

## **I. Complimentary**

### **1. Appreciation**

Carried

Be It Resolved that the growers of this industry extend their appreciation through the Executive to all members of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada; BC Ministry of Agriculture; Canadian Horticultural Council; Canadian Federation of Agriculture; BC Agriculture Council; AgSafeBC; BC Orchard Industry Museum; Okanagan College; University of British Columbia - Okanagan; Summerland Research and Development Centre; Pest Management Regulatory Agency; BC Investment Agriculture Foundation; Okanagan-Kootenay Sterile Insect Release Program; BC Tree Fruits Cooperative; and members of the news media and all others who in any measure have assisted the industry during the past year.

### **2. Municipal Support for Tree Fruit Industry Priorities**

Carried

Be It Resolved that the BCFGa recognize and send appreciation to the regional districts and municipalities of the Okanagan for continued support of environmental programs for the tree fruit industry, including

- The Okanagan-Kootenay Sterile Insect Release Program
- The Starling Control Program and
- Wood waste disposal (stump grinding) programs.

## **II. Financial Programs**

### **3. Transfer AgriStability Budget Savings to Other Programs**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that the federal-provincial Agriculture Policy Framework create an AgriStability and Industry Development fund to receive the annual allocation of budgeted AgriStability at current levels of commitment, and

Further Be It Resolved that the AgriStability Fund be designed to first fulfil AgriStability needs and that any surplus funding be directed to industry programs to protect against future downturns and production risks.

### **4. Increase AgriStability Margin Protection**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that the AgriStability margin coverage levels be reset to trigger at a 15% margin decline.

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**Resolutions**

**5. Columbia River Treaty**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that the province determine the value of securing new US water interests in the CRT, and

Further Be It Resolved that affected BC commodities be compensated appropriately.

**6. Restore AgriInvest to the Previous Level**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that the federal government restore its contribution to AgriInvest from 1% to the previous level of 2% of Eligible Net Sales.

### **III. Trade, Taxes and Regulations**

**7. Avoiding Unreasonable, Unscientific Food Safety Requirements by Canadian Retailers**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that CHC urgently request that the federal Department of Justice and AAFC seek to have Canadian retailers recognize the CanadaGAP program (or a recognized equivalent) as the sole food safety program that is required in Canada, and

Further Be It Resolved that the CHC advocate for legislation to implement a broad-based retailer code of practice to avoid further abuse of the dominant market position of highly concentrated retailers.

**8. Keeping CanadaGAP Practical**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that the CHC advocate for common sense, practical food safety programs under CanadaGAP, and

Further Be It Resolved that the CHC request CanAgPlus to establish an independent, science-based review mechanism to help resolve disputes on the scientific validity and the practicality of food safety rules.

**9. On-Farm Tourist Accommodation - Benefits and Impacts**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that the BC Agriculture Council discuss tourist on-farm accommodation rules with local government and provide input to municipalities that are reviewing their agriculture plans.

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**Resolutions**

**10. Consistency of Agritourism opportunities for wineries and other agricultural operations**

Amended and Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that the provincial government institute one set of rules for AgriTourism that does not discriminate against any sector, and

Further Be It Resolved that the agritourism application be made directly to the Agricultural Land Commission.

**11. Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) Regulatory consistency between municipalities**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that the ALC establish regional regulations for areas like the Okanagan.

**12. Homesite Severance**

Not carried.

**13. Support for the ALR**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that the BCFGAs continue to support the principles of the ALR.

**14. CRA Farm Equipment Depreciation Rates**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that the CFA lobby for flexible CRA agricultural machinery depreciation options.

**IV. Crop Protection**

**15. IPM Funding**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that federal and provincial governments increase funding to enhance Integrated Pest Management for tree fruits.

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**Resolutions**

**16. Expand the Role of SIR**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that the BCFGGA urgently investigate expanding the legal mandate of SIR to monitor and have bylaws on pests other than Codling Moth - such as Apple Maggot, Spotted Wing Drosophila, Apple Clearwing Moth, and Brown Marmorated Stink Bug.

**17. Invasive Pest Funding**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that the federal and provincial governments properly fund the monitoring and control of invasive pests.

**18. Okanagan Kootenay Sterile Insect Release Program - Extra Spray Costs**

Not carried

**19. Okanagan Kootenay Sterile Insect Release Program - efficiency and communication**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that the SIR management continue to seek program efficiencies to keep cost to growers as low as possible, and

Further Be It Resolved that the OKSIR program continue to demonstrate how the funding is spent, and quantify the benefits for growers.

**20. Deer Cull**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that municipalities institute a deer cull and other practices (such as a new limited entry hunting program) to manage the problem urban deer population.

**21. Accessing the Grower Requested Own Use Program**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that the BCFGGA consult with members to identify priority products to request adding to the GROU list, such as Spinosad (Success) which was approved about 2001.

## **V. Water and Environment**

### **22. Research on the Impact of Climate Change**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that the province fund research to determine how climate change will affect horticulture, and how horticulture production may adapt to take advantage of climate change.

### **23. Climate Change - Fund Weather Stations**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that the province increase funding for weather stations by providing increased funding to the Environmental Farm Plan Program.

### **24. Environmental Farm Plan Program - Increase Funding**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that BCAC lobby for more funding for EFP Beneficial Management Practices and a higher percentage of project costs to be funded.

### **25. Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) Program - Funding for Irrigation Improvements**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that the provincial government restore funding in the EFP program for irrigation improvements to use water more efficiently on orchards and vineyards.

### **26. Water for Irrigation**

Carried

Be It Resolved that the BCFGAs increase its efforts to ensure access to irrigation water for tree fruit producers, and to ensure that water is provided at affordable and competitive rates.

### **27. Water Turn-On and Turn-Off Dates**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that the province of BC mandate that irrigation districts have horticultural advisory boards to determine agricultural irrigation turn-on and turn-off dates.

## **VI. Industry Development**

### **28. Cherry Breeder Scientist Position at Summerland Research and Development Centre**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that new apple and cherry breeders be hired by AAFC.

### **29. Weed Scientist Position at Summerland Research and Development Centre**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that a Weed Scientist position at Summerland Research and Development Centre be re-established.

### **30. Programs to Support the Introduction of New Varieties and the Success of Replanted Acreage**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that the provincial government provide funding to support new varieties through market planning, horticultural research and storage research.

## **VII. Governance**

### **31. BC Agriculture Council Farmer Identity Card**

Carried

Therefore Be It Resolved that the cost of BC Agriculture Council's "Farmer Identity Card" be reduced and that multiple cards be issued to farmers for family member's use at a reasonable cost.

## **Late Resolutions**

### **Late Resolutions #1. To merge the BCFGAs Executive and SVC Board of Directors.**

Not raised to the floor.

### **Late Resolution #2. To limit the length of the SVC's sub-lease of the test orchard**

Not raised to the floor.

**BCFGA Annual Convention, February 2-3, 2017**  
**Resolutions**

**Late Resolution #3. Wildlife management in South Okanagan Grasslands Park**

Raised to floor. Carried.

Therefore be it resolved the BCFGAs ask the Provincial Government and/or Parks Canada to consider/address wildlife and farm conflicts during their negotiations.

**Late Resolution #4. Changing international trade environment**

Raised to floor. Carried.

Therefore the BCFGAs work with the appropriate levels of government to ensure tree fruit industry's interests are not negatively affected by changes in trade policies. Further be it resolved the BCFGAs work with governments to protect the tree fruit industry from unfair trade policies.