

## **SECTION 2**

### **Authority, Vision, Mission, Mandate and the Strategic Plan**

The British Columbia Institute of Agrologists (BCIA) is authorized under the Agrologists Act, a British Columbia statute, to govern the professional conduct of its members. Persons who hold themselves out to be an Agrologist must be duly registered with BCIA under the Act.

Agrology as defined by the Act, means using agricultural and natural sciences and agricultural and resource economics, including collecting or analyzing data, or carrying out research or assessments, to design, evaluate, advise on, direct or otherwise provide professional support to

- (a) the cultivation, production, improvement, processing or marketing of aquatic or terrestrial plants or animals, or
- (b) the classification, management, use, conservation, protection, restoration, reclamation or enhancement of aquatic or terrestrial ecosystems that are affected by, sustain, or have the potential to sustain the cultivation or production of aquatic or terrestrial plants or animals.

#### **BCIA's Vision**

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

#### **BCIA's Mission**

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

#### **BCIA's Mandate**

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

## **Strategic Plan - Building and Maintaining a Strong B.C. Institute of Agrologists**

The Council exists to implement the mission and mandate of the Institute. The Strategic Plan guides the actions of Council to meet its statutory role. Activities that are necessary to ensure compliance and that support the Institute's mission include Governance, Conduct and Discipline, Professional Practise, Credentials, Executive management, and Communications.

Council is promoting the following areas of interest to help meet the Institute's mission and ensure integrity, objectivity and expertise of its members:

- Strengthening committees to direct activities that are necessary to ensure compliance of Council's statutory role and to support the Institute's mission;
- Maintaining standards of conduct;
- Providing a certification process that includes educational standards and professional development;
- Applying and promoting scientific principles;
- Communicating with the membership and Branches;
- Facilitating informed discussion and decision-making;
- Promoting the profession and liaising with other related associations.