

BC Fruit Growers' Association Friday File

February 22, 2019



BCFGA Annual Convention

Feedback

If you attended this years Annual Convention, or a previous Annual Convention, please complete [this quick survey](#).

BC Tree Fruit Production Guide meetings

Schedule set

The annual Tree Fruit Production Guide updates are being held in March and April. The agenda is being finalized in the next few days. Make a note on your calendar to attend a session.

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| 9am-11:30am March 14th Oliver Recreation Center, Room #2 | 9:30am-11:30am March 15th Winfield Hall |
| 2:30 - 4:00 pm March 14th Summerland Research and Development Centre | 7pm-9pm April 10th Creston District Community Complex, Erickson Room |

SAWP

Question of the week

What is the current turnaround time for LMIA's?

The current SAWP turnaround time is very good, about 1-2 weeks.

Ag Stream turnaround time is also very good, since processing was shifted to the Toronto specialized processing centre..

For named workers who do not show, there is an issue (biometrics) in getting unnamed replacements. WALI and the other regional employer associations are working on this issue.

Competitiveness Fund - Can you apply?

Second intake deadline looms

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

A deadline for a second intake of applications has been set for March 29, 2019. However, applications may be submitted at any time.

Meetings and Workshops

Ministry of Agriculture

Business Planning Workshops

- [Kelowna: March 5 2019](#): Community Futures Central Okanagan #210-1726 Dolphin Avenue, Kelowna, BC
- [Cranbrook: March 7 2019](#): Farm Kitchen | #1324 2nd Street North, Cranbrook, BC

Learn all of the requirements of a **BUSINESS PLAN**.

- Learn key **FINANCIAL** components of your business.
- Get **MARKET READY** and Position your brand to drive sales.
- Navigate **PACKAGING** compliance. Refine your recipe to scale up.
- Gain Insights into **DISTRIBUTION**. Sell at the right price.
- Learn key components to build a **DIGITAL STRATEGY**.


Have a question? Call 604-454-8806 or email info@goodtogrowproducts.com

AgriServiceBC Webinars

- [The Cherry Industry: A Made in B.C. Success Story](#)
Date: Wednesday, February 27, 2019
Time: 2 PM P.S.T.
Presenter: Carl Withler, Industry Specialist for Treefruits and Grapes,
 BC Ministry of Agriculture
 For registration,
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/agriservice-bc/webinars>

Meetings and Events

| Date | Meeting | Details |
|-----------|--|-----------------------------|
| Feb 19 | Provincial budget lock-up | Glen Lucas |
| Feb. 20 | Tree Fruit Hort Symposium | |
| Feb. 22 | Joint BCTFC - BCFGAs Board meeting | |
| Feb 27-28 | Canadian Federation of Agriculture AGM | Glen Lucas |
| Mar 5-7 | Canadian Horticultural Council AGM | Pinder Dhaliwal, Glen Lucas |

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| BCFGAs Office 250-762-5226 Toll free -1-800-619-9022  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Brenda Jorde, Member Services and BC Tree Fruit Replant Program, local 1. ● Glen Lucas, General Manager, local 2. ● Sheila MacGregor, Accountant, local 3. ● Bunvir Nijjer, Corporate Secretary and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program, local 4. |
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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.