



**OKANAGAN BRANCH
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2020/2021**

Thursday January 21, 2021

7:00pm

Virtual AGM Via Adobe Connect

AGENDA

TIME	AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER
6:45pm	Log-in. Open Room Chat	Bonnie & Christina
7:00pm	Introductions to the Platform	Bonnie & Christina
7:10pm	Call to Order	Kirsten
7:10pm	Confirmation of Notice and Quorum	Kirsten & Christina
7:15pm	Approval of the Agenda	Kirsten
7:20pm	Approval of Minutes Past (2019 AGM)	Kirsten
7:30pm	2020 Branch Executive Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ President's Report ▪ Articling Coordinator's Report ▪ Professional Development Coordinator's Report ▪ Treasurer Report 	Kirsten Theresa Keith Catherine
8:00pm	2020 Provincial Reports	Jessica
8:20pm	Motions from the Membership	Kirsten
8:25pm	Branch Awards Special Mentions	Danielle, Andrew, Carl
8:30pm	A. Ag, ATag Oral Presentations P.Ag. Ethics Oaths	Theresa and Jessica
8:50pm	Election of Officers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ President Elect ▪ PD Coordinator ▪ Articling Coordinator ▪ Directors North, South, Central ▪ Treasurer ▪ Secretary ▪ Members at Large 	Carl
9:00pm	Welcome from the New President and Adjournment	Danielle



Minutes from Meeting Past (2020 FEB AGM)

Okanagan AGM
Minutes. Feb 6. 2020

Attendees:		Regrets:
1. Kirsten Kurjata, President-Chair	10. Jason Lasuik, Director South	None
2. Danielle Hirkala, Vice-President	11. Andrew Kuiper, Director Central	
3. Carl Withler, Past-President	12. Carley Simpson, Member at Large	
4. Jessica Morgan, Councillor	13. Christina Delaney, Member at Large	
5. Catherine Piedt, Treasurer	14. John Garland, Member at Large	
6. Gisele Rehe, Secretary		
7. Theresa Loewen, AAg Coordinator		
8. Keith Duhaime, PD Coordinator		
9. Melissa Graydon, Director North		

1. **Call to order:** KK, 8:39 pm
2. **Confirmation of notice and attendance- Sergeant at Arms–** GG, have 70 members in attendance and 5 guests.
All in favour. CARRIED
3. **Review and approval of agenda**
 - a. Additions? Motion to approve (M/S), Mellissa Graydon 1st, Carl Withler 2nd CARRIED
4. **Review of minutes from previous 2019 AGM meeting**
M/S Jessica Morgan 1st /Andrew Kuiper 2nd that the minutes be adopted as amended. CARRIED
5. **Branch Reports**
 - a. **President’s Report- Kirsten Kurjata -attached**
 - i. Thank you to all the Executive and Head Office staff. Acknowledge members of Executive.
 - ii. We had a lot of PD events with another bus tour in the Fall, writing workshop with Carolyn Labun, Life Cycle assessment webinar (Keith) and rural tour of the Paynter Market.
 - b. **Treasurer’s Report- Catherine Piedt - attached**
 - i. Circulated by CP; verbal update financial affairs for Branch AGM; CP present report of 2019 and proposed 2020.
 - ii. 2019 budge \$4210.00 balance carried forward. Includes Christmas social and technical writing workshop 2019. \$4210.00 plus \$2797.67 (balance carried) for total \$8898.44.
 - iii. 2020 proposed \$4290.00 (PD), \$3805.00 (AGM) plus \$2549.23 (balance carried) for total \$10544.23. Balance does not include revenues for tonight.
M/S Carl Withler 1st / Keith Duhaime 2nd CARRIED



KK, comment, acknowledge sponsorship from Ecora (Catherine Piedt), Associated Environmental (Rob Kupchancko, Gisele Rehe, Courtney Barr, Nicole Penner, Megan Ludwig also in attendance), Sage Environmental (Jessica Morgan and Matthew Davidson), BMO, Kurjata Consulting, Glen Lucas.

