

Results of the September 13, 2012, City Farm Tour and Exit Survey

Representation from many key agencies and organizations in the City including, but not limited to:

- Agri-foods and Olympic Legacies, Vancouver
- Interior Health
- First Nations Agricultural Association
- Ministry of Agriculture
- Local agricultural supply businesses
- Venture Kamloops
- Community Futures Thompson Country
- BC Assessment Authority
- City of Kamloops Council and staff
- Thompson Rivers University
- Fraser Basin Council
- Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation
- Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD)
- Kamloops Farmers' Market



Farms Toured:

- Dhaliwal Green Acres Vegetable Farm - Heffley Creek - wholesale commercial vegetable farm.
- Thistle Farm - Dairy Road - organic, diversified, small scale farming (direct marketing).
- Frolek Cattle Co. Ltd. - at Blackwell Dairy - beef cattle - wholesale to Alberta.
- Blackwell Dairy - wholesale milk and dairy products.
- Lunch - Terra Restaurant (David and Andrea Tombs) - restaurant that buys locally/regionally grown as available.

Exit Survey Feedback from the Event -

37 people completed the exit survey

The Positives:

- 100% of respondents indicated the tour was valuable to them and their respective agencies.
- Majority of respondents saw opportunities for industry expansion and diversification in Kamloops.
- Majority of respondents indicated that their agency could play a particular role in assisting to resolve some of the industry issues discussed on the tour.
- Many felt this tour hosted by the City was a long time coming and were pleased with the opportunity to talk about local agriculture.
- Range of knowledge levels in terms of the local agriculture industry. Many indicated they were somewhat familiar with local agriculture. Majority of respondents indicated that they were more familiar with local agriculture after the tour.
- 97.1% of respondents indicated a need to protect the resources (i.e. land and water, management skills, and people) that are important to sustain the local agriculture industry or expand it.



- Many commented that the tour was an excellent opportunity to network and discuss the issues and important in terms of listening to farmers and hearing the challenges they face with local government.
- Producers opening up their properties for tours were very pleased with the turnout and the opportunity to speak about their operations as well as issues and challenges.
- Good range of farms representing different sectors visited.
- Excellent discussion on the bus and good opportunity for networking.
- Many people not aware of the variety of crops/products grown/raised locally
- It was valuable to listen to farmers and hear the challenges they face with local government.
- Be nice to make this a regular event (perhaps yearly?).
- Range of farm type and size visited was great.
- Hearing from the experts of the agricultural industry themselves.
- Well organized tour.
- The bus was a “micro-community” of sorts.
- Cross section of people involved.
- Candidness of producers.

Lasting Impressions:

- Huge investments equal huge challenges.
- Lots of work
- Lack of labour and average farm age.
- Lots of issues/challenges for the industry.
- Appreciation for how hard farmers work.
- All are land resource stewards.
- The diversity and scale within a short distance of the City Centre without knowing they existed.
- Passion of producers involved.
- How difficult it would be to farm.
- Technology and innovation.
- Many important points raised.
- Lots of potential.
- Need to support the industry.
- Need to bring producers together for more collaboration.
- Results of this planning process and plan can only be positive to the industry.
- Several respondents identified that they would not have changed anything about the tour.

The Negatives:

- Some felt that it would have been good if more of their staff could have attended or if the MP and MLAs could have made it (they were contacted but had other engagements).
- More time needed on each farm.
- It was difficult to hear conversations in the back of the bus.
- More City Councillors should have attended.
- More actual tours like the one at Blackwell Dairy.



Opportunities for Industry Expansion/Diversification:

- Year round farmers' market with City support.
- Partnerships for more agriculturally productive land with Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc (Ttes).
- More value-added opportunities.
- Agri-tourism.
- Institutional purchasing.
- A lot of agricultural land not currently under production that could be.
- Huge potential for value-added products.
- Urban agriculture.
- Educating the public.
- Diversification of horticultural crop expansion.
- Farmers willing to expand if assistance is given.

Some of the issues from producers included:

- Property access issues, neighbour-to-neighbour issues (e.g. dust from farm machinery and weeds).
- Water. Without irrigation, we could not grow anything here.
- Aging farmers:
- No one to buy their land and keep as farmland;
- Pressure to develop; and
- Need to research creative ways to allow farmers to retire gracefully, but ensure their agricultural land, if good for agricultural purposes, remains in production.
- Getting people to buy/appreciate local products.
- Backwards distribution system (i.e. beef to Alberta and labelled as Alberta beef, but most likely BC raised and potatoes shipped to Vancouver for distribution and then back to Kamloops into the stores).
- Kamloops Farmers' Market - a lot of people attending, but not a lot of purchasing.
- City of Kamloops and other institutions need to lead by example. Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT) makes it difficult for BC municipalities to develop local procurement policies but it can be done.



- Lack of skilled professionals to support local agriculture industry.
- Regulations should be different for farms:
- More flexible (i.e. housing for workers and second dwellings, agri tourism and other businesses that help the farm survive).
- More opportunities for value-added products so that we can run a year round farmers' market, but no central processing, cold storage, or distribution facilities.
- Lack of awareness/education among the public regarding benefits of buying local and people are comfortable purchasing in the grocery stores because it is more affordable and convenient.
- Protect Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) lands, but ensure they are brought into productivity (there needs to be a balance).
- Support new farmers by connecting new farmers with land.

