

BC FRUIT GROWERS'
ASSOCIATION

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BCFGA Bulletin



December 2010

Happy Holidays



BCFGA 122nd Annual Convention ***"Building Consumer Loyalty"***

The BC Fruit Growers' Association will be holding its 122nd Annual General Meeting, at the Penticton Lakeside Resort Convention Centre and Casino, on January 27-28, 2011.

Convention highlights:

- Our President's address by Joe Sardinha
- A presentation by the Honourable Ben Stewart, Provincial Minister of Agriculture and Lands
- A special speaker at our Luncheon Banquet on Friday
- Heather Carriere, ARDCorp at the Delegates' Lunch on Thursday

The first half day session will be held on Thursday, January 27th, 2011, from 1 to 4 pm. The focus of this session will be business issues such as approval of the minutes, budget and financial statements. Also at the Thursday session will be industry and project updates. Regional meetings will be held from 4 to 5 pm, to allow regions to discuss resolutions that will come before the policy session of the meeting the next morning. The second half day session will be held on Friday, January 28th, 2011, from 8 am to noon. The focus of this session will be policy issues.

Again this year, there will be expanded social events at the Annual General Meeting, with special guests to be announced. A reception will be held from 6 to 8 pm on the Thursday, during which the BCFGAs Awards will be presented, and a lunch banquet will also be held at noon on the Friday, at the conclusion of the meeting. The horticultural press attend the event and many articles in trade publications result from presentations made during this two-day AGM.

The Convention Portfolio, with detailed agenda and reports, will be delivered in the first half of January to all BCFGAs members.



*Under the Terms of
the Bylaws of the Association*

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

British Columbia Fruit Growers' Association January 27 & 28, 2011

At the **Lakeside Resort Convention Centre, Penticton, BC**

Business Session - Financial statements, budget, industry organization reports, Environment and water, and project updates, will be held 1 -5pm, Thursday, January 27th, 2011 (with social from 6 – 8pm), and

Policy Session - Labour, Financial Programs, Member Services and election of the Executive, will be held 8am to noon, Friday, January 28th, 2011 (with luncheon from noon to 1pm)

Building Consumer Loyalty

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
- The Annual Report of the BC Good Agricultural Practices Company

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

BC Fruit Growers' Association office:
1473 Water Street, Kelowna, BC V1Y 1J6
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BCFGA Convention Banquet Luncheon

Register today for the BCFGAs convention luncheon banquet.
Ensure a place and save money by pre-registering for this great event.

BCFGA Banquet Luncheon

Pre-registration \$12.50 per person, GST included (receipts at the door).
Noon, Friday, January 28th, 2011.

For discount, call the *BCFGA office by January 14, 2011.*

To charge to VISA/MasterCard by phone or arrange payment by cheque, please contact Elaine at 1-800-619-9022, local 21, or 762-5226, local 21 if in Kelowna. Leave a message if we are unable to answer.

Pre-registration price for the Banquet Luncheon is \$12.50.
Price at the door, for limited available seats, is \$25.00.

BCFGA Rob Hall Award Recipient

BCFGA is pleased to announce the recipient of this year's BCFGAs Rob Hall Award through the Okanagan College and Okanagan College Foundation. On November 19th, 2010, Mr. Jonathan Gardner, second-year student of the Bachelor of Business Administration at the Okanagan College, proudly received the \$1,000 BCFGAs Rob Hall Award. Again, congratulations from the BCFGAs team.

Buy Local This Holiday Season

Well, another year has gone by and this holiday season is upon each individual to encourage everyone to make a conscious effort to support our local growers and merchants while making their annual holiday purchases. Buying local is the best choice for ensuring and pursuing a sustainable agricultural future for the Okanagan Valley. And this Holiday Season, Canadians can enjoy the diversity of Canada's agricultural industry in order to have the best food available.

