

BC Fruit Growers' Association



Friday File January 11, 2016

BCFGA District Council Annual Meetings

Delegates and alternates will attend District Council meetings this Tuesday and Thursday to review the BCFGAs financial results for 2015 and budget for 2016, and prepare for the Annual Convention.

BCFGA Annual Convention January 29-30, 2016

The BCFGAs Annual convention is being held in Kelowna at the Ramada Hotel on January 29-30. The Convention Portfolio was mailed to all BCFGAs members on January 7.

The election process at the election will be unchanged from the prior year. The Executive did discuss electronic voting - after some review, staff have recommended that more analysis and more input from members is needed before there is any change to the election process.

Replant Update

The 2016 Replant Program deadline was November 20. All projects have now been reviewed by the Project Review Committee. The committee members assess projects, providing a [rating on 11 categories](#). The projects will be placed in order, from high score to low score, then the highest scoring projects will be selected for approval, until all funding is allocated. There will be some 'project slippage', where approved projects are smaller than expected. This frees up funding for further projects; however, it is usually August or September, well after planting takes place, before project slippage is known. We will provide growers that applied, but are not on the first approval list with further information on project slippage. Also, further replant updates will be provided in this newsletter.

Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program

2016 SAWP information is available:

[General Information](#)

[Caribbean employment agreement](#)

[Caribbean transfer agreement](#)

[Mexico employment agreement](#)

[Labour Market Impact Assessment](#) (i.e. application to Service Canada for SAWP workers)

SAWP program Housing Inspectors

Hugh Cairns	Kelowna	250-808-5777
Mike Bradshaw	Kelowna	250-870-8340
Keith Suftin	Kelowna (travels no charge 2 hours)	250-317-3349
Brad Pears	Kelowna	250-717-6434
Barry Chickloski	Penticton	250-490-1118
Dwight Carroll	Kelowna	250-470-8467

(You may notice that we are presenting the list so that it 'rotates' who is listed from top to bottom, as this is more a fairer way of letting growers know who is available to do inspections.)

PAC Points – Upcoming events

2016 Growers Supply Annual Horticulture Meeting “Inventing Fresh Ideas together”

Tuesday, February 16th 2016 - Oliver Community Centre, 6359 Park Drive, Oliver BC
Meeting will start at 8:00 with breakfast, followed by morning sessions, Lunch and afternoon workshops for grapes and ground crops. PAC points will be available for several sessions.

BC Horticultural Symposium

February 24th


Trinity Baptist Church, Kelowna

1905 Springfield Rd

Meeting will start at 7:30 with Breakfast, followed by morning sessions, Lunch, afternoon workshops and ending with hors d'oeuvres and prize give away. PAC points will be available for several sessions.

We look forward to seeing you at the 2016 BC Horticulture Symposium. Please register for this meeting by phoning or email your Fieldman.

How to contact the BCFGA Office

 BCFGA Office: 250-762-5226 Toll free 1-800-619-9022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Brenda Zarr, Member Services and Replant Admin, local 1. ● Glen Lucas, General Manager, local 2. ● Sheila MacGregor, Accountant, local 3. ● Bunvir Nijjer, Corporate Secretary and Seasonal Agriculture Worker Program, local 4.
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Dates and Events

Check [the calendar on our website](#) for more information

Date	Event
January 12 and 14, 2016	BCFGA District Council meetings

January 13	BCFGA Executive meeting
January 27	BCAC Agriculture Gala, Abbotsford: for tickets www.bcac.bc.ca - this event usually sells out, so register early.
January 29-30	BCFGA Annual Convention, Ramada Hotel, Kelowna
February 23-25	Canadian Federation of Agriculture Annual Meeting
March 8-10	Canadian Horticultural Council Annual Meeting
April tbd	BC Agriculture Council Annual Meeting

**Newsletter prepared by Glen Lucas - questions or comments?
Please email glucas@bcfga.com**