BC Fruit Growers' Association Friday File

November 2, 2015



Getting Started with a new government BCFGA meets with Kelowna - Lake Country MP

Stephen Fuhr, MP for Kelowna Lake Country, met with BCFGA President Fred Steele and General Manager Glen Lucas on Friday, October 30. The BCFGA presented a brief on the growth opportunities in the tree fruit sector, with an emphasis on the programs that would assist industry renewal. The meeting was a positive first step - everyone agreed that the first few weeks of the new federal government will be important in determining programs and opportunities for the BC tree fruit sector. The BCFGA, as well as sister organizations, the Canadian Horticultural Council and Canadian Federation of Agriculture, will also be working with the other regional MPs to encourage an 'all party' approach to improving agriculture.

BCFGA Regional Meetings

The dates of the BCFGA Regional meetings are November 9 at the Ramada Hotel in Kelowna and November 10 at the Multicultural Club building* (New Location) behind the Oliver Recreation Centre. Both meetings are 6 - 8 pm. A meeting notice - the attached agenda has been mailed out to all members, or you can check the events calendar on the main page of the BCFGA website.

Dates and Events

Check the calendar on our website for details

Date	Event
November 3-4	Agriculture Day (Fred Steele and Pinder Dhaliwal attending)
November 4	Tree and Fruit Nut Biosecurity Advisory Committee (Glen Lucas attending)
November 4	Minor use pesticides for provincial pest priorities specialist and association review meeting
November 5	National Apple Competition, Royal Agricultural Winter Fair (Rajiv Dosanjh (SVC) and Glen Lucas attending)
November 6	Provincial Tree Fruit Associations, General Managers meeting (Glen Lucas attending)
November 6	Okanagan [Climate] Adaptation Strategies Advisory Committee (Denise MacDonald attending
November 9	BCFGA North Regional Meeting - all members welcome
November 10	BCFGA South Regional Meeting - all members welcome

Date	Event	
November 20	Replant Program deadline for 2016 projects	
November 30	Tree Fruit Crop Insurance Deadline for 2016 coverage	
November 24-25	National Meeting - Mexico-Canada Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program (Pinder Dhaliwal and Glen Lucas attending)	
November 30 - December 4	National Meeting - Caribbean-Canada Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program (Pinder Dhaliwal attending)	
December 7-9	Washington State Hort Forum, Yakima	
December 1	Tree Fruit Production Guide - specialists review meeting	
December 10-11	Agriculture and Climate Change Adaptation, workshop in Kelowna (contact BCFGA if you are interested in attending)	
December 14	next BCFGA Executive meeting	
December 31, 2015	AgriStability application deadline for 2015 (with penalty)	
January 12 and 14, 2016	BCFGA District Council meetings	
January 29-30	BCFGA Annual Convention	

How to contact the BCFGA Office

Bunvir Nijjer, Corporate Secretary and Seasonal Agriculture Worker Program, local 4	BCFGA Office 250-762-5226 or toll free 1-800-619-9022	
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2016 Tree Fruit Replant Program Announcement

The updated requirements of the 2016 Replant Program are available on the BCFGA Website, www.bcfga.com. The Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Norm Letnick, announced the opening of the new program on Oct. 15. The deadline for application is Nov. 20, 2015.

The Tree Fruit Replant Program is a 7 year, \$8.4 million program, funded by the Province of BC.

Chipping Program

The Regional Districts of Central Okanagan and South Okanagan Similkameen offer chipping programs, but each varies in how the programs are organized. The programs are funded by the Regional Districts in order to reduce smoke from open burning. All programs have limited funding, based on first-come first-serve, and require registration prior to tree removal.

The Central Okanagan Regional District has chipped about one-half of the sites it planned on visiting, due to issues that need to be resolved with the chipping contractor prior to proceeding. It is hoped that the issues will be resolved by February.