



**OKANAGAN BRANCH
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2022-2023**

Thursday February 9, 2023 at 6:30pm
Coast Capri Hotel, Kelowna, BC

AGENDA

TIME	AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER
6:30pm	Welcome & Traditional Territory Acknowledgement	Maureen Grainger
6:40pm	Call to Order	Theresa Loewen
6:40pm	Confirmation of Notice and Quorum	Theresa
6:40pm	Motion to Approve the Agenda	Theresa
6:40pm	Approval of Minutes Past (2022 AGM)	Theresa
6:45pm	2022 Branch Executive Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ President’s Report ▪ Articling Coordinator’s Report ▪ Professional Development Coordinator’s Report ▪ Treasurer’s Report 	Theresa Gisele Rehe Adrian Arts & Lindsay King Paige Munro
7:30pm	Provincial Report - CEO / District 2 Board Member	JP Ellson / Jessica Morgan
8:00pm	Branch Awards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lifetime Achievement Award ▪ Farm Family of the Year Award ▪ 25 Year Recognition ▪ 50 Year Recognition 	Andrew Kuiper
8:10pm	P.Ag. Introductions and Ethics Oaths	Gisele
8:20pm	Election of Officers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ President Elect ▪ PD Coordinators ▪ Articling Coordinator ▪ Directors North, South, Central ▪ Treasurer ▪ Secretary ▪ Members at Large ▪ Student Representative 	Theresa / JP
8:30pm	Adjournment	Theresa



Minutes from Meeting Past (2022 AGM)



**BC INSTITUTE OF
AGROLOGISTS**
Cultivating Natural Resource Professionals

Okanagan Branch Annual General Meeting 2022

February 10, 2022

1:00 pm PT

Virtual Meeting

Adobe Connect

Seija:

Intro - 2:02-2:12 pm

Details of Adobe connect platform, chat boxes, she can mute everyone

Theresa:

Motion for the VP to be able to take over the meeting if Theresa is unable to continue (Andrew will take over if necessary)

Acknowledgement of traditional territory of Syilx and Secwepemc nations.

BCIA Okanagan Branch AGM called to order at 1:12 pm

216 members in branch as of Jan 31

Quorum is met, with 94 members in attendance today

Review of agenda

No amendments

Adrian Arts motioned to accept the agenda

Andrew Kuiper seconded

Past AGM meeting minutes

Minutes sent out January 31, no submissions of errors or edits received

Ted Clancy motioned to accept the minutes

Adrian Arts seconded

Theresa passed to Jess for council report – Jess is in Vernon and is the councillor for district 2, at end of first year in two-year term.

Update of what council has been doing from a regulatory perspective

- New voting system has been adopted.
- New councillors list presented, including lay counsellors from other Professional associations. One position is open and the deadline has been extended to Feb 15.
- Input for right to practice is greatly appreciated (email send out earlier today)

Enactment of the *Professional Governance Act (PGA)* - JP Ellson

-practice rights are a work in progress and he will continue to update us on the status.

- Feb. 5, 2021 most of remaining provisions of the PGA were enacted.

BCIA Practice Rights

- Model flow chart presented.
- Regulated practice (everything PAgS are qualified to do) depicted in blue
- Reserved practice (only PAgS can do these) depicted in orange
- Overlapping practice/joint jurisdiction (mostly overlapping with biologists and foresters, sometimes engineers)
- The definition of Agronomy was greatly expanded by replacing many “and” with “or” wording.
- The word “atmospheric” was added – this is significant
- The word separating agricultural relations to restoration, reclamation or remediation (the 3R’s) was changed from “and” to “or” – this is significant
- The 3R wording does not appear in the Applied Biologists Regulation
- We are the only association with an exemption in our regulation for (farmers) landowners to advise on their own land. Otherwise, a landowner must receive the advice from a registered professional. This has removed resistance from multi-generational farmers, who want to manage their own lands.
- Is an additional exemption or recognition to be added on reserve lands? – this is currently being looked into. Unknown if it will apply to traditional lands, rather than reserve lands. This discussion is a year or two down the road.
- 4(2) is a clarification of what the reserved practice is.
 - o Refers to any definition already defined in the definition of regulated practice
- Email sent within the last couple of hours with the first draft of a new list of areas of practice. There are currently 38, and there will be 21 under the new list.

