

BC FRUIT GROWERS'  
ASSOCIATION

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# BCFGA Bulletin



September 2010

## BCFGA Regional Annual Meetings Notice of Meeting

### Agenda

1. BCFGAs Update - President's Report
2. Resolutions—You may propose resolutions for consideration at the BCFGAs Annual Convention in January
3. Nomination of delegates
4. Nomination of Executive members
5. Election of Regional Officers

**All meetings start at 7:00 p.m. Tea, coffee and water will be provided.**

**November 15, 2010**

**North Okanagan**

Best Western Vernon Lodge  
3914-32nd Street  
Vernon

**November 16 , 2010**

**Central Okanagan**

Coast Capri Hotel  
1171 Harvey Ave  
Kelowna

**November 17 , 2010**

**Okanagan-Skaha**

Sandman Inn  
939 Burnaby Ave West  
Penticton

**November 18, 2010**

**South Okanagan-Similkameen**

Oliver Parks and Recreation Centre  
36003 - 79th Street  
Oliver

## **BCAC Review of the Agricultural Land Reserve and Agriculture Land Commission**

### ***- A message from the BC Agriculture Council -***

The Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and the Agriculture Land Commission (ALC) have been in existence for nearly 38 years. During this time the ALC has worked within the context of its legislation to meet and further the goal of the preservation of agricultural land in BC. As the recently appointed Chair of the Commission, Richard Bullock is taking the opportunity to review all facets of the ALC, including operations, policies, and legislation to ensure that it is appropriately positioned to continue the preservation of agricultural land well into the future.

The review, which was called through a resolution passed at the BCAC policy session in March 2010, is examining whether the ALC is capable of meeting its mandate and to explore opportunities to more effectively and efficiently administer the ALR.

Agriculture's opinion of the ALR has been mixed because many farmers and ranchers have been struggling to meet ends meet. What BCAC has heard over the past number of years is that while the ALR may preserve farmland; the policies and programs intended to provide an environment whereby farmers and ranchers can actually make a living have fallen short. The link between the ALR and profitability has been severed. Last year was the fourth consecutive year of negative farm income for BC; so many people in agriculture are naturally questioning what the value of the ALR is to them. The review is being conducted by a three person panel, which has been holding meetings through-out BC in August and September. In addition to ALC chair Richard Bullock, the panel consists of Jim Collins, owner of Collins Cattle Company and a commissioner on the ALC North Panel, and Jennifer Dyson, owner of a mixed farm in the Alberni Valley and a commissioner on the ALC Island Panel.

The BCAC had prepared a discussion document that was circulated to member organizations for input and background, and was used as the focus of discussions with the panel. A wide range of issues were discussed and a number of priorities were highlighted, including:

- Expand the definition of agricultural products and farm activities to support a more diversified production base that includes a wider selection of value-added processes, energy generation, and alternative crops.
- Establish workable criteria for allowing home site severance of ALR lands to help facilitate the intergenerational family transfer of active farming operations.
- Identify access to water for agriculture as a fundamental priority under the modernized Water Act – farmers must have secure and affordable access to water.

The central focus, however, was on profitability. If the agriculture sector is not economically viable it will not survive in the long run, and there would not be much point in preserving agricultural land in BC. BCAC hopes that the review being undertaken by the ALC will be one of the necessary steps towards restoring profitability to farming in BC.

*(Continued on page 3)*

### ***BCFGA Report*** (continued from page 2)

The BCFGGA presented a brief to the panel that is reviewing the Agriculture Land Commission and its role in administering the Agricultural Land Reserve. The full brief is available on the BCFGGA website at [www.bcfga.com](http://www.bcfga.com) (under News and Events/Publications/ Position Papers)

### ***BC Auditor General's Report on the ALC***

The Auditor General of British Columbia, John Doyle, just released his latest report, An Audit of the Agricultural Land Commission. The report can be accessed from the home page of the Office's website at [www.bcauditor.com](http://www.bcauditor.com)

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## **Industry Sustainability**

The BCFGGA has lobbied in several briefs for an improved trade remedy to address imports dumped into Canada at less than the cost of production – the current countervail duty provisions are expensive to implement (minimum \$250,000 in legal fees), vague in their implementation (decisions seem to depend on the sensitivity to other product exports), and not timely (about 6 months to fully implement).

