

Agricultural Land Commission



2008/09 BUSINESS PLAN

June 15, 2008



Agricultural Land Commission
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June 15, 2008

Honourable Pat Bell
Minister of Agriculture and Lands
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Dear Minister:

I respectfully submit herewith the Business Plan for the Agricultural Land Commission for the period April 1, 2008 through March 31, 2009.

Yours truly,

PROVINCIAL AGRICULTURAL LAND COMMISSION

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Erik Karlsen'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Erik Karlsen, Chair

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Message from the Chair



As the Chair of the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC), I am pleased to present the 2008/09 Business Plan for the ALC.

The ALC is a provincial administrative tribunal that operates under the *Agricultural Land Commission Act*. Its members are appointed by government to preserve agricultural land, encourage farming on agricultural land in association with communities of interest and encourage governments to enable and accommodate farm use of agricultural land in British Columbia.

The ALC is a key player in ensuring high quality agricultural lands provide the basis of a strong B.C. farm economy, a land base for both local food supply and products for export and an essential resource for the future of this province. The Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) has been in place for almost 35 years and continues to be strongly supported by British Columbians.

The ALC is called on to consider many different factors and account for its decisions with reference to its legislated mandate. Its mandate is clearly focused on preserving agricultural land and encouraging farming. However, often stakeholders look to the ALC to address concerns beyond its mandate.

While the ALR was established to preserve the province's limited agricultural land base (just 5% of the province) for agricultural uses, over its 35 year history it has also served as a de-facto urban containment boundary, thus securing a land base for other natural resource uses and the production of ecosystem goods and services that might otherwise be lost or compromised.

The Commission understands and appreciates the societal values of these and other land uses and is prepared to cooperate with government agencies and other organizations. However, the Commission must and will continue to place a priority on agricultural values in its decisions.

This Business Plan reflects the purposes of the legislation in its goals and objectives, and will be pursued to the extent possible with reference to the volume of applications and initiatives generated by others and the availability of funding.



Erik Karlsen, Chair & CEO
Agricultural Land Commission
May 30, 2008

Table of Contents

Message from the Chair

Purpose of the Agricultural Land Commission	1
External Factors	2
Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Indicators	3
Regional Panel Business Plans.....	6
Strategic Planning and Operational Policy.....	13
Mapping, GIS and Data Management.....	14
2008/09 Budget.....	15
Commission Contact Information	16

Purpose of the Agricultural Land Commission

The Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) is the provincial agency responsible for administering the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR), a provincial land use zone for agriculture. The purposes of the ALC as set out in legislation are:

- (a) to preserve agricultural land;
- (b) to encourage farming on agricultural land in collaboration with other communities of interest; and,
- (c) to encourage local governments, First Nations, the government and its agents to enable and accommodate farm use of agricultural land and uses compatible with agriculture in their plans, bylaws and policies.

The *Agricultural Land Commission Act* sets out processes for the inclusion or exclusion of land to and from the reserve and for non-farm use and the subdivision of land within the reserve. The Act is supported by the Agricultural Land Reserve Use, Subdivision and Procedure Regulation, which provides procedures for applications and defines permitted land uses and subdivisions within the ALR.

As an administrative tribunal acting pursuant to the *Act* and the *Administrative Tribunals Act*, the Commission considers each application on its individual merits through a fair and transparent review process, in most cases involving on-site meetings with applicants.

The work of the Commission is carried out by 19 appointed Commissioners comprised of a Chair, six Vice-Chairs and twelve members. The appointed Commissioners are the board of directors of the commission which is supported by 23 professional staff. The full Commission meets annually. An Executive Committee including the Chair and six Vice Chairs provides overall advice and direction to the Commission and meets quarterly. Each of six regional panels with three members including a Vice-Chair and two Commission members focuses on adjudicating applications and land use planning.

External Factors

The Agricultural Land Commission operates in a complex environment where outside influences related to land use, social and economic shifts and changes in the business of agriculture affect the work of the Commission and the number and type of applications it receives.

Increasing instances of unlawful use of agricultural lands. In recent years the unauthorized use of ALR land has increased. For example, ALR land is being targeted for the unlawful disposal of excavation material and demolition debris generated by urban development and associated infrastructure support. The permanent debilitating affects of filling good agricultural lands is particularly problematic in the Lower Fraser Valley.