- Request for members to complete a survey, the results will be considered with consultants and presented at the upcoming AGM in Penticton. Any comments after that presentation will be considered over the summer and on September 1st they will finalize the recommendations for new areas of practice.
- About to embark on a series of external stakeholder educational activities
 - Not consultation, because a decision has already been made and they are not seeking input.
 - It is to inform e.g. pesticide companies in BC who have called to ask if their salespeople would need to become Agrologists.
 - There will need to be a line within that company, and it is unclear where that line will be, that is TBD, among other things.
 - Every day other organizations are encountered which will need to be considered for where they fall within this definition of Agrology, e.g. BC Organic Certifications.
 - Small overlap with engineers, most overlap with biologists, some overlap with foresters
- Limited licenses will be granted to people (the individual, not the position) working in government roles that fall under the definition of agrology. Once they leave the role, their successor will need to be a full PAg.
 - It is currently unknown how many individuals this impacts, they are already busy with inquiries.
 - Right to practices standards to not exist for our areas of practice. We have 2-3 years grace period with the BC gov. It took AB 8 years to develop theirs, so we will base it on theirs and adapt them for BC (AB is aware of this).
 - Processes whereby firms that employ agrologists will be regulated is under development. If they don't meet the qualifications for PAg. that firm cannot offer agrologist services and the BCIA will prosecute them.
 - We need a significant backend website update to handle the upcoming requirements. The main changes allow BCIA to gather query data and analyze it. Consulting fees are high for this.
 - Workload to handle limited licence applications requires more BCIA staff
 - Council was looking at a deficit of \$155 000 for the 2022 budget
 - Council has reviewed the budget and increased fees by \$125 to cover these increase costs.
 - Provincial AGMs will continue to be virtual and not associated with a conference, as a result of COVID.
 - The strategic plan extends from 2023-2028.
 - It is already in compliance with the PGA
 - The main thing they will strengthen is the equity, inclusion, diversity and indigenous reconciliation part.

Questions & Answers:

- Can air quality meteorologists be required to be PAgS by having the word "atmospheric" added to the definition of agrology?
 - JP – yes, example of a limited licence scenario.

- If a layman crosses the road and gives a neighbour advice on which varieties to grow, they would be required to be a PAg.
- Companies would need to have a PAg on staff or contract a PAg to advise on things covered under the definitions.
- ASTTBC – significant dispute between the engineers and them. The engineers publicly stood up at the last AGM and requested the government to revoke all rights and give to the engineers. They don't have practice rights now because they asked the government for another year.
- Will there be a way to qualify their 'expertise'?
 - The credentials committee is working on how to administer and adjudicate limited licenses.
- This will have implications on which union employees are associated with.
 - A couple of unions are interested in this (because their membership could be increased as a result)
- Will limited licence individuals be held to the same PD requirement and ethics course?
 - Ethics course absolutely. PD requirements may depend on their scope.
- Will someone with a "special license" be able to retain or port that license to another position in agrology, or once they leave their current role, does that license expire? Also, to obtain a special license, will they have to apply? What will the criteria be for approval?
 - Jess: it will require a letter of recommendation indicating that the individual has experience and the required qualifications.
 - The licence will be for the individual and not the position. So when the individual leaves a position, the position must be filled with a registrant.
 - JP thinks they should be able to change employers, doing the same thing and carry the licence with them.
 - Unknown what the criteria will be for approval – TBD. This is in progress.
- Strategic planning process is just being done by council, no working group or sub-committee, yet.
- What about federal employee?
 - The federal government doesn't recognise agrology anywhere in Canada. But that is in conflict with the BC Act requiring registrants to advise on agrology services. This is a constitutional discussion. The provincial gov. has indicated they will commence discussions with the federal government on this topic.
- The cost of prosecution of unregistered practitioners could be very costly. Do we have some contingencies for these costs?
 - good question. One large complaint case could use that whole amount of money that is currently set aside in our budgeting requirements.
 - JP is still a member of the law society, so JP would lead the prosecution and therefore no additional legal fees would be applied.
 - Previously \$60 000-\$70 000 was spent annually on legal fees
- Are guest speakers and educators from outside of BC exempt from BCIA regs when working in BC; how about on-line educators providing advice to BC producers?
 - E.g. people working on pipelines would be required to get a limited licence

- If they qualify for full PAg status, they have to get it, cannot just apply for a limited licence.
- Educators are regulated, but not reserved. This will be addressed once the survey comes back.
- How does the PGA apply to federal employees working in BC? (feds. include cfia, border services, not just ag Canada)
 - Complicated, will need to look into this further.

President's Report - Theresa

- Theresa has been president since fall 2021
- Our branch donated \$1000 to the cattleman's association from our surplus (due to COVID restrictions) to recover from environmental events in 2021 (flooding, fire, heat dome)
- monthly conference calls were maintained throughout 2021 for the branch exec.
- membership remained consistent with 216 members, incl. 141 PAgS, 30 AAgS, 23 Retired PAgS., 9 PAgS on leave, 8 student AgS.

Articling Coordinator Report - Gisele

This year we have: 13 new articling members, 12 new PAgS and 3 new student members.

Professional Development Report - Lindsay

Adrian and Lindsay took over from Keith, when he took an opportunity out of province.

2021 events generally were planned by Keith and the executive.

