

Mayor and Council,
Members of the Agricultural Land Commission

May 11, 2008

My name is Arzeena Hamir and I am a Professional Agrologist (P.Ag.) in good standing with the BC Institute of Agrologists.

I strongly oppose the block application by the City of Richmond to remove the Garden City Lands from the ALR for the following reasons:

The Garden City Lands are viable, agricultural lands that could support a variety of agricultural ventures. They are perfectly situated next to a large urban population which makes urban agriculture all the more attractive.

There is a strong community need for food security. During the recent Food For All Dialogue held in Richmond on Feb 29th & March 1st, the number one need expressed by almost 200 delegates was "a stronger connection with our food". Vegetable production has decreased by 50% in Richmond over the last 20 years which has put us in a position of food insecurity.

The exclusion of ALR land in Richmond has driven the price of agricultural land up so high that no future farming production can take place. Currently, 5 acres in the McLennan area of Richmond is selling for \$1.9 million. I submit that prices in Richmond are high due to the precedents made by excluding land from the ALR in Terra Nova and for the faith groups along No. 5 Rd. Exclusion of the Garden City Lands will only make this situation worse.

The Garden City Lands are the most feasible location for Kwantlen College's Urban Agriculture Research Center. Located next to Kwantlen's Richmond Campus, students would be able to walk across the street to participate in the Research Center. Situated anywhere else, students will be forced to drive to the site.

Sincerely,

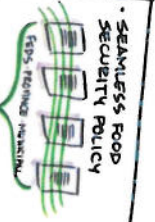
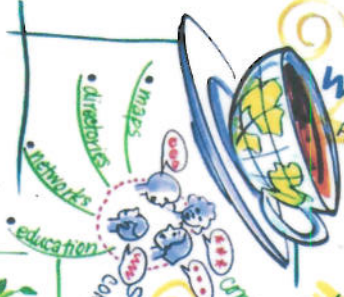

Arzeena Hamir MSc. P.Ag.

WORLD CAFE
FEBRUARY 29, 2008

WHAT COULD FOOD SECURITY LOOK LIKE IN RICHMOND?

Food for all dialogue
• MAKING RICHMOND FOOD SECURE.
FEBRUARY 29 - MARCH 1, 2008

DEFINE NEW TERMINOLOGY for food security
OWNERS AND MANAGERS



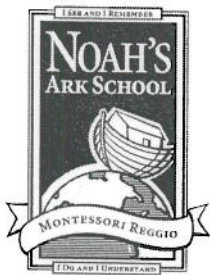
ALL LAND THAT CAN BE IS PRODUCTIVE

"The most serious CHALLENGE to food security is FARMING KNOWLEDGE IS LACKING"

TOP TOPS GROW & EAT TOGETHER.

CONNECTING WITH FOOD
... SEEP TO TABLE ...





To the People of Our Richmond Community;

We are taught each day to make good choices. Our parents teach us, our teachers and school teach us and our community teaches us. We work hard to learn to always do the right thing.

Do not build sit up on land
Sarah Age 6

Fill the whole farm with flowers and food. Then the air will be clean and there will be no room for building houses.

Name: Seong-Su

Age: 8

pronounced (Song - Su)

I have a garden the size of a small bathroom but I grow lots. I think that you should keep the farm. Name Arielle Age 8

We should not put more houses. Sean Age: 5

Keep the farm land and make good choices.

Name: Tiana age 5

Leave the farms otherwise there
will be no food for us and
the animals.
Keira Khan 5 yrs

I think the farm should be where it is because
farms grow food but houses cannot make
you alive. Krit supatchapitchai I am 7 years old.

save the farms

JJ ← age 5

I will want a park
founn Cynthia Fung age: → 5 and a hat

Food does not grow in a grocery store
founn Ella age → 6

We need to share our space
with the animals. from Kristen [6]

Thank you for listening to us.
Do the right thing.

- The Children of Ark Elementary
School,
Richmond, B.C.

Noah's Ark School
11371 No. 3 Road, Richmond, BC V7A 1X3 Canada
604-277-4386
www.noahsarkschool.ca

To the City of Richmond and Mayor:

Our Petition

We are taught each day to make good choices. Please keep the Garden City Land of Richmond as farmland and parkland to be able to be used by all the children and people and animals of our city. "All people have a right to food and to be in nature."
- a student, Noah's Ark School.

MACKEN SIE Age 1

Jeremy Age 3

KREM Age 3

Natalie Age 4

JORDAN MO Age 2

(Audrey) Age 3

Gretchen Age 3+

Ella Age 3

Allanson (mommy) Age 32

KRISTEN

Age ~~KR~~ 6

M/4 [K] [E]

Age 4

Alex

Age 3

Hameran

Age 4

Age _____

Age _____

Age _____

Age _____

Age _____

Age _____

Age _____

Age _____

Age _____

Age _____

_____ Age _____

_____ Age _____

_____ Age _____

_____ Age _____

_____ Age _____

_____ Age _____

_____ Age _____

_____ Age _____

_____ Age _____

Thank you for listening to what we have to say. Do the right thing.


Miss Regena Narayan


Mme Adina Priel


Miss Diane Mallari


Miss Mimi Young

The Children and Teachers of Noah's Ark School

Richmond, BC