Those that felt their organization could play a particular role in resolving some issues said they could help through:

- Mapping.
- Distributing produce.
- Health protection.
- Coordinating with producers.
- Economic development and product development in the agriculture sector.
- How to provide value added products and help sell farms so they are not subdivided.
- Connecting farmers with other organizations that can help.
- The City has many opportunities to help promote agriculture.
- Restaurants can play an important role in education/promotion of the local food industry.
- Allowing second dwellings without requiring a rezoning.
- Provide meeting rooms for farm groups to encourage them to meet to formulate ideas.



Suggested solutions/actions/strategies for the City to consider in dealing with some of the issues:

- Raise awareness and continued public education. Public support is needed for a successful Agriculture Plan.
- Create a vision and direction.
- Celebrate Kamloops' agricultural history.
- Planning should include the TNRD region.
- Support development of a year round market.
- Explore the suggestions provided by producers - they know their challenges.
- Urban/rural buffers.
- Keep the discussion ongoing.
- Work with farmers.
- Focus residential and industrial development on non-ALR lands.
- Farmers should work together to solve their issues.
- Establish an ongoing Agricultural Advisory Committee to be the "local voice of agriculture".
- Water metering - food producers should be charged a lower rate than homeowners sprinkling lawns.

1. What organization/company do you represent?

	Response Count
	36
answered question	36
skipped question	1

2. How familiar are you with the agriculture industry in Kamloops (before the tour)?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Not familiar		10.8%	4
Somewhat familiar		29.7%	11
Familiar		43.2%	16
Very Familiar		16.2%	6
	Comments		16
	answered question		37
	skipped question		0

3. Was the tour today of value to you and your organization/company?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		100.0%	36
No		0.0%	0
Not Sure		0.0%	0

Please explain your response

26

answered question	36
skipped question	1

4. What did you particularly like about the tour?

		Response Count
		37
answered question		37
skipped question		0

5. What did you dislike about the tour or what do you believe we could have done better?

		Response Count
		26
answered question		26
skipped question		11

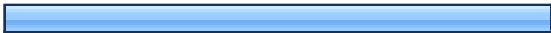
6. What first or lasting impressions do you have about the farms visited today?

	Response Count
	30
answered question	30
skipped question	7

7. What first or lasting impressions do you have about the presentations and discussions you heard today regarding the agriculture industry in Kamloops?

	Response Count
	25
answered question	25
skipped question	12

8. Do you see opportunities for industry expansion and diversification in Kamloops?

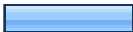
		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		82.4%	28
No		0.0%	0
Not Sure		17.6%	6

Please explain your answer

25

answered question	34
skipped question	3

9. A number of industry concerns and issues were presented today that will be captured in the City's Agriculture Area Plan. Do you see a particular role for your organization's involvement in resolving some of these issues?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		81.3%	26
No		0.0%	0
Not Sure		18.8%	6

Please explain your answer

21

answered question	32
skipped question	5

10. Do you see a need to protect the resources (e.g. land and water) that are important to sustain the agriculture industry in Kamloops or possibly expand it?

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		97.1%	34
No		0.0%	0
Not Sure		2.9%	1

Please explain your answer

25

answered question	35
skipped question	2

11. Do you have any specific suggested solutions, actions, and/or strategies for the City to consider in dealing with some of the issues identified today?

**Response
Count**

25

answered question

25

skipped question

12

12. Do you feel more familiar with the agriculture industry in Kamloops after this tour?

**Response
Percent Response
Count**

Yes



97.1%

33

No



2.9%

1

Other (please specify)

7

answered question

34

skipped question

3

13. Please share any additional comments, concerns, suggestions or questions you have regarding the tour today and the City's Agriculture Area Plan.

**Response
Count**

16

answered question

16

skipped question

21

14. Please provide your name for follow-up (optional)

Response
Count

25

answered question

25

skipped question

12

Q1. What organization/company do you represent?

1	Kamloops Regional Farmers Market Society	Oct 4, 2012 3:31 PM
2	Interior Health	Oct 4, 2012 3:13 PM
3	City of Kamloops	Oct 4, 2012 3:08 PM
4	Venture Kamloops	Oct 4, 2012 2:15 PM
5	Venture Kamloops	Oct 4, 2012 1:24 PM
6	City of Kamloops	Oct 4, 2012 1:22 PM
7	Ministry of Environment	Oct 4, 2012 1:20 PM
8	TRUE Consulting	Oct 4, 2012 11:36 AM
9	Community Futures TC	Oct 4, 2012 9:35 AM
10	Conscientious Catering/ CK	Oct 3, 2012 4:19 PM
11	Public representative for agriculture committee for the city. Local producer/farmers market	Oct 3, 2012 3:21 PM
12	Dhaliwal Farms	Oct 3, 2012 8:56 AM
13	COABC	Oct 3, 2012 8:36 AM
14	Nu Leaf Produce Market/Heffley Farms	Oct 2, 2012 4:06 PM
15	Frolek Cattle Co.	Oct 2, 2012 3:38 PM
16	Ranching	Oct 2, 2012 2:06 PM
17	Interior Health	Oct 2, 2012 2:04 PM
18	Laughing Swan Farm	Oct 2, 2012 1:57 PM
19	Black Creek Ranch	Oct 2, 2012 1:48 PM
20	Community Futures	Oct 2, 2012 1:45 PM
21	Ministry of Jobs, Tourism, and Skills Development (BC Government)	Oct 2, 2012 1:21 PM
22	Fraser Basin Council	Sep 28, 2012 1:12 PM
23	City of Kamloops	Sep 28, 2012 1:05 PM
24	TRU-Tourism Management Dep	Sep 28, 2012 1:03 PM
25	City of Kamloops	Sep 28, 2012 12:58 PM
26	BC Ministry of Agriculture	Sep 28, 2012 11:21 AM
27	Ministry of Agriculture	Sep 28, 2012 11:15 AM

Q1. What organization/company do you represent?

