

News & Updates!

February 2016

In this issue...

Pg 1 – Board Directors Needed

Pg 2 – AgriStability Interim
Application

Pg 2 – 2016 Pruning Workshop

Pg 3 – Agricultural Resilience
Workshop

Pg 4 – Emergency Planning &
First Aid

Pg 5 – Young Farmers'
Conference

Pg 6 – Sustainability Workshop



BCGA Board Needs Directors!

As our industry continues to grow, we are seeking growers to join a dynamic group of fellow independent and winery grape producers to proactively tackle industry issues, develop, and share the most recent industry practices and knowledge. Our efforts are used to assist our industry members in their day-to-

day operations and the long-term sustainability of our industry.

Skills and knowledge required are:

- 5 years in the grape growing / wine producing industry
- Competence in English (reading & writing)
- Basic computer skills for board correspondence
- Sufficient time to devote from 2-6 hours per month, depending on time of year

If you are, or someone you know is interested in this opportunity, please contact Louise Corbeil (BCGA Administrator) for more information by e-mail at louise@grapegrowers.bc.ca or by telephone at 1-877-762-4652. Résumés are encouraged, as a screening process is used to ensure potential board members have the right qualifications.

REMINDER

Renew Your Membership Now!

If you haven't renewed your BCGA Membership for 2016, now is the time to get it done before the busyness of spring takes hold!

You can renew in one of two ways:

- Online at <http://www.grapegrowers.bc.ca/membership/> using a credit card with the PayPal payment feature or
- By sending your cheque for \$150 to the BC Grapegrowers Association to Post Office Box 42, Grand Forks, BC, V0H 1H0

We will be sure to send you a receipt for your accounting department when your renewal has been received and processed

CONTACT US!

PO Box 42, Grand Forks, BC, V0H 1H0
Toll Free: 1-877-762-4652
Fax: (250) 767-0094

E-mail: bcga@grapegrowers.bc.ca
Website: www.grapegrowers.bc.ca



AgriStability
BC Ministry of Agriculture

AgriStability Interim Application

The 2015 interim applications are available on the AgriStability website. If you would like to apply, please go to www.gov.bc.ca/agribusinessriskmanagement or call our toll free line.

What is an interim payment?

If you have suffered an income decline beyond your control, the Interim Payment program may be of assistance. An interim payment is an advance on a producer's final 2015 AgriStability benefit. The interim benefit is up to 50% of your estimated final benefit.

Deadline

31 March 2016

To Qualify

- To apply for an Interim Payment, you must be a participant in AgriStability for the 2015 program year. Application details are available in the Interim Guide
- If you receive an Interim Payment, you must submit a final 2015 Harmonised form by 31 December 2016 so your final AgriStability benefit can be calculated. If you do not submit a complete 2015 application by the deadline date, you will be required to repay any benefits you received through the 2015 Interim Payment

AgriStability Administration

200 1500 Hardy St
Kelowna, BC V1Y 8H2

1767 Angus Campbell Rd
Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3

<http://www.gov.bc.ca/agribusinessriskmanagement>
Toll Free: 1-877-343-2767
Toll Free Fax: 1-877-605-8467
Email: AgriStability@gov.bc.ca



2015 Pruning Workshop

Our 2016 pruning workshop on January 7 had 46 eager growers in attendance. Thank you to our speakers Ralph Suremann, Graham O'Rourke, and Dr. José Ramón Úrbez Torres for sharing their knowledge on "how to" practices and trunk diseases. Growers also had some practical time in the vineyard. Our exhibitors, Frank Whitehead and Dan Zeller, demonstrated how to use the latest pruning equipment

and provided some wonderful door prizes along with Growers Supply. Thank you to BMO for sponsoring the coffee break, to Granny Bogners for a wonderful lunch, and to Red Rooster for hosting.

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BMO  **Bank of Montreal**

(from left to right) photos by Flickr user Province of BC, Magalie L'Abbé, Lisa



Climate Action Initiative
BC AGRICULTURE & FOOD

Okanagan Agricultural Adaptation Strategies

Partnering for Agricultural Resilience

What:

A workshop focused on developing adaptation options and an action strategy to strengthen agricultural resilience in a changing climate. Discussion will include strategies for managing:

- Changing hydrological systems (drier summers)
- Increase in extremely hot days, and
- Changes to pests, diseases and invasive species.

Why:

- Get involved in developing & implementing adaptation strategies for the Okanagan
- Share your knowledge and experience
- Build on the results of Workshop #1 (held in December)

When:

Penticton:

Wednesday
February 10th, 2016
9am to 2pm



Where:

The Penticton Lakeside Resort
21 Lakeshore Drive West
Penticton, B.C.

Or

Vernon:

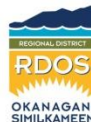
Thursday
February 11th, 2016
9am to 2pm



Vernon Golf & Country Club
800 Kalamalka Lake Rd
Vernon, B.C.

(morning coffee, baked goods and lunch provided at both workshops)

PLEASE RSVP or contact us with any questions: Okanagan@BCAgClimateAction.ca or call 604-992-7257



Emergency Planning and First Aid

Response to an emergency and first aid treatment are both actions growers never want to set in motion on their site. Regulations require that each employer in BC assess the risk in all workplaces and develop procedures appropriate to the risk. The types of risks in your vineyard could vary from hazardous materials, confined spaces, medical emergency, entrapment by equipment, forest fire and gas line rupture are all possibilities. Emergency planning should incorporate plans for all such emergencies.

