

BC Organic Extension Project: Delegation to Central Coast Regional District

March 11, 2021

Institute for Sustainable Food Systems



Where thought meets action

Our request to the Board: Support for the organic extension service



Where thought meets action



Purpose of Extension Service

To advance regenerative agriculture and a sustainable food system by:

- Promoting widespread understanding and adoption of organic practices throughout BC's agriculture and food system
- Supporting the expansion of the organic sector



What is extension?

- Connects applied research to real world challenges.
- Provide non-formal education, learning opportunities, and tools to farmers, communities, businesses, policy makers, and consumers.
- Supports community capacity building and networking.



Organic extension in BC today

- Piecemeal
- Lacking
- Sector wants and needs extension that is strategic and coordinated



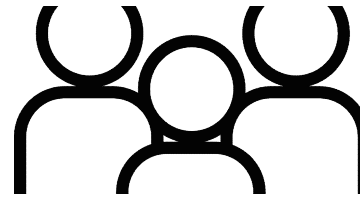
Where thought meets action



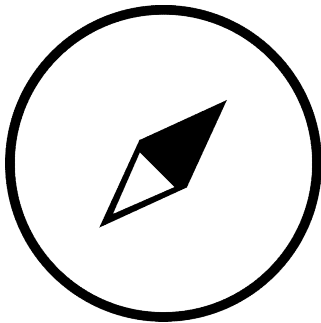
Structure



**Boots-on-the-ground
extension agents in
each region**



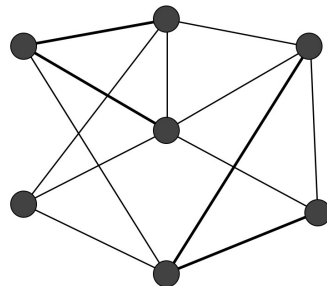
**Management team
to oversee and give
strategic direction**



**Steering committee
to connect with
industry about goals
and priorities**



**Administrative and
coordination support**



**Network of subject
matter specialists on
organic and
regenerative agriculture**

Connections to RD priorities:

- Environmental stewardship
- Climate change adaptation and mitigation
- Food security
- Reconciliation



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