







BC INSTITUTE OF AGROLOGISTS

**SPECIAL AGM REPORT** 

**SPRING 2016** 

DRAFT AGM AGENDA 2015 AGM MINUTES PRESIDENT'S REPORT

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT COMMITTEE REPORTS BRANCH REPORTS



# IN THIS ISSUE

Vision, Mission, Mandate, Rules of Order	. =
Draft AGM Agenda	Ī
2015 AGM Minutes5	-6
President's Report	. 7
Executive Director's Report	. 8
Committee Reports9-	10
2016-2017 Council Members	1
Committee Members	1
Branch Executives	12
Branch Reports13-	14
Membership Update	15

Thank you to the BCIA members who provided photos from various BCIA events including the Vic & Islands Branch Balme-Ayr Dairy tour and Umi Nami farm tour, Vancouver Branch AGM and CCI Branch Mount Polley tour.

British Columbia Institute of Agrologists is a regulatory body which establishes standards for the competent and ethical practice of agrology in BC.

# **OUR VISION**

Through professional self-regulation, upholding and protecting the public interest.

# **OUR MISSION**

The mission of the British Columbia Institute of Agrologists is to ensure the professional integrity and competency of its members to protect the public interest in the sustainable use of resources.

# **OUR MANDATE**

The purpose of the institute is:

- 1. to uphold and protect the public interest by
  - preserving and protecting the scientific methods and principles that are the foundation of the agricultural and natural sciences,
  - upholding the principles of stewardship that are the foundation of agrology, and
  - ensuring the integrity, objectivity and expertise of its members, and
- subject to paragraph (a),
  - to govern its members in accordance with the Act and the bylaws, and
  - to cooperate with other professional or occupational bodies charged with governing the conduct or competence of their members on a matter the institute considers relevant to agrology.





# **RULES OF ORDER**

The following rules of order are intended to facilitate progress, to include members of BCIA in orderly debate, and to ensure fairness, equality and common sense:

- 1. The meeting will be run in accordance with the provisions of the Agrologists Act ("the Act"), the BCIA Bylaws ("the Bylaws"), and the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised.
- 2. Only Institute members in good standing are eligible to speak, make motions, and vote.
- 3. Members who wish to speak will approach a microphone, wait to be acknowledged by the chair, and open by stating their names.
- 4. On each issue or debatable motion, each member will be entitled to speak up to two (2) times, for no longer than three (3) minutes each time. Speaking a third time or longer than 3 minutes will require permission from the assembly.
- 5. To speak a second time on the same issue (or to ask an additional question on a report), a member must wait until those who wish to speak on it for the first time have spoken.
- Debate must be germane to the motion which is on the floor. The chair may alternate between proponents and opponents to a pending motion.
- Debate on a motion may be closed by unanimous consent, or – if unanimous consent is not evident – by a motion to close debate (such a motion is presented from a microphone and cannot interrupt a person who was recognized to speak).

# **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA**

# DRAFT

British Columbia Institute of Agrologists 69th Annual General Meeting Friday, May 13th, 2016 at 9:00 am Coast Inn of the North, Prince George, BC

Greetings and Introduction of Guests

1. Adopt Agenda - motion

2. Adoption of minutes of 2015 AGM - motion

3. President's Report

4. Executive Director's report

5. Follow up to 2015 Resolutions

6. Treasurer's Report

a. Presentation of Audited Statements for 2015

b. Audited Statements for 2015 – motion to accept

Appointment of Auditor - motion c.

d. Resolution Reminder re: membership fees

7. Report on Election Results for President Elect

8. Location of 2017 AGM

9. Induction of New President

10. The Road Ahead and Recognitions

11. Introduction of Council for 2016-2017

12. Presentation of P.Ag. Certificates

13. Adjournment of AGM

President Gary Tipper P.Ag., RPBio

Gary Tipper P.Ag., RPBio

Gary Tipper P.Ag., RPBio

Gary Tipper P.Ag., RPBio

Robert Moody P.Ag., RPBio

Gary Tipper P.Ag., RPBio

Hally Hofmeyr P.Ag.

Gary Tipper P.Ag., RPBio Gary Tipper P.Ag., RPBio Gary Tipper P.Ag., RPBio Jennifer McGuire, P.Ag. Jennifer McGuire, P.Ag. Jennifer McGuire, P.Ag. Robert Moody P.Ag., RPBio

Jennifer McGuire, P.Ag.

The 2015 audited BCIA Financial Statements will be available at the AGM and are posted to the BCIA website under the Members login - Member Resources.





#### WELCOME

Matt Edgar, P.Ag., BCIA President, welcomed all attendees and delivered his opening remarks. Matt recognized special guests in attendance:

- Pierre Iachetti, Executive Director, CAB
- Gerry Leering, Past President, APB
- Bruce Stevens, ASTTBC
- Lindsay Steele, APEGBC
- Dwayne Summach, SIA
- Shaffeek Ali, AIA

Robert Moody, P.Ag., BCIA ED/Registrar shared the experience from last year of awarding Her Honour, Judith Guichon, OBC, Lieutenant Governor of BC, with a BCIA certificate of membership as an Honorary Agrologist. Robert read out the special message that Her Honour prepared for today for the attendees of the 68th AGM.

May 7th, 2015 was proclaimed Professional Agrologist Day in the City of Kelowna by Mayor Colin Basran with a proclamation that was read out to the AGM attendees by President Matt Edgar, P.Ag.

