs, other government Businesses
2.5.5	Increase regional climate resiliency by supporting existing seed banks, and establishing a seed lending program through community libraries.		HIGH								X					Boundary seed bank and libraries
5.4.3	Help to develop and promote a “did you know” campaign geared towards dispelling		HIGH	X											X	IH

Table 6: PHASE 2 MEDIUM-TERM (2021-2024)																
Action IDs	Short Description		PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Admin/ Finance	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others
Shaded Actions= RDKB Lead		Not Shaded= RDKB Support														
	myths around mental health, poverty, and use of community and/or social services.															
6.1.2	Explore year-round indoor farmers market venues for selling and accessing local food.		HIGH	X	X								X			Farmers Markets
2.2.5	Strengthen facilities and systems for community food processing (e.g. drying, canning, fermenting, community kitchens, juicing) that serves both urban and rural people.		HIGH		X										X	NGOs
2.3.2	Support improvements to the distribution system for transportation of regional foods to regional markets. This may include a local distribution inventory or feasibility study.		HIGH		X										X	NGOs and Business associations
7.3.2	Capture high-quality surplus product that would otherwise be disposed of		HIGH	X											X	

Table 6: PHASE 2 MEDIUM-TERM (2021-2024)																
Action IDs			PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Admin/ Finance	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others
Shaded Actions= RDKB Lead		Not Shaded= RDKB Support														
1.1.5	Establish buffer requirements for non-ALR properties adjacent to the ALR.		MED	X									X			
1.3.1	Develop an agri-tourism strategy and include clarity around agri-tourism accommodation regulations.		MED	X	X											
2.3.1	Support transportation options that would provide access to farmers markets, emergency food sources, and other healthy and local food.		MED		X											
2.5.1	Complete an Agricultural Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and Implementation Plan specific to the Boundary Area.		MED	X									X			
2.5.2	Urge the Province to create a fuel management plan to reduce the risk to agriculture resources from wildfire.		MED							X						

Table 6: PHASE 2 MEDIUM-TERM (2021-2024)																
Action IDs	Short Description		PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Admin/ Finance	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others
Shaded Actions= RDKB Lead		Not Shaded= RDKB Support														
3.2.3	Provide mapping of invasive species and make them publicly accessible and interactive.		MED					X								
5.4.1	Help build knowledge and skills for non-profit organizations (e.g. board training, food safety and certification).		MED							X						IH
5.5.1	Establish a communication plan that builds in existing systems to provide templates and protocols		MED		X											
6.1.3	Present the Association of Farmers’ Markets guidelines (make it, bake it, grow it) to farmers’ markets for consideration of the benefits.		MED		X											
6.2.3	Consider supporting a regional certification program that would help identify local products.		MED								X					

Table 6: PHASE 2 MEDIUM-TERM (2021-2024)																
Action IDs	Short Description		PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Admin/ Finance	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others
Shaded Actions= RDKB Lead		Not Shaded= RDKB Support														
6.3.1	Formulate partnerships between farmers and retailers to improve communication, promote contract growing opportunities, and identify and access distribution opportunities.		MED		X											
7.1.1	Create an action plan to engage the community in planting and harvesting of food producing trees and plants in public areas.		MED		X								X			
7.2.2	Support the sharing of hunted meat by establishing mechanisms for the donation of meat.		MED		X											
7.3.1	Examine ways to raise awareness of <i>The Food Donor Encouragement Act</i> and engage with food retailers who can donate high-quality recovered food.		MED		X											
2.2.4	Establish, coordinate, and promote community-accessible food storage areas,		MED		X										X	NGOs

Table 6: PHASE 2 MEDIUM-TERM (2021-2024)																
Action IDs	Short Description		PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Admin/ Finance	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others
Shaded Actions= RDKB Lead		Not Shaded= RDKB Support														
	including the existing cold storage in Grand Forks and Midway.															
2.5.4	Develop flood response and relief protocols		MED				X							X		EFP Program
5.1.4	Encourage the development educational materials on seed saving, native plants, pollinators, and food systems for dissemination through the community through social media.		MED							X						
5.5.2	Establish, enhance, and promote a volunteer database specific to food security initiatives and programs.		MED							X					X	
6.1.1	Support the rebranding the Kettle Valley Food Co-op explicitly as a food hub ⁷ , this		MED	X	X								X			Kettle Valley Co-op

⁷ A Food Hub, as defined by the USDA, is “a centrally located facility with a business management structure facilitating the aggregation, storage, processing, distribution, and/or marketing of locally/regionally produced food products.”

