

# BCFGA



# Bulletin

1473 Water Street  
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December 22, 2011

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## Happy Holidays

*A note from the BCFGAs President*

The BCFGAs has had an active year. Our efforts in cooperating with the Minister of Agriculture have resulted in his acceptance and release of the Tree Fruit Industry Working Group report (see pages 4 – 7). The BCFGAs has met with the Minister on December 12 to discuss next steps.

The Working Group Report establishes “priorities for investment, including the expectation of financial support from government”. Based on the reports of the Working Group, the BCFGAs submitted the top three priorities as follows:

1. Growers – Replant program.
2. Packers – Infrastructure renewal program.
3. Marketing – Tree Fruit Industry Development Fund.

The Okanagan Tree Fruit Cooperative (OTFC) also met with the Minister, and the BCFGAs supported the request for infrastructure funding made by the cooperative. We also agree with the provincial government direction to bring federal support to the table.

Another major BCFGAs initiative this year includes a proposal on an Apple Research and Promotion Agency (ARPA). The purpose of ARPA is to be the funding agent for industry projects – ARPA will not conduct the projects itself. The benefits of ARPA are:

- Greater fairness, as all commercial apple producers will contribute to marketing and research efforts that benefit the entire industry.
- Greater accountability and coordination of effort, as research priorities will be established through an industry-wide planning process.
- Flexibility to direct marketing funds mainly to the areas where they are gathered (e.g. a separate organic fund will be established).

The idea is that there will be no increase in cost to growers, but this will require that existing agencies cooperate – we will be meeting with those organizations in the New Year to review the proposal. The research and marketing projects will need to fit with the strategies established in consultation with the whole industry. Other reasons for growers to approve the new agency include:

- Ability for industry to *access the Scientific Research and Experimental Development tax credit*, which is not available to the OTFC due to its large size;
- Ability to move towards a national levy in future, which will also *allow for collection of the levy on apple imports*, which doubles the funding available for research and promotion; and
- The *option to explore a national apple marketing agency, or regulated marketing*, based on the future ability to collect a levy and to register growers on a national basis.

*Continued*

The provincial Apple Research and Promotion Agency (ARPA) will be a small organization whose function will be to get research and development funds provided by growers into the hands of those individuals and organizations that are best able to fulfill industry strategic priorities in research and development. A small board will:

- Organize priority-setting sessions
- Oversee the administrator (the BCFGA)
- Adjudicate applications for research and promotion activities.

While keeping the cost of ARPA to a minimum, the task of coordinating industry research and development activity using strategic priorities will be beneficial to the industry in moving forward as a coordinated rather than a splintered approach to research and marketing.

The proposal for ARPA is included as a separate attachment. The Executive is looking for your comments and input, as well as consulting with industry organizations. Our plan is to finalize the document on January 17 and forward it to the Minister for his approval to process with a vote on the finalized proposal.

The vote on ARPA will be held similar to that of the New Variety Development Council (it is formed under the same provincial regulation). We are planning to have opportunities for 'in-person' voting at the BCFGA Annual Convention and at the Horticultural Symposium, as well as by mail – provided the Minister approves of the process.

Preparations are underway for the January 26-27, 2012 BCFGA Annual Convention at the Coast Capri Hotel in Kelowna. The meeting notice is on the last page of this newsletter.

In preparation for the Convention, the following items will be of interest

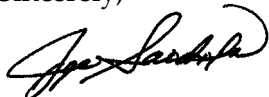
- The provincial Minister indicated he will be at the Convention to address members on Friday at 9:30 am, but will need to confirm this with the legislature schedule.
- We are working towards having the new Budding and Grafting Program announced and applications forms available at the Convention (see article later in this newsletter).

The Convention Portfolio will be mailed in early January. It is a major effort, but I think the accountability it provides to members, as well as the information that is needed for good debate at the Convention, is essential.