Growth pressures on agricultural land. In all regions of the province and particularly within high-growth areas there are ongoing, and in many places, increasing pressures to convert ALR land for residential, industrial, commercial, institutional, conservation and other community uses.

Land uses within and adjacent to the ALR are changing and intensifying. Urban and rural non-farm development adjacent to and within the ALR is a growing concern requiring the attention of local governments. These uses place mounting pressures on farmers intent on using the ALR for farm purposes as urban and rural non-farm residents tend to consider the agricultural landscape as a green space rather than a working landscape.

Application numbers increasing. The number of land use applications received by the ALC has been steadily increasing over the last several years. In 2006 the ALC received 628 applications and 657 for 2007 which represents a 57% increase over the 2003 levels.

Broadening societal interest in farmland preservation and local food. Over the past several years a broader-based societal interest in farmland preservation and local food supply has focused more attention on the Commission's work and on the ALR in general.

Economics of farming. Economic returns to farming have been variable and unpredictable. As a result, farmers are looking at alternative land uses as a supplement to farm income.

Water. Access to water for irrigation purposes continues to be an issue for agriculture which faces constant pressure for access to the same resource from other land users.

Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Indicators

As an administrative tribunal that responds to applications, the Commission has no control over the number and type of applications submitted for its review and decision; nor does it have control over the quality of the land that is the subject of applications. Due to the nature of the work, the Commission reports out on its decisions and uses key indicators that reflect its efforts regarding agricultural land preservation.

Goal: Preserve Agricultural Land and Encourage Farming

This goal will be achieved by meeting the following objectives through the associated strategies.

Objective 1: To preserve the provincial agricultural land base through decision making.

Each application is considered on its own merits with reference to information provided by the applicant, local governments, ALC planning staff and other information it feels is pertinent to the application. In all instances the Commission considers the impact to the agricultural land base and to the use of the land base for agriculture.

Strategies

This objective will be achieved through the following strategies:

- Consideration of agriculture capability and suitability of lands under application
- Consideration of the potential impacts on the land base and the agricultural use of the land base

Indicators

As indicators for preserving agricultural land through decision making the Commission will report on the following:

- Area of land excluded from the ALR
- Agricultural Capability of land excluded
- Area of land included into the ALR
- Agricultural Capability of land included

Operational Priorities

Increase the ability/capacity for ALC staff to conduct thorough and professional reviews of land use applications in order to provide the Commission with complete information and a range of options for decision making.

Objective 2: Promoting, participating in and monitoring the use of local government plans and regulations to encourage and support agricultural uses of the ALR.

The *Agricultural Land Commission Act* requires that the Commission works closely with local governments with respect to planning and provides advice and direction to local governments to ensure that Official Community Plans and bylaws are consistent with the legislation. History has shown that early dialogue with local governments regarding community planning initiatives and local planning has had positive results in encouraging farming and promoting the farm use of agricultural land. The suitability of lands in the ALR for farming, even those lands with the highest capability for agricultural production, can be compromised by the establishment of incompatible land uses adjacent, within or in close proximity to the ALR.

Strategies

This objective will be achieved through the following strategies:

- Encourage local governments to engage in discussion with the Commission and planning staff early in their land use planning processes.
- Encourage local governments and other land use agencies to develop agriculturally sympathetic land use planning.

Operational Priorities

Increase the ability of the ALC to initiate pro-active planning to move away from application based planning which is re-active in nature and towards collaborative long-range planning with local governments.

Objective 3: To ensure a high degree of compliance with the *Agricultural Land Commission Act*, regulation and orders of the ALC.

Legislation, regulation and orders of the Commission set out the uses permitted in the ALR. The Commission has an obligation along with significant legislative authority to ensure that ALR lands are being used for appropriate purposes. Ensuring that ALR lands are being used appropriately helps to maintain a high quality land base for farming and reduce the potential of lands being degraded to the extent that they can no longer be used for agricultural production.

In order to carry out this important function, the ALC compliance and enforcement program will be enhanced. This will involve more ALC resources directed to compliance and enforcement and new partnerships with other government agencies and local government partners.

Strategies

- Work with other provincial government agencies and local government partners to ensure compliance with the Act, regulations and orders of the Commission
- Follow up on complaints of inappropriate use of ALR lands

Indicators

- Number of complaints received
- Number of complaints investigated and resolved
- Number of stop work orders

Operational Priorities:

Ensure a fully functional and effective compliance and enforcement program to ensure compliance across the province's 4.7 million hectares of ALR land.

