

# BC Fruit Growers' Association



## Friday File

July 15, 2016

### **BCFGA Food Safety Program**

#### **Summerland Varieties Corporation dividend funds one-year program**

As announced at the BCFGAs Annual Convention, a program to pay for this year's food safety program fees is going ahead. The purpose of the program is to encourage and provide a benefit for growers participating in a food safety certification program, such as CanadaGAP or its equivalent.

The \$450 program payment is expected to be made in September as a credit on BCTF packinghouse statements or by cheque (decision yet to be made). BCFGAs members not shipping to the BCTF will apply directly to the BCFGAs - an application form will be made available to non-co-op members through this newsletter.

A maximum of one payment will be made per BCFGAs member.

### **Tree Fruit Replant Program 2017**

#### **Program intake August 1 - October 31, 2016**

The BCFGAs is working with the Ministry of Agriculture to finalize application forms and update program requirements for the 2017 Tree Fruit Replant Program. The program will be very similar to the present program, with applications scored for horticultural quality and placed in priority order. Check our website or contact a horticultural advisor after August 1 for the application information.

### **Organic Matter Recycling Regulation**

#### **Regulatory update proposed**

The Ministry of Environment will be holding 2 series of information sessions beginning July 19 about the changes to provide you with background so you can comment on the proposed changes. These changes affect commercial composting facilities and also the use of compost, manures and biosolids.

[More details here>](#)

## Proposed Changes to the Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation


Your input encouraged - by Friday July 26

The Ministry of Environment (the ministry) is in the process of revising the Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation (OBSCR). The OBSCR regulates most open burning of vegetative debris in BC. Following extensive consultations, including intentions papers in 2008 and 2010 and engagement with a stakeholder review group through 2011-13, and a switch of the regulatory responsibility from Health to Environment, the Ministry of Environment has updated proposed revisions to the regulation.

An information update describing the [Policy Intentions](#) is now posted on the ministry's [open burning regulatory review website](#) and available for public comment until **July 21, 2016** - that is next Friday!

Here is the [BCFGA response](#) to the proposed OBSCR. If you can support the elements of our response that you think are important, that would help change the regulation for the better. Here is the email address where you can respond to the proposed Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation: [OBSCR@gov.bc.ca](mailto:OBSCR@gov.bc.ca)

### How to contact the BCFGa Office

<p>BCFGA Office - 250-762-5226 Toll free -1-800-619-9022</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Brenda Zarr, Member Services and Replant Admin, local 1.</li><li>• Glen Lucas, General Manager, local 2.</li><li>• Sheila MacGregor, Accountant, local 3.</li><li>• Bunvir Nijjer, Corporate Secretary and Seasonal Agriculture Worker Program, local 4.</li></ul>
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**Dates and Events** - check the [BCFGA Calendar](#) on our website for more information

### Meetings

#### Attended recently and upcoming

July 10	Portugal wins Eurocup	
July 13	Starling Control Committee	
July 14	New Agriculture Policy Framework - Agriculture Associations conference call with Minister Letnick	Fred Steele, Glen Lucas
July 18-20	Federal -Provincial-Territorial Agriculture Ministers Conference	
July 19-21	Western Liberal Caucus - Kelowna	BCFGA to make a presentation
July 26-27	Apple Working Group, Canadian Horticultural Council	Fred Steele
August 11	BCFGA Executive meeting	