This past summer many employers had to face the potential of a full evacuation due to approaching forest fires. Response to an encroaching forest fire is quite different than having a common muster station for a small building fire. Determine where your muster station would be in the event of a mass evacuation and develop a safe work procedure you ensure everyone is safely evacuated.

Some items to keep in mind

- Who is your emergency coordinator? Who might be the backup?
- Where is your emergency equipment?
- Who is on site that day and where?
- What are the contact numbers for the different types of emergencies?
Where are they posted?
- Are there locations on farm that cannot be accessed by emergency vehicles? If so how would you address moving injured workers?
- How can workers contact a first aid attendant?
- Do they know who the first aid attendants are?
- Have you done an emergency drill in the past year?
- Does the local fire department know the location of your hazardous materials?



As well as having an emergency plan, employers are required to provide each workplace with first aid attendants, supplies and equipment appropriate for rendering first aid to workers plus transportation to medical treatment. The type and level of first aid is dependent of several factors including the number of workers, level of risk and travel time to a hospital. A first aid assessment must be conducted and reviewed every 12 months or when there is significant change in operation.

AgSafe (also known as FARSHA, the Farm and Ranch Safety and Health Association) has many tools and resources to assist you with your planning. Check out our new website



www.agsafebc.ca/tools to see what is available. Your regional safety consultant will be happy to assist you with your emergency response planning or any other health and safety requirements. Contact Carol Reid at 250-215-5293 or carol@agsafebc.ca

#farmtogether

agriculture united

Register as a young farmer at cyff.ca for a chance to win prizes including an all expense paid trip to the **#farmtogether – agriculture united** 2016 CYFF Annual Young Farmers Conference

2016 CYFF Annual Young Farmers Conference

FEBRUARY 26-29, 2016 ~ VANCOUVER, BC

Pinnacle Hotel Vancouver Harbourfront (1133 West Hastings Street)

Powerful line up of speakers and presentations on topics of interest to all young Canadian farmers

Network with young farmers of various commodities from coast to coast!

For more details:  www.cyff.ca  Canadian Young Farmers Forum  @CYFF

Full conference agenda can be found at cyff.ca or on Facebook, under events: CYFF 2016 #farmtogether young farmers conference



Thursday – 25 February 2016

Optional – if you are involved in crop or apple production and would like to take part in CAHRC's Competency Profiling Research Project, contact the CYFF office for details

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|-----------------|--|
| 8:30am – 5:00pm | CAHRC – Crops: Competency Profiling Group | 8:30am – 5:00pm | CAHRC – Apples: Competency Profiling Group |
|-----------------|---|-----------------|--|

Friday – 26 February 2016

| | | | |
|------------------|--|------------------|--|
| 9:00am – 5:00pm | CAHRC – Human Resources 101 Workshop <i>This workshop explores the benefits of investing in the people side of your business, providing an overview of HR Management, teaching to manage your employees</i> | 1:00pm – 5:00pm | Young Farmer Provincial Organisations Showcase |
| | | 7:00pm – 10:00pm | Wine & Cheese (DFC Feature) Welcome & Opening Remarks AG More Than Ever – Update & Weekend Challenges DFC Inspirational Speaker |
| 12:00pm – 7:00pm | CYFF Conference Registration | | |

Saturday – 27 February 2016

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|---------|--|---------|--|
| 8:00am | Breakfast (EFC Feature) | 12:00pm | Lunch |
| 8:45 am | Greetings | 12:30pm | Board Governance Training with Casey Langbroek |
| 9:00am | Proaction - DFC | 2:00pm | Break |
| 9:30am | Economic Update – Faith Matchett, FCC | 2:15pm | Afternoon Presentations |
| 10:30am | Break | 4:00pm | Virtual Farm Tours – BC, NB, ON, NF |
| 10:45am | Agriculture United Panel | 5:00pm | Adjourn |
| 11:30am | CTEAM – Young Farmer Management Training Program | 7:00pm | Team Building Social |

Sunday – 28 February 2016

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|---------|---|--------|---|
| 8:30am | Richard Philips – Government Snapshot | 2:30pm | Social License and Sustainability |
| 9:00am | Farm Safety - CASA | 3:15pm | Virtual Farm Tours – AB, MB, NS |
| 9:30am | Bonneville – Farmland Lease Financing – Helping Farmers Reach their Goals | 4:00pm | CYFF Annual General Meeting |
| 10:15am | Break | 5:00pm | Adjuourn |
| 10:30am | Family Farm Planning & Transfers with Case Langbroek | 6:30pm | Formal Supper |
| 12:00pm | Lunch | | Andrew Campbell – Social Media Outreach |
| 1:00pm | Virtual Farm Tours – YT, QC, SK, PE | | USA / Canada Collaboration |
| 2:15pm | Break | | Special Guest Virtual Farm Tour |

Monday – 29 February 2016

| | | | |
|--------|--------------------|---------|--|
| 9:00am | Break Out Sessions | 10:30am | Adjourn – Closing of #farmtogether2016 |
|--------|--------------------|---------|--|



FREE WORKSHOPS TO HELP WITH SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENTS

As part of Sustainable Winegrowing British Columbia, free workshops will be held on 16 February 2016 in Penticton and 23 February 2016 in Kelowna. The purpose of the workshops is to help people complete their web-based sustainable vineyard & winery assessments.

For more information or to sign up, please e-mail Kellie Garcia at info@sustainablewinegrowingbc.ca



PLANNING ON PLANTING?

Now grape growers have discovered the benefits of using Superior Peat when planting.

Over 100 wineries and vineyards have realized that using **SUPERIOR PEAT™** is **profitable** when used at planting:

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Email at: **info@superiorpeat.com**

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