Delegates to the Convention have been provided an updated Constitution to consider at the Convention. The late Allan Claridge often called the BCFGA "the growers' parliament", which rings true for all growers. We have included these words in our Constitution and they may be one of the most fitting tributes to a long-serving and dedicated BCFGA member.

On a closing note, I have indicated my intent to step down after the January 26-27, 2012 Convention. However, I wish to assure you that, while I will be taking more time to be with my family and to farm, I will continue to be involved. I have enjoyed the support I have received and encourage all members to support the new President and Executive. The BCFGA is as strong as its members, and as strong as its member's desire to take a unified direction.

Sincerely,



President

# APPLE GROWERS!!!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO MAKE MORE MONEY??

WOULD YOU LIKE **FREE** ADVICE and a **FREE** DEMONSTRATION on how to PRUNE YOUR TREES MORE EFFECTIVELY so your FRUIT is BIGGER and BETTER QUALITY??

BIGGER and BETTER QUALITY FRUIT will INCREASE GROWER RETURNS and is a RESULT of CROP LOAD REDUCTION

APPLES in the 80, 88 and 100 size range PAY THE MOST

Okanagan Plant Improvement Corporation (PICO) is offering **FREE** EXPERT ADVICE and **FREE** ONSITE PRUNING DEMONSTRATIONS designed to REDUCE CROP LOAD, INCREASE FRUIT QUALITY and SIZE and INCREASE GROWER RETURNS

We have MENTORS (local growers) available to help.



Okanagan Plant Improvement Corporation (PICO) would like to HELP you.  
All you need to do is **ASK**

Phone **Alice** at PICO at 250-494-5157 to set-up a **FREE** appointment

## Tree Fruit Industry Working Group – Final Report

The Minister released the Phase 2 report of the Tree Fruit Industry Working Group. It is at the following website: <http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/treefruit/product/production.htm>, under the Industry Development heading. The following information is from the Executive Summary of the Report.

### Priorities and Financial Support of Government

In order, the industry priorities for investment, including the expectation of financial support from government are:

1. Completion of the consolidation and subsequent recapitalization of the [co-operative] packinghouses.
2. Improving fruit quality and packinghouse yields by replanting up to thirty percent of orchards over the next five years.
3. Government to consider purchasing the surplus properties from OTFC.
4. Many other program initiatives as outlined in the report ranging from: providing market support; providing new funding for a renewed Tree Fruit Industry Development Fund; through to some regulatory suggestions such as exploring the potential for new revenues to support agriculture that may arise from the on-going Columbia River Treaty renewal process.

### Key findings/recommendations

#### Issue 1: Urgent need to modernize packing plant and cold storage infrastructure in order to reduce overall costs and increase returns to growers.

Recommendation 1: (a) OTFC and BCFGF should assess whether it is beneficial to make an application to the Agri-Innovation fund at IAF to help finalize their ongoing infrastructure investment business case analysis.

(b) Furthermore, the Minister of Agriculture may wish to assign expert staff to work closely with the sector to provide input and analysis capacity to support their ongoing business case analysis, if requested by the industry.

(c) The OTFC should complete its business case analysis of the various infrastructure improvement scenarios.

(d) Once the business case assessment is complete and the OTFC have solicited feedback from their bank, they should inform the Minister of Agriculture about which scenario they are pursuing and indicate whether they can finance the proposal on a commercial basis.

(e) If the Minister of Agriculture has clear direction that he wishes to provide on this matter, he should meet as early as possible with the producers (who are the owners of the coops) about whether this is something that government is able to consider. However, it seems advisable to have results of points (c) and (d) in hand before final decisions are taken.

(f) The Minister of Agriculture could consider approaching his federal counterpart to explore the possibility of leveraging further funding under the existing Agri-flex Agri-processing initiative. Notwithstanding that the program is fully subscribed, perhaps there is latitude for discussion if the tree fruit sector raises significant capital and the Ministry of Agriculture is making further strategic investments to strengthen the industry.

