



**2024**

**PEACE RIVER BRANCH  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Fort St John

North Peace Cultural Center Centre

Friday, November 15, 2024

**11:30 PM- 1:00 PM Registration**

**12:00 PM-1:00 PM -Lunch**

**1:00 PM -2:30 PM -Annual General Meeting**

**2:30 PM - 3:15 PM – Cathy Scott May- Restoration Economy (virtual)**

**3:15 PM - 4:00 PM – BC Energy Regulator - Ecologically suitable guidelines and restoration projects**

**4:00 PM - 5:00 PM – Sonja Leverkus- Wildlife Ecology**

1. Call to Order (Veronica Saluk)
2. Welcome Introductions (Veronica Saluk)
3. Confirmation of Proper Notice and Quorum (Veronica Saluk)
4. AGM Agenda Adoption
  - a. Motions or New Business
5. 2023 Peace Region AGM Minutes (pages 7-10)
6. President's Report and Provincial update (page 11, Veronica Saluk on behalf of Adrian Renneberg)
7. Financial Report (page 12-14, Amit Baloda)
8. Professional Development Report (page 15, Vanessa Lea)
9. Articling Coordinator Update (page 16, Cierra Redel)
10. BCIA Update from Jennifer Lawrence, CEO

**11. Election of Officers**

- a. Positions NOT up for election
  - i. President-Veronica Saluk transitioned from Adrian Renneberg
  - ii. Past President – Adrian Renneberg
  - iii. PD Coordinator- Vanessa Lea
  
- b. Positions UP for election (the pre-received nominations have been specified, where available)
  - i. 2 yr position- Secretary
  - ii. 2 yr position- Treasurer
  - i. 2 yr position- Articling Coordinator
  - ii. 3 yr position- Vice President/President/Past President
  - iii. 1 yr position - North Peace Director (x2)
  - iv. 1 yr position - South Peace Director (x2)
  - v. 1 yr position - Nominations Committee (x3)
  - vi.
  
- c. Articling Presentation  
Open to anyone who needs to do presentation

**12. New Professionals Photograph**

- a. Min (Rayman) Liu, PAg  
Kristina Bellamy, TAg  
Shellie English, TAg  
Margi Meekes, TAg  
Elizabeth Payne, TAg  
Brooklyn Phillips, TAg  
Scott Kozuback, LLAG  
Michael Peterson, LLAG  
Fernando Prado, LLAG
  
- b. Open to anyone else who received their designation this year

**13. New Business**

**14. Announcements**

**15. Recognition**

- a. In Memoriam
  - i. Keith Carroll (1949-2024)

**16. Adjournment**

**2024 BCIA Peace River Branch Executive**

Past President – Kristen Zoerb

President- Adrian Renneberg

President Elect- Veronica Saluk

Secretary- Liia Schilds

Treasurer- Amit Baloda

PD Coordinator- Vanessa Lea

Articling Coordinator- Cierra Redel

North Peace Directors – Kristen Brody and Loni Evans

South Peace Director – Brenna Schilds and Cali Cairns

Nominations Committee – Sanatan Das Gupta, Lisa Stromsmoe and Carl Torgrimson

**District 1 Councillors**

Rebecca Martin (Caribou Central Interior), Natasha Neumann (Kootenay)

## Peace River Branch Election Policy

BCIA Peace River Branch Board consists of 13 positions – 2 required by BCIA bylaws

- Past President – transition from president without an election
- President – Transition from president elect without election – **Required by BCIA bylaws**
- President Elect (Vice President) is elected every year – **Required by BCIA bylaws**

Terms in office

The president-elect shall serve for three years, beginning at the close of the annual general meeting in the year of his or her election and ending at the close of the third annual general meeting after his or her year of election, as follows:

- A. year one, as president-elect;
- B. year two, as president;
- C. year three, as immediate past president.

