



A Citizen's Guide to the ALR: Panelist Biographies

Kim Sutherland

Regional Agrologist, South Coastal Area | BC Ministry of Agriculture

Kim Sutherland has worked as a Regional Agrologist with the BC Ministry of Agriculture and Lands for the past thirteen years. Kim has a longstanding interest in intensive agriculture production systems. She has done extensive work on strengthening farming in the Fraser Valley including detailed land use analysis, and encouraging the development of resources for local governments such as agriculture advisory committees and agriculture area plans. She has worked at bridging the rural/urban divide by giving public talks, being a past member of the Vancouver Food Policy Council and encouraged initiatives that develop agri-tourism and culinary tourism as new and fresh marketing alternatives for local farmers. She has also worked extensively on environmental management of the intensive agriculture production in the South Coastal region.

Kim has a farming background with two degrees related to agriculture, from the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Waterloo. Her passion for agriculture came naturally from spending long summers on her family's grain farms near Saskatoon and near Eston, Saskatchewan.

Bill Zylman

Owner and Operator | W & A Farms

Bill was born and raised in Richmond B.C. and was raised on the family farm. He now owns and operates W & A Farms, and Western Canada Seed Potato Ltd. along with his wife. The farm consists of raising purebred Black Angus cattle, a store on the farm property, which sells produce that is grown at the farm, and selling seed potatoes across Canada and the USA. Bill farms approximately 500 acres, which consists of seed potatoes strawberries a variety of vegetables and cereal crops. Bill serves on many different organizations and committees including:

Chair of the B.C. Vegetable and Potato Committee

Chair of the B.C. Seed Potato Growers Committee

Vice-Chair of the G.V.R.D. Agriculture Advisory Committee

Co-Chair of the Richmond Agricultural Advisory Committee

Represents B.C. on the Canadian Horticultural Counsel for Potatoes and International Trade

Director of the Richmond Farmers Institute

Bill has been involved on many agricultural issues with the media and recently spoke at the Senate in Ottawa regarding agricultural viability and challenges in British Columbia.

Dr. Lenore Newman

**Associate Professor & Canada Research Chair, Food Security and Environment |
Department of Geography and Environment, University of the Fraser Valley**

Lenore Newman's love affair with food began on her family's fishing boats, where she gained an early introduction into the world of direct marketing of local products. She runs a research program focused on Canadian regional cuisines, local food sovereignty, culturally preferred foods, and urban food systems. She has written extensively on the resurgence of farmers' markets in Canada, and is a strong advocate for fresh, local food.

Dr. Art Bomke

**Professor Emeritus | Faculty of Land and Food Systems, University of British
Columbia**

Art was raised on a small farm in Illinois and has an academic background in soil and crop management. His career in UBC's Faculty of Land and Food Systems (formerly Agricultural Sciences) included teaching, research and community outreach, with emphasis on soil science, agroecology and food systems. Recycling and reusing organic waste materials has been a central focus since Art began work at UBC in the 1970s. Current activities as a Professor Emeritus include advising undergraduate and graduate students and supporting local, small scale and new farmers.

Art has been car-free for nearly 24 years, is a car co-op member and an avid cyclist. Since retirement he has been attempting to improve his home garden and ability prepare the food produced therein. He and Carol have lived in the Riley Park/Little Mountain area of Vancouver for 40 years and are grateful to be members of an interesting and vibrant urban community.