6. Provincial Reports

a) ED/R Report – JP Ellson

- i. Annual declaration 2021 proposal
- ii. Agrologists will sign a new declaration before every project
- iii. New course or job? Will need a new declaration.
- iv. Retain 8 branches in BC.
- v. Elections online , not at AGMs any more.
- vi. Plan is to have 3 Districts with :
- vii. District 1 = Peace River, Caribou and Kootenays
- viii. District 2 = Okanagan, Kamloops and Fraser Valley
- ix. District 3 = Vancouver and Victoria
- x. Budget to have 4 councillors to visit AGM
- xi. 2023, everyone on 3 year terms and elections are online
- xii. Councillor wants to maintain geographical representation and be two years on council.
- xiii. Jessica on term for 2020/2021

b) Councillor's Report- Jessica Morgan - attached

- i. PGA Act will be passed November 2020 (imminent date)
- ii. Will make sure wording is relevant and well rounded.
- iii. Excited about the opportunities to expand.
- iv. Registered Tech Ag Designation has a sub committee
- v. Did research on other professional designations and Ag was the only one that did not offer a Reg. Tech Ag. This new designation can fill in a lot of gaps. It will be rolled out March 1 as a R.Tech. Ag.
- vi. Bonnie has taken on a new role as Professional Coordinator
- vii. There are new personnel within accounting and administration.
- viii. Council works together very well.
- ix. Next year planning a joint AGM 2021 with the ASTTCBC in Kelowna.

Received Report, no motion needed

CARRIED

c) AAg Introductions, PAg Certificates

- i. AAg report – TL arrives
- ii. 12 new AAg, 9 new PAg (see list attached) and 5 new student members
- iii. Names read of new PAgS in attendance, signed code of ethics and received certificates. Congratulations to: Cristina Delaney, Evan Esch, Duncan McLeod



d) Election of Officers - JP

- i. Kirsten Kurjata staying on as President
- ii. Danielle Hirkala, staying on as Vice-President
- iii. Jessica Morgan staying on as Councillor
- iv. Catherine Piedt staying on as Treasurer
- v. Gisele Rehe, staying on as Secretary
- vi. Keith Duhaime staying on as PD coordinator
- vii. Jason Lasuik new to Executive as Director South – good job with organizing the Summerland Research Station Tour
- viii. Melissa Graydon, staying on as Director North
- ix. Andrew Kuiper, staying on as Director Central
- x. Theresa Loewen, staying on as AAg Coordinator
- xi. John Garland – (Past President) and staying on as a Member at Large
- xii. Carl Withler staying on as Past President
- xiii. Carley Simpson staying on as Member at Large
- xiv. Christina Delaney voted in as new Member at Large

M/S Erin Milligan^{1st} /Mark Roberts^{2nd}.

CARRIED

9. **Other Business** - none

- Door prizes

Motion to adjourn meeting, JP Ellson, All in favour, no opposed

CARRIED

Adjourn 9:23pm



Okanagan Branch President's Annual Report

What an unconventional year this has been and I'm sure everyone is now well versed in 'Zooming' or even getting "Zoomed-out". Though there were shut-downs and restrictions, the Okanagan Branch still met through conference call on a monthly basis, had one socially-distanced outdoor meeting in the summer, and hosted many interesting virtual speakers.

I thank my executive team and appreciate their commitment as they worked through this pandemic and its challenges. Even though our face-to-face networking and professional development sessions were reduced, many opportunities through virtual platforms were offered. These included:

- Lunch & Learn: Microbial Fuels Cells for Wastewater Treatment
- Integrating Ecosystem Services and Biodiversity in Landscape Management for Multifunctional Agroecosystems: A case study in the Okanagan Valley, British Columbia
- Lunch & Learn: LiDAR Dataset Overview
- Smart Farming and a Glimpse into the Future
- Covid-19 and the challenges to Agricultural Production Systems
- Covid-19 and the Impacts on Agriculture and Food Supply in Canada
- Weaknesses and Resilience in Food Supply Chains exposed by COVID-19

A strong executive makes these sorts of events happen. I would like to thank the 2020 team for dedicating their time to the Okanagan Branch; Danielle Hirkala (Vice-President), Catherine Piedt (Treasurer), Gisele Rehe (Secretary), Theresa Loewen (Articling Coordinator), Keith Duhaime (PD Coordinator), Jason Lasuik (Director South), Melissa Graydon (Director North), Andrew Kuiper (Director Central), John Garland (Member at Large), Carley Simpson (Member at Large), Christina Delaney (Member at Large) and Carl Withler (Past President). The Okanagan Branch was also incredibly lucky to have two District 2 Councillors for 2020. BCIA Vice President V. Jessica Morgan sat on many executive meetings. Thank you, Jessica, for keeping us informed and guiding us along the way. And this year we welcomed Kevin Eastwood into the Okanagan as well.