Our November event at Upside Cidery helped us learn how to host events that can be attended both virtually and in-person.

There is a lineup of upcoming monthly virtual events called Monday Minglers:

March 7th is the first one.

Treasurer's report - Catherine

Balance of \$4813.93

Wasn't able to spend all PD money that was budgeted. We added the expense for the Cattleman's donation, and an expense for attending branch executive meetings, and held an event at Upside Cidery.

2022 budget - \$6540 is available for 2022

We are more hopeful that we can hold more in person events this year.

The budget total is \$6325 from the proposed allotment of \$6450

Motion to accept the budget by Andrew

Secunder Erica

Motion to accept the 2022 – Carl Withler

Secunder Catherine Hayes

Awards

- Lifetime Achievement Award
 - o Carl Withler
- Professional Agrologist Achievement Award
 - o Molly Thurston
- Farm Family Award
 - o Day Century Growers

- AAg intros:
 - o Olivia Kirby
 - o Lewys Bevan
 - o Matt Walz
 - o Heather Short
 - o Bradley Bennett
 - o Tom Lobisiger

- Reading of the oath by the new PAgS

Theresa

Nominations for 2022 Executive presented.

Floor nominations not accepted this year. All appointed by acclamation. Thank you and congratulations to all.

Questions can be placed in the chat now... No questions

Meeting adjourned at 2:50pm



BCIA Okanagan Branch President's Report – 2023

Welcome to our first in-person AGM since 2020!

It's been 3 long years since we've been able to gather together, shake hands, see faces, network, and generally enjoy the good company of fellow agrologists. We are thankful for this past year to have experienced some much-needed stability in the wake of the last few years of challenges.

Over the last year, the Okanagan Branch enjoyed both virtual and in-person meetings and professional development activities with a focus on remembering how to be social again! Some highlights include our new Monday Minglers series, tours at Okanagan Falls Wastewater Treatment Facility and Paynter's Farm Market, social networking events at Kind Brewing and Sperling Winery, and a Social Styles skill building event.

Membership in the Okanagan Branch has grown. Since last year's AGM, we have 231 members of the total 1,994 members in BCIA, which represents an increase of 15 members from the previous year. This includes 153 Professional Agrologists, 27 Articling Agrologists, 5 Technical Agrologists, 7 Articling Technical Agrologists, 9 Student Agrologists, 7 Agrologists on Leave, and 23 Retired Agrologists.

I would like to thank the 2022 executive team for all their hard work and dedication to the Okanagan Branch:

Andrew Kuiper (President Elect), Adrian Arts and Lindsay King (PD Coordinators), Gisele Rehe (Articling Coordinator), Christina Delaney (Secretary), Paige Munro (Treasurer), Maureen Grainger (Director Central), Christina Forbes (Director South), Melissa Graydon (Director North), and Carl Withler and Harmanjit Dhadli (Members at Large). Thank you all, I have enjoyed working with each and every one of you, and truly appreciate your contributions to the Okanagan Branch throughout this past year!

The Okanagan Branch is also incredibly lucky to have two District 2 Board Members - V. Jessica Morgan (also BCIA President) and William Shaw – thank you both! And a final thanks to BCIA Head Office for supporting our branch by assisting with PD, answering our many questions, and guiding us through the year.

I am thankful for the opportunity you have given me to lead this branch in the coming year and look forward to another successful year ahead.

Respectfully submitted.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Theresa Loewen', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Theresa Loewen, P.Ag.



Articling Coordinator Report

**ARTICLING REPORT
BCIA OKANAGAN BRANCH AGM
FEBRUARY 9, 2023**

It was a successful year for our Articling members, with the addition of several new AAg, ATAg, and student members, and with several new graduates moving on to receive their P.Ag and RTAg designations. The BCIA Okanagan Branch now has 231 members including student members.

Statistics:

13 New Articling Members since last Branch AGM		14 New Graduates since last Branch AGM		4 New Student Members since last Branch AGM	
Baille	Barnett	Sarah	Carlson	Sarah	Gafner-Bergeron
Jonas	Bateman	Alana	Crump	Ashleigh	Junor
Erin	Carlson	Colin	Durand	Shaloo	Street
Bart	Fieten	Alexis	Friesen	Nikita	Planz
Caitlin	McKenzie	Laura	Gaster		
Juan	Paez Ruis	Rajan	Gill		
Alexandre	Salat	Katelyn	Hengel		
Cole	Schweb	Brayden	Knackstedt		
Sheena	Spencer	Stephanie	Lindberg		
Viviana	Toledo	Thomas	Lobsiger		
Christine	Bruneau	Kristina	Moseley		
Sophia	Goertsen	Paige	Munro		
Logan	Pay	Lisa	Wambold		
		Esmaeil	Yasari		

The PD coordinators organized and held several webinars over 2022 including the popular Monday Night Mingler events over Zoom. We also met in person for the Holiday Social Event on November 28, that was two parts with a Social (Styles) session at Okanagan College followed by a reception at Sperling Winery in Kelowna.