***The BCFGAs wishes each and everyone of you a
happy and peaceful Holiday Season...***

UPDATE: AgriStability Deadlines & Information Session

Important AgriStability deadlines

2009 AgriStability Program Year

Producers who missed the September 30 deadline to submit their 2009 AgriStability/AgriInvest Harmonized form can still do so. The final deadline to submit the 2009 AgriStability/AgriInvest Harmonized form is December 31st 2010.

However those producers receiving a 2009 benefit payment will have to pay a penalty of \$500.00 for each month the form is filed late.

The maximum penalty is \$1500.00. Please note these deadlines cannot be changed or appealed. Producers who miss the December 31st deadline will not be eligible for the 2009 program year.

2010 AgriStability Program Year

Please be advised that producers who missed the April 30th 2010 deadline and have not paid their 2010 fees have until December 31st 2010 to do so.

If you have any questions please call toll free: 1-877-343-2767

Information Sessions

Producers and their accountants are invited to attend the AgriStability information session being held in their area to learn about the benefits of the margin based program.

Experts will explain:

- How AgriStability works;
- How the program can benefit a producer when an operation faces profit margin declines of more that 15%;
- Details about important deadlines;
- How to fill out forms such as the Harmonized Form and;
- They will also answer questions producers may have regarding the program.

See the following page for locations, dates and time.

British Columbia AgriStability Information Sessions			
Town	Location	Date	Time
Prince George	Columbus Community Centre 7201 Domano Blvd	December 7th, 2010	7:00pm to 9:00pm
Smithers	Hudson Bay Lodge 3251 Highway 16	December 8th, 2010	7:00pm to 9:00pm
Vanderhoof	Friendship Hall 219 Victoria Street	December 9th, 2010	7:00pm to 9:00pm
Williams Lake	Pioneer Complex 351 Hodgson road	December 14th, 2010	7:00pm to 9:00pm
Quesnel	Sandman Inn 940 Chew Ave	December 15th, 2010	7:00pm to 9:00pm
Kamloops	Desert Gardens 540 Seymour street	December 16th, 2010	7:00pm to 9:00pm
Dawson Creek	Rolla Community Hall 407 Street, Rolla	January 11th, 2011	7:00pm to 9:00pm
Fort St John	Super 8 9500 Alaska Way	January 12th, 2011	7:00pm to 9:00pm
Vernon	Best Western Vernon Lodge 3914 32nd St. Vernon	January 12th, 2011	7:00pm to 9:00pm
Kelowna	Ramada Hotel 2170 Harvey Ave	January 13th, 2011	7:00pm to 9:00pm
Osoyoos	Legion Hall 8310-78th Avenue	January 18th, 2011	7:00pm to 9:00pm
Penticton	Ramada Court Yard 1050 Eckhardt Ave west	January 19th, 2011	7:00pm to 9:00pm
Grand Forks	Community Futures 1647 Central Avenue	January 20th, 2011	7:00pm to 9:00pm
Abbotsford	Abbotsford Agriculture Centre 1767 Angus Campbell Road	February 7th, 2011	7:00pm to 9:00pm
Chilliwack	Evergreen Hall 9291 Corbould St.	February 9th, 2011	7:00pm to 9:00pm
Pitt Meadows	Pitt Meadows Library 12047 Harris Road,	February 10th, 2011	6:30pm to 8:30pm
Courtenay	Best Western/Westerly Hotel 1590 Cliffe Ave	February 15th, 2011	7:00pm to 9:00pm
Duncan	Quw'utsun' Cultural and Conference Centre 200-Cowichan Way	February 16th, 2011	7:00pm to 9:00pm

****Please call the toll free number below to reserve a seat or for more information on the program****

Toll-Free Number: 1-877-343-2767

Toll-Free Fax Number: 1-877-605-8467

Website: <http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/agristability>

District Council Annual Meetings

Both District Council meetings start at 11:00 a.m. (Delegate lunch included)

Southern District Council
Wednesday, January 19, 2011
Penticton Lakeside Resort

Northern District Council
Tuesday, January 18, 2011
Kelowna Coast Capri Hotel

Best Management Practices Event for Young Farmers

The BC Young Farmers are pleased to sponsor a special program that features that best management practices from top farmers across North America. It is a great opportunity for your younger members to connect with other young farmers and to learn what farmers across North America are doing. The program is being delivered by the Canadian Young Farmers Forum (CYFF). The consultant leading the discussion is Cedric McLeod.