28	BC Ministry of Agriculture	Sep 28, 2012 10:49 AM
29	BC Ministry of Agriculture	Sep 28, 2012 10:49 AM
30	Agriculture Canada	Sep 28, 2012 10:48 AM
31	From the Ground Up	Sep 28, 2012 10:45 AM
32	City of Kamloops	Sep 28, 2012 10:41 AM
33	City of Kamloops	Sep 28, 2012 10:39 AM
34	City of Kamloops	Sep 28, 2012 10:38 AM
35	City Councillor	Sep 28, 2012 10:35 AM
36	BC Assessment- Farm Section	Sep 27, 2012 2:36 PM

Q2. How familiar are you with the agriculture industry in Kamloops (before the tour)?

1	Have lived in this are all my life. Own/grew up on a farm. Shared a farm. Support a farm currently	Oct 4, 2012 3:31 PM
2	I am part of Food policy council	Oct 4, 2012 3:13 PM
3	was not aware of teh number of variety of crops/animals raised	Oct 4, 2012 3:08 PM
4	I didn't really know how much I didn't know regarding the issues. Eye opening	Oct 4, 2012 2:15 PM
5	farm property owner and agricultural planner	Oct 4, 2012 11:36 AM
6	Grew up on Golden Ears Farm, near Chase BC. Have always attended the farmers market	Oct 3, 2012 4:19 PM
7	The Dhaliwal farm amazed me as to the large scale of it's production so close to the city	Oct 3, 2012 3:21 PM
8	Rather than just visiting vegetable farms, we were able to learn of the Beef and Dairy Industries	Oct 3, 2012 8:56 AM
9	Have been involved in farming since 1980	Oct 3, 2012 8:36 AM
10	10 years slave labor, 2 paid slave labor	Oct 2, 2012 3:38 PM
11	Familiar with some areas less so with others as I am a small producer, a vendor at the Saturday Farmer's Market, and member of farm/chef collaborative	Oct 2, 2012 1:57 PM
12	Grew up in and around Kamloops but left for 30 years	Oct 2, 2012 1:45 PM
13	Working in partnership with Community Futures-Thompson Country and the Southern Interior Beetle Action Coalition on the Thompson Shuswap Food Connections Project	Oct 2, 2012 1:21 PM
14	I was on the Sustainable Kamloops Committee, so I knew this was an important area of concern	Sep 28, 2012 1:03 PM
15	Work as sector specailists so am less familiar with scope of sector around Kamloops	Sep 28, 2012 11:15 AM
16	I approve many plans for market garden based farm applications. The need for mixed use agriculture has never been greater. Making the most of your land base is at the forefront of farm production	Sep 27, 2012 2:36 PM

Q3. Was the tour today of value to you and your organization/company?

1	will take info back to Farmers Market Board's' food rotary council	Oct 4, 2012 3:31 PM
2	I work heavily in food security and a healthy local food industry is a critical appointment	Oct 4, 2012 3:13 PM
3	I wish more of our staff could have attended. It gave us a chance to connect with the local producers and visit their operations	Oct 4, 2012 2:15 PM
4	excellent to hear insights	Oct 4, 2012 1:24 PM
5	I learned a lot	Oct 4, 2012 1:22 PM
6	Networking	Oct 4, 2012 1:20 PM
7	Amazing tour- so many opportunities to talk about	Oct 4, 2012 9:35 AM
8	I really enjoyed the tours and the exposure to local farming production	Oct 3, 2012 3:21 PM
9	Yes, all residents of the city were able to see the perspective of the farmers	Oct 3, 2012 8:56 AM
10	Any time to help promote information to peers about organic farming is time well spent	Oct 3, 2012 8:36 AM
11	Meeting people from organizations that may assist me with our issues	Oct 2, 2012 4:06 PM
12	Opportunity to voice challenges	Oct 2, 2012 3:38 PM
13	Helped me to better understand food security issues/barriers and strengths that exist in communities	Oct 2, 2012 2:04 PM
14	Validated my decisions to be in a niche category and not have big infrastructure but most of all have a better understanding of challenges of others	Oct 2, 2012 1:57 PM
15	I have made some good business connection both for Black Creek and Heartland Quality Foods	Oct 2, 2012 1:48 PM
16	great networking, info and discussions	Oct 2, 2012 1:45 PM
17	Better understanding of Agriculture issues and needs for the future	Oct 2, 2012 1:21 PM
18	Good to hear about challenges to farmers and opportunities to support the sector	Sep 28, 2012 1:12 PM
19	It is important for me as an instructor to connect with the community	Sep 28, 2012 1:03 PM
20	Educational/ Informative	Sep 28, 2012 12:58 PM
21	Knowledge and linkages. Regional specifics. Valuable information	Sep 28, 2012 11:15 AM
22	Good information, discussion and networking	Sep 28, 2012 10:49 AM
23	Good information, discussion and networking	Sep 28, 2012 10:49 AM
24	Better idea of what the issues and challenges are with local agriculture.	Sep 28, 2012 10:41 AM

Q3. Was the tour today of value to you and your organization/company?

