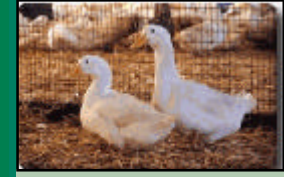


Farming on the Edge



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

A warm welcome to all participants to this the second Langley Agricultural Advisory Committee farm tour.

This year's theme 'farming on the edge' could not be more fitting for any other township but Langley with our massive urbanization underway. As members of the farming community we struggle to maintain a presence along with the necessary infrastructure to prosper. LAAC hopes that you will have a better appreciation as a result of today's tour and the complexities involved.

Arne Mykle
Chair - Langley Agricultural Advisory Committee

Committee Members: Brian Anderson, Tom Astbury, Tim Ballard, John Blair, David Davis, Arthur de Jong, Georgia Fontaine, Trudy Handel, Charles Iberg, Peter Jolliffe, Julian Kenney
Arne Mykle (Chair), Brad Reid, Danielle Reid,
Council Member: Steve Ferguson

Tour Program

11:00 am 12:00 pm Registration and light snack
12:00 pm 12:45 pm Tour of Pioneer Holsteins Farm
12:45 pm 1:45 pm Board bus and travel to next destination - on bus narration
1:45 pm 2:15 pm Blair Farm
2:15 pm 3:15 pm Tour of Britco Pork
3:15 pm 4:15 pm Aldergrove Edge Driving Tour
4:15 pm 4:45 pm Aldergrove Edge Stop
(26'B' Ave & 272 'B' St)
5:15 pm 6:00 pm Carriage House Blueberries
(wagon tour)
6:00 pm 8:00 pm Dinner

Farm Stats

- Approximately three-quarters of the Township of Langley (23,784 ha or 58,769 ac.) is in the Agricultural Land Reserve
- Langley has 49.6% of all farms in GVRD, 7% of all farms in BC and more farms than any other municipality in BC.
- \$203.4M total gross farm receipts, representing 29.1% of GVRD total or 8.8% of BC total (ranks second at municipal level).
- Ranks second in BC in total weeks of paid farm labour (50,648 weeks of year round labour & 24,373 weeks of seasonal/temporary labour).
- 14,187 ha (35,056 ac.) of total farm area.
- The majority of farms in Langley are between 0-9 areas (46%) and 10-69 acres (46%)
- 54.30 KM of rural-urban edge



1 Pioneer Holsteins

Pioneer Holsteins is a family run dairy operation on the edge of Fort Langley.

The family has owned the farm since May 1990. They operate on about 120 acres, some of which is owned, and some leased. They have a dairy herd consisting of about 50-55 head of Holstein cows. In summertime the cows, both dry cows and milking cows, are on pasture. In the winter, the cows are contained in the barns. About 30-40 acres are used to pasture the cows in the summertime. The remaining fields are used to grow crops for winter feeding (when the cows are in the barn)



3 Britco Pork

The North American pork industry is dominated by massive packing plants capable of processing huge numbers of hogs each day. However, large scale production systems designed for speed and low-cost production are less able to customize pork products for specific customer requirements.

Britco Pork is a unique pork packing plant. It provides specialty pork products built to specific customer requirements and it is the only federally inspected HACCP (Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point) approved fresh pork plant in southwest British Columbia. The plant employs 200 people and processes 1450 hogs per day. Please visit their website at www.britcopork.com.



5 Carriage House Blueberries

The property was purchased by the Palmers 18 years ago. A large part of the Property was overgrown by brush and the buildings were in a state of disrepair. The main house was built by George Sellars circa 1911. In 1993 approximately 8 acres were planted with 1613A, also known as Hardyblue. Due to various problems, half of the field was replanted in 1995. Two acres of Duke were added in 1997.



At the present time the Palmers have a total of 19.4 acres. Approximately 2.5 acres are restricted by right of way (BC Hydro and Township of Langley). A restrictive covenant is in place protecting all trees over one foot in diameter. This restricts the use of the most viable portion of the property (approximately 5 acres). There is approximately 1500 feet of river frontage and 1000 feet abutting residential subdivision. Roughly 8 acres is below flood-plain.

2 Blair Farm

The farm was originally purchased by the Blair family in 1881. It was used for dairying for 78 years from 1921-1999. In 1999 the cows were moved to Alberta. Currently the farm is used as a dairy heifer raising facility. Hay and silage crops are grown on 105 acres of irrigated land.



The farm has various forms of urban development adjacent to it. Stretching for half a mile along the south side of the farm are residential houses and a school. Along the west side lie the airport and 216th Street, resulting in automobile and air traffic adjacent to the farm. There is also vehicular and pedestrian traffic to and from Langley Secondary School (northwest of the farm). Fraser Valley Auctions (along the north side) also generates traffic past (and sometimes into) the Blair Farm.

