

# BC Fruit Growers' Association Friday File



August 3, 2018

## **Survey Reminder #2**

Let us know your priorities

We need your input for upcoming federal and provincial elections!

Please take 5 minutes to complete [this survey of BCFGA members](#).

Based on your feedback, the BCFGA will make a presentation to federal and provincial elected representatives in the coming weeks.

## **SAWP**

### **Forest Fires**

A forest fire in Keremeos may be causing concern for SAWP workers. [Here is the BCFGA information note for workers on forest fire season](#), which may be helpful to your workers.

### **Opportunity to provide input extended**

The "Primary Agriculture Review" is being conducted for the SAWP and Temporary Foreign Worker Program - Ag Stream.

Growers now have until September 30 to [respond to an online survey](#). You may also wish to [send in written comments](#).

Your input will make a difference!

Here are [presentation slides on the review](#), from a workshop facilitated by Service Canada. [Here is the BCFGA submission](#) to the review.

## **2019 Replant Update**

Make an application between August 1 to October 31

[Replant applications are now available](#) on the BCFGA website as of August 1.

## **Golden Apple Award**

Do you have a friend or neighbour who is an outstanding apple grower?

The Golden Apple Award recognizes horticultural achievement for apple growers. If you know of a deserving nominee, please contact [Carl Withler, Provincial Tree Fruit and Grape Specialist](#).



## **SAWP**

### **Question(s) of the week**

*What is the difference between the Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program and the Temporary Foreign Worker Program - Ag. Stream?*

The programs are similar, but different! Here are a few of the similarities and differences.

Similarities: both provide access to foreign workers for unskilled labour positions on a farm. Both require Labour Market Impact Assessments (LMIAs) and advertising to prove a shortage of local workers. Both require agreements with workers and provision of airfare or housing. Also, the entry of the foreign worker is adjudicated at the airport the worker arrives at (SAWP has more pre-screening and refusal at the point of entry is rare).

SAWP has these additional features: recruitment is by the foreign government. SAWP terms and conditions are negotiated annually with employer representatives, foreign government representatives, and Service Canada. SAWP is only open to Mexico and Caribbean Commonwealth countries. SAWP employers and workers are monitored by the foreign consulate/liaison service.

The TFWP Ag Stream is open to all countries, but the worker must apply directly for the work permit at the Canadian consulate located in the workers home country. Often, an employer will utilize a foreign agent to recruit foreign workers. There is a real risk that a foreign agent recruits workers by demanding a payment from the worker - this is a risk to the grower of becoming entangled in a human trafficking violation. For this reason, the BCFGA recommends avoiding the TFWP-Ag Stream Program. The BCFGA recommends participation in the SAWP if you are experiencing shortage.

*How do I participate in the SAWP Program?*

An easy way is to get the help from the BCFGA the first time you apply. Make sure the program makes sense for you by contacting Bunvir Nijjer, Glen Lucas, or a director of the BCFGA.

## **BCFGA Summer Labour Project - 2018**

### **Contact Ron Forrest**


**Ron Forrest** can attend your farm to provide sessions in French, English or Spanish. Ron will provide you with a record of the training, to help fulfill Food Safety and WorkSafeBC requirements.

Ron can also let workers know of available work at your farm - call him to let him know when you need workers.

**Ron Forrest's new number is 778-363-3620.**

**Meetings and Events** - check the [BCFGA Calendar](#) on our website for more information

Date	Meeting	Details
August 14	BCFGA Board meeting (tentative)	
August 16	Associate Assistant Deputy Minister of Innovation and Science	Pinder Dhaliwal, David Machial, Glen Lucas
August 16	Stephen Fuhr, MP	Pinder Dhaliwal, Sukhdev Goraya, Karm Gill, Glen Lucas
September 20	SAWP Regional Meeting	
October 5	SIR Board meeting	
October 18-19	Annual Review Mexico SAWP	Pinder Dhaliwal Glen Lucas
November 5-7	BC Agriculture Day	
November 15	BCFGA Board meeting	
November 20-21	Annual Review Caribbean SAWP	
December 4-5	BC Agriculture Climate Network workshop, Kamloops	
December 7	SIR Board meeting	
February 12-13	BCFGA Annual Convention	

<p>BCFGA Office 250-762-5226 Toll free -1-800-619-9022 </p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brenda Jorde, Member Services and BC Tree Fruit Replant Program, 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 Agricultural Worker Program, local 4.</li> </ul>
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Note: BCFGAs has a very small office with limited staff. With many activities undertaken on behalf of our 487 members, Members should call to make an appointment to be sure of staff being present to meet with you (staff are often away on business related to the BCFGAs). You may call your local director so that the BCFGAs Board can remain informed on how to best represent the tree fruit growers of BC.

### BCFGA Board of Directors

Name	Telephone
<b>Bhupinder (Pinder) Dhaliwal - President</b>	Oliver Cell/text 250-490-7198

<b>Peter Simonsen - VP</b>	Naramata	Cell/text 250496-5156
<b>Ravinder Bains</b>	Keremeos	Cell 250-499-0512
<b>Sukhdeep (Deep) Brar</b>	Summerland	Cell/text 250-462-5687
<b>Karm Gill</b>	Kelowna	Cell 250-863-9737
<b>Sukhdev Goraya</b>	Kelowna	Cell/text 250- 859-1229
<b>David Machial</b>	Oliver	Cell/text 250-485-2636
<b>David Dobernigg</b>	Vernon	Cell/text 250-550-8999



## Got unwanted pesticides or livestock medications?

**Farmers:** safely dispose of unwanted or obsolete agricultural pesticides and livestock medications – **no charge!** Take them to the following locations on the dates noted between **10 a.m. and 4 p.m.**

### **KAMLOOPS**

**October 15**  
Purity Feed Ltd.  
471 Okanagan Way  
250-372-2233

### **VANDERHOOF**

**October 15**  
Glen Dale Agra  
1055 Hwy 16 W  
250-567-4225

### **PRINCE GEORGE**

**October 16**  
Foothills Landfill  
6595 Foothills Blvd  
250-962-8972

### **VERNON**

**October 16**  
Grower's Supply  
1200 Waddington Dr  
250-545-1278

### **KELOWNA**

**October 17**  
Grower's Supply  
2605 Acland Rd  
250-765-4500

### **QUESNEL**

**October 17**  
Four Rivers Co-op  
1280 Quesnel-  
Hixon Rd  
250-992-7274

### **OLIVER**

**October 18**  
Grower's Supply  
5911 Sawmill Rd  
250-498-6406

### **WILLIAMS LAKE**

**October 18**  
153 Mile Fertilizer  
# 80 5101 Frizzi Rd  
250-392-5333

### **CRANBROOK**

**October 30**  
Top Crop Garden  
2101 Cranbrook St N  
250-489-4555

### **CRESTON**

**October 31**  
Grower's Supply  
754 35th Ave S  
250-428-2125

(Next Cleanfarms collection in these areas in 2021.)

#### **PARTNERS**



**For more information: 1-877-622-4460**

**cleanfarms.ca**