To counter the weak Canadian trade remedy laws, the BCFGGA put forward several recommendations at the CHC Apple Working Group, which discussed, amended and then forwarded the recommendations onto the Finance Committee and the Executive of the Canadian Horticultural Council:

- That the CHC examine countervail duties in other countries.
- That the CHC examine improvements to stabilization programs.
- That the CHC examine promotion of domestic consumption.
- That the CHC promote a procurement policy for Canadian product in Canadian institutions.
- That the replant AgriFlex Proposal be promoted by CHC.
- The BCFGGA will continue to advocate for progress in these items at upcoming CHC meetings.

The CHC Apple Working Group also discussed possible solutions and strategy on orderly marketing and supply management. The AWG agreed to meet with Laurent Pellerin, past Canadian Federation of Agriculture President and current President of the National Farm Products Marketing Agency, which regulates national supply managed and promotional boards. It was also agreed that the BCFGGA will continue to look into trade agreement processes. Finally, it was agreed that the BCFGGA look into a provincial check off on apples for promotion and research. Such a check-off would demonstrate the ability to bring discipline to the marketplace, a precursor for orderly marketing. Currently, Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick are the other apple producing provinces with research and promotion check-offs.

## CHC Apple Working Group Mid-Summer Meeting and Tour

On August 5th, the BCFGGA had the pleasure to attend the 2010 Canadian Horticultural Council's Apple Working Group (AWG) mid-summer meeting and tour which took place in the Durham Region of Ontario. Members from all apple producing provinces came together to discuss issues of common concern to the industry.

The agenda included discussions on:

- Provincial/Canadian Crop Estimate
- Review of Import and Export Statistics
- Update on the AWG Science Cluster Project (from Dr. Jennifer DeEll)
- Review of the Apple Crop Profile as compiled by the provinces for Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- Benchmarking Study
- Horticultural Round Table Update (including Labour Study and Hort for Health Committee reports)
- Business Risk Management Programs

On August 6th, the AWG had the opportunity to tour the following apple operations:

- Archibald's Orchard and Winery
- Wilmot Orchards
- Algoma Orchards (packing and juice plant)



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## Update on the Modernization of the Water Act

The Water Act is the principal law for managing the diversion and use of provincial water resources. Established in 1909, B.C.'s Water Act is the primary piece of water management legislation and plays a key role in the sustainability of B.C.'s water.

One of the original purposes of the Water Act was to resolve disputes between placer miners over diversion of water for hydraulic mining. Modernization is intended to reflect changes and advances in society's need to manage the resource in a prudent and fair manner.

The BCFGGA presented a brief and BCFGGA representatives have attended workshops for public and technical input.

For a complete update and opportunity to view all briefs submitted to the Water Act Modernization, visit [blog.gov.bc.ca/livingwatersmart/2010/09/07/water-act-modernization-report-on-engagement-now-available/](http://blog.gov.bc.ca/livingwatersmart/2010/09/07/water-act-modernization-report-on-engagement-now-available/)

## A National Food Strategy



The National Food Strategy (NFS) was initiated by the Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA) during their Annual General Meeting in February 2010, with the aim of ensuring long-term sustainability in the agricultural and food sectors.

The project is led by a Working Group made up of CFA member organization representatives from across the country, and cooperation from other organization representatives of the value chain, as well as governments, is needed.

The NFS seeks to establish a comprehensive Canadian food plan to secure healthy food for current and future generations, to guard our environment, and to boost our economy.

