

BC Fruit Growers' Association

Friday File

March 24, 2016



Tractor Safety Training

A free course in Kelowna offered by AgSafe

Time: 8 am - noon

Date: Tuesday, April 5, 2016

Place: Growers Supply, 3335 Sexsmith Road, Kelowna

(note this is the old BCFP Sexsmith packinghouse location)

Topics: Regulations, injury statistics, what causes a tractor to roll over, pre shift inspection of tractor, safe tractor operations, how to manage risks and a case study. Theory exam at end of session. Certificates will be presented to those that pass the theory exam.

Who should attend: Experienced tractor operators who have never taken any formal tractor safety training, supervisors responsible for tractor operators, new tractor operators.

If you would like to attend, please contact the instructor

Carol Reid, AgSafe, by phone/text [250-215-5293](tel:250-215-5293) or email carol@agsafebc.ca

Friends of the Okanagan and the Tree Fruit Industry

In Memorium

Two friends of the industry have recently passed away. They will be missed.

[Dr. Norm Loonie](#), long-time horticultural research scientist at the Summerland research centre, passed away today. A celebration of life is being planned for August. Norm was named a Life Member of the BCFGA on February 20, 2015.

[Ben Lee](#), remembered fondly as 'the Mayor of Rutland', passed away March 19. He was a teacher, municipal councillor and promoter of multi-culturalism. In 1996, a park bearing his name opened in Rutland. In 2001, he was given the Freedom of the City of Kelowna.

A celebration of life will be held this Saturday, March 25, 2016 from noon to 4 p.m. at Ben Lee Park.

Creston Meetings

Time: to be determined

Date: Monday, April 11, 2016

Place: to be determined, Creston

The BCFGAs is planning two sessions for members and friends in the Kootenays:

1. Growing the Tree Fruit Industry in the Kootenays
2. Tree Fruit Production Guide update 2016

Watch this newsletter for further information.

ALR Presentation

Public session sponsored by Council of Canadians

Time: 7 pm

Date: Friday, April 1, 2016

Place: East Kelowna Community Hall, 2704 East Kelowna Road (corner of McCulloch Road)

Richard Bullock, former chair of the Agricultural Land Commission, speaking on "Agriculture and the ALR- Past, Present and Future". There will be a question and answer session - all are welcome to this presentation.

BCAC News

Lots of information in this week's BCAC Newsletter

1. [2016 Federal Budget Summary & Highlights](#)
2. [Reminder: New BC Water Act: Ground Water Well Registration!](#)
3. [Do YOU have a Farmer ID Card Yet?](#)

Select any of the items to go to the BCAC newsletter page and scroll down to the article of interest.

BC Fruit Growers' Association Executive

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Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program

(links to earlier articles, in case you missed them)

Airfares

[Mexico](#)

[Caribbean](#)

[Changes to Mexico SAWP for 2016](#)


SAWP program Housing Inspectors

Here is a [list of certified housing inspectors](#).

An Opportunity for Housing 12 SAWP workers in Kelowna

If you are seeking housing for your workers this season, the “Inn from the Cold” building located on 1157 Sutherland Road in Kelowna, BC is available for rent from April 1st to October 15th, 2016. The housing inspection has been done and the building is approved for 12 people (all male or female). The renter will need to provide one stove and arrange its electrical hook up. The building is located across from the Capri Centre Mall. The grower will need to provide transportation for the workers to and from the farm to the housing. Rent to be negotiated with the “Inn From The Cold” association. If interested, please contact Bunvir Nijjer, BCFGAs Corp. Secretary at 250-762-5226 ext.4 or via email bnijjer@bcfga.com.

How to contact the BCFGAs Office

<p>BCFGAs Office  250-762-5226 or 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.• Sheila MacGregor, Accountant, local 3.• Bunvir Nijjer, Corporate Secretary and Seasonal Agriculture Worker Program, local 4.
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Dates and Events

Check [the calendar on our website](#) for more information