#### Issue 2: The industry needs to dispose of all surplus properties, at fair market value, as quickly as possible in order to eliminate the high carrying costs of these assets and thereby provide higher returns to growers as quickly as possible.

Recommendation 2: (a) The province should make an early decision on whether it is willing to consider purchasing the surplus packinghouse properties. Such a decision would have to be informed by an assessment of whether there is any strategic advantage to the province by doing this. The value of the four surplus properties that have been identified in Naramata, Summerland, Kelowna and Oyama is estimated at \$30 million.

(b) The province should communicate its decision as quickly as possible to the industry.

(c) It is further recommended that the OTFC continue to aggressively market the surplus properties with the aim of securing a private buyer as quickly as possible.

## **Tree Fruit Industry Working Group – Final Report (continued)**

### Issue 3: Up to 1/3 of current orchard stock needs to be replaced with superior varieties.

Recommendation 3: (a) The province should consider whether it has the fiscal capacity to support an orchard renewal program.

(b) If the province is able to secure and direct some funding for this, they should explore the potential for jointly developing the program under Agri-flex with the Federal Government.

(c) If a replant program were supported, the parties would need to work closely to establish program parameters that ensure maximum benefit to the industry as a whole. This would entail packinghouses, BCFGAs and government officials coming to some agreement on program conditions and administration before any funding is allocated.

### Issue 4: The Tree Fruit Industry Development Fund (TFIDF) has been fully allocated and there is no funding available for its continuance.

Recommendation 4: (a) The province should consider the value of providing funding to renew the TFIDF program.

(b) If a new TFIDF is considered, the province should also explore the possibility of funding it in partnership with the federal government under Agri-flex.

(c) If a renewed program is established, the BCFGAs should review the findings of previous program evaluations and ensure that priorities and allocations both draw upon that experience and are also well aligned with the current priorities and the strategic plan for the sector.

### Issue 5: Promoting the health benefits of fresh fruit in order to increase demand and boost consumer and market interest in BC fruit.

Recommendation 5: (a) Noting the approach taken by the province with respect to its “Wood First” policy, government should assess whether it is possible to develop a proposal for promoting the health benefits and value of eating fresh, nutritious, high quality BC agricultural products. The Ministry of Agriculture may wish to collaborate with the Ministry of Health to represent government interests.

(b) If it is considered as possible or advisable, a BC agricultural product policy should be fashioned after and draw upon the experience of developing the wood first policy. All policy work should be undertaken in close collaboration with the industry.

(c) If work is undertaken on this, it is noted that all policy considerations would need to be trade compliant and not introduce risk of trade actions by any of our trading partners.

(d) The Ministry of Agriculture should work with the BC Fruit Growers’ Association to explore the merits of an annual industry celebration at the legislature fashioned along the lines of BC Beef Day at the legislature.

(e) Consideration could also be given to declaring a BC Fresh Fruit day, week or month with modest amounts of funding made available to support local celebrations.

### Issue 6: Supporting the BC fruit industry to maximize opportunities associated with export markets.

Recommendation 6: (a) The province should work closely with the tree fruit industry to ensure that export market initiatives provide maximum value to the BC tree fruit industry. This would require close collaboration between the BCFGAs as well as both independent and coop packinghouses.

(b) The Ministry of Agriculture should consider forming a small working group with the industry to develop a strategy for ensuring that the BC tree fruit industry is considered and involved in trade and marketing opportunities that might arise from any provincial initiatives associated with export markets.

(c) Internally, the Ministry of Agriculture should work closely with the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation to ensure the tree fruit industry interests are recognized and advocated, along with other provincial agricultural interests.

## Tree Fruit Industry Working Group – Final Report (continued)

Issue 7: Small lot producers generally have smaller or negative margins as compared to larger producers.