# 2015 AGM MINUTES

# **DRAFT**

Draft Minutes of the British Columbia Institute of Agrologists 68th Annual General Meeting held on Thursday, May 7, 2015 @ 2:00pm The Coast Capri Hotel, Kelowna, BC

#### **BCIA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The 68th Annual General Meeting of BCIA was called to order at 2:21 pm by President Matt Edgar, P.Ag.

#### Agenda

A motion was made to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.

#### Adoption of 2014 AGM Minutes

A motion was made to adopt the minutes. Motion carried.

#### **Confirmation of Number of Voting Members in Attendance**

President Matt Edgar, P.Ag., called on Parliamentarian David Struthers, P.Ag. to report the number of positive voting members present – there were 190 voting members. Quorum was confirmed. Matt referenced Robert's Rules of Order in the AGM Newsletter.

#### **President's Report**

President Matt Edgar, P.Ag. made a brief verbal report and also referenced his report in the AGM newsletter. It was noted that the Branch Operating Procedures are now complete; Branch President's calls continue to take place; Human Resources Manual for staff is now complete and Council meeting minutes (approved) are posted to the BCIA website behind the member log-in.

#### Introduction of New BCIA Logo

President Matt Edgar, P.Ag. introduced the new BCIA logo and unveiled two new banners. The new logo represents the members' diverse areas of practice in agrology. Communications Chair, Marg Crowley, P.Ag. and BCIA office staff were acknowledged for their work in the development and unveiling here today.

#### **Executive Director's Report**

Robert Moody, P.Ag. thanked the Okanagan Nation for the opportunity to meet on their Traditional Territory then made a brief verbal report and also referenced his report in the AGM newsletter. Robert spoke of the Speaker's Staff that will be present at all future BCIA AGM's; highest membership ever with 1400+ members; highest regulated membership with 1200+ and highest number of student members ever; Professional Liability course is available on the BCIA website to members as a professional development opportunity with it being mandatory to complete for the new A.Ag.'s accepted as of March 1, 2015; completion of the second module of the liability course is in progress; thank you to BCIA staff for their support and hard work in servicing the membership and delivering the different programs of the Institute.

#### Follow-up to 2014 Resolutions

President Matt Edgar, P.Ag. stated that the reduction in annual fee for P.Ag. (Retired) from \$125.00 to \$50.00 and the elimination of the annual student member fee was well received - a record number of student members now. Both resolutions came into effect January 1, 2015.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

President Matt Edgar, P.Ag. called upon Hally Hofmeyr, P.Ag., BCIA Treasurer, to present the Treasurer's Report. The 2014 Audited Financial Statements were posted to the BCIA website in early April and additional copies were on the tables for reference. Hally then called upon Dave Bond from KPMG to provide an overview of the audited financial statements with questions from the floor then addressed.

#### a. Audited Statements for 2014

A motion was made to accept the audited statements as presented. Motion carried.

### b. Appointment of Auditor for 2015

A motion was made to appoint KPMG as the auditor for 2015. Motion carried.

#### c. Resolution Reminder Re: **Membership Fees**

Members were informed that there would be no fee increase for 2016.

#### **Committee Reports**

President Matt Edgar, P.Ag. noted that all of the Committee reports were printed in the AGM newsletter.

A motion was made to accept the Committee reports as presented in the AGM newsletter. Motion carried.

Matt recognized all committee chairs and volunteers and invited all members to consider volunteering on a committee.

#### **Report on Election Results for President Elect**

President Matt Edgar, P.Ag. reported that Jennifer McGuire, P.Ag. was elected by acclamation for the position of President Elect for 2015 - 2016.

#### Location of 2016 BCIA AGM

President Matt Edgar, P.Ag. announced that the 2016 BCIA AGM will be held in Prince George in May 2016.

#### Induction of New BCIA President

President Matt Edgar, P.Ag. introduced Gary Tipper, P.Ag as the BCIA President for 2015 - 2016 and formally transferred the presidency to Gary with the passing of the BCIA garvel. Gary thanked the Okanagan Branch Organizing Committee for their hard work in putting on the conference and also expressed his sincere appreciation to the BCIA office staff and for the volunteers that serve the Institute. Gary provided recognition to Matt as outgoing President.

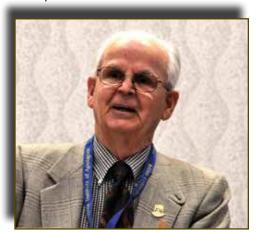
#### The Road Ahead and Recognitions

President Gary Tipper, P.Ag. outlined the goals of his term as president of BCIA for 2015 - 2016. Gary received the "Office of the President" Talking Stick then Matt Edgar, P.Ag. was presented with a gift as outgoing president.

Thank you plaques were presented to Jennifer McGuire, P.Ag. and Carl Withler, P.Ag. for their service as Councillors with BCIA. Rob Kupchanko, P.Ag. was recognized for his 3 year term on Council as President-Elect, President and Past President.

### **Distinguished Professional Agrologist Award**

Presented to Sigurd (Sig) B. Peterson, member of BCIA since 1949. Sig shared with the audience a very inspiring and engaging history of work in the field of agrology. He was proud to be a Professional Agrologist and is proud to be a member of BCIA. During his career it was his goal to make a difference in the lives of farmers. He challenged all members to go and make a difference in their profession.