We look forward to another year of new membership and PD events!

Respectfully,

Gisele Rehe, P.Ag., R.P.Bio., Okanagan Branch Articling Coordinator



Professional Development Coordinators Report

**Professional Development Coordinators' Report
BCIA Okanagan Branch AGM
February 09, 2023**

Over the past year, the Okanagan Branch has made efforts to provide members with a variety of meaningful professional development and networking opportunities. The professional development opportunities have been broken down into four broad categories:

Networking – See Appendix A for event Posters

- Monday Minglers – The virtual networking sessions launched in early 2022 out of a desire to get back to networking after the pandemic. Participation has ranged from 8-15 members with attendees from several branches. It has been a great opportunity to learn about organizations whose work directly intersects with Agrology.
 - Okanagan Basin Water Board (OBWB): March 06, 2022; 16 participants.
 - Okanagan-Kootenay Sterile Insect Release Program (OKSIR): April 04, 2022; 18 participants.
 - Okanagan and Similkameen Invasive Species Society (OASISS): April 06, 2022; 9 participants.
 - BC Grapegrowers Association (BCGA): November 07, 2022; 10 participants
 - Agricultural Land Commission (ALC): December 05, 2022; 12 participants
- Socials – In person events held after skill building sessions. Participation has been great at these events with 15-25 people attending
 - i. Kind Brewery Branch Meeting and Social: August 31, 2022; 25 participants
 - ii. Sperling Winery Christmas Social: December 07, 2022; 18 participants

Technical Sessions - See Appendix B for event Posters

- Lunch and Learn (20-40 participants per session)
 - i. Apple Decline: July 12, 2022
 - ii. Soil Information Finder Tool: October 12, 2022
 - iii. Soil nematodes: November 9, 2022
 - iv. Tree Fruit Pest Genomics: December 14, 2022

Skill Building - See Appendix C for event Posters

- Roberts Rules: February 10, 2022; 18 participants
- Social Styles: December 07, 2022; 9 participants

Field Tours - See Appendix D for event Posters

- Okanagan Falls Wastewater Treatment Facility: June 13, 2022; 8 participants
- Paynters Fruit Market: August 31, 2022; 15 participants

While we continued to offer virtual events in 2022, we were very happy to be able to gather in-person. The Networking events, including the Monday Minglers and Social events

were a great opportunity to get to know other agrologists in the Branch in a less formal context. While the Monday Minglers were virtual, all members attending introduced themselves and were able to ask questions in a casual setting. The Social events at Kind Brewing in West Kelowna and Sperling Winery in Kelowna were a great excuse to support local businesses while networking with colleagues.

In 2022 we brought back Lunch and Learns through collaboration with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Food. We offered four Lunch and Learn sessions over 2022. Participation was excellent for these events, with 20-40 participants per session.

We hosted two skill building events in 2022. The workshop on Roberts' Rules of Order was held virtually, and included pointers on how to host effective meetings. The workshop on Social Styles was held in person at Okanagan College in Kelowna. Through facilitation by the instructor, members discovered how they prefer to interact with others and learned tips to communicate more efficiently with colleagues who have different social styles.

The field tours at the Okanagan Falls Wastewater Treatment Facility and Paynters Fruit Market were a great time to chat and talk shop with other Agrologists. The tour of the Okanagan Falls Wastewater Treatment Facility showcased the state-of-the-art facility and the phytoremediation work that is being done in the polishing wetland. The tour of Paynters Fruit Market's orchards, gardens and store showcased a successful and enterprising local farm business.

Thank you to Okanagan members who gave us suggestions for PD opportunities and participated in the events this year. We are excited to work with the Okanagan Branch Executive to provide more events in 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Adrian Arts, P.Ag and Lindsay King, P.Ag

Appendix A – Networking Professional Development

2022 Monthly Monday Minglers

March 06, April 04, June 06, November 07 and December 05 2022 6:30-8:00 pm via Zoom

Cost: Free, pre-registration is required

Registration required in advance for this networking series:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUldOCsqzltG9xzzR0lBE6EAzjCRtRLE0B>

Can we agree that one of most important part of meetings are the breaks? When structured conversation pauses, the sugary snacks are on the table and conversation starts. The opportunity to build relationships, expand networks and gain important insights from colleagues seems to be missing. The past 2-years of never-ending virtual meetings has removed the networking opportunities and our ability to connect with colleagues! To get back into the networking groove, join the BCIA Okanagan Branch for a series of Monthly 'Monday Mixers' hosted online on the first Monday of each month.



