



BC Fruit Growers' Association

Friday File

January 13, 2017

Annual Convention

February 2-3, 2017, Penticton Lakeside Resort

Staff are making final preparations for the 128th Annual Convention. The Convention Portfolio has been mailed to all members and includes the draft agenda.

Resolutions for the Annual Convention

Delegates will vote to give direction

Resolutions are available on the BCFGAs website.

Topics of the 2017 Resolutions

1. Appreciation
2. Municipal Support for Tree Fruit Industry Priorities
3. Transfer AgriStability Budget Savings to Other Programs
4. Increase AgriStability Margin Protection
5. Columbia River Treaty
6. Restore AgriInvest to the Previous Level
7. Avoiding Unreasonable, Unscientific Food Safety Requirements by Canadian Retailers
8. Keeping CanadaGAP Practical
9. On-Farm Tourist Accommodation - Benefits and Impacts
10. Consistency of Agritourism opportunities for wineries and other agricultural operations
11. Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) Regulatory consistency between municipalities
12. Homesite Severance
13. Support for the ALR
14. CRA Farm Equipment Depreciation Rates
15. IPM Funding
16. Expand the Role of SIR
17. Invasive Pest Funding
18. Okanagan Kootenay Sterile Insect Release Program - Extra Spray Costs
19. Okanagan Kootenay Sterile Insect Release Program - efficiency and communication
20. Deer Cull
21. Accessing the Grower Requested Own Use Program
22. Research on the Impact of Climate Change
23. Climate Change - Fund Weather Stations
24. Environmental Farm Plan Program - Increase Funding
25. Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) Program - Funding for Irrigation Improvements
26. Water for Irrigation
27. Water Turn-On and Turn-Off Dates
28. Cherry Breeder Scientist Position at Summerland Research and Development Centre
29. Weed Scientist Position at Summerland Research and Development Centre
30. Programs to Support the Introduction of New Varieties and the Success of Replanted Acreage
31. BC Agriculture Council Farmer Identity Card

SAWP Advertising Requirements

More info required

Several growers making SAWP applications have noticed that advertising requirements are being more stringently reviewed by Service Canada. Advertisements must include the following information ([example in blue](#)):

- Company operating name; [ABC Farms](#)
- Business address; [1234 Middle Bench Road, Kelowna](#)
- Title of position; [farm labourer](#)
- Job duties (for each position, if advertising more than one vacancy); [pruning, raking, thinning, picking and general farm duties](#)
- Terms of employment; [seasonal farm work, June 1 - September 30](#)
- Wage (refer to Wages, Working Conditions and Occupations tab to determine the established rate for the specific commodity); [\\$10.85 per hour, employment standards minimum piece rate for harvest,](#)
- Benefits package being offered (if applicable);
- Location of work (local area, city or town); [Work location is 5678 Upper Bench Road, Kelowna](#)
- Contact information: telephone number, cell phone number, email address, fax number, or mailing address; tel. 250-555-1212, cell 250-555-1213, abcfarm@gmail.com
- Skills requirements:
 - Education [No formal education requirements.](#)
 - Work experience [Ability to lift weight and climb ladders.](#)

SAWP Housing Inspectors

Hugh Cairns	Kelowna	250-808-5777
Mike Bradshaw	Kelowna	250-870-8340
Keith Suftin	Kelowna	250-317-3349
Brad Pears	Kelowna	250-717-6434
Barry Chickloski	Penticton	250-490-1118
Dwight Carroll	Kelowna	250-470-8467

Licensing Your Well


March 1 deadline

The BCFGA is making plans for sessions to register your well. The first 2 sessions will be held January 30 in at Okanagan College in Penticton, but other sessions will be planned in February if needed. At these sessions, growers will bring their information, and BC Ministry of environment personnel will help each grower to complete the on-line registration process.

Household domestic use wells do not need to be registered, but irrigation wells must be registered. If you register by March 1, 2017, a registration fee can be saved.

On January 30, there are two sessions available: 8:30 to 11:30 am and 1 - 4 pm. Call the BCFGA to register at 250-762-5226, ext. 1 or email us at info@bcfga.com. We will let you know the meeting place and what information to bring.

How to contact the BCFGA Office

<p>BCFGA Office - 250-762-5226 Toll free -1-800-619-9022</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brenda Zarr, 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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Dates and Events- check the [BCFGA Calendar](#) on our website for more information

Meetings

Date	Meeting	Place
Jan. 18	BCFGA Executive	Summerland
Jan. 24-26	BC Agricultural Council	Abbotsford
Jan. 30	Well Registration Workshop	Penticton - call BCFGA to register
Feb. 2-3	BCFGA Annual Convention	Penticton Lakeside Resort
Feb. 7	National tree fruit research priorities	Toronto
Feb. 15	BC Tree Fruit Symposium	Trinity Baptist Church, Kelowna
Feb. 21-23	CFA	Ottawa
March 6-10	TFPG Meetings	Okanagan and Creston
Mar. 13-14	CHC	Winnipeg