Ensure the ability exists to follow through on compliance and enforcement actions taken against unauthorized uses of ALR lands.

Regional Panel Business Plans

The regional panel business plans reflect the predicted work that will be carried out in the upcoming year by each of the six regional panels. The plans indicate activities related to consideration of applications and panel meetings; planning activities occurring in the region and enforcement issues and challenges. The regional plans relate to the overall business plan objectives and strategies but provide the detail with regard to the quantity and type of work involved in carrying out the mandate of the Commission in a given region of the province.



Interior Panel Region

Panel Members: Grant Huffman, Holly Campbell, Gordon Gillette

The Interior Region stretches from the Central Coast (Bella Coola Valley) to the community of Chase at the western end of Shuswap Lake, encompassing the cattle ranching Cariboo and Thompson Nicola Regional Districts. The Region is dominated by B.C.'s interior plateau and characterized by dry grasslands and forested parklands. The region includes the following Regional Districts:

- Central Coast Regional District
- Cariboo Regional District
- Thompson Nicola Regional

Of a total area of 16,234,300 hectares, the region contains 1,528,500 hectares of land within the ALR. The regional population is 187,665 (2006 Census).

Planned Activities

1. Applications – The Interior Region reviews among the lowest numbers of applications when compared to other Regions. The Commission expects to consider about 60 applications in the Interior Region during 2008/2009, consistent with previous years. Typically applications are single lot subdivisions for family members.
2. Panel Meetings – In view of the number of applications and planning reviews anticipated by the Interior Panel, it plans to schedule four trips throughout the region to carry out site inspections and meet with applicants and local governments. The trips will average two - three days each and are planned for April, June, August and October.
3. Planning – Planning activities expected for 2008 include reviews of ;
 - a. Williams Lake Fringe OCP, and 150 Mile House OCP in the Cariboo Regional District, and
 - b. Electoral Area B – Pavilion/Fountain Valley in the Squamish – Lillooet Regional District.
 - c. Thompson Nicola Regional District is developing the Green Lake OCP and undertaking a general zoning bylaw review.
 - d. The City of Kamloops is developing the Aberdeen Area Neighbourhood Plan; the Juniper Neighbourhood Plan is being updated. An OCP may also be established for the Tranquille Farm re-development.
4. Enforcement – Compliance and enforcement issues will be undertaken as they arise. There are few outstanding compliance issues in this Region.

Island Panel Region

Panel Members: Lorne Seitz, David Craven, Jennifer Dyson

The Island Region encompasses Vancouver Island, most of the Gulf Islands and a number of coastal mainland areas that are part of Regional Districts headquartered on Vancouver Island or are more readily accessed from the Island than from mainland centers. The region includes the following Regional Districts:

- Alberni-Clayoquot
- Capital
- Comox Valley
- Strathcona
- Cowichan Valley
- Mount Waddington
- Nanaimo
- Powell River

Of a total area of 7,786,900 hectares, the region contains 115,500 hectares of land within the ALR. The regional population is 724,233 (*2006 Census*).

Planned Activities

1. Applications – The Commission expects to consider approximately 100 applications in the Island Region during 2008/2009. This is consistent with the level of activity in 2007/08. Information from regional sources and staff observations support this anticipated level. Several major applications are expected from the Saanich Peninsula, Sooke and Powell River.
2. Panel Meetings – The Island Panel plans to undertake six trips throughout the region to carry out site inspections and meet with applicants and local governments. The trips will average three days each and are planned for May, July, September, November, January and March.
3. Planning – Planning activities are expected to experience a notable increase in the Region. Staff and Commissioners anticipate involvement in ten to fifteen local government planning processes including review of a number of draft plans and bylaws. Information from the Capital Regional District indicates the ALC can expect to be involved in an update of the CRD Growth Strategy and in new OCPs for Sooke, Port Renfrew, Central Saanich, Metchosin, Saanich and Langford. The new Comox Valley Regional District will embark on a new growth strategy for the Valley. North Cowichan will be undertaking an OCP Review including growth in the Chemainus area. The Nanaimo Regional District plans to update its growth strategy and Islands Trust will develop a new OCP and agriculture plan for Saltspring Island.
4. Enforcement – Compliance and enforcement issues, particularly placement of illegal fill on ALR land, is a challenge in some areas. While monitoring all areas, particular attention will be paid to the Cowichan Valley, Capital Region and Nanaimo Regional Districts.