Distinguished Professional Agrologist recipient in 2015, Sig Peterson

#### New P.Ag. Certificates

Eight newly minted P.Ag.'s. were presented with their framed P.Ag. certificates: Krystal Ashworth, Nancy Ann Fuller, Heather Colleen Hansen, Catherine Henry, Sarah Morrison, Craig Shook, Elisabeth Taylor, and Barb Wheatley.

#### **Introduction of New Council**

President Gary Tipper, P.Ag. introduced the 2015 - 2016 BCIA Council:

Past President: Matt Edgar, P.Ag.

President Elect: Jennifer McGuire, P.Ag.

CCI Branch Councillor: Marc Schuffert, P.Ag.

Fraser Valley Branch Councillor: Dawn Ross, A.Ag.

Kamloops Branch Councillor: Rhonda Maskiewich, P.Ag.

Kootenay Boundary Branch Councillor: Melissa Graydon, P.Ag.

Okanagan Branch Councillor: Jessica Morgan, P.Ag.

Peace River Branch Councillor: Karrilyn Vince, P.Ag.

Vancouver Branch Councillor: Margot Pittaway, P.Ag.

Victoria & Islands Branch Councillor/ Treasurer: Hally Hofmeyr, P.Ag.

#### Adjournment of AGM

Meeting adjourned at 4:11 pm.

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

ouncil has been on an ongoing quest to improve its governance, by tightening up the Institute's Bylaws and procedures and, in many cases, just documenting things so that those who follow have a better-defined path to follow. This is a key to succession, since at both the Branch and Council level, membership changes occur annually. One future initiative in the queue is to follow up the Branch Operating Procedures/Branch Financial Operating Procedures and develop a Branch Executive Orientation Package. Related to future direction, BCIA's Strategic Plan will be updated this year.

Harking back to governance, an example of an area where governance can be improved is the experience of candidates, staff and Council with the election for President Elect. There was no extant policy or procedures to rely upon in conducting this year's ballot. You can rest assured that both policy and procedure will be in place prior to the next ballot, which hopefully will occur in 2017.

Communication was a theme in Past President Matt Edgar's Presidents report to the AGM last year. Much like between couples, communication must be ongoing and requires effort. Communication amongst us as colleagues and peers, amongst Branches and Branch members, amongst Council, Branches and members and, finally, between staff and Council, staff and Branches and staff and members is key. Hopefully the paths for communication are established, as exemplified by the new website, the quarterly newsletter, the monthly updates that we receive by email and the quarterly Presidents Call with Branch Presidents. Transparency is an immediate product of communication and trust flows out of that.

Speaking of communication, Council held its regularly-scheduled meeting on February 26-27. In addition to the usual reports, either policies or procedures were considered for:

- Committee terms of reference.
- Draft policies for use of the new logo, capital assets
- Revisions to SOP's for the Credentials Committees
- Staff compensation and RRSP policies

Additionally, the 2015 Audited Financial Statements were approved, as were the 2016 Executive Director Goals and Tasks. Suggestions for action and for items to consider in its March 16 meeting were provided to the Governance Committee.

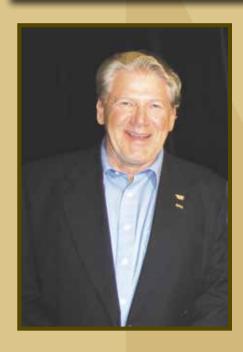
On a personal note, I am thankful to have one more year on Council as I make the transition to Past President. My lengthy stint on Council is coming to close and I will miss the association with interesting, considerate professionals that has been so very rewarding. At this time next year, I will drift off to join the body of presidents past, a sage and illustrious group of no official standing whatsoever.

In closing, I would like to wish you all a happy and productive spring and summer filled with reward and excitement.

> Gary Tipper P.Ag., R.P.Bio. BCIA President 2015-2016



# **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**



Welcome to the 2016 Special AGM Issue of the BCIA Newsletter. Located within are reports and updates from our various Standing Committees and Branches and you will see that it has been a very busy period for everyone.

At head office we have been working hard to keep up with all of the various initiatives and activities that we experienced over the year. One area that is of particular note is the significant growth in membership over the past few years and we are presently anticipating that we will have a total membership of more than 1500 by the end of 2016. Our rapid growth in the face of the present economic downturn in some areas of the natural resource sector is nothing short of amazing.

We are also very busy with the many communication tools we employ to keep our members informed about developments within BCIA as well as the outside world. We continue to receive high praise for the professional look and content of our BCIA Newsletter and I encourage each and every one of you to consider submitting articles of interest to your fellow agrologists. Likewise with the Monthly Update members receive by email, as we are always looking for information about upcoming events, Professional Development activities, etc. to convey to our members and to post to our new website. The website has been up and running for a few months now and by all accounts it is a significant improvement over the previous version.

The 2015 Audited Financial Statements have now been posted to the website and I hope you will take some time to review them as they clearly show that we are still in a very strong financial position after several successive annual budget surpluses. The 2016 Annual

Operating Budget can also be viewed on our website.

I would like to commend all of our Branches for the many excellent professional development events they were able to provide to their members during the past year. I was able to attend three branch Annual General Meetings in early 2016 and to experience the huge turnout of members for each of those events.

