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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Climate adaptation strategy strengthens resilience of Cariboo agriculture for future

Cariboo Chilcotin – Agricultural producers in the Cariboo region have a new resource available to help prepare for a future expected to contain more extreme weather events and other challenging conditions.

Over the past year, the B.C. Agriculture and Food Climate Action Initiative has worked with local producers, the Cariboo Regional District and provincial agencies to develop the Cariboo Adaptation Strategies report. The report provides analysis based on anticipated climate impacts in the area, and identifies strategies and priority actions for adaptation to climate change.

Climate models show that the Cariboo will face more extended hot and dry periods in the summer that are likely to result in growing challenges with water supply, increased risks associated with extreme events such as wildfire and flooding, as well as changing populations of pests, diseases and invasive species.

The Cariboo Adaptation Strategies report is the fourth in a series of regional strategies developed through the B.C. Agriculture and Food Climate Action Initiative. The full report is available online at: <http://www.bcagclimateaction.ca/regional/cariboo/>

The B.C. Agriculture & Food Climate Action Initiative develops tools and resources to enhance agriculture's ability to adapt to climate change. The initiative was established by the BC Agriculture Council in 2008, and is led by an advisory committee of agricultural producers, food processors and representatives from various government agencies.

Funding for the B.C. Climate Action Initiative is provided by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the B.C. Ministry of Agriculture under Growing Forward 2, a federal-provincial-territorial initiative.

About B.C. Agricultural Research & Development Corporation

The BC Agricultural Research & Development Corporation (ARDCorp) is a wholly owned subsidiary of the BC Agriculture Council (BCAC). Working with BCAC and the provincial and federal governments, ARDCorp delivers effective, affordable programs and services to improve the long-term profitability of B.C. farmers and ranchers and grow B.C. into the most dynamic and robust agricultural province in Canada. ARDCorp provides funding and assistance for a variety of producer-focused programs for which eligible B.C. farmers and ranchers are free to apply.

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