- Secretary = 2 yr position elected - elected in even years – not required by BCIA by-laws
- Articling Coordinator = 2 yr position elected - elected in even years – not required by BCIA bylaws
- Treasurer = 2 yr position elected - elected in odd years – not required by BCIA by-laws
- Professional Development Coordinator = 2 yr position elected - elected in odd years – not required by BCIA by-laws
- North Peace Directors X 2 – 1 yr position – not required by BCIA by-laws
- South Peace Director X 2 – 1 yr Position– not required by BCIA by-laws
- Nomination Committee X 3 – 1 yr position– not required by BCIA by-laws

## **BCIA Peace River Branch Executive Positions**

### **President:**

- Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, chairing Branch meetings, preparation for Branch meetings and participating in sub-committees.
- At that AGM the then President will become the Past President and remain as a member of the executive until the following AGM.
- President to be filled by the President Elect elected at the AGM previous.

### **President Elect: 3 years 2nd year moves into president, 3rd year past president**

- Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, filling in for the president at Branch meetings. This person also acquiesces into presidents positions the following year.
- To be elected at the AGM each year with the member so elected to serve until the next AGM as the President Elect. At that AGM the President Elect will become the President until the following AGM.

### **Treasurer: 2 yr odd year election**

- Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, keeping the financial records and reporting out quarterly to the directors.
- Treasurer to be a two-year position with elections to be held in odd years.

### **Secretary: 2 yr even year election**

- Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, recording branch minutes and distributing amongst members and directors also to assist president in preparation for Branch meetings
- Secretary to be a two-year position with elections to be held in even years.

### **Articling Coordinator Activities: 2 yr even year election**

- Ensure that all AAg's/ATAg's in our branch are linked with a mentor
- Organize at least one AAg's/ATAg's and Mentors Meeting per year to discuss progress, issues, and focus and promote active AAg/ATAg-PAg/RTAg relationships. (Suggest April as a potentially slow work season.)
- Help organize the AAg/ATAg section of branch meetings where a selection of AAg's/ATAg's would present information on their experience and educational backgrounds, their aspirations, suggestions to improve program as an AAg/ATAg.
- AAg/ATAg Coordinator to be a two-year position with elections to be held in even years.

### **Professional Development Coordinator: 2 yr odd year election**

- Responsibilities include but are not limited to organizing or leading Professional Development opportunities
- Professional Development Coordinator two-year position with elections to be held in odd year (Set in 2009 AGM)

**North Peace Directors: 1 yr**

- Responsibilities include but are not limited to preparing for Branch meetings in their regions by arranging location and refreshments.

**South Peace Directors: 1 yr**

- Responsibilities include but are not limited to preparing for Branch meetings in their regions by arranging location and refreshments.

**Nomination Committee: 1 yr**

- Responsibilities include but are not limited to organizing nominations for following AGM.
- A Nomination Committee of 3 members to be elected yearly and be responsible for ensuring nominations for all available positions are made each year.

## February 10, 2024, Peace River Branch 2023 AGM Minutes



### 2023 Peace River Branch AGM Minutes

Saturday, February 10, 2024

12:30 PM-1:00 PM -Registration

1:00 PM -2:30 PM -Annual General Meeting

1. Call to Order by President Elect (Adrian Renneberg)
  - a. 1:02 pm called to order.
2. Welcome Introductions (Adrian Renneberg)
  - a. Traditional land acknowledgment
3. Confirmation of Proper Notice and Quorum (Adrian Renneberg)
  - a. Need 10% for quorum met, 133 members as of last update, 41 in attendance. 60 days notice was provided as per bylaws.
4. AGM Agenda Adoption
  - a. Motions or New Business
    - i. Jim Little-proposed new business to share current government engagement on proposed amendments to the Land Act
  - b. Motion made- Bridget Loe, seconded by Sherri Germain.
  - c. All in favour, motion carried, agenda accepted as presented plus Jim's addition.
5. 2022 Peace Region AGM Minutes Approval
  - a. Motion made- Marla Demoulin, seconded by Cierra Redel
  - b. All in favour, motion was carried.
6. President's Report
  - a. Reflection on how pandemic, fires and drought affected work and travel plans last year.
  - b. Lots of PD ideas, aiming to meet many different areas of practice.
  - c. Hoping to have more in person events this year, both PD and meet and greets.
  - d. Have 133 members in Peace River branch, last year 110.
7. Financial Report
  - a. January 1, 2023, starting balance of \$3445.52. Carry over of \$1225.52 and \$2220 subsidy from BCIA.
  - b. Revenue to date \$0 as there were no paid Professional Development events.
  - c. Expenses to date \$398.75 for AGM
  - d. Current balance \$3046.77 as of January 29, 2024
8. Professional Development Report

