

PEACE RIVER AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT FUND
 ANNUAL REPORT AND ACTUAL EXPENDITURES
 APRIL 1, 2014 TO MARCH 31, 2015

Summary of all projects

Actual Total Project Costs	\$371,194	100%
PRAD Trust Fund Share of Projects	\$163,099	44%
Industry Contribution (cash):	\$174,938	47%
Industry Contribution (In-kind):	\$26,970	7%

Total PRAD funds released for budgeted projects and administration	\$198,226
Total PRAD Trust Fund Projects Cost and Administration Expense	\$182,934
Excess (shortfall) of 2014 Release less project costs and expenses to be deducted from (added to) 2015-16 Trust Fund Request	\$15,292

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Sponsoring Organization	Large Project Title	Total project cost	PRAD Actual Contribution	Industry Contribution	Industry in kind	Amount Released from Trust
Large Project details		<i>Final costs:</i>				
Peace River Forage Association	Interactive Soils & Forages Courses Year 2	\$ 50,363	\$ 25,175	\$ 25,188	\$ -	\$ 25,175
South Peace Grain Cleaning Cooperative (SPG)	Develop Business Plan	\$ 106,679	\$ 30,500	\$ 72,179	\$ 4,000	\$ 30,500
Peace River Forage Association	Maintaining and Improving Healthy and Vigorous Pastures and Hayfields PRFA Project Year 2	\$ 102,000	\$ 51,000	\$ 51,000		\$ 51,000
B.C. Grain Producers Association	Developing Agricultural Possibilities in the Peace Year 3	\$ 92,577	\$ 46,637	\$ 22,970	\$ 22,970	\$ 50,000
Total Large Project Costs		\$ 351,619	\$ 153,312	\$ 171,337	\$ 26,970	\$ 156,675
Short Term Projects Council Initiative Fund PRAD Consultation Committee						
Peace River Forage Association	Summer Tour & Soils Congress	\$ 12,374	\$ 6,187			\$ 7,145
Peace River Forage Association	Knowledge Transfer Opportunities for Innovation	\$ 7,201	\$ 3,601	\$ 3,601		\$ 7,425
BC Grain Producers Association	Return on Research Investment Study	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,981
Total Small Project Costs		\$ 19,575	\$ 9,788	\$ 3,601	\$ -	\$ 20,551
PRAD Administration						
Accounting (Audit)		\$1,057				
Advertising		\$0				
Insurance		\$1,588				
Office Expenses		\$872				
Travel/Meetings/Phone		\$1,865				
Directors Per Diem		\$3,975				
Coordinator Fees		\$10,453				
Bank Charges		\$25				
Administration Total		\$19,835	\$ 19,835			\$ 21,000

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Project Objectives and Outcomes		
Large Project Title	Purpose/Objective	Project Results and Outcomes
Interactive Soils & Forages Courses Year 2	Six objectives including collaboration with University of Northern BC to lessons from pilot projects; set up hands on sessions to teach basics of soils and forages, enlist resource people; facilitate mentorship to new people entering the fields of soils and forage management; organize workshops and instigate more dialog and information sharing from students to practicing field specialists.	Five successful field day / workshops were held in different locations; presentation of local work at the Canadian Soil science Society ; several articles in the Forage First newsletter which reaches two hundred twenty subscribers; article published in national Forage & Grassland Magazine; course accreditation for UNBC students, Certified Field Crop Advisor credits, and Agrologists Professional Development. Participants were very complimentary on what they learned during these field days and workshops, particularly integration of take home messages at a practical level, and integration between sessions to build on previous learning.
Develop Business Plan	Develop a Business Plan to address 7 objectives:	A Business Plan has been completed addressing 6 of the 7 objectives. The seventh was dropped. The Cooperative is actively involved in action to implement the Business Plan, which will increase market opportunities for both the Coop itself and grain farmers in the Peace .
Maintaining and Improving Healthy and Vigorous Pastures and Hayfields PRFA Project Year 2	Three main objectives were to identify more effective and economic ways to maintain pasture and hayfield health; demonstrate methods of rejuvenating forage stands infiltrated with invasive plants and tree species; and share information about new chemicals; appropriate species selection for reseeding and the value of appropriate clean seed.	This project reports five important accomplishments: 1. An expanded cooperator base across the Peace Region; 2 Shared knowledge about using trained dogs for livestock handling to assist with weed control and fertility improvement; Benefits of healthy forage stands from a feed analysis for winter rations; 4 Two Forage Facts published showing results at cooperator sites to increase knowledge about appropriate fertilizer application and control on invasive plants; 5 additional functionality built into the web based Peace Forage Seeding Tool which is now extensively used by both growers and seed suppliers to custom design forage seed blends for specific soils, intended use and suitability.
Developing Agricultural Possibilities in the Peace Year 3	The BCGPA continues to represent grain producers in new issues including Public Awareness, Research, Environment, Transportation, Business Risk Management, Marketing, and Food Safety/Biosecurity.	BCGPA represented bc growers to Grain growers of Canada, Canadian Canola growers Assoc., Canola Council of Canada, BC Agriculture Council, Agriculture Research and Extension Council of Alberta, Investment Agriculture Foundation, Cereals Canada, Environment Partnership Committee, and various local committees. Partnerships have been developed with other commodity groups.

Small Projects Title					
Summer Tour 2014 & World Soils Congress	Two objectives included 1. Give Peace area producers an opportunity to see what innovative conservation farming and ranching techniques are being practiced in other parts of the world; 2 Gain insights into challenges being faced and dealt with by producers from Canada and other countries.	The World Congress on Conservation Agriculture was held over three days in Winnipeg MN. One local producer was on the organizing committee for the event. Local producers interacted with 400 international delegates from 39 countries. Peace region producers attended as many of the concurrent sessions as possible in order to maximize the information they brought back to this area. Networking and contacts were invaluable for future conversations. Several Forage First newsletter articles have been published to share information with all PFRA members.			
Knowledge Transfer - Opportunities for Innovation	Four objectives included 1. Create opportunities for local producers to acquire knowledge, ideas & innovation that can be implemented in the region; 2 Create connections and opportunities for collaborative research and development in forage and livestock industry; 3 have a voice in national dialogues and support national organizations; 4 Keep current on industry issues and be part of finding solutions.	Local producers were only able to attend two of three planned national conferences, so costs were less than budgeted. One member attended the Soil Conservation Council of Canada joint meeting with GrowCanada in Ottawa. PFRA has a representative to the SCCC to who promote and support the national objectives of conserving soil resources. Five members attended the National Grazing Conference in Edmonton. Ideas and knowledge gained will be implemented in the Peace to assist operations to be more financially and productivity successful.			
Return on Research Investment Study	This project is part of a larger study to determine the economic Return on Investment of Varietal Trial Research. The project is not planned to finish until August 2015.	PRAD funds approved will be carried forward from 2014-15 to 2015-16. No funds have been advanced.			