Recommendation 7: (a) The BCFGAs and the Packinghouses should collaborate and review whether their combined extension services to small lot producers could be improved to address economy of scale challenges.

(b) Consideration should be given to producing a set of best management practices to assist small lot producers to manage the cost challenges associated with small-scale production.

### Issues and Recommendations Associated with Regulatory Interests and Priorities

Issue 8: Need to ensure that the provincial initiative to modernize the Water Act and develop a new Water Sustainability Act properly considers the needs of agriculture

Recommendation 8: (a) The Ministry of Agriculture should maintain close liaison with the agriculture sector in BC, including the BC Tree Fruit Industry to ensure the needs of agriculture are properly reflected in ongoing policy and legislation review initiatives.

(b) The Ministry of Agriculture must work closely with the BC Ministry of Environment, Water Stewardship Division as they complete their policy work to ensure the needs and interests of BC Agriculture are understood and reflected in the policy framework.

(c) The Ministry of Agriculture should continue its comprehensive analysis and modeling work in the Okanagan basin to ensure that the needs and interests of the BC Tree Fruit Industry, as well as other Okanagan agricultural producers are properly understood, represented to the public, and reflected in local and provincial policy initiatives.

Issue 9: The carbon tax adds a cost burden to an already marginal sector thereby making it difficult to be competitive with out of province producers and return to profitability

Recommendation 9: If the province reviews the application of the carbon tax either broadly or specifically to agriculture, the interests of the BC Tree Fruit Sector should be fully considered at that time.

Issue 10: Regulatory burden is an ongoing industry concern and strong emphasis has been placed on the need for a timely product evaluation and registration process for products under the purview of the Canadian Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA).

Recommendation 10: The Minister of Agriculture should work with the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Ministers of Agriculture to raise the importance of minimizing regulatory burden and in particular to continue to emphasize the importance of an efficient and effective PMRA product review and registration process. Both provincial and federal regulatory processes should be considered in this discussion.

Issue 11: The Province of British Columbia initiated its own Columbia River Treaty 2014 Review process to study the Treaty's possible continuation, renegotiation or termination. It was suggested in the Phase 1 report that this review may provide an opportunity to develop a new provincial revenue stream that could be used to provide support to BC agriculture.

Recommendation 11: (a) The Ministry of Agriculture should work closely with the Ministry of Energy and Mines in order to make an early determination of whether the CRT review process has the potential to ultimately benefit agriculture (as outlined in Appendix 5 of the Phase 1 discussion paper).

(b) Following point (a), if there is a reasonable chance that agriculture might benefit then the Minister of Agriculture should ensure that the interests of BC agriculture are appropriately considered and reflected in the CRT review process. This would require close liaison with the lead provincial agency, the Ministry of Energy and Mines.

(c) This may also entail the Ministry of Agriculture setting up a working group with the tree fruit and vegetable industries if that appears justifiable.

## Tree Fruit Industry Working Group – Final Report (continued)

Issue 12: The national Apple Working Group and the BCFGA are proposing to establish a national apple research and promotion agency. This agency would be funded by a levy on apple production. This is deemed an important step to help unify the industry nationally as it strives to manage its interests and maintain competitiveness.

Recommendation 12: The Minister of Agriculture should ask Ministry staff to work with the BCFGA to develop and bring recommendations to him on the policy implications of the proposal and next steps to be taken, complete with timelines.