A final thanks to BCIA Head Office; promptly answering any questions we have and guiding us through as health directives continually changed.

Membership in the Okanagan Branch has increased slightly over the past year. The Branch total as of December 31 was 206 including student members – an increase of 24 over 2019. And since the inception of the Registered Technologist in Agrology designation, our Branch currently has two ATAg registered and one RTAg under the expedited program.

I am thankful for the opportunity you have given me to lead this branch over the past two years. I now welcome Danielle Hirkala to the role of Okanagan Branch President.

Respectfully submitted.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kirsten Kurjata".

Kirsten Kurjata, P.Ag. (*on leave*)



Okanagan Branch Articling Report

It was a busy year for Articling Agrologists, with the addition of many new AAg, ATAg, and Student members, with several moving on to receive their PAg and RTAg designations. The BCIA Okanagan Branch now has 206 members including student members – an increase of 24 over 2019.

Statistics:

14 New Articling Members since last Branch AGM	12 New Graduates since last Branch AGM	8 New Student Member since last Branch AGM
Bradley Bennett, AAg Laura Gaster, AAg Rajan Gill, AAg Katelyn Hengel, AAg Richard Henschel, ATAg Sarah Hirschfeld, AAg Laura Keery, AAg Aaron Keryluke, AAg Taylor McRae, AAg Kristina Moseley, AAg Paige Munro, AAg Heather Short, AAg Janine Weber, AAg Raymond Wladichuk, ATAg Jason Azzam, ATAg	Courtney Barr, PAg Sharon Bennett, PAg Jacquelyn Boruch, PAg Kristen Cockburn, PAg Amanda Kuhn, PAg Leanne McDonald, PAg Sarah Mortenson, PAg Nicole Penner, PAg Jillian Tamblyn, PAg Charles Weiterman, PAg Loren Price, RTAg	Cory Berekoff Bailey Wellman David Lee Nathan Logan Derek Gilbert Dustin Maclean Savanna Maddock Michaela Posella

Despite the challenges of 2020, we were able to continue to connect virtually with several webinars:

- Webinar: Microbial Fuels Cells for Wastewater Treatment – April 9, 2020
- Webinar: Integrating Ecosystem Services and Biodiversity in Landscape Management for Multifunctional Agroecosystems: A case study in the Okanagan Valley, British Columbia – May 6, 2020
- Webinar: LiDAR Dataset – June 5, 2020
- Webinar: Smart Farming and a Glimpse into the Future – July 8, 2020
- Webinar: Covid-19 and the challenges to Agricultural Production Systems – Sept 17, 2020
- Webinar: Covid-19 and the Impacts on Agriculture and Food Supply in Canada – Oct 21, 2020
- Webinar: Weaknesses and Resilience in Food Supply Chains exposed by COVID-19 – Nov 18, 2020

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

Respectfully,

Theresa Loewen, P.Ag., Okanagan Branch Articling Coordinator



Okanagan Branch Professional Development Coordinators Report 2020

Submitted by: Keith Duhaime P.Ag.

January 14, 2021

The Covid-19 pandemic has made it a challenging year for providing professional development activities to our members. At the beginning of the year, the branch executive planned a combination of day field tours and brown bag lunch events dispersed throughout the valley to provide opportunities for all members to participate. Unfortunately, restrictions stemming from the pandemic curtailed all in-person meetings and events until the pandemic subsides. We are hopeful that by mid-2021, we can resume in-person meetings and events and then execute the events planned for 2020 and additional events.

