

BC Fruit Growers' Association

Friday File

September 30, 2016



BCFGA Regional Meetings

Note the dates

South Region

Time: 7:00 - 9:30 pm

Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2016

Place: Penticton Trade and Convention Centre
273 Power St, Penticton

North Region

Time: 7:00 - 9:30 pm

Date: Thursday, October 20, 2016

Place: Coast Capri, Kelowna
1171 Harvey Ave, Kelowna

BCFGA Food Safety Incentive Program

New Program Announced

Recently, Summerland Varieties Corporation paid a dividend to BCFGAs. The Executive decided to use these funds for a program that provides an incentive for participation in food safety, in recognition of the effort that growers place in achieving certification and improving the reputation of BC grown tree fruit.

This BCFGAs Food Safety Incentive Program will provide \$425 to BCFGAs members who have Food Safety Certification in 2016. For further information, [see our announcement](#).

For most BCTF Cooperative members, the amount will be provided as a credit on their next BCTF statement. Others will need to apply using [a form](#) - we will also be contacting those who do not receive the program benefit through the BCTF credit. Deadline to apply is October 31. All growers who are members as of October 15 are eligible - please encourage your neighbours to join BCFGAs and participate in our Food Safety Incentive Program.

Road Safety Workshop

Road Safety At Work is an initiative managed by the Justice Institute of BC and funded by WorkSafeBC to help employers improve the safety of workers who drive for work or who work at the roadside.

A 3.5 hour workshop is scheduled in **Kelowna on Thursday, October 6th from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** Here is a quick link to our [workshop schedule](#).

To register, contact Angelina Robinson directly at [604-770-2500](tel:604-770-2500) or by email angelina.robinson@roadsafetyatwork.ca.

Tree Fruit Replant Program 2017

Applications on-line, deadline is October 31

Time is starting to run out to get Replant Program applications completed. www.bcfga.com for more information.

AgriStability Deadline Reminder

Insuring catastrophic drops in income

Deadline to submit your complete 2015 AgriStability/AgrilInvest Harmonized form: September 30th 2016.

Exhibit about Mexican Farm Workers

Social License - *building public confidence and support*

An [art exhibition at the Kelowna Art Gallery](#) examines the conditions facing the Mexican temporary agricultural workers who come to the Okanagan to work in the vineyards and orchards and celebrates the workers who come to live in our community for months at a time. The exhibition is on until the end of October, and Thursdays are free admission (other days, \$5). The Kelowna Art Gallery is located at 1315 Water Street, Kelowna.

Federal Parliament Report on the Temporary Foreign Worker Program

The federal parliament's Standing Committee on Human Resources has completed its [report on the Temporary Foreign Worker Program](#), which includes the Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program. While still being reviewed and discussed, the general impression is that the committee is aware that SAWP has many safeguards built in for the protection of workers, so little or no change to SAWP was recommended. The committee did recommend that there be pathways to Canadian citizenship for Temporary Foreign Workers.

Canadian Federation of Agriculture

See [this link for the Canadian Federation of Agriculture presentation](#) to the federal parliament's Finance Committee.

In Memoriam

You may have noticed that in this newsletter, we provide notices of BCFGAs members passing away. We watch the papers for obituaries of BCFGAs members and industry contributors. If we miss reporting on the death of a BCFGAs or industry partner, please send us an email.

Follow Summerland Varieties Corp. on Facebook and Twitter!

SVC has launched a [Facebook page](#) and [Twitter profile](#) along with a [new website](#).



How to contact the BCFGA Office

BCFGA Office - 250-762-5226
Toll free -1-800-619-9022



- 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.

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

Meetings

Attended recently and upcoming

Date	Meeting	BCFGA representative
Oct. 1	Salmon Arm Applefest	Bunvir Nijjer
Oct. 5	BCAC Board meeting	Fred Steele, Glen Lucas
Oct. 6	BCAC Labour Committee	Pinder Dhaliwal, Glen Lucas
Oct. 7	SIR Board	Peter Simonsen, Glen Lucas
Oct. 13	Minor Use Meeting	Peter Simonsen
Oct. 14	BCFGA Executive Meeting	
Oct. 19	BCFGA Annual Regional Meeting - North	
Oct. 20	BCFGA Annual Regional Meeting - South	
Nov. 2	Fruit and Tree Nut Biosecurity Advisory Committee	Glen Lucas
Nov. 3	National Apple Competition	
Nov. 7-8	Mexico SAWP Annual Meeting	Pinder Dhaliwal, Glen Lucas
Nov. 9-10	Apple Research Priorities	Pinder Dhaliwal, Glen Luca
Nov. 13-16	Caribbean SAWP Annual Meeting	Pinder Dhaliwal, Glen Luca
Nov. 14-15	BC Agriculture and Seafood Conference, Coast Capri, Kelowna	
Nov. 24	Board Training Session, Centre for Organizational Governance in Agriculture, Kelowna	
Dec. 1	BCFGA Executive meeting	
Dec. 3	Deadline for resolutions to be submitted to the BCFGA	