To help facilitate the process, has identified nine strategic objectives. They are as follows:

1. Canadian grown, fresh and processed product will be the first choice of Canadian consumers.
2. Canadian grown, fresh and processed product will be the preferred choice of international markets.
3. Consumers will choose foods that lead to a healthy lifestyle.
4. Consumers will always have access to safe and nutritious food.
5. The Canadian food chain will be driven by its diverse, innovative and profitable farm and food supply sectors.
6. Canada's food chain capacity will meet future demand in a sustainable manner.
7. Canada will have a secure infrastructure to support the production, processing, distribution and sale of food in Canada and abroad.
8. Canada will grow and provide green energy and other renewable products in balance with our food requirements.
9. Canada will be a global leader in ensuring international agreements impacting food are based on science, fairness, consistency and enforceability.

The strategy is now at the stage of collecting input from the provinces and farm organizations from across the country. BCFGA members are invited to contact local BCFGA directors with input into the NFS before the October Executive Meeting.

The BC Agricultural Council will be holding a policy session in late November in Abbotsford to collect input on the National Food Strategy from its members and other associations within the agri-food sector.

More information on the National Food Strategy, please visit the Canadian Federation of Agriculture website at <http://www.cfa-fca.ca/programs-projects/national-food-strategy>.

## Replant and Removal Programs

The Replant and Removal Programs are winding down. Replant projects from the Spring of 2010 will utilize the remaining funding, so there will be no replant program for the Spring of 2011. Removal projects must be completed and inspected by March 31, 2011. There is currently enough funding for new applications totaling 110 acres.

Send in applications for Fall 2010 and Spring 2011 removals as soon as possible, as funding is expected to be fully allocated and a wait list established on a first come, first serve basis.

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## IMPORTANT DEADLINES Agri-Stability & Agri-Invest Programs

### Agri-Stability Deadline

#### 2009 Program Year

- Those producers who missed the September 30, 2010 deadline to submit their 2009 AgriStability/AgriInvest Harmonized form can still submit the forms. The final deadline is December 31, 2010. But those producers receiving a benefit payment will have to pay a penalty of \$500.00 for each month the forms are filed late.
- The maximum is \$1500.00. These deadlines cannot be changed or appealed. Producers who miss the December 31, 2010 deadline will not be eligible for the 2009 program year.

#### 2010 Program Year

- Please be advised that producers who missed the April 30, 2010 deadline and have not paid their 2010 fees have until December 31, 2010 to do so. Remember a 20 percent penalty applies.

### Agri-Invest Deadline

The AgriInvest application form is harmonized with the AgriStability form. The same financial information you submit for AgriStability will be used to calculate your AgriInvest benefit.

**The penalty-free deadline to submit your AgriInvest form is September 30, 2010.** If you miss the September 30, 2010 deadline, you can still submit your form until December 31, 2010 with a 5% per month reduction to your Allowable Net Sales.

If you haven't already submitted your 2009 harmonized form, you can download a form from the *Publications and Forms* section of the AgriInvest website, or request an application by calling Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada toll free at 1-866-367-8506.

**You have 90 days from the date of your 2009 Deposit Notice to open an AgriInvest account at a participating financial institution and make your 2009 deposit.**

## Environmental Farm Plans

A meeting with local EFP Advisors was held on September 24, with Denise MacDonald, Chair of the BCFGAs Water and Environment Committee and Glen Lucas, General Manager in attendance. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the types of projects, or Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs), that are eligible for grants under the EFP program. As a result of the meeting, a request will be made to add/change the following projects:

- Add a BMP for the changeover of pit toilets to septic.
- Increase the cap on the tower spray grant.
- Remove the requirement of an IPM plan for tower sprayers.
- Add chippers and chipping services to be eligible projects.
- Add back some biodiversity projects that potentially assist in reducing sprays. e.g. bird houses and bat boxes.
- Add back alien invasive species projects.
- Eliminate limit of 2 BMPs per year.

