



BC Fruit Growers' Association

Friday File

May 1, 2017

Temporary Farm Worker Housing Bylaw City of Kelowna

The City of Kelowna is proposing a bylaw on temporary farm worker housing. The BCFGA agrees that a bylaw is needed, but has asked for some changes in the proposed bylaw. Our proposals are included in the attached memo to Kelowna City Council.

If you live in Kelowna, it would be great if you could attend the Public Hearing on the Temporary Farm Worker Housing Bylaw. The meeting is at 6 pm on May 2 in the City of Kelowna Council Chambers (across from BC Tree Fruits office).

The points that growers may wish to support:

- Need to, in future, allow for TFWH for growers with less than 3.8 hectares.
- Need to expand maximum (before a Public Hearing is required) to 60 beds.
- Need to occupy TFWH for up to 10 months per year.
- Need to define a Farm Unit as contiguous (adjacent) properties operated by one farm, not all properties in the city operated by one farm.

It would be good to leave council with a sense of the importance of the workers to your operation and the need to house the workers at the farm - that both the workers and the farm operator like the TFWH to be on the farm.

We may have some activist neighbours and labour activists present. It would be good to balance their statements with factual examples from your farm. For example, leave council with a sense of the personal relationships you develop with your workers, how you work to improve their housing and services each year (i.e. transportation, etc., etc.).

Presentations are limited to 5 minutes, it would be great to ask one of the BCFGA or BC Cherry Association about your presentation, if you are considering making a presentation. Please consider attending even if you will not be making a presentation.

Winfield BC Tree Fruit Cooperative building permit hung up Winfield growers' attendance at Public Meeting requested

The District of Lake Country is holding up a building permit for BCTF Cooperative, charging an outrageous amount for a development permit.

If you live in Winfield, your support by attending the meeting on May 1 at 6 pm in Council Chambers is appreciated!

Grants for Student Workers

Some funding available if you have a 'green job'

Great news!

The Agricultural Youth Green Jobs Initiative has been approved for a 2 year period. Applications will be accepted starting April 26, 2017.

For an application form and more details on the program, please visit:


[Agricultural Youth Green Jobs Initiative](#)

The program is designed to hire youth aged 15 to 30 for internships of up to 12 months. It will be of interest to producers and organizations working in the agriculture industry and interested in implementing agriculture projects that are environmentally beneficial.

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

Date	Meeting	
6 pm, May 1	"Temporary Farm Worker Housing" Public Hearing, City of Kelowna	
6 pm, May 1	"Winfield Packinghouse Expansion" Public Hearing, District of Lake Country	
May 9	BC Election	

How to contact the BCFGa Office

BCFGA Office - 250-762-5226 Toll free -1-800-619-9022 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brenda Jorde, Member Services and Replant Admin, local 1.• Glen Lucas, General Manager, local 2.• Bunvir Nijjer, Corporate Secretary and Seasonal Agriculture Worker Program, local 4.
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