One notable exception to curtailment of in-person activities during 2020 was the retirement function organized by Carl Withler P.Ag. on Friday March 13th. In addition to celebrating the retirement from the BC Ministry of Agriculture of a very distinguished member, many branch members were also able to participate in a tour of the new Jealous Fruits packing facility at the north end of the city of Kelowna, and a field seminar by Hank Markgraf P.Ag. on current best practices for fruit tree pruning in high density orchards.


The pandemic did not result in the branch and institute being unable to provide any professional development opportunities. A number of webinar events were provided and facilitated throughout the year by the Okanagan branch, other branches, and the BCIA head office itself. This included the Okanagan branch initiating a series of webinars to explore the impacts of the pandemic on Canadian agriculture and the food supply chain. In September, Dr. Tim Geary from McGill University provided the keynote for the series. In October, we heard from Dr. Sylvain Charlebois from Dalhousie University's Agri-food Analytics Laboratory discuss the effects of the pandemic on consumer buying behaviour and preferences. In November, Dr. Barry Prentice from the University of Manitoba provided insights into the effects of the pandemic on food and agricultural transportation, logistics, and supply chains. In 2021, plans are being made to continue these series featuring speakers discussing the impacts of the pandemic on food waste management, agricultural policy, research and development, finance, labour, and primary production systems. In the instance of each webinar, we've had 40 or more attendees live at the time.

This concludes my report.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith Duhaime P.Ag.', written in a cursive style.



Okanagan Branch 2020													
BC Institute of Agrologists - Branch Financials													
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	October	November	December	Total
REVENUE													
Branch AGM	\$ 910.00	\$ 1,095.00											\$ 2,005.00
Branch AGM Sponsorship	\$ 800.00	\$ 200.00											\$ 1,000.00
Other (donations, sponsorships)													\$ -
Professional Development Events													\$ -
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 1,710.00	\$ 1,295.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,005.00
EXPENSES													
Branch Executive Meetings	\$ 74.51						\$ 92.64						\$ 167.15
A.Ag. /Mentor Events													\$ -
Member Travel Subsidies													\$ -
Non-PD Activities/Outreach													\$ -
Donations/Sponsorships													\$ -
Other (supplies, awards, etc)										\$ 117.54	\$ 84.45		\$ 201.99
Credit Card / Bank Fees	\$ 35.63	\$ 23.65											\$ 59.28
Branch AGM													\$ -
Catering/Food/Venue	\$ 750.00	\$ 3,267.06											\$ 4,017.06
Materials/Gifts/Supplies/Awards/Other	\$ 153.07												\$ 153.07
PD at AGM	\$ 275.00												\$ 275.00
Professional Development													\$ -
Presenter Expenses					\$ 50.00						\$ 311.11		\$ 361.11
Catering/Food													\$ -
Transportation (Bus/Parking)													\$ -
Partnering/PD Subsidy													\$ -
PD Organizer Travel													\$ -
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$ 1,288.21	\$ 3,290.71	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50.00	\$ -	\$ 92.64	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 117.54	\$ 395.56	\$ -	\$ 5,234.66
													\$ -
NET INCOME	\$421.79	-\$1,995.71	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$50.00	\$0.00	-\$92.64	\$0.00	\$0.00	-\$117.54	-\$395.56	\$0.00	-\$2,229.66
Balance	\$ 7,455.73	\$ 5,460.02	\$ 5,460.02	\$ 5,460.02	\$ 5,410.02	\$ 5,410.02	\$ 5,317.38	\$ 5,317.38	\$ 5,317.38	\$ 5,199.84	\$ 4,804.28	\$ 4,804.28	
Starting Bank Balance as of Jan 1, 2020	\$ 2,743.94												
2020 Branch allocation	\$ 4,290.00												
Expenses and revenues for 2020													-\$2,229.66
Account Balance to date	\$ 4,804.28												