25	The importance of listening to the farmers and hearing the challenges they face with local government	Sep 28, 2012 10:38 AM
26	Seeing grassroots farming, and listening to the concerns of market garden operations.	Sep 27, 2012 2:36 PM

Q4. What did you particularly like about the tour?

1	actually getting to see some of the operations of the farm (Dhaliwal & Blackwell). I think we could have just seen a few photos and listened to Dieter's talk elsewhere, then we could have stopped at a backyard producer on the way through town. I feel that a small organic producer will have a much more significant role to play in the future as food process rise. So they should figure prominently in the AAP	Oct 4, 2012 3:31 PM
2	range of farms toured	Oct 4, 2012 3:13 PM
3	the cross section of people/organizations represented; like variety of farm operations, the candidness of those that spoke with challenges they face	Oct 4, 2012 3:08 PM
4	On site visits. See how they work and issues	Oct 4, 2012 2:15 PM
5	talks on the bus networking	Oct 4, 2012 1:24 PM
6	The variety of businesses shown	Oct 4, 2012 1:22 PM
7	Lunch	Oct 4, 2012 1:20 PM
8	raising community awareness of the importance of agriculture in Kamloops informed discussion	Oct 4, 2012 11:36 AM
9	everything- seeing the farms, networking, meeting many new folks	Oct 4, 2012 9:35 AM
10	Bringing all of the stakeholders together for a fun, relevant activity.	Oct 3, 2012 4:19 PM
11	Everything! The best part for myself aside from the tours was talking to others on the tour. Discussing topics with experts in their field	Oct 3, 2012 3:21 PM
12	The ability to physically see the farm operations and what the farms had to offer in aspects of production and growing	Oct 3, 2012 8:56 AM
13	the networking	Oct 3, 2012 8:36 AM
14	Listening to many issues that are affecting Agriculture producers to expand and compete with other markets	Oct 2, 2012 4:06 PM
15	Chocolate Milk	Oct 2, 2012 3:38 PM
16	Giving/ exchanging info	Oct 2, 2012 2:06 PM
17	understanding the issues and workings of a farmer. hearing farmers explain areas that could be worked on or barriers to be mitigated	Oct 2, 2012 2:04 PM
18	Variety of sites, candid-ness of the owners, willingness to discuss their issues	Oct 2, 2012 1:57 PM
19	I found the dairy farm the most interesting mostly because I haven't been to one before	Oct 2, 2012 1:48 PM
20	networking opportunities and meeting the local ranchers/producers	Oct 2, 2012 1:45 PM
21	Great selection of farms/speakers	Oct 2, 2012 1:21 PM

Q4. What did you particularly like about the tour?

22	the dialogue and potential ideas/solution	Sep 28, 2012 1:12 PM
23	Variety, discussion, weather	Sep 28, 2012 1:05 PM
24	It was well organized	Sep 28, 2012 1:03 PM
25	as above	Sep 28, 2012 12:58 PM
26	Large scale farming and small scale (Thistle)	Sep 28, 2012 12:46 PM
27	The discussions that developed at several of the stops	Sep 28, 2012 11:21 AM
28	Diversity of production. Diversity scale . Healthy sector needs large, med and small scale agriculture. Conventional and alternative production approaches	Sep 28, 2012 11:15 AM
29	Well organized	Sep 28, 2012 10:49 AM
30	Well organized	Sep 28, 2012 10:49 AM
31	connections/network discussions farmer's point of view being showed	Sep 28, 2012 10:48 AM
32	Great mix of participants and good farm hosts. Well planned by all	Sep 28, 2012 10:45 AM
33	Seeing up close how things work.	Sep 28, 2012 10:41 AM
34	Good variety of producers	Sep 28, 2012 10:39 AM
35	The cross section of all the people involved. The different farms visited	Sep 28, 2012 10:38 AM
36	Variety of land use (dairy/organic/ etc). Very informative, great not walking	Sep 28, 2012 10:35 AM
37	Well organized and good speakers. Food was great. I really enjoyed the opportunity to sit with people/producers on the buss and discuss farm related issues within the context of the Kamloops Farming Community. The bus was a micro-community of sorts.	Sep 27, 2012 2:36 PM

Q5. What did you dislike about the tour or what do you believe we could have done better?

