

# BC Fruit Growers' Association Friday File

June 14, 2019



## Labour Orientation and Safety Training Program

Worker training, orientation, finding workers, and helping communicate with workers

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## SAWP

Question of the Week

*What is the piece rate for cherries?*

**Minimum Wage** changes to \$13.85 per hour on June 1, 2019. Vacation pay of 4% is owed (unless paid time off is scheduled).

**Minimum Piece Rates** changed on January 1 for the 2019 season, to:

<b>Crop</b>	<b>As of January 1, 2019 (for the 2019 crop year)</b>	<b>Size in metric</b>
Apricots	\$24.23 a 1/2 bin	(13.7 ft <sup>3</sup> / 0.388 m <sup>3</sup> )
Cherries	\$0.277 a pound	\$0.610 a kg
Peaches	\$22.38 a 1/2 bin	(12.6 ft <sup>3</sup> / 0.357 m <sup>3</sup> )
Prune plums	\$23.72 a 1/2 bin	(13.7 ft <sup>3</sup> / 0.388 m <sup>3</sup> )

The piece rates include vacation pay.

## CP-TPP Workshop for Agrifood Companies



The Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology (MJTT) invites you to participate in an upcoming workshops on the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP), which has recently come into effect for seven of its 11 members.

The workshop will focus on market opportunities in Singapore, Vietnam, Japan and Malaysia for B.C. agrifood companies. *To facilitate workshop participation, participants will be requested to*

bring their laptop for an exercise to determine the import tariffs for their products into Singapore, Vietnam, Malaysia and Japan.

B.C. agrifood companies interested in growing their exports in these markets will have the opportunity to learn more about the advantages that this free trade agreement provides.

The workshop is being held as follows:

**Kelowna | June 25, 2019, 08:30am - 12:00 noon | place TBD.**

If you would like to learn more about this opportunity and to register for one of the workshops, visit the event registration page:

<https://web.cvent.com/event/685a8fb5-580f-474b-953e-e995162aa72c>

### **CFIA Proposes to Water Down “Product of Canada”**

#### **Give them a 100% piece of your mind**

The BCFGA in previous years strongly supported the strengthening of “Product of Canada” rules. Subsequently, the government replaced the definition “over 50% of product costs are Canadian” with “**over 98%** of product content is Canadian”.


Processors are again making absurd claims, such as

<b>Processor claim</b>	<b>BCFGA observation</b>
A jar of pickles made from 85% Canadian picking cucumbers and 15% foreign vinegar should be allowed to be called “Product of Canada”	Last time we checked, vinegar could be made in Canada. No need to water down the 98% requirement.
A jar of jam is made from 80% Canadian berries and 20% foreign sugar should be allowed to be called “Product of Canada”	We are fairly certain that all of those sugar beets grown in Alberta provide ample sugar for Canadian jam, so no need to water down the regulation

The government of Canada is inviting your views on the regulatory change that waters down the Product of Canada rules, from 98% to 85%. Here is a [web page that provides further background and a link to the online survey](#). Complete the survey by June 23 to have your voice heard.

## BCFGA Board of Directors 2019

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

<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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