Get to know the Okanagan Basin Water Board (OBWB):

Date: March 7, 2022

Time: 6:30-8:00 pm

Location: Virtual - Preregistration Required [HERE](#)

To get the conversation going we will be joined by Dr. Anna Warwick-Sears, the Executive Director of the OBWB, Kellie Garcia, Policy and Planning Specialist of the OBWB and Nelson Jatel, Director of the OBWB's Water Stewardship Council (WSC). The OBWB was initiated in 1968 as a valley-wide partnership to identify and resolve critical water issues in the Okanagan watershed. Join us to learn more about the important work of the OBWB and WSC! **Bring your Favorite Brew and get ready to virtually mingle.**



Get to know the Okanagan Kootenay Sterile Insect Release Program (OKSIR):

Date: April 4, 2022

Time: 6:30-8:00 pm

Location: Virtual – Preregistration Required [HERE](#)

We're pleased to announce that our inaugural session will be kicked off with a quick introduction by Melissa Tesche, General Manager of the OKSIR. Participants will be introduced to Melissa, and program staff to gain a high-level overview of the important work the SIR program does to provide area wide pest management control of the invasive Codling Moth. Melissa will be joined by Evan Esch, the program entomologist, and Alexis-Friesen, the field supervisor for Penticton, Summerland and Naramata. **Bring your Favorite Brew and get ready to virtually mingle.**



Get to know the Okanagan and Similkameen Invasive Species Society (OASISS):

Date: June 06, 2022

Time: 6:30-8:00 pm

Location: Virtual - Preregistration Required [HERE](#)

To get the conversation going we will be joined by Lisa Scott, the Executive Director, and Elaine Desjarlais, the Operations Coordinator of OASISS. OASISS was initiated in 1996 and has been working on their vision to control, prevent and minimize the impacts of invasive species on our communities, natural environments and economy. **Bring your Favorite Brew and get ready to virtually mingle.**



**BRITISH COLUMBIA
GRAPEGROWERS'
ASSOCIATION**

Get to know the: BC Grapegrowers Association

Date: November 07, 2022

Time: 6:30-8:00 pm

Location: Virtual – Preregistration Required

We're pleased to announce that Tyrion Miskell, Executive Director of the BC Growers Association and Ruth King, Manager of Sustainable Winegrowing BC will be leading our November Monday Mingler. Participants will be introduced to Tyrion and Ruth, to gain a high-level overview of the important work the BCGA and SWBC does to support B.C.'s thriving grape and wine industry. **Bring your Favorite Brew and get ready to virtually mingle.**



Get to know the: Agricultural Land Commission (ALC)

Date: December 05, 2022

Time: 6:30-8:00 pm

Location: Virtual - Preregistration Required

To get the conversation going we will be joined by Kim Grout, the CEO of the ALC, Claire Buchanan, Senior Land Use Planner for the Okanagan Region and Michael McBurnie, Regional Planner for the Okanagan. The ALR is B.C.'s provincial zone that preserves agricultural land for the future. The ALC is the administrative tribunal that adjudicates applications in the ALR while prioritizing and protecting the ALR land base and its use for agriculture. Join us to learn more about the important work of the ALC - **Bring your Favorite Brew and get ready to virtually mingle.**

Appendix B – Technical Sessions Professional Development

Lunch and Learn

October 12, November 09, December 14 2022 12:00-1:00 pm via Zoom

Cost: Free, pre-registration is required (BCIA members)

Zoom Coordinates for this series:

<https://ca01web.zoom.us/j/69640108245?pwd=MlowYWxQYXBDbUlwY0VpZ2F0bEgrdz09>

Join BCIA, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), the Ministry of Agriculture and Food (AF) and the Ministry of Land Water and Resource Stewardship (LWRS) in a series of professional talks this fall. These sessions are held virtually on the second Wednesday of each month, 12-1pm.

Sudden Apple Decline in BC's Orchards – What have we learned?

Date: October 12, 2022

Time: 12:00-1:00 pm

Location: Virtual - Preregistration Required

<p>Jesse MacDonald, Knowledge and Technology Transfer Specialist, AAFC</p> 	<p>Dr. Kirsten Hannam, Agroecologist, AAFC</p> 
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Sudden apple decline (SAD) is a recent and little understood disorder, associated with wilted leaves and rapid death of apple trees. From 2018-2022, Agriculture and Agri-Canada researchers have investigated potential associations and correlations with the disorder, including symptomology, parentage, cankers, boring insects, in-tree water relations, effects on fruit quality, and associated soil characteristics – among others. This seminar will discuss the role of heat and/or drought stress, compounded by impaired water transport across the graft union, and how it may be a contributing factor to the incidence of SAD in this region.