1	Should have included innovative enterprises like City Cycle Farmers- they too are attempting to make a living from producing food	Oct 4, 2012 3:31 PM
2	met 'identified' participants before we boarded the bus	Oct 4, 2012 3:13 PM
3	need more time on each farm	Oct 4, 2012 3:08 PM
4	Tighter schedule and make sure those that participated could actually help the industry. We are all 'supporters of agriculture'	Oct 4, 2012 2:15 PM
5	nothing	Oct 4, 2012 1:24 PM
6	Nothing	Oct 4, 2012 1:22 PM
7	Wished we could have seen more from Thistle Farms	Oct 4, 2012 1:20 PM
8	nothing	Oct 4, 2012 9:35 AM
9	Tour a specific region (ex. 3 farms bu in close proximity). (Dallas- Blackwell, Sun River Organics, Harper's Trail Winery. This was too much bus time	Oct 3, 2012 4:19 PM
10	I would have liked to have moretime on tour of Thistle Farms. More time was spent on detours of the farms	Oct 3, 2012 3:21 PM
11	Everything was done well for a first tour	Oct 3, 2012 8:56 AM
12	Tour was great, well organized	Oct 2, 2012 4:06 PM
13	Parking	Oct 2, 2012 3:38 PM
14	very good	Oct 2, 2012 2:06 PM
15	Perhaps not enough time at each venue, but so much to fit into one day	Oct 2, 2012 1:57 PM
16	I would ahve liked to have a tour of Thistle Farms	Oct 2, 2012 1:48 PM
17	people being late	Oct 2, 2012 1:45 PM
18	It was difficult to hear. I was in the back of the bus	Sep 28, 2012 1:05 PM
19	Bus noise- hard to hear speakers	Sep 28, 2012 12:58 PM
20	Hire a coach so that speakers on the bus can be heard clearly (tranist busses are much nosier than coaches)	Sep 28, 2012 11:21 AM
21	More councillors should have attended	Sep 28, 2012 10:49 AM
22	More councillors should have attended	Sep 28, 2012 10:49 AM
23	No complaints	Sep 28, 2012 10:41 AM
24	I would have liked more actual 'tours' like the one at Blackwell	Sep 28, 2012 10:39 AM
25	Nothing. Fabulous	Sep 28, 2012 10:35 AM

Q5. What did you dislike about the tour or what do you believe we could have done better?

26 There may have been some safety issues standing on the CNR

Sep 27, 2012 2:36 PM

Q6. What first or lasting impressions do you have about the farms visited today?

1	same I had before- farmers/food producers work hard for relatively small return	Oct 4, 2012 3:31 PM
2	challenges farmers face	Oct 4, 2012 3:13 PM
3	not an easy profession to make a living at but also how much they love their profession	Oct 4, 2012 3:08 PM
4	difficult issue with City. want support and food security but it is highest and best use of land	Oct 4, 2012 2:15 PM
5	lot of issues	Oct 4, 2012 1:24 PM
6	Lots of innovations/mechanisms	Oct 4, 2012 1:22 PM
7	Diverse interests complete with accompanying problems/issues	Oct 4, 2012 1:20 PM
8	big capital, lots of work so important to all of us	Oct 4, 2012 9:35 AM
9	Farmers are passionate and committed to what they do.	Oct 3, 2012 4:19 PM
10	The families running the farms. Their hardwork and dedication, very inspiring.	Oct 3, 2012 3:21 PM
11	All farmers, although different, have similar obstacles and issues to deal with	Oct 3, 2012 8:56 AM
12	a lot of work and love for the life style went into the operations	Oct 3, 2012 8:36 AM
13	The level of sophistication in dairy farms	Oct 2, 2012 4:06 PM
14	producers believe in their products work hard to succeed	Oct 2, 2012 3:38 PM
15	all have the same problems cost of production people	Oct 2, 2012 2:06 PM
16	Huge investments (mostly) equal huge challenges. All so different	Oct 2, 2012 1:57 PM
17	Lots of work	Oct 2, 2012 1:48 PM
18	Kamloops and area has tremendous opportunity	Oct 2, 2012 1:45 PM
19	Opportunities for collaboration and growth	Oct 2, 2012 1:21 PM
20	Dhaliwal- logistic challenges of help, railways and equipment	Sep 28, 2012 1:12 PM
21	Validated my support for local & organic producers	Sep 28, 2012 1:03 PM
22	size of operations in Heffley Creek	Sep 28, 2012 12:58 PM
23	Lack of labor, average farmer age	Sep 28, 2012 11:21 AM
24	Businesses approach needed to be viable. But doing it because they are passionate about it. All are land resource stewards	Sep 28, 2012 11:15 AM
25	Diversity and scale within short distance of city centre, yet didn't know about them	Sep 28, 2012 10:48 AM

Q6. What first or lasting impressions do you have about the farms visited today?

26	Diversity, passion of producers	Sep 28, 2012 10:45 AM
27	How difficult it would be to run one	Sep 28, 2012 10:41 AM
28	All working for a common goal of providing product for local use	Sep 28, 2012 10:38 AM
29	Different obstacles but, 'similar'	Sep 28, 2012 10:35 AM
30	Lunch at Blackwell Dairy was great. But the robotic cow milker was pretty much the best display of the day.	Sep 27, 2012 2:36 PM

Q7. What first or lasting impressions do you have about the presentations and discussions you heard today regarding the agriculture industry in Kamloops?