		BC Institute of Agrologist Okanagan Branch						
		2021 Budget						
2021 Branch Subsidy	\$	3,180.00						
Balance of funds remaining	\$	4,804.28	projected 2020 funds remaining in branch account Dec. 31, 2020					
Funds available for 2021	\$	7,984.28						
Revenues								
			Jan 1, 2020 to Dec 31, 2020	Jan 1 2020 - Dec 31 2020				
			2021 Budget (Projected)	2020 (to date)				
Items	Expenses	Revenues	Explanation / Breakdown of Expenditures and Revenues	Expenses	Revenues			
Professional Development	\$	4,500.00	presenter expenses, honorariums,venue, catering, supplies, transportation, partnering					
Presenter expenses /honorariums/venue /gifts/supplies/materials				\$	361.11			
Catering/food								
Transportation (bus, parking)								
Partnering/PD subsidy								
PD Organizer Travel								
Branch AGM								
Catering/Food/Venue				\$	4,017.06			
supplies/awards/other	\$	200.00		\$	355.06			
PD at AGM	\$	275.00		\$	275.00			
Sponsorships revenues								
Branch Executive Meetings	\$	400.00		\$	167.15			
A.Ag./Mentor Workshops	\$	300.00						
Non-PD Activities/Outreach	\$	250.00						
Member travel subsidies	\$	400.00	Based on carpooling to events					
Youth Donations/Sponsorships	\$	300.00	Science fair award (increased by 100 this year)					
Miscellaneous	\$	100.00	Credit card fees	\$	59.28			
Total	\$	6,725.00	\$	7,984.28	\$	5,234.66	\$	-
Net Balance				\$1,259.28				



2020 Councillors Report

December 14, 2020

Greetings Fraser Valley, Kamloops, and Okanagan Branch Agrologists!

There have been several changes within our organization in the past year, mostly guided through the enactment of the *Professional Governance Act* (PGA). The biggest change, as I write this to you, is the composition of the BCIA Council. Council was altered to meet the requirements of the PGA with a change from 8 Councillors each elected by a regional branch to the new format of 7 Councillors from 3 Districts, plus up to 4 lay Councillors. District 2 is composed of the Kamloops, Okanagan, and Fraser Valley Branches with 2 Councillors: Jessica Morgan and Kevin Eastwood. In September, we held the first council meeting as District Councillors plus 3 lay Councillors.

Councillor elections will now be held online and registrants interested in the opportunity can look to the Bylaws for information on the submission process. Any interested candidate will be reviewed by the Nominations Committee and the online voting will take place in March 2021. Both council positions for District 2 are due for election in 2021. Keep your eye on emails and the BCIA website for information on nominations and voting.

Under the PGA, all listed professional organizations must adhere to a consistent governance framework such as bylaws, committees, and policies. There are 5 legislated Committees which are required from the PGA and it is mandatory that at least one lay committee member (not an Agrologist) is on each one. These committees include: Nomination, Credentials, Audit & Practice Review, Investigation, and Discipline. These committees provide important information and self-governance functions for the Institute. For more info, see <https://professionalgovernancebc.ca/>

BCIA has continued to adhere to, provide input, and adapt previous policies to reflect the new legislation. Institute Bylaws were revised last fall, and some were ratified at the May AGM. The PGA requires training to encourage reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. Effective Jan 1, 2021 all new articling Registrants will be required to complete an approved course, and all Registrants must do so by Dec 31, 2022. As always, you can look to BCIA staff to communicate note only these changes, but opportunities to meet these requirements. Keep your eyes on email and website communications for more details. The current definition of 'agrology' has been refined to better prepare BCIA for practice rights, which is the next big change we work towards under the PGA.

Despite the hurdles and changes that 2020 has presented us, BCIA has remained a resilient and adaptable organization. Professional Development opportunities have switched from in-person field tours to a wide variety of online learning options. The provincial AGM was held virtually in May 2020, and will again be in 2021. All branch AGMS are currently being held virtually.

Looking forward in a positive direction, the 2022 AGM will be planned to be held in conjunction with ASTTBC in Kelowna. BCIA budget forecasting has been challenging but we are still projecting a budget surplus for 2020, as opposed to the budgeted deficit, and annual fees will not be raised in 2021.

It has been an interesting and definitive year, and the BCIA is poised to continue its legacy of effective self-governance of natural resource professionals across the province.