- a. Lunch and Learns- Patrick Audet presented December 19 and 20
  - b. Lots of webinars shared from other organizations.
  - c. Looking to pursue more formal activities next year, reach out with your suggestions.
9. Articling Coordinator Update
- a. 133 members including 17 ATAg's and 11 AAg's.
  - b. Looking for mentors, sign up online- profile-mentoring-check yes to be contacted.
10. BCIA Update (CEO Jane Kerner)
- a. Land acknowledgment.
  - b. Introductions and Staffing
    - i. Jane has been BCIA interim CEO since July 2023, previously a private consultant in agro-economics.
    - ii. BCIA staff: Ryan O'Grady is the registrar, Laurena Olsen deputy registrar, Jasmine Wong PD coordinator, Kara Hamilton finance officer.
    - iii. Hiring admin assistant this month, later this year hiring a director of practice standards
    - iv. BCIA Board: District 1 Registrants- Rebecca Martin and Natasha Neumann, looking for two more lay members.
  - c. Reserved practice
    - i. Received Sept 1, 2021. Noting normal farm practices are exempt.
  - d. New practice areas
    - i. 38 have been reduced to 12.
  - e. Implementation of practice rights
    - i. Focus on education not punitive approach, working with government and other professional bodies to work through overlapping practises.
    - ii. September 1, 2022, creation of limited licence agrolgist. Need 5 years of full-time equivalent experience plus at least of 2 years in a specific area of practice.
  - f. PD and continuing education
    - i. Jasmine Wong -working with branches on development and coordination.
    - ii. Adjustments to yearly PD minimums may be coming.
    - iii. Level 2 indigenous training still under discussion, more details this spring
  - g. Duty to report
    - i. Always had ethical duty, now it is legislated. 2 webinars that count for PD on BCIA website.
  - h. Strategic plan-
    - i. 2024 planning underway, focus on diversity and inclusion, reconciliation.
  - i. 2024 AGM
    - i. May 8 in Nanaimo or online, followed by Land Summit May 8-10
  - j. Questions from attendees
    - i. Will LLAg be required to transfer to TAG or PAG?
      - 1. They are not required to transfer; members must apply for the highest level they are able to. Not transferable to another position
    - ii. What is a lay person?
      - 1. Someone who is not an Agrolgist that sits on our board to represent the public interest.
    - iii. Is LLAg role specific or job specific?



1. It depends if the new job is similar to the old one. Not as easily transferable as other designations, need to contact BCIA. Intent so current workers don't lose jobs with implementation of Professional Governance Act
11. Motion to Accept Reports as Presented
    - a. Motion made- Carl Torgrimson, seconded by Marla Demoulin
    - b. All in favour, motion was carried.
  12. Election of Officers
    - a. Vice President/President/Past President: Veronica Saluk
    - b. PD Coordinator: Vanessa Lea
    - c. North Peace Director: Kristen Brody and Loni Evans
    - d. South Peace Director: Brenna Schilds and Cali Cairns
    - e. Nominations Committee: Sanatan Das Gupta, Lisa Stromsmoe and Carl Torgrimson
  13. Motion to accept 2024 Branch Executive
    - a. Motion Made-Erin Maxfield, seconded by Miranda O'Hanley
    - b. All in favour, motion was carried.
  14. Articling Presentation
    - a. Thomas Watt
      - i. DWB, mainly contaminated sites
    - b. Kristyn Brody
      - i. Blackbird Environmental, crop development, land evaluations and invasive species
    - c. Emily Hedges
      - i. Blackbird Environmental, land assessment
    - d. Kristina Bellamy
      - i. Prospect Environmental, contaminated sites, land reclamation focus on Phase 1's and 2's and Schedule A and B's
    - e. Anneleise Forsyth
      - i. Atkins Realis, restoration of contaminated oil and gas sites
    - f. Sheri Germain
      - i. Roy Northern, restoration team lead
    - g. Hal Fox
      - i. Highmark Environmental, reclamation on well sites
    - h. Nikki Watkinson (on phone)
      - i. Atkins Realis, reclamation work.
    - i. Ashley Scott
      - i. H3M, environmental planning team
  15. Professional Agrologist Oath Recital
    - a. Justin Anderson
    - b. Loni Evans
    - c. Kaylin Salanski
    - d. Marla Demoulin
    - e. Johanna webster- not present
    - f. Erin Langground
    - g. Krysia Granger- not present
    - h. Glen Evans