1	brought up many important points	Oct 4, 2012 3:31 PM
2	many partners needed working to together to solve solutions	Oct 4, 2012 3:13 PM
3	Good choice of speakers, young, next generation	Oct 4, 2012 2:15 PM
4	problems with succession	Oct 4, 2012 1:24 PM
5	lots of challenges. Opportunities for Agruculture in Kamloops	Oct 4, 2012 1:22 PM
6	Passion from producers	Oct 4, 2012 1:20 PM
7	excellent all	Oct 4, 2012 9:35 AM
8	The results of this planning processw and plan can only be positive to the industry	Oct 3, 2012 4:19 PM
9	how important succession is to the agriculture future	Oct 3, 2012 3:21 PM
10	Agriculture has the ability for growth in Kamloops if the right assistance is available	Oct 3, 2012 8:56 AM
11	food for thought	Oct 3, 2012 8:36 AM
12	There are many farmers dealing with the same problem in one way or another	Oct 2, 2012 4:06 PM
13	The passion by the farmers. it's a thank-less job that is crucial to health and the economy	Oct 2, 2012 2:04 PM
14	very diverse problems/issues not easily or quickly resolved by government agencies	Oct 2, 2012 1:57 PM
15	need to bring producers together to create more collaboration	Oct 2, 2012 1:45 PM
16	Need to address worker shortages and succession of aging farmers	Oct 2, 2012 1:21 PM
17	lots of potential	Sep 28, 2012 1:12 PM
18	the potential to produce food in the area	Sep 28, 2012 1:03 PM
19	Lack of agricultural activities and education in our school and TRU	Sep 28, 2012 11:21 AM
20	Need for support. Not necessarily money, but policy, regulations, land and access	Sep 28, 2012 11:15 AM
21	Unintended consequences of regulations. Making 'simple' things 'difficult'	Sep 28, 2012 10:48 AM
22	There are lots of issues that need to be looked at moving forward	Sep 28, 2012 10:41 AM
23	Seemed to focus a lot of negatives and financial problems. Would have liked some success stories	Sep 28, 2012 10:38 AM
24	Well presented	Sep 28, 2012 10:35 AM

Q7. What first or lasting impressions do you have about the presentations and discussions you heard today regarding the agriculture industry in Kamloops?

25	I think it is very interesting how we look at the various sectors and how each contributes to food production in Kamloops. Organic farming vs conventional methods and how the whole idea of balancing the issues of competition and commerce.	Sep 27, 2012 2:36 PM
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Q8. Do you see opportunities for industry expansion and diversification in Kamloops?

1	only if people begin to realize that it is worth it to pay more for local food in order to further food security. If they don't recognize that, the small percentage of their incomes that they currently pay for food is well below the world average and the amount needed for sustainable agriculture, local producers will not be able to make a living	Oct 4, 2012 3:31 PM
2	urban agriculture; sustainable food system	Oct 4, 2012 3:13 PM
3	Agriculturalism; value added products, kitchens to make finished products for sale on site or restaurants; more local restaurants using local food	Oct 4, 2012 3:08 PM
4	we would like to work with those companies to assist them or better keep them in mind	Oct 4, 2012 2:15 PM
5	Outside my expertise	Oct 4, 2012 1:20 PM
6	There is huge potential for 'value added' agriculture products	Oct 3, 2012 4:19 PM
7	yes- because of peoples mind frames towards organic produce no one can afford to start farming without financial support not without funding and not with the high cost of land	Oct 3, 2012 3:21 PM
8	There is a lot of agricultural land not under production that can be utilized in the future	Oct 3, 2012 8:56 AM
9	co operatives	Oct 3, 2012 8:36 AM
10	Farmers willing to expand, if assistance is given	Oct 2, 2012 4:06 PM
11	land base expansion-no value added expansion- yes	Oct 2, 2012 3:38 PM
12	urban agriculture	Oct 2, 2012 2:04 PM
13	distribution, new crops, value added	Oct 2, 2012 1:57 PM
14	I think if we educate the public we can expand the agricultural industry	Oct 2, 2012 1:48 PM
15	agri-tourism, producers collaboration	Oct 2, 2012 1:45 PM
16	More value added food production opportunities will lead to more employment/diversification	Oct 2, 2012 1:21 PM
17	value added, food security	Sep 28, 2012 1:12 PM
18	value added product more agritourism	Sep 28, 2012 1:05 PM
19	we have the potential to focus on allocation land and human resources toward food security	Sep 28, 2012 1:03 PM
20	Of course. Value added and institutional purchasing (i.e RIH) of local produce	Sep 28, 2012 11:21 AM
21	Diversification, horticultural crop expansion. Micro processing to support raw production into added value products	Sep 28, 2012 11:15 AM

Q8. Do you see opportunities for industry expansion and diversification in Kamloops?

22	There are some areas that could support different products	Sep 28, 2012 10:49 AM
23	Increase crops, and value added	Sep 28, 2012 10:48 AM
24	Year round farmers market. City support	Sep 28, 2012 10:35 AM
25	Partnership with KIB. We should work at partnerships to move forward with putting lands near the city into higher production. This reduces the carbon footprint as well	Sep 27, 2012 2:36 PM

Q9. A number of industry concerns and issues were presented today that will be captured in the City's Agriculture Area Plan. Do you see a particular role for your organization's involvement in resolving some of these issues?