Bios:

Jesse MacDonald was raised on a 22-acre apple farm in Summerland, BC, where his father also worked as a technician in the cherry and apple breeding program at the local AAFC research centre, and his mother was on the British Columbia Fruit Growers' Association board of directors. Jesse attended the University of British Columbia (B.Sc), before completing his graduate degree at Simon Fraser University (Masters of Pest Management). His career with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada began with 10 years as a field technician with the Pest Management Centre at both Summerland and Agassiz Research and Development Centres. In 2018 began his role as Biologist, Knowledge and Technology Transfer in Summerland, which allows him to be a part of a wide array of research projects – including pest management, plant physiology, climate adaptation initiatives, and Indigenous collaborations – all of which

he greatly enjoys. Jesse is active in various scientific associations, regional and local agricultural associations, and the local community, including as a long term member of Penticton & District Search & Rescue.

Kirsten Hannam grew up on Vancouver Island, BC, and is still surprised to find herself living nowhere near the ocean. Kirsten completed a M.Sc. in Forest Science at the University of British Columbia and a Ph.D. in Soil Science at the University of Alberta. She has worked for the BC Ministry of Forests, for Natural Resources Canada and for UBC-Okanagan. She was hired as an Agroecologist with AAFC in 2018. Her research program has two main objectives: i. to explore the potential of agriculture to help mitigate climate change, e.g., through increased soil carbon storage and reduced greenhouse gas production, and ii. to identify tools to help farmers adapt to climate change and weather extremes. She is one of the Science Team co-leads for AAFC's Living Lab program in BC, is co- chair of the Agriculture & Water Committee for the Okanagan Water Stewardship Council and serves on the Steering Committee of BC's Agricultural Climate Adaptation Research Network.



**Deepa Filatow,
Provincial Bioterrain Specialist**

Digging into the BC Soil Information Finder Tool

Date: October 12, 2022

Time: 12:00-1:00 pm

Location: Virtual - Preregistration Required

The [BC Soil Information Finder tool](#) or SIFT is an interactive story map and mapping application that provides easy access to soil survey maps, soil attributes, and agriculture capability mapping in British Columbia. This lunch-and-learn presentation will cover an overview of SIFT and the kinds of information that you can access through the tool. There will be a live demo of some of the functions and tabs available in the application followed by a question and answer period.

Bio:

Deepa Spaeth Filatow, is a P.Ag and P.Geo. She is the Provincial Bioterrain Specialist and Terrestrial Ecosystem Information Unithead in the newly minted Ministry of Land Water and Resource Stewardship, in the Knowledge Management Branch. She is one of the co-creators of SIFT and has extensive experience and knowledge about British Columbia's soils information and data.



**Dr. Tom Forge,
Applied Soil Ecologist / Nematologist**

Plant-parasitic nematodes at the root of orchard and vineyard resilience?

Date: November 07, 2022

Time: 12:00-1:00 pm

Location: Virtual – Preregistration Required

Plant-parasitic nematodes are often overlooked as pests because they are microscopic, soil-dwelling organisms that generally do not cause specific symptoms of diagnostic value. Consequently, their impacts on perennial fruit crops are not fully known. Tom will describe recent research aimed at improving knowledge of the nematode species of concern for BC horticulture and the effects they have on fruit trees and grapevines, with particular reference to their potential interaction with other stresses associated with climate change.

Bio:

Tom is a research soil ecologist at the Summerland Research and Development Centre, specializing in nematology and integrated root health management for perennial fruit crops. Tom grew up in small towns in Kansas and North Dakota, obtained his B.Sc. in Biology from Kansas State University and Ph.D. from the Department of Plant Pathology at the University of Wisconsin. Tom conducted post-doctoral research in Aberdeen, Scotland, Victoria, and then at Oregon State University. Tom then worked for several years as an independent research consultant in the Okanagan Valley before joining AAFC at the Agassiz Research Centre in 2001, and then returning to Summerland in 2013.



Dr. Letitia Da Ros

Research Scientist – Tree Fruit Genomics

Genomic tools for improving crop resilience and pest detection

Date: December 05, 2022

Time: 12:00-1:00 pm

Location: Virtual - Preregistration Required

Climate change presents a range of challenges, with rapidly fluctuating weather and pest pressures influencing ecosystem survival. In agriculture, this translates to major impacts on production, sustainability, and food security. To withstand these environmental changes, crop species need to be more adaptable than ever. This presentation will discuss key plant traits that contribute to crop climate resiliency and how we can use genomic tools to accelerate the development of these traits in horticultural crops

Bio:

Letitia is a plant systems biologist who specializes in the use of genomics and multi-omics to investigate the mechanisms behind plant adaptations to their environment. Her goal is to help accelerate the use of genomic tools in agriculture for greater crop resiliency in the face of increasingly irregular weather conditions throughout the growing season

Appendix C – Skill Building Professional Development

Tactics for Effective Meetings: Roberts Rules and Beyond!