Kootenay Panel Region

Panel Members: Monika Marshall, Carmen Purdy, Grant Griffin

The Kootenay Region encompasses the southeasterly portion of the province which extends from the Columbia River valley and environs in the east to the Grand Forks and Boundary area in the west. The region includes the following Regional Districts:

- East Kootenay
- Central Kootenay
- Kootenay Boundary

Of a total area of 6,648,700 hectares, the region contains 393,700 hectares of land within the ALR. The regional population is 142,110 (2006 Census).

Planned Activities

1. **Applications** – The Commission expects to consider between 100 and 110 applications in the Kootenay Region during 2008/2009. This is a continuation of a trend, which saw applications rise last fiscal year by ten percent. Information from regional sources and staff observations suggest an increase in volume.
2. **Panel Meetings** – The Panel plans to undertake seven trips throughout the region to carry out site inspections and meet with applicants and local governments. The trips will average two to three days each and are planned for April, May, July, August, October, November and March.
3. **Planning** – It is anticipated that planning activities will be greater than in recent previous years. Staff and Commissioners anticipate involvement in five to ten local government planning processes including the review of a number of draft plans and bylaws. Information from the East Kootenay Regional District indicates the ALC can expect to be involved in planning processes for the Windermere and Cranbrook Rural OCPs, Crown land in the vicinity of Lake Kooconusa area and in the preparation of a zoning bylaw relating to proposed development of private lands adjacent to Lake Kooconusa. In the Central Kootenays projects include the completion of an OCP for the East Shore of Kootenay Lake and a new OCP for Electoral Area K. In the Kootenay Boundary region projects will include a new OCP for Rural Fruitvale. In addition the Commission anticipates undertaking a fine tuning review of the Elk Valley in consultation with the Regional District.
4. **Enforcement** - Compliance and enforcement issues particularly pertain to lack of compliance with Commission decisions or the carrying out of non-farm uses without obtaining prior written approvals. This remains a challenge in some areas. While monitoring all areas, particular attention will be paid to ALR areas in the Columbia River Valley.

North Panel Region

Panel Members: William Norton, John Kendrew, Denise Dowswell

The North Region encompasses North East, North Central and North West British Columbia, from Prince George, north east and west. The region includes the following Regional Districts:

- Northern Rockies Regional District
- Peace River Regional District
- Fraser Fort George Regional District
- Bulkley Nechako Regional District
- Skeen Queen Charlotte Regional District
- Kitimat Stikine Regional District

Of a total area of 47,021,900 hectares, the region contains 2,210,000 hectares of land within the ALR, almost 50% of the entire ALR. The regional population is 252,581 (2006 Census).

Planned Activities

1. **Applications** – The Commission expects to consider between 130-140 applications in the North Region during 2008/2009. Recently completed planning exercises in Fort St John, Dawson Creek and Pouce Coupe will result in an increasing number of applications as landowners begin to translate the planning decisions into individual applications. The North Region has a high application workload because of its extensive area, and energy economy, particularly in the Northeast. Travel limits in winter will mean a very busy spring summer and fall travel schedule. As most areas in the Fraser Fort George Regional District now fall under a delegation agreement it is not anticipated that many applications will be received by the Commission for subdivision and non-farm land uses.
2. **Panel Meetings** – The North Panel plans to undertake seven trips throughout the region to carry out site inspections and meet with applicants and local governments. The trips will average three to four days each and are planned for April, May, June, August, September, October and November.
3. **Planning** – Planning activities are expected to remain heavy in the Region. Staff and Commissioners anticipate involvement in several new and on-going government planning processes including the North Peace Fringe Official Community Plan, an update to the City of Fort St John Official Community Plan, and on-going implementation of the Fort St John and Area Comprehensive Development Plan and the South Peace Comprehensive Development Plan. In addition the Peace River Regional District may be considering discussions with the Commission regarding the delegation of the Commission's decision making authority as per Section 26 of the *ALC Act*. The Fraser Fort George Regional District is embarking upon updates of its OCPs and the Commission is likely to be involved with that for Willow River. In addition the Commission anticipates that it will be working with the Regional District and Integrated Land Management Bureau (ILMB) to identify land for possible inclusions into the reserve. In the Bulkley Nechako, OCP reviews are underway for Electoral Area D (Fort Fraser – Fraser Lake), Burns Lake and the Town of Smithers.
4. **Enforcement** – Compliance and enforcement issues remains a challenge in some areas, particularly over such issues as unauthorized industrial uses, home based business uses and multiple residences on parcels within the ALR.