Table 6: PHASE 2 MEDIUM-TERM (2021-2024)																
Action IDs	Short Description		PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Admin/ Finance	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others
Shaded Actions= RDKB Lead		Not Shaded= RDKB Support														
	could include a year-round mobile market ⁸ selling Boundary food.															
6.1.4	Support SD51 in working towards purchasing local foods for meal programs.		MED		X											SD51
7.2.1	Support community gleaning programs to harvest and share surplus produce with the community (e.g. Fruit Tree Project).		MED							X					X	
1.2.1	Minimize the negative impacts of development and transportation and infrastructure networks (roads, utilities, etc.) on farmland with appropriate zoning and design guidelines.		LOW	X									X			
5.1.3	Develop an App for local food resources for the region or connecting the Boundary		LOW		X											

⁸ Mobile markets bring fresh, high quality, affordable fruit and vegetables to neighbourhoods with food access issues.

Table 6: PHASE 2 MEDIUM-TERM (2021-2024)																
Action IDs			PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Admin/ Finance	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others
Shaded Actions= RDKB Lead		Not Shaded= RDKB Support														
	community to existing apps and online resources.															
5.1.5	Develop an online educational awareness program for those living on or adjacent to the ALR and of the dispute resolution process established under the <i>Farm Practices Protection Act</i> and promote this information online.		LOW	X												
5.2.1	Install signage along Highway 3 and 33 to remind drivers that they are traveling through active farming areas and to respect and celebrate the agricultural work.		LOW		X											MOTI
5.2.2	Install signage along the Rail Trail indicating farming areas, reminding users of rights and responsibilities, and using the opportunity to include historical agricultural information.		LOW		X											Trail Users Association, RSTBC

Table 6: PHASE 2 MEDIUM-TERM (2021-2024)																
Action IDs	Short Description		PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Admin/ Finance	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others
Shaded Actions= RDKB Lead		Not Shaded= RDKB Support														

PHASE 3 LONG TERM (2026-2030)

Table 7: PHASE 3 LONG-TERM (2026-2030)																
Action IDs	Short Description		PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Administration	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others
Shaded Actions= RDKB Lead		Not Shaded= RDKB Support														
8.4.1	Work with the non-profit, for-profit, and education sectors to advocate for poverty reduction strategies, job creation, small-scale food processing, extension services for agriculture, and resources for social services, among others.		MED		X					X						
1.3.2	Coordinate regionally-appropriate agri-tourism activities (e.g. trail rides) tied into other events or tourism promotion activities (e.g. harvest festivals).		MED		X											Tourism organizations and individuals
5.3.4	Support School District SD51 and partnering organizations in providing food and agriculture programs		MED							X						SD51
5.5.3	Expand and strengthen existing databases of food security and meal services and eligibility.		MED							X					X	

Table 7: PHASE 3 LONG-TERM (2026-2030)																	
Action IDs	Short Description		PRIORITY	RDKB: Planning	RDKB: BCDC	RDKB: Administration	RDKB: Emergency Mgmt	RDKB: Weed Service	RDKB: Building	RDKB: Board	KBFA	RDKB: KRWA	Member Municipalities	Producers & Ranchers	Food Security Orgs	Others	
Shaded Actions= RDKB Lead		Not Shaded= RDKB Support															
1.1.3	Develop a compliance and enforcement strategy for the ALR to address ongoing egregious non-farm use issues over the longer term.		LOW	X		X							X			ALC	
4.3.3	Support efforts to initiate a process to establish a regional food and farmland trust. ⁹		LOW							X							
3.2.4	Support the extension of biological control programs into the Boundary area		LOW					X									
5.2.3	Support the use of signs to highlight livestock and crops being raised/grown in various farm fields. This would also help to raise awareness about farming practices.		LOW											X			

⁹ Farmland trusts actively protect and preserve farmlands and associated agricultural, natural, and cultural features through direct land securement, stewardship, policy research, and education.

