

BC Fruit Growers' Association

Friday File

January 29, 2018



Convention Documents

February 15-16, Coast Capri Hotel, Kelowna

The BCFGA Convention Portfolio and 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.

Farm Practice Protection

Hearing on a noise complaint scheduled for January 30-31

Two residents in Coldstream made a complaint to the Farm Industry Review Board about noise created by a neighbouring cherry orchard. Please support the Right To Farm and normal farm practices by attending a part of the hearing. Here is the [BCFGA Report on Farm Practices in the Cherry Sector](#).

Wear your favourite baseball cap to identify yourself as supporting the farm community!

Time: 9 am - ~4 pm

Date: Tuesday and Wednesday, January 30-31, 2018

Place: Vernon Room, Prestige Inn, Vernon, BC (across from London Drugs on Hwy 97)

Replant Update

2017 Program

Last week, the BCFGA 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

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.

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

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

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.

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

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

Date	Meeting	Attending for the BCFGA
January 30-31, 9 am start	FIRB Hearing: BCFGA intervenor Vernon Room, Prestige Inn, Vernon, BC (across from London Drugs on Hwy 97)	Growers encouraged to attend! Even if you cannot stay for the whole proceeding - come show your support for Right To Farm.
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
February 15 (1 pm) and February 16 (8:30 am)	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"> • Brenda Jorde, Member Services and BC Tree Fruit Replant Program, local 1. • Glen Lucas, General Manager, local 2. • Bunvir Nijjer, Corporate Secretary and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program, local 4.
--	---

BCFGA Board of Directors

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