



## GPC Report

**Date:** February 12, 2014      **From:** Councillor Isitt  
**Subject:** Agricultural Land Reserve and Agricultural Land Commission

### BACKGROUND

In November 2013, the City of Victoria as well as the Capital Regional District and several other Vancouver Island municipalities adopted resolutions regarding the Agricultural Land Reserve and Agricultural Land Commission. Looking ahead to the 2014 annual meetings of the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) and the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM), the following resolution seeks to integrate elements of these municipal resolutions in order to present a unified statement for consideration by AVICC and UBCM delegates.

### MOTION

RESOLVED THAT the City of Victoria supports the following resolution for consideration at the 2014 annual meetings of the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM):

WHEREAS the Agricultural Land Commission, created as an autonomous body in 1974, has served to protect over four million hectares of farmland in the Province of British Columbia;

AND WHEREAS measures to protect farmland and support farmers and regional food systems are essential to provide food security in the face of increasing global transportation and energy costs and the impacts of climate change;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) request that the Provincial government respect the integrity of the province-wide Agricultural Land Reserve and support its management by an independent and adequately funded Agricultural Land Commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Provincial government work with the agricultural community, UBCM and local governments to identify and implement additional measures that will increase the viability of farming and food production in British Columbia.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Victoria forward this resolution to AVICC and UBCM member municipalities/local governments, requesting those bodies adopt resolutions in support of this statement prior to regional area conventions and UBCM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Isitt".

Councillor Isitt

<b>Governance &amp; Priorities Committee</b>
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