Appendices

Appendix A: Boundary Food and Agriculture Charter

Appendix B: Boundary Food and Agriculture Report Card

Appendix C: Committees

Appendix D: Acronyms

APPENDIX A: BOUNDARY FOOD AND AGRICULTURE CHARTER

Boundary Area Food and Agriculture Charter

This Charter is intended for the Boundary region: Electoral Areas C/Christina Lake, D/Rural Grand Forks, and E/West Boundary and the municipalities of Midway, Greenwood, and Grand Forks. The Boundary Food and Agriculture Charter recognizes Canada's commitment to global and local food security. This Charter also recognizes the critical role that Boundary farming and ranching plays in the community's economy, environment and culture. Communities and organizations are encouraged to develop specific actions that signify commitment to the charter

Our Shared Vision

Sustainable agriculture and food systems in the Boundary help create thriving communities, prosperous livelihoods, and healthy environments.

Our Collective Values

1. We have a collective responsibility to work together and be accountable to each other in achieving the vision and goals of the Boundary Area Food and Agriculture Plan.
2. There is common ground and mutually beneficial connections between food systems, agriculture and food security across the Boundary.
3. Every Boundary resident should have access to an adequate supply of nutritious, affordable and culturally-appropriate food.
4. For regional food and agriculture systems to thrive and be sustainable, they have to be a core component of our regional identity, provide desirable professions in farming, ranching, and horticulture for the next generation, and be compatible with the ecosystems they are a part of.
5. Increased food security and overall food system sustainability in the Boundary means we need to work together in new ways that foster networks that include non-profit, for-profit, educational, and government sectors.

Our Common Goals

We are committed to ensuring that the future of food and agriculture systems in the Boundary will:

Goal 1: Protect and Support Farmland For Future Generations

Goal 2: Improve Local Food and Agriculture Support Services, Infrastructure, and Emergency Preparedness

Goal 3: Steward the Connections Between Environmental Sustainability and the Regional Food and Agriculture System

Goal 4: Support Multigenerational Farms and Emerging Farmers

Goal 5: Strengthen Awareness of and Skills in the Local Food and Agriculture System

Goal 6: Invest Directly in the Local Food and Agriculture Economy

Goal 7: Encourage Food Gardening, Gleaning, and Food Recovery

Goal 8: Increase Capacity and Leadership

Local Government actions that signify commitment include:

1. Championing the importance of food security and sustainable regional agriculture to the Federal and Provincial levels of government.
2. Advocating for interventions that address the root causes of food insecurity namely increasing income and housing affordability.
3. Advocating for the support for farmers, ranchers, and horticultural sectors in areas outside the jurisdiction of local government.
4. Updating statutory policies and plans such as Official Community Plans, Zoning Bylaws, and Regional Growth Strategies to reflect the recommendations of the Boundary Food and Agriculture Plan.
5. Partnering with and supporting community organizations and social service providers in their work to provide meals, foods, and programs.
6. Engaging and providing leadership in regional advisories and working groups where food and agriculture activities are considered and implemented.

Community-, Business-, or Organization-specific actions that signify commitment include:

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
6.	
7.	

Therefore, I/we, the undersigned declare my/our commitment to the vision, values, goals and actions for a sustainable future of agriculture and a food secure Boundary.

_____ Name	_____ Signature	_____ Organization	_____ Date
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APPENDIX B: BOUNDARY FOOD AND AGRICULTURE REPORT CARD

The purpose of this report card is to measure progress towards goals of the BAFAP.

The use of this report card is intended to be led primarily by BCDC. Frequency of conducting the report card review should occur annually, or as new data becomes available (i.e. Vital Signs, Census, Agriculture Census, Community Profiles). Non-profit organizations and businesses are also encouraged to use the report card and share results, data, and information with local governments.

The report card is not intended to be a comprehensive evaluation of the BAFAP, but rather a snapshot indication of how the region is doing in-terms of real change on the ground. The report card is also intended to spark dialogue and support structured conversations around the quantitative and qualitative changes and activities in food and agriculture systems. This report card is expected to evolve over time as data becomes available.