Our 69th, that's right our 69th, provincial Annual General Meeting and Conference will take place at the Coast Inn of the North in Prince George from May 11-14, 2016. The AGM Planning Committee has done a great job of ensuring an exciting agenda and I encourage everyone to attend. You will find additional information and instructions on how to register on the BCIA website.

I often tell people that BCIA is an organization with three paid staff and several hundred active volunteers who freely donate their time, skills, and energy in the service of their professional association. We would not be the professional body that we have come to be without that ongoing support and we are all truly gratefully for the commitment of all our volunteers.

THANK YOU, BCIA volunteers! Robert Moody PAg RPBio



# **COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

any thanks goes to the BCIA Communications Committee members — Cindy Hall, P.Ag., Alex Koiter, P.Ag., Council Rep. Rhonda Maskiewich, P.Ag., Regan Purdy, P.Ag., Howard Ratzlaff, P.Ag., and Executive Director Bob Moody, P.Ag., and to Laurena Olsen and Bonnie Keleher in the BCIA office for their help, support and great ideas. Committee members met by teleconference, had discussions by e-mail and a face-to-face meeting in November, 2015. During these meetings, our discussions ranged broadly from the importance and ethics of social media to innovative ideas for promoting Agrology, Agrologists and the BCIA, to suggestions on the re-development of the website and the logo, and keeping the newsletter current and interesting.

This was a year of moving the projects along. With the unveiling of the new logo at last years' AGM, re-development of the new website carried on. There is a lot of work involved in re-development of a website! While the contractors did the "behind-the-scenes" technical programming for the framework, transferred the database over to a new server, and made sure the information was all connected and linked properly, Bonnie and Laurena did a lot of the work to make sure the content on each page was drafted, uploaded and checked that it was all working properly — as well as their regular day's work, which led to the new website being launched in the summer. More work is continuing, for example, setting up secure pages and forums for the Council and committees. I hope that most members have viewed the new re-developed website – we are interested to hear how it's working and receive any constructive comments.

# **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Over the past couple of years, a number of the initiatives in the Communications Plan have been completed – including the rebranding, a refreshed newsletter, an updated website, and reinvigorating the communications committee. I believe that we have accomplished a lot, but there's more to do. A draft graphics standard is being finalized and the committee members are developing a draft outreach strategy. Stay tuned for more information in future newsletters.

I am stepping down as Chair of the Communications Committee for the next person with some great, fresh ideas to carry on with the next phase. Thanks again to the Committee members, Council and staff for their support. It has been a privilege to work with all of you on the various initiatives. I encourage members to get involved; think about joining a committee. For me it has been one of the best ways to learn about the branches and the institute, about agrology and about professionalism.

Marg Crowley, P.Ag., Chair

# **GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

he Governance Committee has embarked upon a significant review of portions of the by-laws, governance manual and committee(s) terms of reference. New procedures are also to be developed. The target for this work to be completed is Sept 2016, with major elements completed before the end of May, 2016. Note that this work takes the form of reports to council with a rationale for a recommended action.

Key elements include:

- review Governance Committee Terms of Reference
- develop a separate Nominations Committee
- general review of Terms of Reference sections 6 and 7
- by-law review
- develop new procedures for dealing with complaints
- develop new Branch operation procedures.

Ken Long, P.Ag. (Ret), Chair

# **DISCIPLINE HEARING** COMMITTEE

he Discipline Hearing Committee's purpose is to conduct discipline hearings following issuance of a citation by the Conduct and Discipline Committee. We are pleased to report that we had no business to conduct in

Maureen Kent, P.Ag. (Ret), Chair

# **CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE**

he committee authorized two investigations in 2015/16. As of March 31, 2016, the investigation reports were not yet complete.

Ken Long, P.Ag. (Ret), Chair

# COMMITTEE REPORTS CONT'D

Thank you to all the BCIA members who contribute their time and expertise to volunteer for branch executives, committees and Council.

# CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

would like to start off by thanking the Credentials Committee members for their commitment and hard work throughout the 2015-16 year. The Committee membership for 2015 consisted of Margot Pittaway (Acting Chair), Vafa Alizadeh, Geneve Jasper, Andrea Mah, Stewart McBride, Ruth McDougall and Martin Sills.

I'd like to take a minute to recognize our dear friend and colleague, Alec Drysdale. Alec lost his fight to cancer earlier in 2015. Alec was a strong, tenacious, highly respectable man who we were very fortunate to have as not only the Chair of the Credentials Committee for several years but as a friend.

Due to the circumstances last year, Andrea Mah acted as the Chair of the committee from January 2015 to July 2015, and I have been acting as the Chair since then.

In 2015-16 we reviewed 105 applications, 7 of which were rejected, 1 withdrew and 1 was removed. 13 of the 105 applications were from recent graduates.

We had a productive face to face meeting in November 2015 where we discussed application requirements including the number of years required for a "Bachelor's Degree", the number of hours or % of a job that applies to Agrology in terms of being employed in the field of Agrology, and the broad range of sciences that are appearing and how they related to Agrology.