### Contributors

*Appreciation for your efforts*

The following people contributed their time and effort to the Task Force:

- Jim Elliott, President, Okanagan Tree Fruit Cooperative
- Steve Day, Vice President, Okanagan Tree Fruit Cooperative
- Fred Steele, Vice President, BC Fruit Growers' Association
- Amarjit Lalli, Executive Member, BC Fruit Growers' Association
- Robert Fine, Director, Economic Development Commission, Central Okanagan Regional District (Keith Duhaime, attended as an alternate)
- Grant Thompson, Director, Ministry of Agriculture
- Fiona Cubitt, Senior Manager, Sector Analysis, Ministry of Agriculture
- Rick Machial, Independent Grower, Fairview Orchards
- Dan Taylor, Independent Grower, Cawston Cold Storage (unable to participate)
- Larry Pedersen, Chair/Facilitator

## **AgriStability – Interim Payment application deadline** *A notice from the Ag. Risk Management Branch*

Farm operations experiencing income declines can apply for an Interim payment for the 2011 crop year. According to the program a participant can receive up to 50 percent of his or her final AgriStability benefit. The deadline to apply for an interim payment is March 31, 2012.

Here are some important details.

- To apply for an Interim Payment, you must have enrolled in AgriStability for the 2011 program year. You must have received an Enrollment Notice for the 2011 program year and as well you must have paid the enrollment fee by the deadline date.
- The Interim Payment is an advance on your final 2011 AgriStability benefit.
- If you receive an Interim Payment, you must submit a final 2011 application prior to December 31, 2012 so your final AgriStability benefit can be determined. If you do not submit the final 2011 application, you will be in an overpayment situation and you will be required to repay any benefits received through the 2011 Interim Payment program.

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## **Seasonal Agriculture Worker Program**

For growers who demonstrate a shortage of workers (e.g. a lack of response to job ads), temporary foreign workers from Mexico and the Caribbean are available. A self-help information kit is available to BCFGAs members, as well as a service (\$45 per worker) for those growers who want additional help in filling out forms and follow-up with the government agencies. In 2011, we helped 21 growers with 29 agreements and 126 workers. Contact Elaine Miedema at 250-762-5226 extension 21 for further information.

An alternate to the Mexican program, the Jamaican Liaison Service provides orientation and ongoing support service for both employee and employer when the worker arrives in Kelowna. Jamaican workers also speak English as a first language, making communications easier for growers. The Jamaican Liaison Service has also negotiated a discount on airfares with Westjet. For further information, contact

Donna Adams, Deputy Chief Liaison Officer Cell (250) 869 – 6288

Email : [donna.adams@jamaicanliaisonservice.com](mailto:donna.adams@jamaicanliaisonservice.com)

## **BC Horticulture Symposium**

The second annual BC Horticultural Symposium is being held March 1 and 2, 2012. The location is the same as last year, Trinity Baptist Church, 1905 Springfield Rd, Kelowna, BC.

PICO is once again reimbursing the registration fee for BCFGAs members who attend the symposium. OTFC members please register through your fieldman. All others may contact the BCFGAs to register.

## Budding and Grafting Program

The Orchard Replant Program 2 was funded by BC Investment Agriculture Foundation (BCIAF) from funds provided by the province. During the course of the Orchard Replant Program, investment earnings on the funds were accumulated. BCIAF has approved the funding of a new program with these earnings. The program is a Budding and Grafting Program, similar to that portion of the previous Replant Program.

We plan to have the application forms and program guidelines for the Budding and Grafting Program available at the January 26-27, 2012 BCFGAs Annual Convention. The forms will also be available from the BCFGAs office after January, 2012. Applications for budding and grafting projects that occur in 2012 or later will be eligible, until program funding is depleted.

