

Taisha Mitchell

BSc, PAg, RPBio

Dear Nomination Committee,

I am pleased to submit my nomination for the District 3 Board position with the BC Institute of Agrologists (BCIA). As a Professional Agrologist in good standing, and an engaged BCIA volunteer (having served on the BCIA Vancouver Branch for over five years, including as President), I am committed to advancing the BCIA's mission, regulatory structure, and upholding the public interest.

I have over nine years of multidisciplinary environmental experience in environmental management, regulatory review, and technical leadership across complex infrastructure projects. I have worked with several organizations with differing governance models and have been involved in vision and goal setting, strategic plan development and implementation, and problem solving. My career has involved working collaboratively with proponents, First Nations, federal regulators, and multidisciplinary project teams to evaluate environmental impacts, support compliance, and guide responsible project development. These experiences have fostered my ability to see issues from multiple perspectives, navigate challenging conversations in a respectful manner, and address controversial issues with tact.

Through my governance-related experience with the BCIA, I have an understanding of the responsibilities, accountabilities, and expectations of a member of the Board, including strategic oversight of BCIA's activities, budget, and regulatory compliance. I am confident in my ability to contribute thoughtfully to decision-making processes, support BCIA oversight, and work collaboratively with the board members, the CEO/Registrar, and staff to implement the strategic plan in alignment with the established guiding principles.

I believe I bring the personal attributes expected of BCIA Board nominees including a high ethical standard and a deep appreciation of our responsibility to the public. I am adaptable and a team player with strong communication skills. I strive to maintain a broad perspective on the emerging issues affecting our profession and others within the natural resource sector, including climate resilience, evolving environmental regulation, Indigenous rights and governance, and the shifting expectations placed on professional regulators. Lastly, I do not have any conflicts of interest to declare.

I would be honored to be a board member and contribute to BCIA's strategic direction and support the continued evolution of our regulatory framework. Thank you for considering my nomination.

Sincerely,



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EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in Applied Biology – Plant and Soil Science (Honours)
Faculty of Land and Food Systems, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC

2015

PROFESSIONAL DESIGNATIONS

Professional Agrologist (PAg) #3075 – BC Institute of Agrologists
Registered Professional Biologist (RPBio) #3609 – BC College of Applied Biology

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Environmental Management Specialist **January 2026 - Present**
Trinity Consultants Canada Inc., Squamish, BC

- Supports a team of environmental management planners and field monitors, ensuring technical consistency and effective project execution.
- Leads the development, implementation, and evaluation of environmental strategies, compliance plans, and environmental compliance management systems.
- Develops and provides senior technical review of Construction Environmental Management Plans, ensuring they meet regulatory requirements, project needs, and industry best practices.
- Liaise with clients, regulators, First Nations, and stakeholders

Environmental Project Management Specialist – Infrastructure Projects **April 2025 – December 2025**
Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, Vancouver, BC

- Oversaw environmental initiatives such as assessments, management planning, permitting, and compliance on port-led infrastructure and engineering projects
- Provided environmental oversight and technical expertise for the port-led Holdom Overpass Project during construction delivery including regulatory support, compliance risk management, and Contractor environmental quality and compliance audits.
- Carried out detailed technical reviews of environmental management plans, technical reports, environmental monitoring reports
- Lead coordination of consultant teams supporting the *Fisheries Act Authorization* and DFO application review process for the Roberts Bank Terminal Two (RBT2) Project
- Supported First Nation consultation and engagement for port-led infrastructure projects

Supervisor, Environment, Project and Environmental Review **November 2024 – April 2025**
Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, Vancouver, BC

In addition to the duties outlined in the Environmental Specialist role, below:

- Supervised environment staff by prioritizing and allocating projects, providing day-to-day direction, guidance, review, and support. Provide input for performance reviews. Identify and facilitate appropriate training.
- Completed technical reviews of environmental components of permitting reports and conditions and made recommendations to senior leaders on significance determination under s.82 of the *Impact Assessment Act (IAA)*
- Spearheaded collaborative project *IAA* review processes with external federal agencies through process development, participation in federal agency working groups, and leading monthly coordinated review meetings

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Senior Environmental Specialist, Project and Environmental Review
Vancouver Fraser Port Authority, Vancouver, BC

April 2022 – November 2024

- Conducted environmental reviews of large and complex projects under the *Canada Marine Act* and *Impact Assessment Act* as part of the port authority's Project and Environmental Review (PER) permitting process
- Prepared permitting environmental assessment reports and conditions
- Lead cross-functional team reviews of applications including multi-discipline engineering and science teams
- Liaised with applicants, consultants, First Nations, port terminals and customers
- Supported First Nation consultation and stakeholder engagement for project reviews
- Carried out compliance monitoring activities to verify implementation of environmental protection measures
- Coordinated regulatory reviews with federal authorities and collaborated on advancement of federal authority coordination processes
- Led continuous improvement initiatives to improve workflow processes and makes recommendations to senior management

Environmental Specialist
District of Squamish, Squamish, BC

November 2021 – April 2022

- Conducted environmental reviews of development proposals including review of environmental impact assessments and mitigation and offsetting plans to ensure compliance with bylaws and applicable provincial and federal legislation
- Prescribed environmental conditions for permits and monitored compliance
- Liaised with developers, environmental professionals, regulators, internal staff, and District residents
- Developed and implemented environmental policy and environmental planning activities

Project Biologist/Agrologist | Project Manager
McTavish Resource & Management Consultants Ltd., Surrey, BC

2016 – November 2021

- Planning and execution of biological and agricultural field assessments including vegetation and wildlife assessments, stream class assessments, soil sampling and classification, and agricultural capability assessments
- Technical report preparation including construction environmental management plans, habitat assessments, impact assessments, habitat enhancement and offsetting plans
- Environmental and agricultural permitting support for municipal, provincial and federal regulatory approvals
- Environmental monitoring including direct construction oversight, erosion and sediment control management, in-situ water quality monitoring, pre-disturbance bird and wildlife surveys
- Project management of small and large-scale projects including proposal preparation, team leadership and staff supervision, managing scope of deliverables, schedule, and budget
- Liaised with clients, public, regulators and Indigenous groups
- Participated in mission and vision establishment, goal setting, strategic planning, and implementation

VOLUNTEERING & SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

BC Institute of Agrologists – Vancouver Branch

2018 – 2023

- President 2023
- President Elect 2022
- Professional Development Coordinator 2020-2021
- Director 2018-2019

BC Institute of Agrologists – Mentor to Articling Registrants

2019 – Present

- Provides mentorship to articling registrants pursuing their professional designation
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