DATA SOURCES

The metrics used in the report card are focused on where data is readily available or nearly attainable. This includes the Federal Census of Agriculture, Vital Signs, and Community Profiles, as well as internal reporting and information sharing from local organizations, among others. The timing of the measurements will be variable based on the frequency that data is made available (e.g. Census of Agriculture every 5 years).

SCORING AND METRICS

Scoring the report card is based on a measuring progress towards goals. This is determined by comparing progress to a baseline. For this initial report card, 2018 data provides the baseline for assessment. The scoring scheme is based on a rating system that allows for qualitative assessment of progress using quantitative metrics (e.g. sometimes a small change in the metrics can represent significant progress on the issue).

The circles below represent different stages towards completing the implementation of a recommended action in the BAFAP or an indicator of success. When considered as a whole, and each metric has been evaluated and given a rating, the average level of progress can be determined and provide a single value to indicate overall success.



Not yet started,
no progress



Early progress



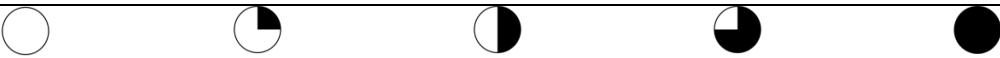
Good progress

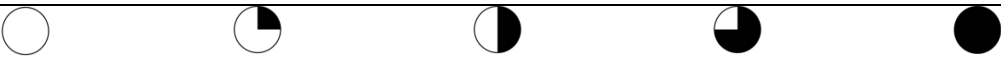







Significant
progress



Complete or
ongoing

RDKB FOOD AND AGRICULTURE PLAN REPORT CARD				
				
Progress Towards Goals	2018 Baseline Data	2019 Evaluation	Progress rating	Data Source(s)
Goal 1: Protect and Support Farmland For Future Generations				
There is no decrease in the total area of ALR	30,065 ha			Census of Agriculture
Amount of land with farm classification increases (Total Farm Area including ALR and non-ALR)	12,709 ha			RDKB calculations based on BC Assessment data
Number of farms with BC Assessment farm status increases	238 farms			BC Assessment
Goal 2: Improve Local Food and Agriculture Support Services, Infrastructure, and Emergency Preparedness				
Number of farms that the Kootenay Boundary Farm Advisors consults with increases	TBD			Reporting from KBFA and/or farmer survey
Emergency planning and response for food and agriculture have been updated to emergency plans	Emergency Plan is being updated			RDKB (Emergency Management)
Goal 3: Steward the Connections Between Environmental Sustainability and the Regional Food and Agriculture System				
Number of farms reporting Certified organic and transitional agriculture increases	14			Census of Agriculture and/or farmer survey
Number of farms and/or ranches reporting wildlife conflicts decreases	TBD			AGRI, MOE and/or farmer survey
Number of farms participating in the EFP program increases	TBD			EFP Planning Advisors
Goal 4: Support Multigenerational and Emerging Farmers				
Average age of farmers declines	58.5 years			Census of Agriculture

RDKB FOOD AND AGRICULTURE PLAN REPORT CARD				
				
Progress Towards Goals	2018 Baseline Data	2019 Evaluation	Progress rating	Data Source(s)
Goal 5: Strengthen Awareness of and Skills in the Local Food and Agriculture System				
The number of people learning about food and agriculture in school increases	TBD			SD51, Boundary Family Services
Number of people entering in and attending the Rock Creek Fall Fair increases	TBD			Rock Creek & Boundary Fair Association
Food and Agriculture are identified as part of what people love about living in the Boundary	Not yet mentioned in the Top 3			Vital Signs
Goal 6: Invest Directly in the Local Food and Agriculture Economy				
The use of local food for meetings and catering contracts increases	TBD			RDKB
Number of customers at farmer's markets increases	TBD			Grand Forks and Rock Creek Farm market managers and/or farmer survey, Chamber of Commerce
Number of local-food related businesses increases	TBD			Municipal business licensing departments
Number of kitchens and processing facilities increases	TBD			Interior Health
Value of farm gate sales increases	TBD			Census of Agriculture
Goal 7: Encourage Food Gardening, Gleaning, and Food recovery				
Number of community gardens, edible landscapes, and gleaning	4 (Grand Forks, Midway, and Big White)			RDKB and member municipalities

