



BC INSTITUTE OF
AGROLOGISTS
Cultivating Natural Resource Professionals

Kootenay Boundary Branch

BCIA Kootenay Boundary Branch 2025 Executive Report



Source: <https://cranbrooktourism.com/corporate-groups>

President's Report

Kootenay Boundary Branch AGM, October 28th, 2025

We respectfully acknowledge that we live, work, and play on the traditional and unceded territories of the Ktunaxa, Sinixt, Syilx Okanagan and Secwépemc peoples. We also take this time to pay respect to the Métis peoples and ancestors who have touched this space. This acknowledgement is one small step towards reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples throughout Canada.

Greetings to BCIA Kootenay Boundary Branch registrants,

2025 has been another eventful year with many areas experiencing flooding, and drought. We had a better season with regards to wildfires in our region and were lucky to get some rain and cooler temperatures through the summer. Extreme weather and natural disasters continue to remind us of the impacts of climate change; these events impact us all in the work that we do. There is such a wide variety of work that is being done by our membership, thank you everyone for all the work you do every day!

Our branch started the year by re-visiting and exploring diverse opportunities for professional development (PD). The PD team assessed past events and worked hard to organize more in-person and field day opportunities as well as some online webinars. In-person events included Encore Brewing tour, Beaver Dam Analogue workshop on Earl Ranch in the East Kootenay. West Kootenay events included I'm proud of the work the PD team has done to increase professional development opportunities for branch members in 2025.

Our membership continues to grow each year and 2025 was no exception. We currently have approximately 160 members working in various practice areas (up from 142 last year). We are always amazed by the many diverse and dedicated folks joining our branch throughout the year.

I am very appreciative of the work the Kootenay Boundary branch has done this year, and it has been a privilege getting to work with everyone over the past few years. I'd like to thank the branch for their professionalism, hard work, and passion. I'd also like to thank all of the members and registrants for the work that you do in our region. Our branch is full of incredible people, and I am grateful to have met so many of you along the way. For those of you that I haven't met, I hope to cross paths with you in the near future.

Sincerely,



Erin Keith, P.Ag. President Elect acting for Kenzie Lightburn, P.Ag., President

2025 President Elect

Kootenay Boundary Branch, BCIA

2025 Articling Report

Kootenay Boundary Branch AGM, October 28th, 2025

The Kootenay Boundary Branch currently has a total of 160 members registered with the following breakdown by designation:

- 26 – Articling Agrologists (AAgs)
- 8 – Articling Technical Agrologists (ATAgs)
- 110 – Professional Agrologists (PAgs)
- 4 – Technical Agrologists (TAgS)
- 7 – On Leave Registrants
- 3 – Retired Registrants
- 2 – Student Members

We would like to acknowledge and congratulate our branch's eight NEW Professional Agrologists since our last branch AGM:

1. Jennifer Manojlovic
2. Leo Levesque
3. Mackenzie Lightburn
4. Sylvia Chong
5. Lori Wade
6. Bill Chapman
7. Daniel Topp
8. Meghan Cameron

All the best to each of you in your careers as Professional Agrologists.

We would also like to extend congratulations to our newest Articling members to join our branch with a warm welcome to our twelve new Articling Agrologists:

1. Nerissa Abbott
2. Julia Klossok
3. Matthew Wisniewski
4. Karin Boers
5. Andrew Miller
6. Araleigh Alexander
7. Kimberley "Paige" Thurston
8. Kathleen Meszaros
9. BrittanyCampbell
10. Ella Both
11. Hallie Miller
12. Axel Chore

In addition, we welcome our three new Technical Articling Agrologists:

1. Regan McFarlane
2. Tara McMillan
3. Tara Telnes

Further, the Kootenay Boundary Branch looks forward to continuing to support our new Articling Agrologists and Articling Technical Agrologists while providing mentorship opportunities for professionally designated members.

Lori Wade, P.Ag

Articling Coordinator

Kootenay Boundary Branch

2025 Treasurer Report

Kootenay Boundary Branch AGM, October 28th, 2025.

1. Opening Remarks

Welcome to the Annual General Meeting of the BCIA Kootenay Branch. This report summarizes the financial activities and status of the branch for the 2025 fiscal year.

2. Account Summary

Opening Balance of \$4,660.00

- Branch allocation of 2,660
- Carryover from 2024 (max amount) 2,000

3. Budget:

- Professional Development events - \$1200
- AGM (incl PD event, venue, catering and gifts) - \$1450 (plus revenues from registration, tbd)
- Donations and Sponsorships: \$300.00
- Other expenses (travel subsidies, workshops, misc): \$500.00

Total of \$3450 budgeted – we are on track to have a higher balance than what we budgeted for.

$\$4660 - \$3450 + \text{event revenue} = \$1210 + \text{event revenue (tbd)}$

**Note that \$2000 is the maximum carryover from previous years.

3. Notes and Highlights

This year saw a modest increase in branch allocation based on number of registrants (133). Spending on PD events is likely to be lower than estimated, as it has been in past years. It is likely that the Kootenay branch will be in a position to carry over funds into the next fiscal year.

5. Closing

Thank you to all branch members, branch exec and volunteers, and BCIA staff for their continued support. Questions and comments regarding this report are welcome.

Tracy Ronmark, P.Ag

Treasurer, Kootenay Boundary Branch

2025 Professional Development Report

Kootenay Boundary Branch AGM, October 28th, 2025

Professional development (PD) for the Kootenay Boundary Branch (KBB) in 2025 consisted of in-person and online events hosted by the branch and promoted on behalf of external organizations.

In-Person Professional Development

Branch In-Person Events

Networking & Executive Q&A - June 19, 2025

Networking & Executive Q&A: Connect with fellow BCIA members from across the Kootenay Boundary region. This is a great opportunity to build new relationships, exchange ideas, and catch up with colleagues in a relaxed, social setting. Members of the **Kootenay Boundary Branch Executive** will be on hand for an informal Q&A session—bring your questions, feedback, or just come to learn more about what’s happening in the branch and how you can get involved. Whether you’re new to the area or a long-time registrant, this is a perfect chance to strengthen your local agrology network.

Brewery Tour (30 minutes): Enjoy a behind-the-scenes look at Encore Brewing’s craft brewing process. A great tour of the brewery by one of the owners, with included some delicious samplings. Following the tour we shared some appetizers and had a fun game of trivia at the pub. A great social!

Beaver Dam Analogue restoration project. - September 26, 2025

The **Kootenay Boundary Branch** for a full-day field visit to the **Earl Ranch Conservation Lands** to explore **Beaver Dam Analogue (BDA) restoration projects**. This in-person tour provided registrants with the opportunity to see active restoration work, hear directly from experts, and discuss the role of BDAs in improving hydrologic resilience and habitat health.

The BC Wildlife Federation field team constructed 10 post-assisted BDAs, low-tech, channel-spanning features that mimic natural beaver dams. This tour gave registrants first-hand exposure to how BDAs function in practice, what restoration objectives are being met, and what challenges or maintenance needs have emerged. The exciting observation noted was the sign of ‘Beaver chews’ indicating *‘if you build it they will come’*. 😊

Kevin O’Neill, P.Ag.

Barry Watson, P.Ag.

Jason House, P.Ag.

Linden Terry, P.Ag.

Professional Development Coordinators
Kootenay Boundary Branch