If you have further input and experience, please send a note to the BCFGAs office to [info@bcfga.com](mailto:info@bcfga.com)

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## Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation Consultation Period Extended

The Ministry of Environment is extending the consultation period for review of the Open Burning Smoke Control Regulation Intentions Paper for Consultation from September 23, 2010 to October 22, 2010, in order to accommodate comments from those otherwise occupied by the wildfire season. The intentions paper, which will provide a framework for legal drafting and possible further consultation, is available for review on the Ministry web site at [http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/codes/open\\_burning/index.htm](http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/codes/open_burning/index.htm)

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## CanadaGAP Certification Body to hold Webinar

QMI-SAI Global, one of the certification bodies for the CanadaGAP (On-Farm Food Safety) Program, will be holding a **free webinar** discussing the program on November 17th at 1:00 p.m. EST. Topics will include:

- Overview of the CanadaGAP Program
- Objectives and scope
- International Recognition (GFSI)
- Introduction to CanadaGAP Manuals
- Certification process

To enrol in the free webinar, contact Carlos Araujo at (416) 401-8703 or [carlos.araujo@qmi-saiglobal.com](mailto:carlos.araujo@qmi-saiglobal.com)

## UPDATE: SAWP Workers' Driver's Licenses

The province has amended the *Motor Vehicle Act* to exempt workers in BC under the Seasonal Agriculture Workers Program (SAWP) from Mexico and the Commonwealth Caribbean from the requirement to obtain a BC drivers' license. Workers must have:

1. a valid driver's license from their home country and specific to the class of vehicle they're driving,
2. an international driver's license, and
3. a valid work permit issued by Citizenship and Immigration Canada under SAWP.

Workers should carry this information with them at all times when they are driving. This exemption does **NOT** apply to workers in BC under the Low Skilled Worker Program.

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## Fuel Tax Rebates

A number of farms that have applied for a refund under the *Motor Fuels Tax Act* for clear fuel used in farm trucks while travelling for farm business purposes to the U.S. have received refunds that were much lower than had been applied for. It appears that Section 22 of the Act is being interpreted more narrowly than it has been in the past, resulting in these reduced refund claims.

BCAC have raised this issue with Ministry of Finance, and will be dealing with it in more detail this September as part of the pre-budget consultation process. It is the BCAC's objective to either expand the refund provisions to all clear fuel used if there is an expectation of travelling internationally on a regular basis, or to find some other practical solution.

In the meantime, farmers who have appealed their reassessments should respond to the Ministry of Finance letter they received, acknowledging their appeals and requesting that a decision on the appeal be held in abeyance until after the BCAC and Ministry of Finance officials have discussed this matter and come to some resolution.

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## Mexicana Ceases Operating

Growers utilizing the SAWP program for Mexican workers will be unable to book return flights to Mexico City using Mexicana Airlines, which is bankrupt. Growers may book direct flights to Mexico from Canada (e.g. no stops in the US). Westjet and Air Canada have direct flights to tourist destinations, which may be closer to home and preferred by workers over a flight to Mexico City.

The BCFG and other Agriculture organizations, under the auspices of the BCAC Labour Committee, will be working to ensure improved transportation for the Spring of 2011.

## WorkSafeBC Preliminary Base Assessment Rate for 2011

While the 2011 rates will not be finalized until the fall of 2010, WorkSafeBC projects that the average published base rate (over all industries) will drop by 1% to \$1.54 in 2011 from the 2008, 2009 and 2010 rate of \$1.56 per \$100 of employers' assessable payroll.

The table below shows the preliminary base assessment rate for Orchards for 2011 and for the previous 4 years. The assessment is for every \$100 of assessable payroll.

Classification Unit	CU	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Orchard	701017	\$2.73	\$2.75	\$2.81	\$2.27	\$1.82

The 2011 preliminary base rate for orchards in 2011 shows a significant decrease. This decrease is not as a result of an improved injury rate in recent years but rather savings on claims from previous years.

