

PEACE RIVER AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT FUND

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACTUAL EXPENDITURES

APRIL 1, 2015 TO MARCH 31, 2016

Summary of all projects

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|--------|
| Actual Total Project Costs | \$222,780.00 | 100.0% |
| PRAD Trust Fund Share of Projects | \$101,433.68 | 45.5% |
| Industry Contribution (cash): | \$72,050.00 | 32.3% |
| Industry Contribution (In-kind): | \$45,500.00 | 20.4% |

Administration Expenses (detailed below)

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Accounting (Audit) | \$ 1,524.92 |
| Advertising | \$ 996.98 |
| Insurance | \$ 3,246.00 |
| Office Expenses | \$ 1,967.87 |
| Travel/Meetings/Phone | \$ 788.31 |
| Directors Per Diem | \$ 5,473.64 |
| Coordinator Fees | \$ 16,683.60 |
| Bank Charges | \$ 25.00 |
| Administration Total | \$ 30,706.32 |
| Total PRAD Trust Fund Projects Cost and Administration Expense | \$132,140.00 |

Excess (shortfall) to be deducted from 2016-17 Trust Fund Request

\$48,828.00

Large Project details

Final costs:

| Sponsoring Organization | Project Title | Total project cost | PRAD Actual Contribution | Industry Contribution | Industry in kind | Amount Released from Trust |
|----------------------------------|--|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Peace River Forage Association | Maintaining and Improving Healthy and Vigorous Pastures and Hayfields Project Year 3 | \$ 78,400.00 | \$ 39,200.00 | 30700 | \$ 8,500.00 | \$ 31,360.00 |
| Peace River Forage Association | Interactive Soils & Forages Courses Year 3 | \$ 17,380.00 | \$ 8,690.00 | 8690 | \$ - | \$ 6,952.00 |
| B.C. Grain Producers Association | Representing Peace Agriculture | \$ 100,000.00 | \$ 50,000.00 | 25000 | \$ 25,000.00 | \$ 45,000.00 |
| B.C. Grain Producers Association | Recovery of 2014 Project Funds reported in 2015 | \$ - | \$ (3,796.32) | 0 | \$ - | \$ - |
| Total Large Project Costs | | \$ 195,780.00 | \$ 94,093.68 | \$ 64,390.00 | \$ 33,500.00 | \$ 83,312.00 |

Short Term Projects Council Initiative Fund PRAD Consultation Committee

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Peace River Forage Association | Teaching Livestock to Eat Weeds | \$ 27,000.00 | \$ 7,340.00 | \$ 7,660.00 | \$ 12,000.00 | \$ 6,606.00 |
| | Total Short Term Projects | \$ 27,000.00 | \$ 7,340.00 | \$ 7,660.00 | \$ 12,000.00 | \$ 6,606.00 |