Key outcomes from the meeting were: the '4 year' requirement for a Bachelors degree was removed to indicate only that a 'Bachelor's Degree' is required; that the equivalent of 2 years of full time work in Agrology is required for applicants; and re-confirmed that the requirement to be eligible for a term reduction is 6 years of post-graduation work experience. We also decided to hire a consultant to look into all of

the degree granting institutes in BC and identify what degree programs and individual courses apply to Agrology. This will assist the Credentials Committee greatly when reviewing applications, as the number of "new sciences" and courses is evolving rapidly and it is difficult to determine what does and does not apply to agrology at times. We were fortunate to have Ruth McDougall, a member of the Credentials Committee, volunteer for this project. We look forward to seeing the results and working through the next phase.

It is important that we connect with university students and recent graduates who will, hopefully, become future student members or articling agrologists and begin life-long careers in the field of Agrology. Since the student member fee was eliminated in January 2015 we have doubled the student membership!

Margot Pittaway P.Ag., Chair

# **PROFESSIONAL** PRACTICE COMMITTEE

he Professional Practice Committee (PPC) is established under the Agrologists Act to address issues related to professional practice. A core business issue that falls within the PPC purview is the implementation of an auditing program examining BCIA members' professional development activities. Additional tasks addressed by the committee include discussions and recommendations for denoting areas of practice, interpreting bylaws related to professional development, developing recommendations for program improvement, and addressing members' concerns as these arise. In addition, in 2015, the PPC continued to ensure a tangible and effective connection with the BCIA membership.

I had the privilege of chairing the PPC this year. In this capacity, I was fortunate to work with a very

professional and dedicated team. I would like to express a heartfelt thank you to each and every committee member who has shared his or her time, patience, expertise and good humour with us throughout the year.

I am proud to highlight some of the work that occupied the PPC's time this year, including:

- Advancing the development of the "Climate Change and Professional Development Responsibilities for Agrologists in British Columbia" position paper,
- Drafting the Protocols for Reporting Deficiencies Identified in BCIA Professional Development Audit
- Planning and implementing the 2015
- Aligning the composition and direction of the PPC and its mandate, with current BCIA requirements (structural, administrative and technical),
- Working to establish effective communication between BCIA membership and the PPC, via an increased on-line presence and additional information documents.
- Working to ensure strong partnerships and promote BCIA members' professional and technical competence, both internally and externally.
- Forwarding partnerships with other professional organizations to advance Right-to-Practice discussions.

I am equally privileged to work with the PPC members, whose continued effort, enthusiasm and passion define our work. The PPC is looking forward to working with the executive, the membership and the community at large to increase the awareness and relevance of our programs. The PPC is looking forward to working with our partners to support, enhance and promote the Institute's mandate.

Oana Enick, PAg, RPBio, Chair

# INTRODUCING THE 2016-2017 COUNCIL

President - Jennifer McGuire, P.Ag. President Elect - Julie Robinson, P.Ag. Past President - Gary Tipper, P.Ag. Treasurer - Hally Hofmeyr, P.Ag.

#### Councillors

Cariboo Central Interior Branch: Marc Schuffert, P.Ag.

Fraser Valley Branch: Dawn Ross, P.Ag. Kamlooops Branch: To be determined

Kootenay Boundary Branch: Melissa Graydon, P.Ag.

Okanagan Branch: Jessica Morgan, P.Ag. Peace River Branch: To be determined Vancouver Branch: Coreen Moroziuk, P.Ag. Victoria & Islands Branch: Hally Hofmeyr, P.Ag.

## Thank you to our 2015-2016 Council members



L to R (back row): Melissa Graydon, P.Ag, Dawn Ross, P.Ag., Matt Edgar, P.Ag., Margot Pittaway, P.Ag., Hally Hofmeyr, P.Ag., Marc Schuffert, P.Ag. L to R (front row): Karrilyn Vince, P.Ag., Gary Tipper, P.Ag., Jennifer McGuire, P.Ag. Not present: Jessica Morgan, P.Ag. & Rhonda Maskiewich, P.Ag.

#### **Communications Committee**

Marg Crowley, P.Ag., Chair Cindy Hall, P.Ag. Alex Koiter, P.Ag. Rhonda Maskiewich, P.Ag. Regan Purdy, P.Ag. Howard Ratzlaff, P.Ag.

#### **Conduct and Discipline Committee**

Ken Long, P.Ag.(Ret), Chair Clay Campbell, P.Ag. Jim Collins, P.Ag. Elisabeth Deom, P.Ag. Keith Duhaime, P.Ag. Andrea Gunner, P.Ag. Bob Holtby, P.Ag. Susan Hoyles, P.Ag. Rob Kupchanko, P.Ag. Dave Struthers, P.Ag.

# CURRENT **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

### **Credentials Committee**

Andrea Mah, P.Ag. Margot Pittaway, P.Ag., Acting Chair Vafa Alizadeh, P.Ag. Geneve Jasper, P.Ag. Stewart McBride, P.Ag. Ruth McDougall, P.Ag. Martin Sills, P.Ag.

#### **Discipline Hearing Committee**

Maureen Kent, P.Ag. (Ret), Chair Kevin Walker, P.Ag. Carl Withler, P.Ag.

#### **Governance Committee**

Ken Long, P.Ag.(Ret), Chair Keith Duhaime, P.Ag. Rob Kupchanko, P.Ag. Brian Mauza, P.Ag. Julie Robinson, P.Ag. Darrell Smith, P.Ag. David Struthers, P.Ag.

### **Professional Practice Committee**

Oana Enick, P.Ag., Chair Andrea McCormick, P.Ag. Jennifer McGuire, P.Ag. George Powell, P.Ag. Mandeep Purewal, P.Ag.