RDKB FOOD AND AGRICULTURE PLAN REPORT CARD				
    				
Progress Towards Goals	2018 Baseline Data	2019 Evaluation	Progress rating	Data Source(s)
programs increases to meet projected interest and demand				
Number of farms and food businesses participating in food recovery programs increases to meet the demand in food security programs	TBD			Farmer/ food business and/or community survey
Goal 8: Increase Capacity and Leadership				
Organizational capacity for plan implementation is in place (1.5 FTE Recommended)	Not started			RDKB and member municipality staffing levels
Bylaw-related plan recommendations have been addressed in Official Community Plans and Zoning Bylaws	Area 'D'/Rural Grand Forks has adopted an OCP that reflects positively on agriculture			Area 'E'/West Boundary OCP and zoning bylaw Area 'C'/Christina Lake OCP and zoning bylaw
All actions in the BAFAP are reviewed and assessed for progress and level of completion				RDKB and member municipalities
Number of people spending more than 30% of income on housing decreases	1255			Vital Signs (2014)
Overall Rating				

APPENDIX C: COMMITTEES

Project Steering Committee

Name	Location	Affiliation
Vicki Gee	West Boundary	Regional Director, Regional District of Kootenay Boundary
Roly Russell	Rural Grand Forks	Regional Director and Chair of the Board, Regional District of Kootenay Boundary
Tara Stark	Nelson	Public Health Dietician, Interior Health Authority
Donna Dean	Trail	Manager of Planning and Development, Regional District of Kootenay Boundary
Jennifer Wetmore	Greenwood	Community Futures

Boundary Area Food and Agriculture Advisory Council

Name	Location	Affiliation
Ahmed Amlani or Ann Wilby	Grand Forks	Market Gardener
Allan Pauls or Brittany Pauls	Granby Valley	Ranchers
Carol Mitchell	Boundary-wide	Healthy Promoting School
Christine Elsaesser	Grand Forks	Orchardist
Danna O'Donnell	Grand Forks	Market Gardener
Doug McMynn	Midway	Grocery Store Owner
Jamie Haynes	Rock Creek	Farmer
Jeremy DeVries	Grand Forks	Organic producer and processor, Dairy.
Joyce Ricioppo	Big White	
Kayla Sebastian	Grand Forks	Wooden Spoon
Pauline Terbasket, Executive Director	Westbank	ONA
Riccardo Manazza	Westbridge	Farmer and Community Volunteer

Tammy Battersby	Grand Forks	Blessings Boutique/ Whispers of Hope
Teresa Viebrock	Grand Forks	Boundary Family & Individual Services Society (BFISS)
Vern Moline	Beaverdell	Farmer
Vivien Browne	Bridesville	Food Sharing
Yelena Churchill	Grand Forks	CBAL/Alphabet Soup
Jessica Mace	Grand Forks	Kettle River Watershed Authority
Anne Skinner	Kelowna	Ministry of Agriculture

APPENDIX D: ACRONYMS

AGRI	BC Ministry of Agriculture
ALC	Agricultural Land Commission
ALR	Agricultural Land Reserve
BAFAAC	Boundary Area Food and Agriculture Advisory Council
BAFAP	Boundary Area Food and Agriculture Plan
BCCA	BC Cattleman's Association
BCDC	Boundary Community Development Committee
BISS	Boundary Invasive Species Society
CBT	Columbia Basin Trust
DPA	Development Permit Area
EFP	Environmental Farm Plan
ENV	BC Ministry of Environment
KBFA	Kootenay Boundary Farm Advisors
GFBRAS	Grand Forks and Boundary Regional Agricultural Society
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
IAF	Investment Agriculture Foundation
IH	Interior Health
IH-HC	Interior Health- Healthy Communities
KBFA	Kootenay Boundary Farm Advisors
KRWA	Kettle River Watershed Authority
MOTI	BC Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
NGO	Non-Government Organization
OCP	Official Community Plan
OKSIR	Okanagan Sterile Insect Release
RDKB	Regional District of Kootenay Boundary
SD 51	School District 51