

BC Fruit Growers' Association

Friday File

September 23, 2016



BCFGA Regional Annual Meetings

Update, Nominations, Elections, Resolutions

It is time once again for Regional Annual Meetings. Normally scheduled for November, we are holding the meetings in October due to the early crop season.

BCFGA Regional Annual Meetings

South Region

Time: 7:00 - 9:30 pm

Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2016

Place: Penticton Trade and Convention Centre
273 Power St, Penticton

North Region

Time: 7:00 - 9:30 pm

Date: Thursday, October 20, 2016

Place: Coast Capri, Kelowna
1171 Harvey Ave, Kelowna

Agenda

1. BCFGAs Update, Fred Steele, President
2. Replant - How to make a successful application, Carl Withler, Provincial Tree Fruit and Grape Specialist, BC Ministry of Agriculture
3. Environmental Farm Plan - Review of existing and proposed grants for on-farm projects, Glen Lucas, General Manager
4. Election of BCFGAs Regional Executive
5. Election of BCFGAs Delegates for the Region
6. Nominations for BCFGAs Executive
7. Resolutions proposed for the BCFGAs Annual Convention

In Memoriam

With heavy hearts, we note the deaths of two BCFGAs members who participated in the BCFGAs and contributed to the well being of the industry.

Mary Leardo, who farmed with her husband Enio in Summerland, passed away on Saturday, August 20, 2016. Condolences may be made at HansonsFuneral.ca

Manuel Dourado Torres, September 9, 2016, who farmed in Oliver and is a past member of the BCFGAs Executive, passed away peacefully at age 85. Condolences may be made at www.nunes-pottinger.com

Agristability Deadline Reminder

Insuring catastrophic drops in income

Deadline to submit your complete 2015 AgriStability/AgriInvest Harmonized form: September 30th 2016.

Minimum Wage Increases on September 15

A reminder

The minimum wages increases to \$10.85 per hour on September 15. For more information, see our [August 26, 2016 newsletter](#).

Integrity Audits by Service Canada

Random audits of SAWP employers underway

BCFGA recommends keeping the following paperwork up-to-date and available for a possible audit of SAWP by the Service Canada Integrity Branch:

- signed copy of work visa and employment agreement.
- signed copy record of any pay advances. A new requirement is that the regular payroll deductions (CPP, EI, tax) must be made from any advance.
- complete payroll records.
- recording hours for piecework is also a requirement (use timesheets and also total for the pay period on the paystub).
- Receipt for flights.
- Receipt for Cowan Insurance.

Water Well Registration is now required

Register before March 1, 2017 to avoid fees

As of February 29, 2016, the new regulations of the BC Water Sustainability Act state that all non-domestic groundwater wells have to be licensed. If you apply for a licence before March 1, 2017, the BC government will waive the licence application fee. The BCFGa is putting together information on how to register your well. We will be providing a link to a self-help kit. Watch for more information in a future newsletter.

Don't Miss Important Information - It's Your Business!

Friday File issued by email

This issue of the Friday File is being delivered by mail, but most editions are emailed. If you are not receiving the Friday File by email, send a note to request being added to the mailing list - info@bcfga.com

Exhibit about Mexican Farm Workers

Social License - building public confidence and support

An [art exhibition at the Kelowna Art Gallery](#) examines the conditions facing the Mexican temporary agricultural workers who come to the Okanagan to work in the vineyards and orchards and celebrates the workers who come to live in our community for months at a time.

The exhibition is on until the end of October, and Thursdays are free admission (other days, \$5). The Kelowna Art Gallery is located at 1315 Water Street, Kelowna.

Take your workers to enjoy this exhibit during a break in the harvest!

Tree Fruit Replant Program 2017

Applications on-line, deadline is October 31

Time is starting to run out to get Replant Program applications completed. www.bcfga.com for more information.

How to contact the BCFGGA Office

BCFGGA Office - 250-762-5226
Toll free -1-800-619-9022



- Brenda Zarr, Member Services and Replant Admin, local 1.
- Glen Lucas, General Manager, local 2.
- Bunvir Nijjer, Corporate Secretary and Seasonal Agriculture Worker Program, local 4.

Dates and Events- check the [BCFGGA Calendar](#) on our website for more information

Meetings Attended recently and upcoming

Date	Meeting	BCFGA representative
Sept. 28	Fruit and Tree Nut Biosecurity	Glen Lucas
Sept. 28	Regional Agrologists, BC. Min. of Agriculture	Pinder Dhaliwal, Glen Lucas
Sept. 29	Canada-Caribbean SAWP quarterly conference call	Pinder Dhaliwal, Glen Lucas
Sept. 29	Temporary Foreign Worker Ag. Stream	Pinder Dhaliwal, Glen Lucas
Sept. 30	Canada-Mexico SAWP quarterly conference call	Pinder Dhaliwal, Glen Lucas
Oct. 1	Salmon Arm Applefest	Bunvir Nijjer
Oct. 5	BCAC Board meeting	Fred Steele, Glen Lucas
Oct. 6	BCAC Labour Committee	Pinder Dhaliwal, Glen Lucas
Oct. 7	SIR Board	Peter Simonsen, Glen Lucas
Oct. 13	Minor Use Meeting	Peter Simonsen
Oct. 14	BCFGA Executive Meeting	
Oct. 19	BCFGA Annual Regional Meeting - North	
Oct. 20	BCFGA Annual Regional Meeting South	
Nov. 3	National Apple Competition	
Nov. 7-8	Mexico SAWP Annual Meeting	Pinder Dhaliwal, Glen Lucas
Nov. 9-10	Apple Research Priorities	Pinder Dhaliwal, Glen Luca
Nov. 13-16	Caribbean SAWP Annual Meeting	Pinder Dhaliwal, Glen Luca
Nov. 14-15	BC Agriculture and Seafood Conference, Coast Capri, Kelowna	
Nov. 24	Board Training Session, Centre for Organizational Governance in Agriculture, Kelowna	
Dec. 1	BCFGA Executive meeting	
Dec. 3	Deadline for resolutions to be submitted to the BCFGAs	

SVC and Ambrosia Apples Success in Hong Kong!

From the product of a chance seedling to a sought-after consumer favourite, Ambrosia apples had a booth for the very first time this year at Asia Fruit Logistica 2016, thanks to Summerland Varieties Corp (SVC).

"Ambrosia apple has been making in-roads in the Asian market and we felt that this was the time to give a boost to the marketing efforts of our partners by having a booth dedicated to this marvelous apple," said Frank Kappel, General Manager for SVC.

The booth surpassed expectations, with roughly 3,200 apple slices sampled, 800 Ambrosia apple promotional bags distributed and hundreds of contacts made with potential buyers, retailers, partners and journalists.

"We felt the Ambrosia booth was a huge success," said Kappel. "We were extremely busy for all three days of the show, and we're excited for the numerous contacts that we think will be beneficial to the marketing of the apple."

More than 11,000 high-quality buyers and trade visitors from 74 different countries attended Asia Fruit Logistica 2016 on 7-9 September at AsiaWorld-Expo in Hong Kong, SVC's Ambrosia apples booth was one of 665 companies from 37 different countries exhibiting products and services at the trade fair.

Based on the successful showcasing of Ambrosia apples in Hong Kong, SVC plans to increase marketing efforts.

"We are working with our partners to develop future promotion activities, including an Ambrosia booth at the Berlin Logistica trade show in February 2017," said Kappel.

Funding for the Ambrosia apples booth at Asia Fruit Logistica provided by Summerland Varieties Corp. and the Investment Agriculture Foundation of British Columbia.