Respectfully, Jessica Morgan and Kevin Eastwood, District 2 Councillors



Okanagan Branch Award Recipients and Special Mentions

No Branch Awards Nominations

25 Year BCIA Membership Recognition

Todd Redding, P.Ag

-Lapel Pin and Certificate to be sent out-

Okanagan Executive Special Mention

A. John Garland, P.Ag.

John Garland has been an active member of the Okanagan Branch Executive for many years and his leadership roles within BCIA pre-date 2008. Over the years, John has not only held an Executive position on the Okanagan Branch, but he has also volunteered to help with the coordination of branch PD sessions and shared his knowledge as a PD speaker. John's time on the Executive has included positions of Director South, Member at Large, and Branch President. This year John will be stepping down from the Executive. His contributions to the Okanagan Branch are greatly appreciated. Thank You John for all the time and knowledge you have shared with us.

A small token of appreciation will be sent to John on behalf of the Branch Executive after the adjournment of this 2020 AGM.



Articling Agrologist Presentations

1. Alexis Friesen, A.Ag.

Bio:

Academic Background:

- Bachelor of Business Administration with a Finance Major from OUC
- Bachelor of Science with a major in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from UBCO

Specialization, Work History & Current Employment:

- My work experience consists of First Nation's based fish and wildlife work in the non-profit sector.
- Currently, I work for SIR, which is a pest management & biocontrol program for codling moth
- I work with growers regarding pesticide application and ways to reduce codling moth populations as it is the worst pest for pomme fruit.

Mentor:

- My mentor is Lindsay, who I met while she was working in field service

2. Sofia Ramos Ajas, A.Ag.

Bio: I am an environmental geoscientist with experience coordinating, conducting, and supervising Phase II and III Environmental Site Assessments (ESA), soil remediation, and regulatory compliance monitoring and reporting in urban and remote locations in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Nunavut. I am an Articling Agrologist (A.Ag, BCIA). I am currently pursuing a research-based MSc. at Queen's University investigating the fluctuations in organic matter and mercury among different size fractions due to permafrost thaw, surface runoff, and emerging subsurface flow.

3. Stephanie Lindberg, A.Ag.

Bio: Graduated from UBCO in 2018, I have been an environmental consultant working mainly in contaminated sites since April 2019 with TerraWest Environmental Inc. Aiming to become a PAg in April. Also pursuing my professional designation as a geoscientist with EGBC.

4. Laura Gaster, A.Ag.

Bio: Laura is the Field Operations Program Coordinator for the Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species Society. She joined CSISS in 2015 and coordinates terrestrial invasive plant inventory, treatment and monitoring. Laura is dedicated to creating an efficient and effective program focusing on preventing the introduction of new invaders, reversing the spread of existing species and restoring native ecosystems to a healthy functioning level. Laura has a BSc in Biology as well as a course in environmental monitoring. She has previously worked for an environmental consulting firm and assisted with woodland caribou studies in the North Columbia Mountains. Laura lives in beautiful Revelstoke, in her spare time you can find her in the mountains or at a local farmers market.



5. Tom Lobsiger, A.Ag.

Bio: My name is Tom Lobsiger, I live north of Lumby in Trinity Valley with my wife and daughter. I work for Landmark Solutions, a forestry consultant in Salmon Arm. Currently I'm working towards RPF, PAg and BIT designations. I used to be a cattle herdsman and now do horse training and coaching on the side as well as some agroforestry and livestock management related consulting.

6. Raj Gill, A.Ag.

Bio: Hello, my name is Raj Gill. My mentor is Lynn Lashuk. I have a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of Victoria. My area of practice within agrology is horticulture. In 2020, I was an Assistant Farm Manager at Gill's Paradise Orchards; I also worked as a Seasonal Quality Standards Technician with BC Tree Fruits. I'm currently employed as a Horticulture Technical Sales Specialist with Cohort Wholesale. I provide agronomic and technical support for retailer and farmer customers.

7. Kristina Moseley, A.Ag.

Bio: Hello, I am Kristina Moseley and I currently live in Penticton, but grew up in North Vancouver. I look forward to getting to know my fellow BCIA colleagues and continuing to be part of this professional association. My technical knowledge and experiences come from my time at UBC studying environmental sciences, at BCIT studying environmental management and engineering, and, currently, at Ministry of Environment as a regulator reviewing *Environmental Management Act* applications. Don't hesitate to reach out and say "Hi" or ask a question.