Okanagan Panel Region

Panel Members: Roger Mayer, Sid Sidhu, Gerry Zimmermann

The Okanagan Region encompasses the Okanagan and Similkameen Valleys, the Columbia Shuswap and Princeton areas. The region includes the following Regional Districts:

- Columbia Shuswap Regional District
- Okanagan Similkameen Regional District
- Regional District of North Okanagan
- Regional District of Central Okanagan

Of a total area of 4,408,800 hectares, the region contains 226,000 hectares of land within the ALR. The regional population is 369,193 (*2006 Census*).

Planned Activities

1. Applications – The Commission expects to consider between 130 and 140 applications in the Okanagan Region during 2008/2009. This is consistent with previous trends which, until 2007, saw a consistent increase in the number of applications for the past five years. In 2007 the Commission considered a slightly smaller number of applications (128) than in 2006 (140).
2. Panel Meetings – The Okanagan Panel intends to make six trips throughout the region to carry out site inspections and meet with applicants and local governments. The trips will average three days each and are planned for May, July, September, October, December and February.
3. Planning – Planning activities are expected to experience an increase in the Region because of the following initiatives. The three Okanagan Regional Districts are in the process of studying growth management and governance options which may require efforts on the part of the Okanagan Panel to review the study findings to determine the effect if any, upon the Commission's operations and policies. It is understood that the North Okanagan Regional District is undertaking a Regional Growth Strategy and an ALR boundary review in selected sub-regions. The new District of Westside will also be embarking on its first Official Community Plan and the City of Kelowna will be reviewing its OCP. The Town of Oliver will continue its discussions with the Commission about its long term Growth Strategy. Planning discussions are also expected with the City of Salmon Arm, the Town of Osoyoos, and the City of Vernon about land for urban expansion.
4. The Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen is undergoing two OCP reviews; Electoral Area H (Rural Princeton), and potentially Electoral Area D (Okanagan Falls).
5. The Columbia Shuswap Regional District is developing several rural area OCPs. Electoral Area C (Sorrento) and Electoral Area F (Scotch Creek) are currently in process, while a new OCP for Electoral Area E, (Rural Sicamous) is proposed.
6. Enforcement – Compliance and enforcement issues, particularly the placement of illegal fill on ALR land, and non farm uses in the ALR continues to be a challenge in some areas. While monitoring all areas, particular attention will be paid to the City of Kelowna (Benvoulin Rd), and the Similkameen Valley.

South Coast Panel Region

Panel Members: Sylvia Pranger, Mike Bose, John Tomlinson

The South Coast Region has the smallest land area of the six panel regions but the greatest concentration of agricultural production. It encompasses the lower mainland region of the Province from Hope and environs in the easterly part of the lower Fraser River valley to the Fraser River delta in the west and then north to the Sunshine Coast and the Squamish River valley and the Pemberton Valley. The region includes the following Regional Districts:

- Metro Vancouver
- Fraser Valley
- Squamish Lillooet
- Sunshine Coast

Of an area encompassing 3,591,500 hectares, the region contains 148,800 hectares of land within the ALR. The regional population is 2,436,596 (2006 Census).