An individual employer can receive a discount or surcharge based on their individual company's experience rating. Once an employer has established a good safety record, a discount of up to 50% of the base rate can be earned. Similarly, an employer whose relative claim cost is higher than other firms of the same size in their classification will receive a surcharge. An unsafe workplace can result in surcharges of up to 100% over time. For orchards, rates for individual employers could vary from \$0.91 to \$3.64 per \$100 of assessable payroll.

Further information on your firm's specific experience rating can be found on WorkSafeBC's secured website and selecting "view rate information".

The nature of the work in the **tree fruit industry** requires workers for short periods of time, thus making training and instruction of workers more challenging. The Farm and Ranch Safety and Health Association (FARSHA) provides commodity-specific practical tools free of charge to employers and workers in BC agriculture. Also, the BCFGa plans to participate in FARSHA's Technical Advisory Committee to encourage the use of the BCFGa Labour Orientation Certificate in reducing a grower's assessment rate.

Carol Reid is FARSHA's Provincial Orchards and Vineyards Safety Consultant located in Kelowna. To learn what you can do to improve worker health and safety on your orchard, contact Carol at 250-765-7025 or by email at [carol.reid@farsha.bc.ca](mailto:carol.reid@farsha.bc.ca) FARSHA's head office in Langley can be reached at 1-877-533-1789 or by visiting their website [www.farsha.bc.ca](http://www.farsha.bc.ca)

## Surveys

The BCFGGA is administering three grower surveys – details below.

The BCFGGA will advise growers of each survey by email and the survey will be accessed via internet. We recognize the value of your time in completing the surveys and are endeavoring to ensure the response time is kept to about 5 or 10 minutes. Your input is vital in helping the BCFGGA represent your interests – thank you for your participation. Look for something in your inbox in the next few weeks.

### **1. Innovation/automation survey**

The Agriculture Canada Horticulture Value Chain Round Table (HVCRT) is an initiative to provide policy and program direction to government. The initiative involves growers and association representatives who are provided with a great deal of independence in coming up with direction to government. For further background on the HVCRT, visit [www.ats-sea.agr.gc.ca/rt-tr/5566-eng.htm](http://www.ats-sea.agr.gc.ca/rt-tr/5566-eng.htm)

The HVCRT has identified Labour as one of its key initiatives. A working group has been established to look at how Canadian agriculture producers can address coming labour market shortages with technology and efficiency. The sub-committee on labour automation and efficiency has prepared a short survey to get grower input from the many different sectors of horticulture.

### **2. Elevated Work Platforms**

Elevated work platforms (e.g. ‘Girettes’) have long been used for labour-savings and efficiency, as well as safety when compared to ladder work. However, Worksafe BC is, as reported in a previous newsletter, reviewing the practices for the use of Elevated Work Platforms. The BCFGGA has worked to reduce the implications for growers using the platforms. The basic elements we have agreed to are, as follows:

- An engineering study to establish safe practices, including a review of rules in other jurisdictions, especially New Zealand and Australia.
- A survey of growers by the BCFGGA to determine how work platforms are used.
- A moratorium on elevated work platform inspections until December 31, 2010.
- FARSHA to support with educational materials.

### **3. AgriStability Interim Payments**

The BCFGGA is cooperating with the Kelowna-based AgriStability Program administrators to gain feedback on the program. Specific questions will ask how the Interim Payment worked (or did not work) for producers participating in the program.

### **4. 2010 Fall Fruit and Vegetable Survey**

Each fall, Statistics Canada collects data on the harvested area, production and value of selected fruit and vegetable crops.

*(Continued on page 11)*

*(Continued from page 10)*

A survey copy will be mailed to all fruit and vegetable growers in Canada. Please fill out this form and keep it for your records. A Statistics Canada representative will phone you between November 1st to 28th to obtain your data.

Until last year, the survey has asked apple growers for the value of their apple crop when we've just finished harvesting it. The BCFGGA, in conjunction with other Canadian apple producing provinces, has worked with Statistics Canada to amend the survey to take into account the storability factor of our crop. For a second consecutive year, a 'Section F' is added to the fall Fruit and Vegetables Survey, and is applicable to growers of storable commodities – apples, cabbage, carrots, dry onions, rutabagas and turnips - to confirm final values for 2009.