#### 2015 Volunteer Auditors

Tanya Malloy, P.Ag. Sajid Barlas, P.Ag. Jennifer McGuire, P.Ag. Eryne Croquet, P.Ag. George Powell, P.Ag. Pierre lachetti, P.Ag. David Pugh, P.Ag. Jonna Jacob, P.Ag.

Mandeep Purewal, P.Ag. Don Rugg, P.Ag.

# CURRENT **BRANCH EXECUTIVES**



# **Cariboo Central Interior** Branch

Tim Antill, P.Ag.

Duncan Barnett, P.Ag.

Lila Delury, P.Ag.

Tlell Glover, A.Ag.

Steven Kiiskila, P.Ag.

Alicia Lalonde, A.Ag.

Rebecca Martin, P.Ag.

Nathan Park, P.Ag.

Roberta Patterson, P.Ag.

Marc Schuffert, P.Ag.

Martin Sills, P.Ag.(Ret)

# **Fraser Valley Branch**

Eryne Croquet, P.Ag.

Art Guite, P.Ag.

Melanie Lantz, P.Ag.

Parashar Malla, P.Ag.

Jasbir Mann, P.Ag.

Scott Miles, P.Ag.

Howard Ratzlaff, P.Ag.

Dawn Ross, P.Ag.

David Sahlstrom, P.Ag.

# **Kamloops Branch**

Aaron Coelho, A.Ag.

Kevin Eastwood, A.Ag.

Patrick Farmer, P.Ag.

Kalin Johnston, P.Ag.

Jane Kerner, P.Ag.

Rhonda Maskiewich, P.Ag.

Genevieve Pelletier

Tracy Ronmark, P.Ag.

# **Kootenay Boundary Branch**

Tom Cummings, P.Ag.

Jody Fisher, A.Ag.

Ben Foulger, P.Ag.

Melissa Graydon, P.Ag.

Mark Hall, P.Ag.

Shawna LaRade, P.Ag.

Todd Larsen, P.Ag.

Jeff Nimmo, P.Ag.

David Struthers, P.Ag.

Kenric Walburger, P.Ag.

# **Okanagan Branch**

Krystal Ashworth, P.Ag.

Shauna Bader, P.Ag.

Trisha Brett, A.Ag.

John Garland, P.Ag.

George Geldart, P.Ag. Marjorie Harris, P.Ag.

Stephanie Judge, P.Ag.

Jessica Morgan, P.Ag.

Kenneth Sapsford, P.Ag.

Daryl Schwarz, P.Ag.

Carl Withler, P.Ag.

### Vancouver Branch

Jenny Beugling, A.Ag.

Eric Distefano, A.Ag.

Karey Dow, P.Ag.

Clarence Lai, P.Ag.

Lori Larsen, P.Ag.

Warren Mills P.Ag.

Margot Pittaway, P.Ag.

Elisa Munro, A.Ag.

Yasemin Parkinson, P.Ag.

Darcy Paslawski, A.Ag.

Geoff Rousseau, P.Ag.

# Victoria & Islands Branch

Anthony Button, P.Ag.

Lyndsey Douglas, P.Ag.

Sara Duncan, P.Ag.

Hally Hofmeyr, P.Ag.

Russ Horton, P.Ag.

Roderick Negrave

Ester Jayne Parker, P.Ag.

Natalie Tashe, P.Ag.

Kevin Tattrie, P.Ag.

Bryan Vroom, P.Ag.

Cindy Walsh, P.Ag.

Jennifer Wilson, P.Ag.

#### **Peace River Branch**

Victoria Burtt, P.Ag.

Marika Cameron, A.Ag.

Jennifer Dowd, P.Ag.

Margaret Fenton, P.Ag.

Connor Fraleigh, A.Ag.

Chelsea Mottishaw, A.Ag.

Stephen Neville, P.Ag.

Ben Rauscher, A.Ag.

Adrian Renneberg, P.Ag.

Cali Seater, P.Ag.

Josh Stoski, P.Ag.

Lori Vickers, P.Ag.

Holly Watson

Bryan Woodward, P.Ag.

# **BRANCH REPORTS**

# CARIBOO CENTRAL INTERIOR BRANCH

2015 was another busy year for the CCI Branch. We even had 2 AGM's, one in March and another in October, as we realigned our AGM schedule to be more in step with the other branches. The Fall AGM was attended by our Executive Director, Bob Moody, who provided a "view from the top" and a great Q & A session. Lunch was followed by a PD tour of Northern Lights Estate Winery and of course wine tasting! Other Branch PD events included:

- 1) Touring the Mt. Polley tailings pond breach site. Attendees really got a hands-on overview as our own Katie McMahen, P.Ag. who is employed by the mine in their environmental department explained the issue in detail.
- 2) A tour of the Nechako White Sturgeon Conservation Center with a focus on riparian reclamation.
- 3) A viewing of Symphony of the Soil documentary.
- 4) A presentation on Native Grasses for Forage, Restoration and Erosion Control in Northern BC.
- 5) An indepth presentation on changes to the Agricultural Land Commission Act and the implications.
- 6) A thought provoking presentation on First Nations Relations and Agreements - Changes in the legal landscape, the provincial government response and why it should matter to you. With the unanimous decision from the Supreme Court of Canada the rules are dramatically changing. This presentation was also offered via webinar.