8. Janine Weber, A.Ag.

Bio: My name is Janine Weber and I am an articling member of the Okanagan branch. I graduated from the University of Guelph with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Sciences in 2015. I majored in Earth & Atmospheric Science, and I have a keen interest in soil science. I have been working for the Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Fisheries for almost 2 years now; first as a Branch Support Clerk, and now as a Branch Administrator. I handle all of the contracts and procurement for the Business Risk Management Branch, but am hoping to work in the Policy department one day. I would like to thank my mentor Michele Fitzgerald who also works for the Ministry and is part of the Okanagan Branch.

9. Sarah Hirschfeld, A.Ag.

Bio: Sarah is an Articling Agrologist (A.Ag) employed as a Horticultural Scientist in Research & Development at The Flowr Corp in Lake Country B.C. Sarah joined the Flowr team in July 2019 to help launch the now operating Kelowna Research Station and support collaboration with scientists at partnering Hawthorne Gardening Company, a subsidiary of Scott's Miracle-Gro. This research is uniquely positioned to shine a spotlight on the Cannabis industry's leading questions and back grower's experience with statistical support. With her newly developed paperless data collection system Sarah is excited about generating high quality meta-analyses.



10. Katelyn Hengel, A.Ag.

Bio: Katelyn completed a Bachelor of Science in Plant and Soil Science from the University of British Columbia in 2019. Following graduation, she joined the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development as a Seed Orchard Technician for the Forest Improvement and Research Management Branch. Her responsibilities cover a wide variety of orchard operational and technical activities, with the goal of producing high quality, genetically improved forest tree seed for reforestation BC's diverse landscape. By becoming a Professional Agrologist, Katelyn hopes to widen her potential career paths and expand her network. In her spare time, she likes being outside with her dog and pals.

11. Vahab Nazeri, A.Ag.

Bio: Vahab is an A.Ag with Kamloops BCIA Branch. He has been working with the Ministry of Environment as an Environmental Protection Officer since March 2020. Before joining the Ministry of Environment, Vahab worked on different environmental and agricultural projects, focusing on increasing plant stress tolerance through biological interactions. Vahab completed his undergraduate and master's degree in Soil Science. Vahab is originally from Iran but has called BC home since 2014. He enjoys hiking around beautiful Kamloops, kayaking and having free time with his family.

Articling Technologist in Agrology Presentations

Jason Azzam, A.TAg.

Bio: Jason Azzam is an Environmental Professional (EP, ENV SP) and Articling Technologist in Agrology (ATAg) with over 15 years of industry and consulting experience in Canada, Australia, Southeast Asia and South America. Jason has managed and led Environmental, Health, Safety (EHS), and Sustainability teams to deliver effective EHS and Sustainability programs and projects. Over the years Jason has developed strong skills in a number of core areas including Auditing; Ecotoxicology; Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessments (HHERA); Contaminated Site Investigations; Environmental Impact Assessments (and Statements); Environmental Risk Management; Permitting; Incident Investigation; and Data Analytics.



Professional Agrologist Ethics Oaths Read by:

Barb Stewart, P.Ag.

Jillian Tamblin, P.Ag.

Courtney Barr, P.Ag.

Charles (Raine) Weiterman, P.Ag.



Nominations for 2021 Executive

Automatic Transitional:

President: Danielle Hirkala
Past President: Kirsten Kurjata

Nominations/by Acclamation

President Elect (Vice President): Theresa Loewen
Secretary: Christina Delaney
P.D. Coordinator: Keith Duhaime
Articling Coordinator: Gisele Rehe
Treasurer: Catherine Piedt
Director South: Jason Lasuik
Director Central: Andrew Kuipers
Director North: Melissa Weikenkamp
Directors at Large: Adrian Arts, Carley Simpson, Lindsay King, Carl Withler, Paige Munroe,
Amanda Miller

Current Councillors

Councillor District 2: Jessica Morgan, Kevin Eastwood