February 10, 2022 11:00-1:00pm

Cost: \$20 for BCIA members, pre-registration is required

We have all been there, the hour-long meeting that should have, and could have, been 30 minutes. Participants veering off topic, leaving the chair with the unpleasant task of butting in and re-setting the course of the meeting. In this interactive session, John Kay of Realize Strategies will walk us through some time-tested tools and techniques to give us the skills needed to plan, facilitate and participate in effective meetings. By the end of this session participants will be comfortable with the basics of Roberts' Rules of Order and will know how to apply them in "real word" scenarios. Participants are encouraged to bring challenges they have faced in meetings for discussion.



JOHN KAY – Realize Strategies

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, CPA, CMA, MBA

John thrives on the challenge of unlocking the potential of people and organizations who are working to build a better tomorrow. Always with a fresh pot of ideas percolating, John's an expert in business model innovation, strategy, governance, and looking beyond the limits to new possibilities. A big believer in passing on what he has learned, John prefers to define the CEO acronym as "Chief Empowerment Officer" and is not afraid to give his team members lots of rope to climb up to new heights. John is extremely engaged in the community, whether he's rolling up his sleeves as a volunteer, traversing the world for inspiration, or chairing an assortment of boards.

Social Styles Workshop

December 7, 4-6pm: Okanagan College - Kelowna Campus

Cost: \$15 for BCIA members, pre-registration is required

Join us for a pre-social Social (Styles) session. This short and exciting interactive workshop will get you moving and talking with your colleagues, without the awkward icebreakers. It will focus around Social Styles, one of the world's leading Behavioral Style models. It has been used by thousands of organizations to improve leadership performance and sales results. Each of the four Styles displays positive and negative characteristics when working (or networking!) with others, and research shows that people of any Social Style can be successful in any profession.

Appendix D – Field Tours Professional Development

Okanagan Falls Wastewater Treatment Plant Tour

Location: In-Person - 1109 Willow St, Okanagan Falls

Date: June 13, 2022

Time: 1:30-3:30

Pre-Registration is required before June 01

The BCIA Okanagan Branch invites members to join a guided tour of the Okanagan Falls Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) and newly commissioned Polishing Wetland.

The WWTP has been processing wastewater for almost a decade with the multi-year commissioning of the Polishing Wetland in 2022. The state-of-the-art facility utilizes treated effluent throughout the plant in various ways which will be discussed on the guided tour. The commissioning of the Polishing Wetland in 2022 provides additional opportunities for innovation using natural ecosystem processes and phytoremediation to further improve the quality of the discharge water.

The WWTP is an advanced tertiary treatment plant that takes in sewage effluent, treats and then creates an effluent discharge (water) that meets Canadian drinking water standards and sludge or biosolids. The effluent goes into the wetlands which provide further polishing by removing phosphorus and metals while creating important habitat in one of Canada's most sensitive areas.

The biosolids are then mixed with pruning's, yard and wood waste, composted and turned into a solid additive. Virtually everything the WWTP receives is reused or recycled. Even the heat from the effluent is used to heat the plant.

More information can be found on the RDOS [Okanagan Falls Wastewater Treatment Plant Site](#).

Directions: As you leave Okanagan Falls heading south on highway 97 on the right-hand side is Railroad. Take a right on Railroad and then a left on the entrance road and follow it until its end at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The entrance road is well marked. We will leave the gate open at the WWTP and folks can either park inside the facility or on the entrance road. Below is a map.



West Kelowna Farm Tour and Social

When: Wednesday, August 31, 2022

Farm tour: 4:30pm-5:30pm

Branch meeting and social: 6pm onwards

Location:

Farm tour: Paynter's Market (3687 Paynter road, West Kelowna)

Branch meeting and social: Kind Brewing (2405 Main St, West Kelowna)

Cost: Free

Registration: Please pre-register on BCIA website

About:

We will meet at Paynter's Fruit Market in West Kelowna for a tour from 4:30pm-5:30pm. Paynter's Fruit Market is a family run business and has been in operation for over 60 years. Over the years, it has become an integral part of the community. Paynter's produces fruit, vegetables and features many other local value-added products in their market. Come find out more about this successful farm business!

After the tour, we will head to Kind Brewing to taste local craft beer and enjoy their selection of pizza.



