



## The British Columbia Fruit Growers' Association

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### **BCFGA Awards**

**Penticton** – The BCFGA announced the awards for several outstanding leaders in the tree fruit industry at its 128<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, held in Penticton on February 2-3, 2017.

The recipients and awards are:

**Award of Merit**

**Hank Markgraf, Grower Services Manager,  
BC Tree Fruit Cooperative**

**Dr. Kenna MacKenzie, Associate Director Research  
Development and Technology  
Summerland Research and Development Centre  
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada**

**Life Member**

**Ranbir Kambo, grower and Summerland Varieties  
Corporation director**

**Press Award**

**Lyonel Doherty, Editor, Oliver Chronicle**

The awards were presented at the BCFGA Annual Convention social on February 2, 2017.

“The horticultural success of the BC tree fruit sector in the interior of BC relies on dedication, expert knowledge, and leadership. We recognize these qualities in Hank Markgraf and Kenna MacKenzie with the Award of Merit. Our Life Member award goes to longtime contributor to the industry, Ranbir Kambo. Ranbir sat on the Board of SunFresh Cooperative for many years before the four cooperative packinghouses merged into BC Tree Fruit Cooperative in 2007, and he continues his participation and leadership through his current role as a director at Summerland Varieties Corporation. Finally, in a time when print media is under pressure, Lyonel Doherty, editor of the Oliver Chronicle has continued to put together a quality newspaper that provides a vital service to the residents and farms in the Oliver area, and we are proud to award the BCFG A Press Award to Lyonel.” said Fred Steele, President of the Association.

The BC Fruit Growers' Association represents 520 family operated farms.

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**Attachments**

Ranbir Kambo, Biography  
Hank Markgraf, Biography  
Kenna MacKenzie, Biography

**Further information**

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**Dr. Kenna MacKenzie, Associate Director Research Development and Technology  
Summerland Research and Development Centre  
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada**

Kenna MacKenzie has worked as the Associate Director of Research Development and Technology at the Summerland Research and Development Centre of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada since 2010. Between 1993 and 2010, she worked as a Research Scientist in Entomology with AAFC in Kentville, NS. Her research centered on crop pollination, bee biology and insect pest management in berry crops and apples. She obtained a Masters of Pest Management from Simon Fraser University, British Columbia in 1987 and a PhD in Entomology from Cornell University, New York in 1994.

**Hank Markgraf, Grower Services Manager,  
BC Tree Fruit Cooperative**

Hank Markgraf graduated in Horticulture from Washington State University and started working for the cooperative horticultural services that same year. During his career, Hank has seen all cooperative packinghouses merge into one, and become the manager of the grower services group which provides technical horticultural advice to grower-members of BC Tree Fruit Cooperative. Hank is only accepting this award on the condition that it is NOT a signal of pending retirement - he intends to contribute to the sector for many more years. Hank has 10 acres of orchard which he farms in Kelowna

**Ranbir Kambo**

Ranbir was board member of Manshee Cooperative when it merged with Naramata Cooperative to form SunFresh Cooperative, and participated in the merger of the remaining 4 cooperative packinghouses into a single cooperative, BC Tree Fruit Cooperative. Ranbir has served on the Executive of the BC Fruit Growers Association and is a director of Summerland Varieties Development Corporation. Ranbir and his wife Shinder farm 10 acres of orchard in Osoyoos.

**Lionel Deharney**

Lionel Doherty is editor of the Oliver Chronicle, established in 1937. Doherty is an editor and writer. The community newspaper share a range of services for their local community, and the Oliver Chronicle, under Lionel's leadership, has maintained its place in a time when print media is under siege by electronic media. The Chronicle has kept its place by maintaining its relevance to local readers, and by maintaining an on-line presence.