

Report to the 2018 BCFGA Convention

From the

BCFGA Corporate Secretary

The new Societies Act for British Columbia came into effect on November 28, 2016. The BCFGA took the opportunity to hold an Special General Meeting on November 16, 2017 to consider and approve the following bylaw changes:

- Majority to pass special resolutions is now two-thirds (SAR= Society Act requirement);
- BCFGA is a member- funded society (SAR);
- Dissolution provision: if BCFGA terminates than remaining assets go to a research trust fund administered by the BC Tree Fruits Cooperative (SAR);
- Added specifics on Associate Membership for retired members and business associates;
- Changed minimum annual sales requirement for full membership to \$15,000;
- Close family members can be appointed to represent a sole proprietorship or partnership farm. This appointment of representative must occur two weeks after the Annual Convention and before April 1st of that year and the appointment must remain until the end of the next Annual Convention.

I continue to assist our members in filling out the LMIA applications for the Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program. In 2017, twenty seven BCFGA members were assisted with twenty seven LMIA applications for direct workers, fifteen LMIA applications for transfer workers and one application through the Agriculture Stream. This year so far, twenty BCFGA members have been assisted with twenty LMIA applications for direct workers (projecting doubling to 55 this year), two LMIA applications for transfer workers (projecting doubling to 30 for the year) and two applications through the Agriculture Stream program. The BCFGA has also assisted some members with their audits from the Integrity Division.

I also continue to provide services for our subsidiary, Summerland Varieties Corp (SVC) as the Marketing Specialist.

I would like to thank the staff, the Board, delegates and BCFGA members for making BCFGA a great association to work for and look forward to another active year for us.

Yours truly,

Bunvir Nijjer, Corporate Secretary