4 Aldergrove Edge

Aldergrove is located along the eastern border of Langley adjacent to Abbotsford and close to the US border. There are a variety of agricultural operations in rural Aldergrove, including dairy, beef, forage crops, nurseries, poultry and mushrooms.



The population of Aldergrove has increased by about 20% since 1991 (from 9,095 to 11,190). The rural-urban edge in Aldergrove stretches for approximately 9.17 km.

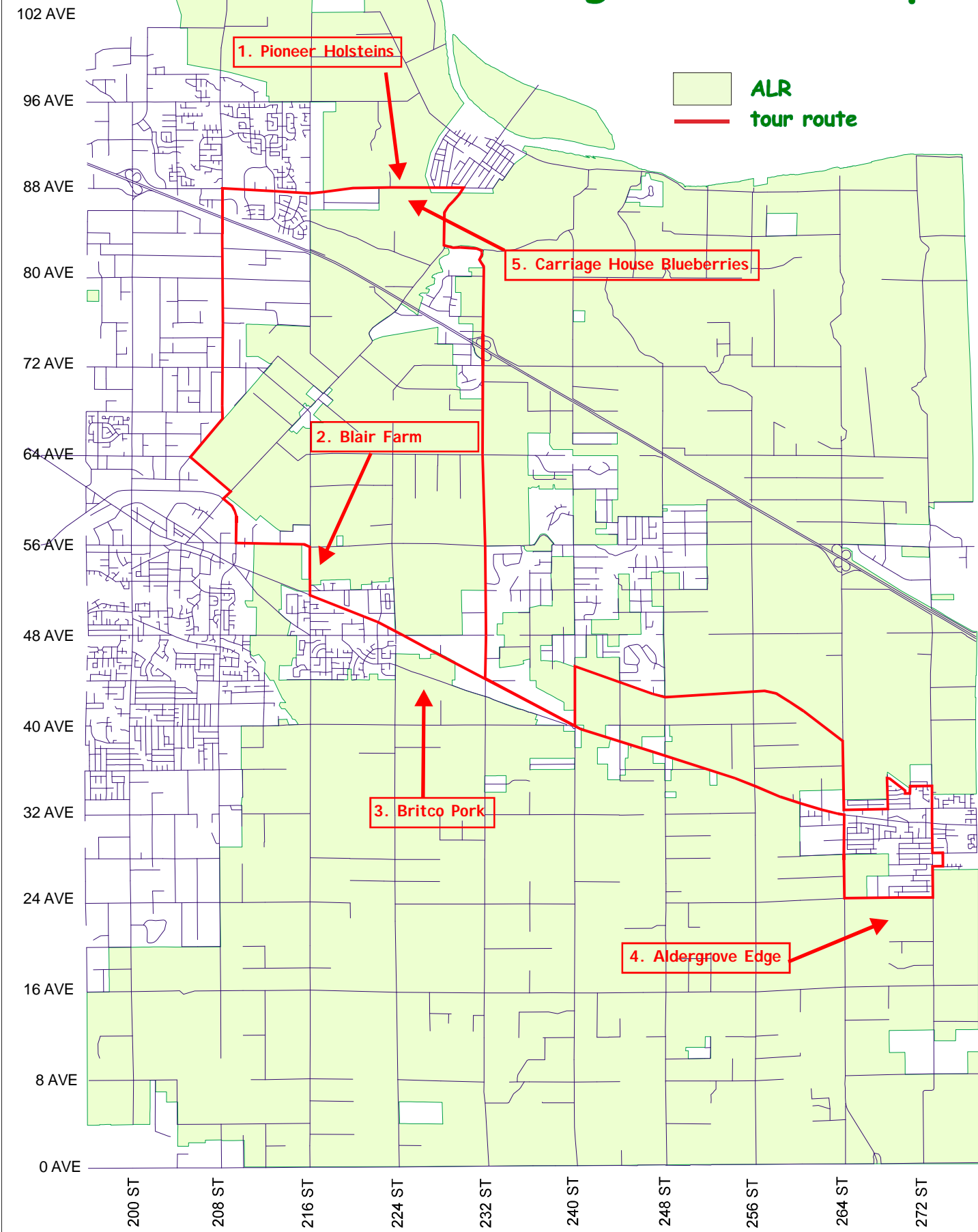
Population	11,190
Number of households	3,765
Average household income	\$55,912
Total labour force (age 15+)	5,875
Total # housing units (single family)	2,884
Total # housing units (multi-family)	1,026
Commercial floorspace (ft ²)	754,467
Industrial floorspace (ft ²)	860,189

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Agricultural Stops



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Township of
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Farming on the Edge

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