

## Goal 5

# Enhance Rural Integrity

## Indicator #13—Number of parcels with Farm Class

### Why is this indicator important?

This indicator measures the number of parcels actually being used for commercial farming within the region. Sustaining local agriculture ensures the region has a long term reliable food source and is less dependent on imported products. The number of properties with farm status is an indication of the economic viability for farmers to use their land for agricultural production.

### What does this indicator tell us?

This indicator tells us the number of parcels of land designated as Farm Class under the *Assessment Act* in the region. This provides an indication of how much land is being used to produce food.

### Where do we want to go?

The RGS goal is to improve local food security. This includes ensuring more food is grown locally. Growing more food locally makes the region less dependent on imported sources of food. This allows the region to be more resilient at times when weather or other unexpected events keep outside sources of food from being delivered to the Regional District of Nanaimo.

**Target:** Increase the number of parcels with Farm Class

### What is included in this indicator?

This indicator uses BC Assessment information for properties that are classed as farm land. Properties that are classed as farm land have been determined to be practicing commercial agriculture by BC Assessment.

### Where are we right now?

In 2017, the region had a total of 715 properties with Farm Class under the *Assessment Act*. The majority of properties (628) are within the RDN Electoral Areas. Properties with Farm Class are also within the City of Nanaimo (45), Town of Qualicum Beach (28), City of Parksville (2) and District of Lantzville (12).



## Goal 5

# Enhance Food Security

**Target:** Increase the number of parcels with Farm Class



**715 properties have Farm Class within the Regional District of Nanaimo (2017)**

### City of Nanaimo

45 properties with Farm Class

### City of Parksville\*

2 properties with Farm Class

### Town of Qualicum Beach

28 properties with Farm Class

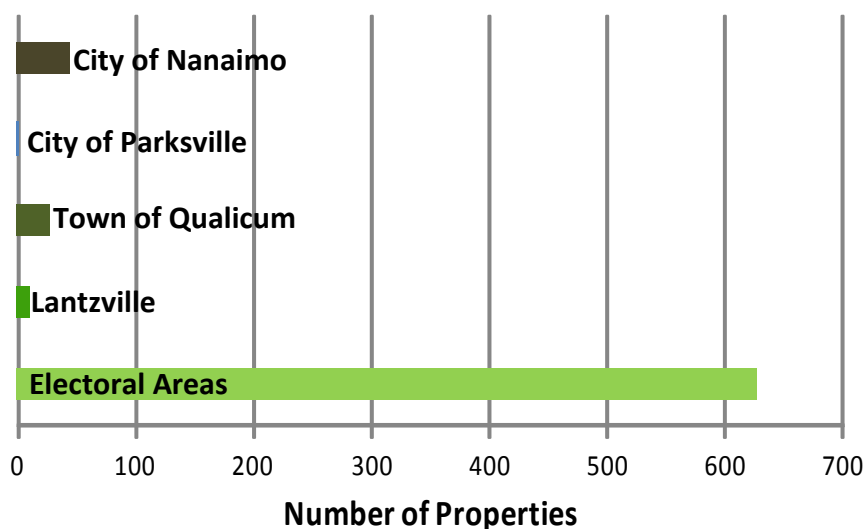
### District of Lantzville

12 properties with Farm Class

### RDN Electoral Areas

628 properties with Farm Class

**Number of Properties with Farm Class, 2017**



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