Treasurer's Report

Okanagan Branch 2022	BC Institute of Agrologists - Branch Financials												
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	October	November	December	Total
REVENUE													
Branch AGM													\$ -
Branch AGM Sponsorship													\$ -
Other (donations, sponsorships)													\$ -
Professional Development Events		\$ 160.00	\$ 240.00									\$ 135.00	\$ 535.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ -	\$ 160.00	\$ 240.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 135.00	\$ 535.00
EXPENSES													
Branch Executive Meetings			\$ 100.00										\$ 100.00
A.Ag./Mentor Events													\$ -
Member Travel Subsidies													\$ -
Non-PD Activities/Outreach													\$ -
Donations/Sponsorships													\$ -
Other (supplies, awards, etc)						\$ 57.02							\$ 57.02
Credit Card / Bank Fees		\$ 4.24	\$ 6.36									\$ 44.42	\$ 55.02
Branch AGM													\$ -
Catering/Food/Venue												\$ 1,009.34	\$ 1,009.34
Materials/Gifts/Supplies/Awards/Other	\$ 115.09		\$ 201.00										\$ 316.09
PD at AGM													\$ -
Professional Development													\$ -
Presenter Expenses			\$ 840.00								\$ 100.00	\$ 887.68	\$ 1,827.68
Catering/Food										\$ 168.00	\$ 181.85	\$ 349.85	
Transportation (Bus/Parking)													\$ -
Partnering/PD Subsidy													\$ -
PD Organizer Travel													\$ -
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 115.09	\$ 4.24	\$ 1,147.36	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 57.02	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 268.00	\$ 2,123.29	\$ 3,715.00
NET INCOME	-\$ (115.09)	\$ 155.76	-\$ (907.36)	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	-\$ (57.02)	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	-\$ (268.00)	-\$ (1,988.29)	-\$ (3,180.00)
Balance	\$ 6,424.91	\$ 6,580.67	\$ 5,673.31	\$ 5,673.31	\$ 5,673.31	\$ 5,616.29	\$ 5,616.29	\$ 5,616.29	\$ 5,616.29	\$ 5,616.29	\$ 5,348.29	\$ 3,360.00	
Starting Bank Balance as of Jan 1, 2022	\$ 3,180.00												
2022 Branch allocation	\$ 3,360.00												
Expenses and revenues for 2022	-\$ (3,180.00)												
Account balance to date	\$ 3,360.00												
	\$ 3,360.00												

BC Institute of Agrologists Okanagan Branch		
2023 Budget		
	2023 Branch Subsidy	192 registrants at \$20.00 per registrant
	Balance of funds remaining at Dec 31/22	carry forward allowed
	Funds available for 2023	
Revenues		
Jan 1, 2023 to Dec 31, 2023		
2023 Budget (Projected)		
Explanation / Breakdown of Expenditures and Revenues		
Items	Expenses	Revenues
Jan 1 2022 - Dec 31 2022		
	Expenses	Revenues
Professional Development	\$1,500.00	
Presenter expenses/honorariums/venue/gifts/supplies/materials		For presenter expenses, honorariums,venue, catering, supplies, transportation, partnering
Catering/food		
Transportation (bus, parking)		
Partnering/PD subsidy		
PD Organizer Travel		
Branch AGM	\$5,090.00	
Catering/Food		
Venue/supplies/awards		
PD at AGM		
Sponsorships revenues		
Branch Executive Meetings	\$100.00	
A.Ag./Mentor Workshops	\$100.00	
Non-PD Activities/Outreach	\$100.00	
Registrant Travel Subsidies	\$100.00	i.e. Carpooling to Provincial AGM for A.Ags
Youth Donations/Sponsorships	\$100.00	i.e. Science fair award
Miscellaneous	\$150.00	
Total	\$7,200.00	\$7,200.00
Net Balance		\$0.00
		\$2,705.66
		\$1,544.34
		-\$1,161.32



Okanagan Branch Award Recipients and Special Mentions

- Lifetime Achievement Award: George Geldart, PAg
- Farm Family Award: Lidder Family
- 25 year recognition for 2023: Phil Croteau, PAg
- 50 year recognition for 2023: Richard King, PAg (Retired)



P.Ag. Oaths

Code of Ethics Read By:

- **Mahesh Pudasaini, P.Ag.**
- **Paige Munro, P.Ag.**
- **Alana Crump, P.Ag.**
- **Colin Durand, P.Ag.**
- **Lisa Wambold, P.Ag.**
- **Colin Durand, P.Ag.**
- **Stephanie Lindberg, P.Ag.**
- **Erika Davidson, T.Ag.**



2023 Branch Executive Nominations

The following Okanagan Branch Executive positions were posted and open to BCIA Okanagan members, and the following nominations were received:

- District 2 Board Members – Jessica Morgan & William Shaw
- Treasurer – Paige Munro
- Professional Development (PD) Coordinators – Lindsay King, Adrian Arts & Loren Price
- Secretary – Melissa Graydon
- Articling Coordinator – Catherine Hayes
- Director Central – Maureen Grainger
- Director South – Christina Forbes
- Director North – Gisele Rehe
- Members at Large – Carl Withler, Harmanjit Dhadli, & Alana Crump
- Student Representative – TBD

The following positions were filled by acclamation:

- President – Theresa Loewen
- President Elect – Andrew Kuiper