

From: [Info](#)
To: [Council](#)
Subject: FW: Addressing Drought Challenges: Important Resources for Local Governments and their Agricultural Communities
Date: Friday, July 19, 2024 2:42:49 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

From: Raymond, Mark AF:EX <Mark.Raymond@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, July 19, 2024 11:54 AM
To: AGRIServiceBC AF:EX <AgriServiceBC@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Addressing Drought Challenges: Important Resources for Local Governments and their Agricultural Communities

Dear Mayor and Council and Chief Administrative Officer,

We are reaching out to local governments across British Columbia regarding the increasing challenges posed by drought and extreme weather events on our freshwater resources, which have significantly impacted the agriculture sector in recent years and are expected to continue doing so. We are writing to ensure you are aware of the information, tools, financial supports, and other resources available to help both local governments and their agricultural constituents prepare for and respond to drought conditions.

To help with these goals, we encourage you to:

- **Get the information out!** Review and share the [2024 Quick Guide to Drought Resources](#), a comprehensive two-page document that highlights water-related resources and supports, available through the link above or at our Drought in Agriculture webpage (<http://www.gov.bc.ca/AgDrought>), with your staff and the agricultural communities within your jurisdiction.
- **Sign up for and promote our [Regional AgriService BC E-bulletins](#)** (a link is also available in the Quick Guide), which provide timely and regionally specific information on programs, events, and resources.
- **Visit the [Investment Agriculture Foundation website](#)** for information on funding opportunities available to local governments through the [Agriculture Water Infrastructure Program](#) and [Beneficial Management Practices Program - Plans & Designs](#) to support your agricultural community.

For more information on:

- Agricultural resources, please contact AgriService BC at AgriServiceBC@gov.bc.ca or 1-888-221-7141.
- Current drought levels in your area, visit the [Drought Information Portal](#).
- Water licensing, please contact FrontCounter BC at FrontCounterBC@gov.bc.ca or 1-877-855-3222.

We would like to extend our sincere appreciation for your local government's dedication to sustainable water management and support of your agricultural community during these challenging times. Thank you for your continued commitment and leadership.

Warm regards,



Mark Raymond

Executive Director

Extension and Support Services Branch

B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Food