Your cooperation for the 2010 fall survey is greatly appreciated as the accuracy of reported data is important in developing and assessing agriculture programs. The information is collected from all respondents is used to provide estimates of the area, production and value of fruit and vegetable crops in Canada. Industry organizations, such as the BCFGGA, and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada then use this information for a wide range of policy and program planning and implementation.

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## **Development Cost Charges (DCCs)**

The City of Kelowna has implemented DCCs as a way of recovering the investment required for servicing new residential and business construction. Previously, all new construction was assessed DCCs without exception, including some farm worker housing and residential building that were not previously subject to DCCs. Now, new farm worker and residential housing will be assessed DCCs but within certain limits and with some exemptions. Kelowna City Council expressed thanks to the city staff for coming up with a workable solution that does not lead to excessive charges for farms.

For further information, see [http://www.kelowna.ca/CityPage/Docs/PDFs/CouncilMeetings/CouncilMeetings2010/2010-09-13/Item 6.2 - Development Cost Charges on Agricultural Lands.pdf](http://www.kelowna.ca/CityPage/Docs/PDFs/CouncilMeetings/CouncilMeetings2010/2010-09-13/Item6.2-DevelopmentCostChargesonAgriculturalLands.pdf)

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## **Promotion**

The BCFGGA, BC Tree Fruits and New Variety Development Council met August 23 to discuss roles of each of the groups in promoting tree fruits to consumers. BCTF is planning a significant, new promotion directed at consumers, after piloting some activities in the previous crop year. The groups agreed that the role of the BCFGGA will be to participate in fairs and exhibitions, and similar community-based events. NVDC will provide resources for promotion of Ambrosia and also do some monitoring and development projects.

## Special Announcement *BCFGA Horticultural Forum*

The BC Fruit Growers Association is pleased to announce the merger of its annual Horticultural Forum & Tradeshow with the Okanagan Packinghouse Fieldsmen's Group Seminar. **The combined event will be held in Kelowna, February 2011.** The event will provide growers with new opportunities and rewarding experiences through a better than ever tradeshow and workshops.

### ***When, where...***

Date and location are to be determined. Keep a close eye on our website for more information in the upcoming weeks at: [www.bcfga.com](http://www.bcfga.com)

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## Congratulation to the Kidston Farm for its Century Farm Award!

The BCFGGA would like to congratulate the Kidston family of The Kidston Farm Orchard in Coldstream, on being honored with a Century Farm Award to recognize more than a century in operation. Century Farm Awards honor pioneers whose farms or ranches have been in families for 100 years or more. The award also includes institutes and industry associations that have been active for the past 100 years or more. Each Century Farm Award celebrates the rich heritage that accompanies the hard work and enduring sense of communities in rural B.C.

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## BCFGA Golden Jubilee Bursary

BCFGGA annually awards up to \$1,000 bursary to a student who is a close relative of a BCFGGA member and who has successfully completed the first year of study at a recognized college or university and who is enrolled in a second or subsequent year of study. Applicants are evaluated based on course relevance, their marks, farm experience, and work experience.

The application and eligibility rules are available on our website [www.bcfga.com](http://www.bcfga.com) (select the following: membership/members services/bursaries). **DEADLINE for application is November 31, 2010.**

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## RAWF National Apple Competition

The apple competition at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, which takes place in Toronto from November 5-14, 2010, is a great opportunity for growers nationwide to proudly promote their products. **If you are interested in making an entry this year, please contact us at 1-800-618-8022.**

## Agribition Here We Come

On November 22 – 27, the BCFGGA will venture outside of BC to promote apples to consumers at the Canadian Western Agribition in Regina, Saskatchewan. We are planning apple taste testing and also the sale of apples by the box. We will be featuring Spartan and Ambrosia varieties.