- i. Chelsea Auger
- j. Dean Zimmer

16. New Business

- a. Jim Little-Proposed Provincial Government Land Act Amendments
  - i. Intent is to meet commitments in Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act.
  - ii. Raised concern there is not enough time for public feedback. Engagement currently open but the government wants to make a decision by March 2024.
  - iii. Raised concerns around potential sweeping impacts on land use within the Peace River District and the work Agrolgist do.
  - iv. Liia Schilds- Proposed amendments are to create the ability to write new land use plans integrating co management with First Nations. Each plan would apply to a select area, not unilaterally across the Province. Any proposed plans would undergo further local engagement.

17. Announcements

- a. Recognition
  - i. 50 Years
    - 1. Robert Pringle- received.
  - ii. 25 Years
    - 1. Ken Latreille- not present
    - 2. Kelly deCaux-not present
    - 3. Jason Lawson -not present
  - iii. Nadia and Adrian mentioned upcoming workshops, AGMS and PD that may be applicable to members.

18. Adjournment

- a. Adjourned 2:36 pm

## **2024 BCIA Peace River Branch President's Report**

Veronica Saluk on behalf of Adrian Renneberg

2024 was another busy year in the Peace region; there has been a lot of industrial projects ongoing, starting, and proposed in the area, many in the ALR which provides an opportunity for Agrologists both professionally and as an opportunity to educate the general public as to the importance of the work we do. Our membership continues to grow, with 22 new members joining the branch as articling agrologists or technologists since our last AGM.

I stepped into the president position in February 2024 at the AGM and have had the pleasure of working with a very knowledgeable and helpful executive branch. One of the biggest challenges we face in the Peace Region is our large area and varied areas of practice, making arranging professional development opportunities difficult. We've had several, I feel, successful events this year, ranging from a social night/brewery tour to a tour of the AgCanada research farm, BCER tour, and advertising some soils field days. Speaking for the branch executives, I encourage everyone to bring forward ideas and opportunities for future PD opportunities.

There have been many changes to the BCIA organization this year – we've recently said goodbye to Ryan O'Grady, former registrar, and Jane Kerner, interim CEO. I would like to personally thank them both for their support and guidance these past few months; they were both regular attendees of our monthly executive meetings. They shared with us some plans that would help encourage collaboration and smoother succession between boards as new members joined. I will also take this opportunity to welcome our new CEO, Jennifer Lawrence, and look forward to working with her going forward.

We want to continue to provide our members with professional development opportunities for this coming year with the hopes we can arrange a few in person gatherings. I would like to encourage everyone here to become involved with the BCIA as more people involved bring more and better ideas that will benefit the branch and the BCIA as a whole.

Thank you





**PEACE RIVER BRANCH**  
2024 Monthly Financials

Bank Balance as at Jan 1	2,220.00
Annual Branch Allocation	2,480.00
(Less) Net Income	-3,156.81
<b>Current Account Balance</b>	<b>1,543.19</b>

REVENUE	Budget	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	YTD	%YTD
Branch AGM	0.00													0.00	#DIV/0!
Branch AGM Sponsorship	0.00													0.00	#DIV/0!
Professional Development Events	0.00													0.00	#DIV/0!
Other	0.00													0.00	#DIV/0!
<b>Total Monthly Revenue:</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
EXPENSES	Budget	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	YTD	%YTD
Branch AGM:															
Catering	1,500.00		403.16											403.16	0.26877
Venue	600.00													0.00	0
Speaker Fees/Honorariums	1,000.00													0.00	0
Other	0.00													0.00	#DIV/0!
Credit Card Fees	0.00													0.00	#DIV/0!
Professional Development:															
Catering	750.00						773.41		241.26					1,014.67	1.35389
Venue	0.00													0.00	#DIV/0!
Speaker Fees/Honorariums	1,000.00													0.00	0
Other	1,000.00						20.00		1,718.98					1,738.98	1.73898
Credit Card Fees	0.00													0.00	#DIV/0!
Other Expenses:	0.00													0.00	#DIV/0!
<b>Total Monthly Expenses:</b>	<b>5,850.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>403.16</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>3,156.81</b>	

