

## BC Fruit Growers' Association

### Friday File

February 2, 2018



### Farm Practice Protection

#### Hearing on a noise complaint scheduled for January 30-31

Thank you to the growers who came to the Farm Industry Review Board hearing on a noise complaint from a Coldstream neighbour of Coral Beach Farms. The good turnout of growers at the meeting will signal the importance of the case, which is a noise complaint about sprayer, blower and helicopter use in cherry orchards. The BCFGGA was an intervenor and made a presentation to the hearing.

### Market Returns for 2017

#### Major effort for BCFGGA

Average returns for growers are down for 2017, significantly. The BCFGGA is committed to working for growers to get help for this downturn in 2017 market returns.

Fortunately, one of the key government programs, AgriStability, has been enhanced. This is also a year when AgriInvest should be accessed. BCFGGA will be participating in grower sessions to promote the use of these programs, and invites feedback from growers on whether the programs are helping or have operational issues that need attention. Further action will be considered based on grower feedback on how the programs work.

### BC Tree Fruit Horticultural Symposium

February 8, 7:30 am - 5 pm, 1905 Springfield Avenue, Kelowna

[Meeting notice](#)

[Agenda](#)

### Bee Survey

#### York University research

We've recently had discussions with researchers from York University in Toronto regarding pollination in apple orchards. This survey will increase understanding about how apple growers use pollination services and potentially inform policy and programs that will help growers diversify pollination strategies in the future.

In order to aid this research and earn a Tim Horton's e-giftcard, please provide click on the link provided below to participate in an *anonymous* survey (15-20 minutes) about bees, pollination services and land management.

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/pollination\\_CAapplegrowers](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/pollination_CAapplegrowers)

## **Convention Documents**

### **February 15-16, Coast Capri Hotel, Kelowna**

The Portfolio, 2017 Convention Minutes, and 2018 Resolutions are available on [our website](#), with more reports and documents being added as they are completed. Check back every few days to see what's new.

## **Replant Update**

### **2017 Program**

Last week, the BCFGGA had a positive meeting on status of the 2017 Replant Program with Deputy Minister Wes Shoemaker and Assistant Deputy Minister Arif Lalani. We will be providing a full update in the next Friday File.

## **Mexico SAWP Delays?**

### **Gathering information**

If you are getting the runaround re your application from Service Canada, please send [Bunvir an email](#) with the following:

- Your Name
- Date you sent in your LMIA
- Any response from Service Canada
- Whether you sent in a request to Expedite
- How many workers
- When you need them
- If Service Canada has called you with unusual questions.

## **Mexico SAWP 2018 Form Available**

### **One last reminder - do not use the 2017 Form**

Use the appropriate 2018 forms on these websites:

[SAWP Mexico](#)

[SAWP Caribbean](#)

## **SAWP Employer Meetings**

### **Mexico and Caribbean countries are hosting an information session on SAWP**

- Feb 21, Kelowna: Coast Capri Hotel, 9:15 am - 3 pm
- Feb 22, Osoyoos: Watermark Beach Resort, 9:15 am - 3 pm

To register, email [cnunez@consulmexvan.com](mailto:cnunez@consulmexvan.com)

The sessions will be required by Mexico for all growers who are new to the program and all growers who had a written observation, warning of suspension from the Mexican Consulate in 2017. The Caribbean countries are also participating in the session.

For more information on the SAWP program, check out [Labour on the BCFGGA website](#), and [Labour on the BCAC website](#).

## SAWP Housing Inspectors

Inspector	Location	Phone		Inspector	Location	Phone
Hugh Cairns	Kelowna	250-808-5777		Keith Suftin	Kelowna	250-317-3349
Mike Bradshaw	Kelowna	250-870-8340		Brad Pears	Kelowna	250-717-6434
George Giannotti	Summerland	250-809-6804		Bob Hamm	Kelowna	250-470-8467
Craig Hostland	Kelowna	250-862-6400		Barry Chickloski	Penticton	250-490-1118


### Membership Renewal

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

If sent by mail, annual membership dues must be received in the office by February 13, to allow time for staff to organize and prepare for the Annual Convention on February 15-16. Fees are budgeted at \$230 base fee and \$19.90/acre for any acreage over 5 acres that is planted to tree fruits.

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

Date	Meeting	Attending for the BCFGa
February 8	BC Tree Fruit Horticultural Symposium	
February 9	Sterile Insect Release Board	Glen Lucas
February 9	CHC Labour Committee conf. call	Pinder Dhaliwal, Glen Lucas
Feb 15 and 16	BCFGA Annual Convention, Coast Capri Hotel, Kelowna	BCFGA members and guests

BCFGA Office 250-762-5226 Toll free -1-800-619-9022 	<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>• Bunvir Nijjer, Corporate Secretary and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program, local 4.</li> </ul>
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### BCFGA Board of Directors

Name		Telephone
<b>Fred Steele - President</b>	Kelowna	Cell/text: 250-801-1968
<b>Bhupinder (Pinder) Dhaliwal - VP</b>	Oliver	Cell/text 250-490-7198
<b>Ravinder Bains</b>	Keremeos	Cell 250-499-0512
<b>Sukhdeep (Deep) Brar</b>	Summerland	Cell/text 250-462-5687
<b>Surjit Nagra</b>	Kelowna	Cell 250-863-6801
<b>Sukhdev Goraya</b>	Kelowna	Cell 250. 859.1229
<b>Peter Simonsen</b>	Naramata	Cell 250. 488--.0363
<b>Harnek (Tony) Nijjar</b>	Vernon	Cell 250-938-1820