If you are interested in volunteering for this event, please contact Josée the BCFGGA office at 250-762-5226 ext 24. Participating growers will receive a per diem, accommodation and meal allowance, as well as travel cost.

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## BC Outstanding Young Farmers

BC's Outstanding Young Farmers (OYF) program is looking for nominees.

Do you know an outstanding young farmer between the ages of 18 and 39 who derives two thirds of his or her income from their farming operation? Nominate them now for them to be eligible to compete as one of BC's outstanding young farmers in 2010. Nominations should be sent to Karen Thiessen by email to: [kthiessen@telus.net](mailto:kthiessen@telus.net)



BC's outstanding young farmer is announced at the annual BC Agriculture Council Ag Gala, and then goes onto the National Recognition Event to compete against the other 6 Regional Representatives where two are chosen as Canada's Outstanding Young Farmers.

The mission of Canada's Outstanding Young Farmers is to discover, celebrate and recognize progress and excellence in Canadian agriculture, and also to recognize young farmers that exemplify excellence in their profession.

This year, Canada's Outstanding Young Farmers will host its National Event in Victoria, BC on November 23 to 28, 2010. For more information, please go the OYF website at [www.oyfbc.com](http://www.oyfbc.com)

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## Welcome Back!

Josée Larocque has returned from maternity leave and is working on public relations and events projects for the BCFGGA. Josée was able to take time to be home with her baby girl Léa and now it is husband Julien turn to be home.

## Upcoming 2010 Meetings & Events

- October 3, 2010:** Uptown Rutland Scarecrow Festival and Harvest Market (Kelowna, BC)
- October 12, 2010:** *BCFGA Municipal Council Meeting in Vernon & Coldstream*
- October 16-17, 2010:** UBC Apple Festival (Vancouver, BC)
- October 17, 2010:** Kelowna NDP Harvest Hoot
- October 18-22, 2010:** North American Plant Protection Organization 34th Annual Meeting (Kelowna, BC)
- October 19, 2010:** *BCFGA Municipal Council Meeting in Lake Country*
- October 23, 2010:** BC Orchard Industry Museum Annual Apple Fair (Kelowna, BC)
- October 25, 2010:** *BCFGA Municipal Council Meeting in Summerland & Kelowna*
- October 26, 2010:** *BCFGA Municipal Council Meeting in Peachland & W.Kelowna*
- November 1, 2010:** *BCFGA Municipal Council Meeting in Penticton*
- November 4, 2010:** *Partnership Committee on Agriculture and Environment Victoria, BC)*
- November 5-14, 2010:** Royal Agricultural Winter Fair and National Apple Competition (Toronto, Ontario)
- November 15, 2010:** *BCFGA Municipal Council Meeting in Keremeos*
- November 15-18, 2010:** *BCFGA Regional Annual Meetings*
- November 22-27, 2010:** Canadian Western Agribition (Regina, Saskatchewan)
- November 23-28, 2010:** Canada's Outstanding Young Farmers National Event (Victoria, BC)
- November 29-30, 2010:** *BC Agriculture Council policy Session*
- December 13, 2010:** *BCFGA Municipal Council Meeting in Salmon Arm & Oliver*
- December 20, 2010:** *BCFGA Municipal Council Meeting in Osoyoos*

## This Summer in your Community...



*Para Olympic winners and local athletes at the **2010 Pushor Mitchell Apple Triathlon**, each presented with a bag of Sunrise apples from the BCFGA. (August 21, 2010)*



*Fred Steele, Executive Member of the BCFGA at the BCFGA booth during this year's **Interior Provincial Exhibition** in Armstrong, BC. (September 1, 2010)*



*A supportive consumer enjoying a wide variety of fresh local cherries during the **15th Annual Cherry Fair** hosted by the Kelowna Orchard Industry Museum. (July 24, 2010)*

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The BC Fruit Growers' Association represents the 800 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**

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

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