EVENT REVENUE				
Event Title	Date	Fee	# Reg	Revenue
BCIA PD Event: Beaverlodge Tour	16-Aug-24	50.00	10	500.00
				0.00
				0.00
				0.00
				0.00
<b>Total Event Revenue:</b>				<b>500.00</b>
SPONSORSHIP REVENUE				
Sponsor Name	Date	Revenue		
<b>Total Sponsorship Revenue:</b>				<b>0.00</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUE:</b>				<b>500.00</b>



## **2024 Professional Development Summary Report**

Vanessa Lea

An improvement in professional development opportunities provided by the Peace River Branch was seen in 2024, with three in person events hosted in Beaverlodge and Fort St. John.

The first event hosted by the Peace River Branch was a networking event and tour at the Mighty Peace Brewing Company in Fort St. John on June 13. An in-depth presentation and tour of the brewing process was held by the Mighty Peace brewmaster about ingredients, fermentation process, and final stages of how beer is packaged. This was followed by a branch networking session to encourage branch members to mingle and get to know each other and their work a little better.

The primary in-person professional development for The Branch in 2024 was a tour of the Agriculture Canada Research Farm in Beaverlodge on August 16. The tour had bussing provided from Fort St. John and Dawson Creek to the Research Farm. The day tour kicked off with a talk about soil health and fertility/forages, and cover crops and greenhouse gas sampling by Bharat Shrestha and Nitya Khanal. This was followed by a talk about Integrated Pest Management and beneficial insects by Jennifer Otani. The afternoon moved into a showing of test plots for agronomy/crop adaptation by Tracey Toerper and Jeremy Hodges and the trip concluded with a talk about current honeybee hive pest research and a demo of bee behavior by Steve Pernal.

The third event was a tour of the BC Energy Regulators Core Research Facility on October 29. The event included examining petroleum well cores and drill cutting samples, discussion of topics such as drilling waste and disposal areas, naturally occurring and radioactive materials, and the base of fish scales/ usable groundwater, as well as a tour of the facility and insight into how the facility play a role in the continued development of the oil and gas industry in a responsible manner.

Next year the Branch remains optimistic that opportunities for in-person PD events will continue to provide high quality content covering an array of areas of practice. If anyone has any PD suggestions for future events, please reach out to the Professional Development Coordinator.

## 2024 Articling Coordinator Report

Cierra Redel

Hello everyone,

As of October 22, 2024, BCIA Peace River Branch has a total of 153 members, 20 more than last AGM. These numbers include:

- AAg – 18
- ATAg – 22
- PAg – 84
- TAg – 10
- LLAG – 5
- On Leave – 4
- Retired – 10

We have no student members this year. We've had several of our membership complete their articling programs in the last year and advance to full status. Much to everyone's disappointment, a long standing tradition for new members to stand up and recite the oath is no longer required as of this year. However, we hope to still gather the new members and take a photo to commemorate this achievement. We had several PD events this year that many Articling members attended. As well, it was nice to have lots of articling members attend our executive meetings.

Just a reminder, please let the Articling Coordinator know if you are interested and available to mentor articling members or update your status to "yes" on the BCIA personal information portion (Profile-Mentorship). As new articling members join our ranks through the year, it is helpful to have a list of available mentors to assist members who are looking to establish that relationship. As a mentor you are entitled to claim five Professional Development Hours (PDH) per year for your active participation.

This year will conclude my two year term as the Articling Coordinator. It was great meeting and getting to know so many new members and best of luck to those continuing on through the articling program. If you are an articling member, please feel free to reach out to the new Articling Coordinator with any feedback on the articling process and/or questions that you may need assistance with.

All the best,

Cierra Redel