CCI Branch membership remains quite steady with 135 active P.Ag.'s and A.Ag.'s and a further 29 either on leave or retired. Take it from me, it's far nicer being retired than being real tired! In 2015, we also welcomed 3 new Executive members and 2 new area Directors. I want to personally thank all of our Executive for their enthusiasm, time and dedication. It's members like

yourselves that make the CCI and the BCIA such great entities!

In closing, on behalf on the CCI Branch. "Welcome to Prince George and the 69th BCIA Conference and AGM". With the challenging theme of Resource Management in BC: Designing the New Paradigm, join us for an excellent variety of presentations, field tours and social networking opportunities. Many kudos to the AGM planning team and the CCI Executive for the time and effort that it has taken to make this great event happen!

Martin Sills P.Ag. (Ret.)

# OKANGAN BRANCH

he Okanagan Branch has had a busy year organizing many activities and events for agrologists and creating awareness about BCIA. Highlights include:

- 1. Organizing and hosting the BCIA's 68th Conference & Annual General Meeting from May 10-12th in Kelowna. Thanks go to co-chairs Carl Withler, P.Ag. and Lynn Lashuk, P.Ag. along with their amazing team on the organizing committee and the many volunteers. The feedback on the AGM was extremely positive.
- 2. Providing numerous PD and Networking events including:
- Small business entrepreneur's workshop
- Symphony of the Soil movie & discussion panel (Vernon)
- Symphony of the Soil movie & networking social (Penticton)
- Ag. Ethics Workshop & P Ag Social Mixer: Tree Brewing Institute
- Water & Wetlands, Soil & Fungi & Going Solo! For Aspiring Entrepreneur
- Partners In Flight & Species At Risk; & Professional Writing Workshop (Kelowna)



Green Party leader, Elizabeth May spoke at the Vancouver branch AGM on Feb. 11, 2016

- North Okanagan Agrologist Networking Dinner (Armstrong)
- Tour of Duteau Creek Water Treatment facility (Coldstream)
- An active articling agrologist program with mentors
- 3. The branch continues to work with various groups to present annual awards. This year's awards included Regional Science award, BCIA/BRAES Student Poster award and Recognition of Excellence awards for Farm Family Award and Professional Agrologist Achievement Award.

The Okanagan Branch continues to grow with 149 members as of February 2016, up 8 from the previous year resulting from new articling agrologists. There are currently 17 A.Ag.s in the branch with 5 A.Ags. graduating to P.Ag. status this past year. There are currently 4 student members in the branch.

This year's executive is working to continue providing Okanagan Branch members with networking, PD events and supporting our articling agrologists and awards program.

> H. George Geldart, P.Ag. President, Okanagan Branch

# PEACE RIVER BRANCH

2015 was once again a busy year for the Peace Branch. We continued to welcome new Articling Agrologists to the region and the branch had opportunities throughout the year for our Articling Agrologists to get together and learn about what Professional Agrologists do in the Peace. This past year was again filled with many opportunities for professional development and growth as the branch hosted a variety of professional development events throughout 2015. We toured Twin Sisters Native Plant Nursery in Moberly Lake and learnt how they propagate and use native plants for reclamation in and around the Peace. We also learned about invasive plant management, and thanks to many weed pulling volunteers, helped curb the spread of spotted knapweed in the region.

A huge highlight this year was the amazing turnout to our 2015 branch AGM held in January in Dawson Creek. We had over 70 of our members in attendance. After our AGM and the election of a new executive, we had some very informative sessions. Sessions included an update from FLNRO on the Cumulative Impacts Framework and the OGC on Area Based Analysis. This was followed by a GIS 101 Workshop where we were introduced to QGIS and some of the basics GIS tools and knowledge.

Our current branch executive is working hard to organize professional development opportunities throughout the spring and summer so stay tuned!

Lori Vickers, P.Ag.

### VANCOUVER BRANCH

e ended our 2015 year at the Vancouver Branch with an AGM keynote presentation by Elizabeth May, Member of Parliament for Saanish-Gulf Islands and Leader of the Green Party of Canada. Ms. May walked the listeners through the United Nations Climate Change Conference where she had participated in the negotiations of the Paris Agreement. Ms. May provided a lot personal anecdotes which were spirited and entertaining.

At the AGM, 14 new P.Ag.'s were present to receive their certificates, 25 A.Ag.'s formally introduced themselves to the branch and two 25 year achievement awards were awarded to Theresa Duynstee, P.Ag. & Eveline Wolterson, P.Ag. by Bob Moody. The AGM was held at the SFU Harbour Centre campus and had great ocean and mountain views which everyone enjoyed, at least while the sun was still

The AGM wrapped up a year that included the following events:

- 1. Urban agriculture and worm composting demonstration at Vancouver's City Farmer's Demo Garden
- 2. Field Trip: Donia Farms dairy operation, Seabreeze dairy farm anaerobic digester, Cropthorne Farm, and Westham Island Herb Farm
- 3. Professional Development Event: Empowering Agrologists: Boost Your Edge in a Competitive World
- 4. Mentor Appreciation Night: Cocktail Evening at The Settlement Building-Postmark Brewing, Belgard Kitchen and Urban Winery.