Results Summary

| Project Title | Purpose/Objective | Project Results and Outcomes |
|--|--|--|
| Maintaining and Improving Healthy and Vigorous Pastures and Hayfields Project Year 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☑ To identify more effective and economic ways to maintain or improve pasture and hayfield health. ☑ To demonstrate economic and effective methods of rejuvenating pasture and hayfields that are infiltrated with undesirable species such as invasive plants, willow, and aspen. ☑ To share information about new chemicals, appropriate species selection, value of appropriate clean seed, and other new and/or innovative rejuvenation methods. | Overall this project has been very successful at enabling regional producers to try innovative practices aiming to improve the productivity of their pastures and hayfields. This project enabled the PRSA research team to match cooperator efforts in regards to monitoring & data collection. This project has been able to encompass a wide variety of project ideas which have been shared and communicated as widely as possible. |
| Interactive Soils & Forages Courses Year 3 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collaborate with UNBC to implement lessons learned from pilot project in fall 2013 and the pilot workshop in Feb 2014 to develop 2 complete course cycles. Each course cycle was a series of 5 sessions (for a total of 10 sessions, including the 3 that took place during the pilot projects). 2. Set up very hands on sessions where participants can learn the basics of soils and forages (both tame and native) & integrate this information to give recommendations for successful revegetation/ rejuvenation/ establishment. 3. Enlist resource people / mentors so that they buy into the concept and promote the course. 4. Ensure that there are a high number of mentors to participants/ students, and the sessions are very interactive. 5. Organize complimentary workshops, lectures, resource people and tools to assist with the integrative challenges. 6. Instigate more dialog and effective information sharing between students, forage managers, revegetation consultants, university researcher/ professors, soils specialists, and range ecologists. | <p>A successful series of 2 field days were held in the last year of the project on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. June 6, 2015 hosted by the Nimitz family on their ranch west of Farmington, 2. July 4, 2015 hosted by Shell Canada at the Saturn Plant & pipeline site near Sunset Prairie Pasture. <p>The attendance at each session was 30 to 50, with a core of people registering for the whole series, and many people attending for one or more of the sessions. The actual reach of all the course sessions to date has been to over 160 participants. (list of participants and mentors in article in Forage First Fall 2015 issue and on file if required).</p> <p>There was again a healthy mix of forage producers, grass seed growers, environmental consultants, researchers and resource people participating in the activities and discussions. The format changed frequently from larger group discussions to smaller group discussions, with many opportunities for hands on learning. Participants gave consistently good feedback on the value of the day and the take home messages for their agricultural operations or reclamation work.</p> <p>The Peace River Forage Association partnered with UNBC, in particular Bill McGill, to have these courses accepted and advertised in the UNBC course calendar for credit for UNBC students. There has also been liaison with the appropriate personnel so that these days are recognized for Agrologists Professional Development and Certified Crop Advisor credits.</p> <p>Bill McGill, Sandra Burton & Julie Robinson were invited to give a presentation on Dec 11, 2015 at the Agriculture & Climate Adaptation Conference in Kelowna. Our team received very positive feedback about our innovative and interactive approach to sharing information and technology transfer.</p> |
| Teaching Livestock to Eat Weeds | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☑ Work with local producers to adapt process of training livestock to eat local invaders. ☑ Demonstrate the training of livestock to eat Peace invaders. ☑ Monitor, grazing and plant responses to grazing. ☑ Communicate share project information with local producers. | <p>The PRFA worked with 6 local producers (minimum requirement was 4) to train cattle, sheep or goats to graze Canada thistle. The producers included: Tess Davidson, Jodi Kendrew, Charlie Lasser, Sarah Davies, Chuck & Pat Sutherland and Kari Bondaroff. A summary of the work is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☑ A minimum of 3 benchmarks were set up within the weed infestations, their respective gps points located on air photos and plot diagrams provided for each cooperator. ☑ Pastures were monitored before and after grazing to measure how effectively thistle plants were grazed and to check if there was any regrowth or secondary sprouting. The methodology was modified and improved as a result. ☑ At strategic stages, throughout the grazing season, photo & plant monitoring was done including plant heights, weed growth stage, thistle counts and size of infestation. ☑ The results were shared with articles in newsletters & magazines, factsheet & presentations at events. ☑ A bonus unplanned deliverable was the production of 4 videos that were posted on YouTube and the Facebook page of the PRFA of BC. Mary MacArthur's article in the Western Producer was highlighted on a Twitter Feed. ☑ The Peace River Forage Association partnered with PRRD and BC Agri on this project. There were several agriculture businesses that became enthused after the project started, including South Peace Grain and Dawson Creek Agri |
| Representing Peace Agriculture | The key objective of this project, as a whole, is to address issues affecting producers in the BC Peace in a timely and effective manner. Agricultural producers are relying on the directors of the organization to be proactive in their approach to dealing with agriculture matters. The project has been broken into seven concerns that have been flagged as important to agriculture producers across the BC Peace Region: Business Risk Management, Environment, Food Safety/Biosecurity, Marketing, Member Connection & Public Awareness, Research, and Transportation. | Final Report not filed at date of printing. |
| Recovery of Funds | Recovery of unused Prad Funds from 2014 projects recorded in 2015-16 | |