Planned Activities

1. Applications – The Commission expects to consider between 120 and 140 applications in the South Coast Region during 2008/2009. This is reflective of recent trends, which had seen a steady stream of applications. Information from regional sources and staff observations suggest no significant increase in volume.
2. Panel Meetings – The Panel plans to undertake seven meetings throughout the region to carry out site inspections and meet with applicants and local governments. The meetings will average two to three days each and are tentatively planned for April, June, July, September, November, February and March.
3. Planning – Planning activities are expected to remain high in the Region. Staff and Commissioners anticipate continued involvement in key transportation planning. They also anticipate involvement in at least twelve local government planning processes including review of a number of draft plans and bylaws as well as a high level review of plans and policies for the Township of Langley. Information from Metro Vancouver indicates the ALC can expect to be involved in the update of the Regional Growth Strategy and in Regional Context Statement updates for several Metro Vancouver municipalities. The ALC also expects to be involved in finalization of the Squamish-Lillooet Regional Growth Strategy, Regional Context Statements for Pemberton and Squamish, and an OCP update for Squamish. An Agricultural Area Plan is in the works for Maple Ridge and Kent and Abbotsford hopes to re-commence work on its Agricultural Area Plan.
4. Enforcement – Compliance and enforcement issues, particularly placement of illegal fill on ALR land, is a continual threat on agricultural lands and farming operations in proximity to urban development taking place outside of the ALR. While monitoring all areas, particular attention will be paid to Fraser River delta communities and other municipalities throughout the lower mainland with a view to increasing the awareness of the Commission's enhanced efforts to ensure compliance with the Agricultural Land Commission Act and regulations in a collaborative fashion. The Panel also intends to further its attempts to engage in pro-active discussions with the aggregate industry to seek solutions to issues associated with gravel and sand extraction and reclamation.

Strategic Planning and Operational Policy

Commission work also focuses on strategic planning and operational policy. This work involves dealing with issues related to land use planning, Commission policy on emerging issues and working with other provincial government ministries and local governments to ensure the ALR land base is preserved.

The Commission is re-activating its fine tuning program in a less formal way than earlier in the history of the Commission. A purpose of this type of work is to ensure that ALR lands are appropriately included in the reserve. A project planned for 2008/09 is in the Elk Valley in the Regional District of East Kootenay.

Transportation corridors and highways developments continue to place pressure on ALR lands and the Commission will be looking at ways to participate early with transportation planning to ensure that the ALC mandate is understood and addressed early in the planning process.

Emerging issues the Commission needs to address include anaerobic digesters as an on-farm means of dealing with agricultural waste and generating energy and temporary farm worker housing in the ALR

The compliance and enforcement program development will continue with further education and partnership building with stakeholders and local governments.

The Commission will also be addressing a number of items resulting from the BC Agriculture Plan, in particular intergenerational transfer of land in the ALR to support and strengthen family farming.

Finally, the Commission will be working towards an early engagement protocol with provincial government agencies and local governments to ensure early Commission involvement in major project planning.

Mapping, GIS and Data Management

The ALC mapping department maintains the official ALR maps, prepares maps for application files, responds to mapping enquires from public, ALC staff, government and local government, updates the ALC website, manages the ALC application database and provides IT support.

The ALR boundary is maintained in digital format so that GIS (Geographic Information Systems) can be used to view and map it. The mapping department is working on improving the digital ALR boundary by completing quality assurance on the data and correctly aligning it to better cadastre information as it becomes available. Three Regional Districts still have their official ALR maps produced manually and the ALC hopes to convert to a completely digital mapping department over the next year.

Conversion of the ALR boundaries to GIS format has created the ability to better calculate the ALR area. The initial calculation of the ALR area at designation was produced from hardcopy maps at the 1:50,000 scale using the dot matrix and planimeter methods of estimation. While the Commission has not adopted the GIS data method of reporting the ALR area, it intends to work on converting to this reporting method over the year.

Much of the work of the Commission depends on spatial information both related to application research and information for decision making as well as the outcome of Commission decisions and any related ALR boundary changes. Historically, the Commission has tracked applications and decisions in a variety of digital and non-digital formats, both spatial and non-spatial. It is currently working towards integrating the various information sources into one central data management and research tool called the Online Application Tracking System (OATS).

OATS will be introduced, tested and adjusted prior to full adoption this year when it will replace the Commission's current outdated information management database. The new system is designed to better reflect the complexity of Commission decisions, resulting in more accurate record keeping and improved statistical reporting. It will support compliance and enforcement activities and aid in generating application status reports for the public. In addition, it will integrate the Commission's application records with its mapping information, allowing all staff desktop access to mapped application information. Much time and effort will be needed in order to populate the new system with the Commission's plus three decades of information, much of which is only available in paper format at present.

2008/09 Budget

Budget Approved in Estimates:

Operating Budget	\$2,435,000
Capital Budget	\$5,000

The Agricultural Land Commission's Executive Committee approved a budget of \$2,696,000 to carry out the work associated with the goals and objectives identified in this business plan. The Commission will operate this fiscal year in accordance with the decision of the Executive Committee based on the budget approved in Estimates and an additional \$261,000 provided by the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands to ensure the Commission's service levels are comparable to last fiscal year.

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