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To: Director Karen Goodings <[karen.goodings@prrd.bc.ca](mailto:karen.goodings@prrd.bc.ca)>

Cc: [mackeno@xplornet.ca](mailto:mackeno@xplornet.ca)

Subject: NP Farmers Institute, July 22, 2020

Hi Karen,

Great reviews re the Rural Roads Video. Jim has let Jackie know that already but I just wanted to let you know what I thought as well.

I have included the report that I put on Facebook. You will notice that there is a new committee called Crop Insurance as this year especially there has been many concerns and unhappiness over the insurance.

What we were wondering, is there any grant or fund that the NPFI could tap into so that there could be a in-depth study of crop insurance, policies, rates, etc. comparing BC to the other Western provinces? Or do you know of any study that has already been done? We don't really want to reinvent the wheel but since Agriculture is on the back burner with this government, it is time to have a look at what is happening here in the Peace. It seems that Victoria makes a policy which is supposed to fit the entire province forgetting that Agriculture here is quite different from farms in the rest of the province.

Thank you in advance.

Margaret for the NPFI



**North Pine Farmers Institute**



(Founded 1930 operating under BC Farmers and Women's Institutes Act)

Agriculture, the backbone of our community, province, and country

made possible by dedicated people making a difference.

**For further information, please contact: E-mail: [northpinefarmersinstitute@gmail.com](mailto:northpinefarmersinstitute@gmail.com)**

The North Pine Farmers Institute held their Annual General Meeting on July 16, 2020. Wade Cusack's shop was a busy place with laughter, discussion, and the most delicious cookies and cupcakes!

Reports were presented concerning:

- The Elevator –owned by the NPFI
- Fosters/Viterra partnership
- The Rural Roads Task Force MOTI is willing to listen to the committee. The committee is part of the Rural Roads Task Force. They have worked to prioritize road repairs, hard

surfacing, slide repairs, pullout construction and brushing areas in the North Peace. Jim presented the priority list identified by RRTF. He also had an in depth report on pullout recommendations prepared for MOTI. NPF roads committee continues to meet and is working with MOTI as much as possible, there are challenges as managers continually change. DRM has a toll free number that residents are encouraged to use as calls to this number are tracked. The number is 1 800 842 4122. We need to get this number out to the community.

Discussion was held re:

- Orphan wells and the impact of farmers - Call OGC if you have an orphan well that you would like to have cleaned up.
- Code of Practice for Agriculture environmental management from the Ministry of Environment. This program is causing many problems which needs to be addressed by Government. Please contact us with problems or suggestions.
- Production Insurance If you have a claim that has not yet been paid call PI office. We need to investigate different options for crop insurance in western Canada as the current system we have is not working for producers. An action plan is being developed.
- The current state of the agriculture community in our area which is in serious trouble and is in need of help. Letters need to be written to governments detailing problems. Any pictures or details of crop damage or other challenges such as roads you can share will be very useful.

Elections were held for the 2020-2021 Executive

President                      Wade Cusack

Vice-President              Chad Torrie

Secretary-Treasurer      Brian Johnston

Directors -                      Clint Moffat, Martin Moore, Gary Bickford, Blane Meek, Ty Cusack

Chair of the Elevator Committee – Martin Moore (Chair), Esbern Hansen, Gary Bickford, Chad Torrie, Blane Meek, Brian Johnston, Larry Houley, and Wade Cusack

Chair of the Road Committee - Jim Little (Chair), Wade Cusack, Jim Collins, Maurice Fines, Aaron Dirks

Crop Insurance committee – Wade Cusack, Chad Torrie, Ty Cusack