1	more discussions between the Farmer's Market Board, and the City would be beneficial	Oct 4, 2012 3:31 PM
2	Allowing second dwellings for farm help without having to go through rezoning; providing venue (meeting rooms) to farm groups to encourage them to meet to formulate ideas on how to improve their profession	Oct 4, 2012 3:08 PM
3	how to provide value added products, help sell farms so they are not subdivided, connect them with organizations that can help	Oct 4, 2012 2:15 PM
4	The City has lots of opportunities to help promote agriculture	Oct 4, 2012 1:22 PM
5	Environmental concerns not raised today with an exception of weeds	Oct 4, 2012 1:20 PM
6	Restaurants can play very important roles in education/promotion of the local food industry	Oct 3, 2012 4:19 PM
7	Help others in agriculture industry to further their growth	Oct 3, 2012 8:56 AM
8	willing to distribute produce	Oct 2, 2012 4:06 PM
9	health protection	Oct 2, 2012 2:04 PM
10	have a background in value added farm production strong interest in diversification	Oct 2, 2012 1:57 PM
11	Our organization is owned by First Nations Agr and I see where we could help in many areas	Oct 2, 2012 1:48 PM
12	we can assist with coordinating with producers and have an ag plan project underway	Oct 2, 2012 1:45 PM
13	economic development and product development in the agriculture sector	Oct 2, 2012 1:21 PM
14	we could facilitate dialogue with all the parties whether agriculture procedures for ideas or TIB and land owners what land for agriculture production	Sep 28, 2012 1:12 PM
15	developing agritourism opportunities	Sep 28, 2012 1:03 PM
16	Irrigation water issues	Sep 28, 2012 12:58 PM
17	Already involved via Jim Forbes as the regional Agrologists	Sep 28, 2012 11:15 AM
18	Involvement is issue dependent- availability of staff/skill set within mandate No need to duplicate resources if other are better suited	Sep 28, 2012 10:48 AM
19	I will be directly involved (GIS)	Sep 28, 2012 10:41 AM
20	Most of them	Sep 28, 2012 10:35 AM
21	As we move into a more data oriented society we may lose track of the successes of others and how personal networking helps support farming. Help	Sep 27, 2012 2:36 PM

Q9. A number of industry concerns and issues were presented today that will be captured in the City's Agriculture Area Plan. Do you see a particular role for your organization's involvement in resolving some of these issues?

support owners that wish to network with like minded farmers. The assessment office can sometimes give some insight into production.

Q10. Do you see a need to protect the resources (e.g. land and water) that are important to sustain the agriculture industry in Kamloops or possibly expand it?

1	absolutely essential	Oct 4, 2012 3:31 PM
2	doesn't support ALR exclusion applications where lands have good soils	Oct 4, 2012 3:08 PM
3	it contributes not only to industry but quality of life	Oct 4, 2012 2:15 PM
4	Encourage healthy lifestyle choices, which in return will reduce health care costs	Oct 4, 2012 1:20 PM
5	Yes- keep ALR boundaries in tact	Oct 4, 2012 11:36 AM
6	maybe capital increast to \$150,000	Oct 4, 2012 9:35 AM
7	access to water	Oct 3, 2012 4:19 PM
8	reserving viable land (ALR) out of the hands of developers and urban sprawl	Oct 3, 2012 3:21 PM
9	expanding agriculture land in and out of the city limits near Kamloops and encourage more farming on these lands based on the crops to grow on this land	Oct 3, 2012 8:56 AM
10	increase irrigation water	Oct 3, 2012 8:36 AM
11	land and water= food=quality of life	Oct 2, 2012 3:38 PM
12	water is very important	Oct 2, 2012 2:06 PM
13	Agriculture land cannot be replaced or moved. once gone, it's really gone	Oct 2, 2012 1:57 PM
14	If we don't protect things like land and water, there will not be any farming in Kamloops	Oct 2, 2012 1:48 PM
15	with out regulations, we will loose land and could end up with polluted water	Oct 2, 2012 1:45 PM
16	property planning/zoning is critical conservation measures (especially water) and water shortage is needed	Oct 2, 2012 1:21 PM
17	work with promise to support water security for agriculture	Sep 28, 2012 1:12 PM
18	Land- ALR Water- MOE	Sep 28, 2012 12:58 PM
19	Question unclear. Expanding protection of resources? Base protection is one thing sustainable use should be our goal	Sep 28, 2012 11:21 AM
20	Points raised on the tour address this	Sep 28, 2012 11:15 AM
21	All resources including managment skills, people	Sep 28, 2012 10:45 AM
22	There needs to be a balance	Sep 28, 2012 10:41 AM
23	Pretty simple. We need food, we'll always need food. Let's find better ways to produce and use locally	Sep 28, 2012 10:38 AM
24	Will follow up at a meeting	Sep 28, 2012 10:35 AM

Q10. Do you see a need to protect the resources (e.g. land and water) that are important to sustain the agriculture industry in Kamloops or possibly expand it?

25 Water, subdivisions make sure we facilitate farming. So that the overall land base supports local production. ALR will always be an issue as well as water use.

Sep 27, 2012 2:36 PM

Q11. Do you have any specific suggested solutions, actions, and/or strategies for the City to consider in dealing with some of the issues identified today?