Over the course of the four days the participants will be asked to develop and share:

1. A 10-year farm vision
2. A comprehensive SWOT analysis for the farm
3. A 10-year, 5-year and 1-year list of actions that will guide management decisions in order to achieve the 10-year farm vision.

This exercise not only facilitates an internal farm management assessment, but a proxy exploration of the agriculture industry as a whole. While not a blueprint for far-reaching policy change, the confidence gained by the workshop peer group through exploration of the triumphs and challenges faced by various industry sectors will facilitate the young farmer community taking an active role in influencing future farm policy.

The event will be held at the Ramada in Abbotsford, the cost is \$100 which is fully refunded if the participants attend all four days. Program dates are: December 20 and 21, 2010 and January 17 and 18, 2011. December 20 and January 17 start at noon; the other two days are full days. Lunch and snacks will be served all four days. Participants are responsible for their own travel costs.

The following page provides more details on the event.

Seating is limited to 20 participants, so don't wait too long to register.

Please contact Christine Koch at Christine@bcac.bc.ca or at 604 854-4454 to register or for more information.



**Best Management Practice Workshop
Brought to you by
Canadian Young Farmers' Forum (CYFF)**

The BC Young Farmers' is pleased to offer a unique opportunity for BC's young farmers aged 19 to 40. Through extensive research encompassing farm communities in Canada, the United States and Mexico, ten-best management practices (BMP) of leading farmers have been identified. The CYFF workshop series will present these BMP concepts in an open discussion forum, allowing participants to share their own experiences in the management area. Further, participants will learn from the experiences and opinions of their peers.

While a traditional workshop series may focus on intense exploration of technical skills, the CYFF workshop allows for open dialogue and a group rating of the level of implementation of each BMP, identifying the strengths and weaknesses of the group. Workshops 2 & 3 will be focused on building confidence and knowledge in these areas of weakness, while leveraging the management strengths identified for the group.

In addition to general exploration of the BMP-concepts, between each workshop event participants will be asked to use the concepts in a thorough and honest assessment of their own operations. Participants will be asked to share the results of their internal farm review with the workshop group.

Participants will be asked to develop and share:

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**1473 WATER STREET
KELOWNA, BC
V1Y 1J6**

The BC Fruit Growers' Association represents the 840 commercial orchards in BC, with a mandate "to foster a business environment for the long-term prosperity of BC tree fruit growers". The BC tree fruit industry generates over \$130 million in fresh fruit sales annually at the wholesale level, with a further \$120 million in sales from Sun-Rype, the main processor of fruit in the Okanagan

BCFGA Executive

NAME	TELEPHONE	ADDRESS
Joe Sardinha (President)	494-9983	Summerland
Kirpal Boparai (Vice-Pres.)	869-9663	Kelowna
Roger Bailey	548-3513	Oyama
Fred Steele	861-6641	Kelowna
Sukhdev Goraya	491-2229	Kelowna
Denise MacDonald	494-1347	Summerland
Peter Simonsen	496-5156	Naramata
Nirmal Dhaliwal	498-4119	Oliver

STAFF

Glen Lucas (General Manager)	<u>local 23</u>	212-8828 (cell/pager) glucas@bcfga.com
Elaine Miedema (Member Services)	<u>local 21</u>	869-5684 (cell) emiedema@bcfga.com
Josée Larocque (Public Relations/Events)	<u>local 24</u>	870-7281 (cell) jarocque@bcfga.com
Sheila MacGregor (Accounting)	<u>local 22</u>	smacgregor@bcfga.com
Deb Gibbard (Finance/Administration Replant)		1-800-665-5254 deb_gibbard@telus.net