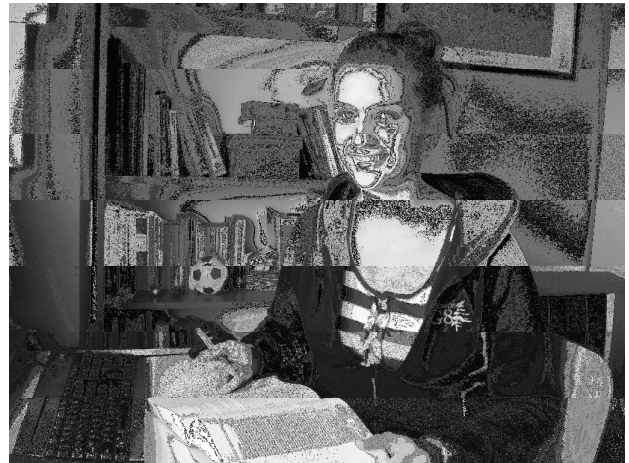
## BCFGAs Golden Jubilee Bursary

Annually, the BCFGAs provides two bursaries. One is the BCFGAs/Rob Hall award provided to a student at Okanagan College. The second is the Golden Jubilee bursary provided to a student of any post-secondary academic institution. It is a requirement that the student be a close relative of a current BCFGAs member.

Pictured at right is Katherine Schmidt, one of three recipients of the Golden Jubilee bursary. She says, *“Thank you so much for the bursary! It is greatly appreciated and will definitely help with tuition fees.*

*I have attached a photo of me studying.*

*Once again, I cannot tell you how thrilled I am to have received part of the bursary!”*



Gordon Vollo, a second year student of the Computer Information Systems program at Okanagan College, received the \$1,000 BCFGAs/Rob Hall bursary. He sent along the following note:

*I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation for being chosen as the recipient of the BCFGAs Rob Hall Award. This award will be of great help in my ongoing pursuit of education, namely a degree in the field of Computer Science. The BCFGAs’s generous donation allows me to concentrate more fully on my studies and worry less about how to pay the rising costs of tuition. As of now, I am unsure what my exact occupation will be after completion of my post-secondary education, but as someone who has grown up in a family that is part of the BCFGAs, I have a great respect for agriculture and may someday put my efforts towards furthering the industry. Thank you again for your generosity in supporting me in the pursuit of my dreams.*

The BCFGAs Golden Jubilee Bursary was awarded to Christopher Needham(\$ 1,000), Katherine Schmidt (\$ 250), and Amy Fehr (\$ 250), studying Water Engineering Technology (Okanagan College), Education (UBC-O), and Ecology (UBC-O), respectively. Congratulations to the students selected for these bursaries.

## Funding for On Farm Projects Available

Producers who complete an Environmental Farm Plan will:

- identify the farm's environmental strengths,
- list priorities and action items for further improving the farm's commitment to the environment, and
- be eligible to apply for funding for the environmental action items on the farm.

Getting advisor help to complete the Farm Plan is free of charge and confidential. The planning advisors for the tree fruit growing area are:

<b>EFP Advisor</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Telephone</b>	<b>Operating out of</b>
Clay Campbell	<a href="mailto:crested@telus.net">crested@telus.net</a>	250-499-2412	Keremeos
Dave Zehnder	<a href="mailto:dzehnder@telus.net">dzehnder@telus.net</a>	250-342-0325	Invermere
Duane Holder	<a href="mailto:dholder@telus.net">dholder@telus.net</a>	250-428-1742	Creston
Erika Davidson	<a href="mailto:iraka_12@hotmail.com">iraka_12@hotmail.com</a>	250-306-2448	Enderby
Joe Lariviere	<a href="mailto:Joe.lariviere@vip.net">Joe.lariviere@vip.net</a>	250-689-0498	Oliver
Pete Spencer	<a href="mailto:pspencer@uniserve.com">pspencer@uniserve.com</a>	250-764-0376	Kelowna

In the North Okanagan contact Pete Spencer at 250-764-0376 or by email at [pspencer@uniserve.com](mailto:pspencer@uniserve.com)

Significant key upgrades to the Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) and Beneficial Management Practices (BMP) Programs will be effective January 01, 2012.

The key improvements are:

- 1) The B.C. Agriculture Research and Development Corporation (ARDCorp) will begin accepting applications for BMP funding on January 1, 2012. This represents a three-month jumpstart on the process, before producers become busy when spring arrives;
- 2) Neighbouring producers can share efforts in submitting an BMP application, provided they share the same BMP category, without having to share the funding maximum for that category (i.e., producers in the application may be able to claim the full funding maximum individually)

Some EFPs were completed about five years ago and will need to be renewed in order to remain eligible for projects. The EFP Program has updated the Work Book and Reference Guide to reflect the existing agri-environmental regulations, including a new chapter on Climate Change.