1	Farmers Market-follow up on July 25 noting complete with Farmers Market-ensure that suggestions made there to facilitate markets are acted on	Oct 4, 2012 3:31 PM
2	awareness raising, edible landscaping, increasing pilot projects which profile agriculture i.e. spin gardening	Oct 4, 2012 3:13 PM
3	keep the information sessions- discussions going	Oct 4, 2012 2:15 PM
4	round table organized discussion	Oct 4, 2012 1:24 PM
5	no	Oct 4, 2012 1:22 PM
6	continued public education	Oct 4, 2012 1:20 PM
7	celebrate the communities history in Agriculture with a focus on educating the public about the benefits of buying local, fresh products	Oct 3, 2012 4:19 PM
8	change in policy regarding using more local foods in food events the city puts on, putting pressure on food companies like Armark & Sysco to use local produce	Oct 3, 2012 3:21 PM
9	the city needs to continue working with farmers in making sure issues do not deter farmers to expand	Oct 3, 2012 8:56 AM
10	focus groups in the different areas of the city/Westsyde	Oct 3, 2012 8:36 AM
11	urban/rural buffers	Oct 2, 2012 3:38 PM
12	to create a vision and direction	Oct 2, 2012 2:06 PM
13	assist farmers with value added initiatives so less produce goes to water. Subsidize/partnerships	Oct 2, 2012 2:04 PM
14	not right at this moment on the bus, returning to town in the space allowed, but yes	Oct 2, 2012 1:57 PM
15	land that is agricultural needs to be preserved and if the city can or will implement the action plan to preserve land and water and farmers	Oct 2, 2012 1:45 PM
16	survey farmers-which ones are poised to retire and do not have a succession plan market opportunities	Oct 2, 2012 1:21 PM
17	agriculture doesn't stop as the city, district do a plan with TNRD for the whole region	Sep 28, 2012 1:12 PM
18	I would need to know more about specific issues. However, I do feel that a review of policies at the municipal/provincial level is needed. As mentioned, use Arts & Culture to raise awareness of our agricultural past (i.e. a mural downtown)	Sep 28, 2012 1:03 PM
19	Listen to the agriculture people and have an open mind.	Sep 28, 2012 12:46 PM
20	supporting the development of a year round market	Sep 28, 2012 11:21 AM
21	Explore the suggestions provided by the producers. They know their challenges	Sep 28, 2012 11:15 AM

Q11. Do you have any specific suggested solutions, actions, and/or strategies for the City to consider in dealing with some of the issues identified today?

22	Focus residential and industrial development on non-ALR lands	Sep 28, 2012 10:49 AM
23	The Agricultural community has to create an organization that can bring specific issue to the table. These issues should accompany solutions.	Sep 28, 2012 10:38 AM
24	Look into how TOL could play a role in year round market	Sep 28, 2012 10:35 AM
25	I believe the city should not treat farming any different than any other business in Kamloops. There appears to be a view that the city should be more proactive in support. I think farmers should work together to solve their issues.	Sep 27, 2012 2:36 PM

Q12. Do you feel more familiar with the agriculture industry in Kamloops after this tour?

1	I like how it covers diverse areas of the industry. Next time grapes please. Growing in the are	Oct 4, 2012 2:15 PM
2	lots of challenges I was unaware of	Oct 4, 2012 1:22 PM
3	we can do a lot more	Oct 3, 2012 8:36 AM
4	of course	Oct 2, 2012 1:57 PM
5	I have a better sense of how much agriculture is still in the city limits	Oct 2, 2012 1:45 PM
6	Better understanding of challenges/opportunities in the sector	Oct 2, 2012 1:21 PM
7	I am more familiar with the market garden group than I was before.	Sep 27, 2012 2:36 PM

Q13. Please share any additional comments, concerns, suggestions or questions you have regarding the tour today and the City's Agriculture Area Plan.

1	AAP should have section related to water metering i.e. food producers should be charged a lower rate than homeowners sprinkling lawns	Oct 4, 2012 3:31 PM
2	Would appreciate Plan updates	Oct 4, 2012 1:20 PM
3	-establish an ongoing Agricultural Advisory Committee-local voice for agriculture - year round farmers market with options for expanding market and processing opportunities - need mechanisms in place to manage irrigation and protect access to water for farm properties. Subdivision of farmland increases the complexity of the management and distribution of water -urban farming will be discouraged by introduction of water meters. Need system to subsidize water used to grow food -develop policy to support local food component for purchasing -is there an opportunity to engage TRU in educational programs for farming? Can we build an educated, new generation of farmers? -love the urban garden @ city hall	Oct 4, 2012 11:36 AM
4	Perhaps give out a cucumber to everyone instead of bottled water	Oct 3, 2012 4:19 PM
5	Thank you Maren, the City of Kamloops and all the farmers for an excellent tour. I can't wait for the next one. I thought this tour was very educational.	Oct 3, 2012 3:21 PM
6	As mentioned before, for a first agricultural tour, it worked out very well as an introduction to what farms in Kamloops are actually capable of	Oct 3, 2012 8:56 AM
7	September 20 meeting	Oct 3, 2012 8:36 AM
8	Am very interested in contributing as a team player	Oct 2, 2012 1:57 PM
9	Great job Maren. I think you opened some eyes with the tour	Oct 2, 2012 1:45 PM
10	Great ywa to get the city agriculture plan going	Oct 2, 2012 1:21 PM
11	expand to outside the city- TNRD, TIB	Sep 28, 2012 1:12 PM
12	I think the Kamloops food policy council needs to be included in the discussion of an agricultural plan	Sep 28, 2012 1:03 PM
13	use tour bus next time enjoyed the day	Sep 28, 2012 12:58 PM
14	To have a successful Agriculture plan, we need public support. City needs to reconsider bylaws that work against urban agriculture. Too many city road blocks to urban agriculture. And will water meters limit small scale urban agriculture?	Sep 28, 2012 12:46 PM
15	Consumer awareness seems to be critical. Urban populations increasingly divorced from agriculture and other resource management. Thus critical from an understanding perspective plus social value/respect for production.	Sep 28, 2012 11:15 AM
16	Visits to farms that have made a substantial investment to adapt to changing markets are a great way to see real change in Agriculture	Sep 27, 2012 2:36 PM