North Cariboo Agricultural Marketing Association
Farming **A**griculture **R**ural **M**arketing **E**co-**D**iversification
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Celebrating 20 Years of FARMED!

FARMED Board of Directors
MEETING MINUTES
September 22, 2026, 10 am - 11:30 M
Venue: ZOOM

Directors: Heloise Dixon-Warren, Chair (Newsletter); Lynda Atkinson, Vice Chair (Newsletter); Lori Fogarty, Secretary / Treasurer (Website Liaison); Barb Scharf, Director (Membership); Wylie Bystedt, Director (Newsletter), Amy Carlson (Director at Large)

In attendance: Heloise Dixon-Warren, Moose Meadows Farm; Lori Fogarty; Lynda Atkinson, Sisters Creek Simmentals; Amy Carlson, Ravencroft Rabbitry and Urban Homestead
Regrets: Barb Scharf, Arcadia Borealis Gardens; Wylie Bystedt, Coyote Acres Ranch

1. **Welcome**

2. **Adoption of amended Agenda** Lori / Lynda **Carried**

3. **Adoption of last meeting minutes** August 18, 2026 Lori / Amy **Carried**

   * Attached to Calendar Invite and emailed out

4. **Financial Report**: Lori Fogarty
   * Circulated by Lori
   * attached to Calendar Invite
   Moved by Lori Fogarty / Seconded by Heloise **Carried**

5. **Correspondence:**

   i. **Quesnel Community Foundation Gala** – Email received that a Gala will be held on Saturday, October 24 at the Senior Centre to support the operation of the foundation.

   MOTION: Heloise moves we allocate $100.00 to a gift basket for the QCF Silent Auction. Lynda seconds. **Carried**

FARMED acknowledges the Traditional Territories of the Dakelh, Secwepmec, and Tsilhqot'in peoples on which we live, work, play and grow, collect and process our food.

ACTIONS:

Lori will Email sent to members to inform them of the opportunity to contribute a product and to drop items off at the BL Country Store.

Heloise will let QCF know we will contribute a FARMED Gift Basket for their Silent Auction

ii. Chamber of Commerce

From: <qchamber@quesnelbc.com>
Date: Fri, Sep 11, 2026, 7:33 a.m.

I am hoping you can finish this sentence for me: We are working with government the past two weeks to strengthen and help our local agriculture groups.

Sentence: In the Quesnel/Cariboo region, agriculture includes farms, producers, cattle operations. One challenge or opportunity in our regions is…?

Response from Heloise

*In the Quesnel / North Cariboo region, agriculture includes **farms, producers, cattle operations market gardens, agritourism operators, farms and ranches.** One challenge or opportunity in our regions is connecting with local consumers so they have a clear understanding of what is available locally and from whom and where. The FARMED AgriConnect site will resolve this disconnect which will ultimately improve the region's food security and sovereignty.*

Response from Lynda

Opportunities- moderate climate, land access, variety of climate zones for a wide range of temperature dependent crops, local support of community, access to agriculture services, i.e., sales and repairs of farm equipment, decent transportation corridor, reserve of BC land through ALR.

Challenges -access to water, increasing control of crown land by First Nations or industrial groups, lack of tree farm licenses, and other forestry practices leading to mill shut downs and movement of citizens out of Quesnel, leading to lower population in the local area as customers, lack of local processing, I.e. meat processing, increased health and safety regulations, aging producers population, difficult transitioning to a younger generation who are not interested in scaled agriculture production, cost of production,

6. **Membership Update:**
NEW Member: Dolly's Reach

Nokia – Sent to Jeff to check out.

We will work with ABC WebLink to inform members of the opportunity for the early bird membership discount

- **Newsletter:**

October

Anniversary Chair Presentation

- Celebration photos
- Gift basket winners
- New Member
- Early bird membership if room permits
- Agritourism and farmed survey
- QCF gala on Oct 24

7. **Old Business:**

i**) AgriTourism in the Cariboo-Chilcotin?** Current and Future! - NEXT Steps Agritourism Website – attach to the current FARMED website like AgriConnect.

Whether it remains attached to FARMED may need to change in the future. We will try to get set up for the new year, so if the members are doing Agritourism it will automatically connect

AgriTourism Operators - North Cariboo

ii) Enbridge Application: ongoing, with work to continue by the coordinator

iii) Co-ordinator for FARMED: Sony Speirs: all is going well, with a focus on communications with members by telephone and with the public on social media**.**

iv. QCF Grant Report - the budget was presented and Heloise will ask Tim if a report is needed. Lori will send budget to the City of Quesnel – Jeff Norburn.

v. NOTES:

From Lynda: ALR changing processing plants in the ALR currently need 50% of their product in order to to process and package in the ALR and the provincial government is proposing to change to 5%**.**

From Lori: Nominations for agriculture businesses are requested by the Quesnel and District Chamber of Commerce for the Business Excellence Awards https://quesnelchamber.com/events_projects/bea/

8. **New Business: Nil**

Next meetings:

- FARMED Board Meeting: October 20th at 10am via Zoom
- FARMED Coordinator Meeting: October 6 at 10am via Zoom

9. Meeting adjourned: 11:05 am