## Integrated Tree Fruit Production Guide

The 2010 production guide was published two years ago, with updates in 2011 and 2012 (forthcoming). If you do not have your edition of the guide, you may obtain it by:

- Contacting your Okanagan Tree Fruit field service representative, or
- At Growers' Supply and South Valley Sales, or
- By contacting Elaine Miedema at the BCFGAs office (1-800-619-9022, extension 21).

**BCFGA Kelowna Office**  
**Telephone: in Kelowna, call 250-762-5226**  
**Or 1-800-619-9022**

NAME	TITLE	Telephone (Extension)
Glen Lucas	General Manager	23
Elaine Miedema	Member Services Coordinator	21 – part-time, 3 days per week
Sheila MacGregor	Accountant	22
Josée Larocque	Public Relations and Events Coordinator	24 – part time

**Josée Larocque**

*new opportunity*

You may have noticed the BCFGAs newsletter has reverted to an earlier format. This is due to a staff reduction as Josée Larocque, public relations and events coordinator, has taken on a full-time position with the City of Kelowna. Josée resigned from her position at the BCFGAs but is helping us with transition.

**BCFGA Executive 2010**

Executive member	Telephone	Location
Joe Sardinha (President)	494-9983	Summerland
Fred Steele (Vice-Pres.)	861-6641	Kelowna
Madeleine van Roechoudt	864-9147	Lake Country
Amarjit Lalli	491-8661	Kelowna
Sukhdev Goraya	491-2229	Kelowna
Denise MacDonald	494-1347	Summerland
Peter Simonsen	496-5156	Naramata
Nirmal Dhaliwal	498-4119	Oliver

**Membership in the BCFGAs**

The BCFGAs is the growers' parliament. It is the group which represents tree fruit growers to government and the public. What is the benefit? With a strong membership, the BCFGAs has a stronger voice with government in the areas of programs, regulations and taxes. All Okanagan Tree Fruit Cooperative (OTFC) shippers are members of the BCFGAs. This support has strengthened the BCFGAs and collaboration between the BCFGAs and OTFC helps achieve industry goals.

For 'independent' growers not shipping to the Okanagan Tree Fruit Cooperative, membership is voluntary and must be paid by January 20, 2012 in order to retain voting rights at the January 26-27, 2012 BCFGAs Convention.



*Under the Terms of  
the Bylaws of the Association*

Members are Directed to Take Notice of the One  
Hundred and Twenty Third Annual General Meeting  
of the

## ***British Columbia Fruit Growers' Association***

Thursday afternoon and Friday morning,

January 26 & 27, 2012

At the **Coast Capri Hotel, Kelowna, BC**

**Business Session** - Financial statements, budget, industry organization reports, Environment and water, and project updates, will be held 1 -5pm, Thursday, January 26, 2012

(With social from 6 – 8pm at the Laurel Packinghouse), and

**Policy Session** - Labour, Financial Programs, Member Services and election of the Executive, will be held 8am to noon, Friday, January 27, 2012

## ***WATER: Achieving Balance & Sustainability***

### **To Receive:**

- The Annual Report of the Executive
- The Annual Report of the Auditor
- The Annual Reports of the Standing Committees
- The Reports of Special Committees
- The Annual Report of the Okanagan Plant Improvement Corporation

### **To Consider:**

- Adoption of the association's budget
- Resolutions as submitted in accordance with the bylaws
- Any Special Resolutions submitted for amendment of the bylaws

### **And so the Members May Elect:**

- The President and Vice-President of the BC Fruit Growers' Association
- The other Executive of the BC Fruit Growers' Association