

# BC Fruit Growers' Association

## Friday File

December 21, 2018



### Best Holiday Wishes!

#### The Year in Review

It has been an active year for the BCFGA, and a productive year. Looking back at the calendar, here are a few highlights:

- BCFGA hosted the national Apple Working Group Meeting in July, in Summerland
- BCFGA coordinated the [national Apple competition](#)
- The ALR review took place and [BCFGA provided input](#).
- Residential housing emerged as an ALR was an issue late in the year, and BCFGA wrote [a letter to the Minister of Agriculture](#).
- Flooding and heat were issues, and sudden tree death is a concern.
- The Competitiveness Fund was announced at the BCFGA Annual Convention in February.
- [An update to the Industry Strategy](#) (with guidance for the Competitiveness Fund) was prepared.
- [Applications were opened](#) for Project Proposals to the Competitiveness Fund.
- Inspections for Replant were completed in record time. BCFGA is proposing to take on the payments process so that that may also be speeded up.

### Competitiveness - Can you apply?

January 9, 2019 deadline for first intake

Information on the Competitiveness Fund is provided in a link on the [BCFGA Home page](#).

To see if your project idea may be eligible, please review the industry strategy entitled BC Tree Fruits Industry Competitiveness Fund. The Rating sheet will also give you an idea of priority criteria that will guide the assessment of applications.

Once you have reviewed the documents and consider your project fits the initiative, please fill in the application form and submit with any supporting documents such as business profile, letters of support and/or research methodology to [funding@iafbc.ca](mailto:funding@iafbc.ca)

For individual farm or business development resources, please refer to [www.AgriServiceBC.ca](http://www.AgriServiceBC.ca)

There you will find specific links to:

Learn how to start a new farm

Learn how to start a food processing business

For individual farm or agri-business marketing support, please see <http://iafbc.ca/buy-bc/cost-shared-funding/> for BC marketing assistance and

<http://iafbc.ca/funding-opportunities/market-development/> for market training, research and planning as well as export marketing funding.

## Water Well Licensing Workshop

Space is limited, register today!

The RDOS is offering a workshop in Penticton on January 31, 12:30 - 4 pm. Here is [the poster for the event](#).

## District Council Annual Meetings - Meeting Notice

<u>South District Council Annual Meeting</u>	<u>North District Council Annual Meeting</u>	
Time:	10am- 1pm	Time: 10am- 1pm
Date:	Tuesday, January 8, 2019	Date: Wednesday, January 9, 2019
Place:	Watermark Resort, Osoyoos	Place: Ramada Hotel, Kelowna

Delegates attend the meeting will vote on any motions and in the election of District Council Executive. Members are welcome to attend, but we ask that you pre-register with Bunvir Nijjer at 250-762-5226 ext. 4.

## Membership Renewal Time

Reminder for growers who do not ship to BC Tree Fruits Cooperative

Annual membership for 2018 ends December 31, 2018. Renewal membership dues must be received in the office by February 1, 2019, to allow time for staff to organize and prepare for the Annual Convention on February 12-13.

Fees are budgeted at \$230 base fee and \$21.00/acre for any acreage over 5 acres that is planted to tree fruits. Here is the [2019 BCFGAs Membership Application Form](#). A renewal notification was emailed out to all 2018 members. If you have any questions, please contact Brenda Jorde, Member Services Coordinator at 250.762.5226, ext. #1.

All BC Tree Fruits Cooperative growers are members of the BCFGAs, and membership is automatically renewed.

## SAWP Problems

You know who to call!

If you have any SAWP issues that BCFGAs should be aware of, please contact Bunvir Nijjer or Glen Lucas at the BCFGAs office, 250-762-5226, or your BCFGAs director (list at end of the newsletter). *We can't manage what we don't know about!*

## Starling Control

Still trapping after all these years

The Starling Control Program has been very effective in reducing the spoilage of fruit by Starlings, an invasive pest species. If you see large flocks and are concerned, please contact Tyrion Miskell at 1-877-762-4652 to see if traps can be set up in your area.

## SAWP

### Question the week

I am interested in finding out more about Caribbean workers. Who can I talk to?

*The Caribbean governments have established Liaison Services, which operate to promote and ensure the expansion of the SAWP program in Canada, as well as mediate to resolve problems and issues of growers and employees. If you wish to speak with the liaison services to find out more about Caribbean SAWP workers from their particular country, then call the number in the table below.*

*Also, the Caribbean liaison services want to meet you on your farms. The various services come to the Okanagan every few months. If you would like to meet with them, call Bunvir Nijjer, 250-762-5226 extension 4.*

## SAWP

### Caribbean contacts


Caribbean SAWP Source Country	Country Population (2015 est)	SAWP workers in Canada, (average 2005-2009)	Contact	Phone
Antigua and Barbuda	93,900	9	Charmaine Williams*	416-523-4662
Barbados	287,500	428	Shirley Wall-Mayers	416-464-2997
Dominica	72,700		Charmaine Williams*	416-523-4662
Grenada	107,900	94	Charmaine Williams*	416-523-4662
Jamaica	2,790,200	6,821	Donna Adams	250-869-6288
St. Kitts and Nevis	55,400	29	Charmaine Williams*	416-523-4662
St. Lucia	183,800	234	Charmaine Williams*	416-523-4662
St. Vincent and Grenadines	107,900	291	Charmaine Williams*	416-523-4662
Trinidad and Tobago	1,332,700	2,040		416-435-7048

\*Eastern Caribbean Liaison Service includes the following countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Monserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines.

In BC, Mexicans are the largest group of SAWP workers, followed by Jamaica and Barbados of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States.

## Meetings and Events

Date	Meeting	Details
Jan. 8	BCFGA South District Council AGM	
Jan. 9	BCFGA Honorarium Committee	
Jan. 9	BCFGA North District Council AGM	
Jan. 9	BCFGA Member Services Committee	
Feb 12-13	BCFGA Annual Convention	
Feb 20	Tree Fruit Hort Symposium	
Feb 27-28	Canadian Federation of Agriculture AGM	Peter Simonsen, Glen Lucas
Mar 5-7	Canadian Horticultural Council AGM	Pinder Dhaliwal, Peter Simonsen, Glen Lucas

<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>
--	---

*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	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