The new 2016 Branch Executive is a diverse and enthusiastic group that have been busy brainstorming lots of events for year and the first event is a family event, Saturday May 7, 2016, from 1-2:30 pm at VanDusen Botanical Gardens. It will be great to socialize with members and their families at this beautiful venue. Let's hope the weather is just as beautiful.

Yasemin Parkinson, P.Ag.

# **VICTORIA & ISLANDS BRANCH**

/ictoria & Islands Branch continued to provide diverse professional development opportunities to members as well out outreach to youth this year.

November 7 - Our annual general meeting was held in Cowichan Bay at the Oceanfront Suites. Rod Negrave, P.Ag., 2015 branch president, presided over the meeting and Kevin Tattrie, P.Ag. took over as president for 2016. After lunch many members attended the professional development activity and toured the Balme-Ayr Dairy Farm.

November 21 – Social Media workshop on Facebook and LinkedIn in Nanaimo.

November 28 - Social Media workshop on Facebook and LinkedIn in Victoria

February 22 - Professional development event on the Medicinal Cannabis industry held in Nanaimo

April 10 – Branch awarded 4 prizes to agricultural related projects at the Vancouver Island Regional Science Fair held in Victoria

Jennifer Wilson, P.Ag.





# ARTICLING AGROLOGISTS (A.AG.'S)

Kori Archer Elizabeth Archibald Cynthia Barros Dereje Bezabih Brenda Black Margaret Branton Jason Cagampan Marika Cameron Lori Carter Ka Lung (Cory) Cheung Aaron Coelho Christopher Cunada Ekaterina Daviel Dominique de Groot Colleen Delaney Mohamed Diabate Eric Distefano Rachel Drennan Suzanne Durnin Kevin Eastwood Mark Edwards Evan Esch Jodi Fleming **Kate Forbes** Connor Fraleigh **Brock Glover** Jonathan Goetz Jillian Goulet Didi Grimes **Justin Hains** Graeme Hayward Mitchell Heynen Greg Hodson Allison Hunter Sebastian Ibarra Tara Jackle Michael Jeffery Peter Kickham Casandra Knooihuizen Jesse Labatiuk Suzan Lapp Theresa Loewen Zachary Luck

Wensui Luo

Kathy Ma Marina Makovetski **Brett Marchant** Stephen McGuire Ian McKeachie Paul McKinley Ried McTavish Kevin Mernickle Corey Miller Katarina Neufeld Julia Newton Tyler O'Grady Gladys Oka Jade Pearen Stephanie Peesker David Perron **Amy Peters** Jason Quamme Gisele Rehe Nicole Remple Timothy Repas Heather Richardson Naomi Robert Mikayla Roberts Callee Robinson Trevor Roste Ricki Sahota Jereld Salazar Emilia Sasso Elizabeth Schouten Katherine Semproni Adam Simons Maryssa Soroke Dale Sutherland Melanie Sylvestre Bryanna Thiel Brenden Tostenson Maria Villar-Singh Caia Williamson Katie Young

**David Young** 

# PROFESSIONAL AGROLOGISTS (P.AG.'S)

Krystal Ashworth Jodi Axelson **Eleanor Bassett** Kendra Bennett Amber Bergen Shawn Botten Lizanne Bourne Patrick Boylan Kevin Christie Jean-Paul Cote Owen Crilly Emily Doyle-Yamaguchi William Elliott Maija Finvers James Tobias Gardner Ken Gauthier Ashleigh Gilbert Aaron Haegele **Brad Halsey** Kimberly Hancock Robert Haythornthwaite Jake Hupman Christopher Jaeggle Fern Jensen Stephanie Judge Elizabeth Kenney Rada Kolev Mahesh Kumar Kc Nicholas Lamm Erica Lilles Patrick Little Rebecca MacInnis Melvin Jameson Mailloux Tracey Martin

Gurjit Matharu Jennifer Mathie Ian McAllister Carla Mellott Nenad Niciforovic Malcolm Nicol Erin Palmer **Esther Parker** Sharon Podesta **Trevor Purves** Jocelyn Ramsey Jodine Restiaux **Douglas Rice** Ashley Robertson Corrine Roesler Dawn Ross Veronica Saluk Cali Seater C.A. Scott Smith Malissa Smith Clayton Smith Joshua Stoski Carolyn Teasdale David Terry Michele Thompson Wade Tokarek Andres Torres Jaimie Vieira Elizabeth Vincer Thomas Walkem Alex Walton Amanda Weber-Roy

# TRANSFER-IN **MEMBERS**

Marcia Martin

Francois Levesque Kimberley Lutz Aaron Tutt Katelyn Zinz

### **DUAL MEMBERS**

Julie Wilson

**Duncan Wood** 

Shauna Bader Amanda Jardine Lynette Esak Ian Levitt Sarah Fennell Zaho Matheos Myron Flexhaug Kirby Nelson John Hastie Jeremy Sincennes





Please send articles and pictures for inclusion in the newsletter to the BCIA Office.

Email submissions to admin@bcia.com

Newsletter Editor: Margaret Crowley, M.Sc., P.Ag Published by the British Columbia Institute of Agrologists

 2777 Claude Rd.,
 P. (250) 380-9292

 Victoria BC V9B 3T7
 F. (250) 380-9233

 E. p.ag@bcia.com
 W. www.bcia.com

Office hours. Mon. to Fri. 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

# Return undelivered copies to:

PM No. 41317524 2777 Claude Rd, Victoria BC, V9B 3T7