

BCIA 61st Annual General Meeting
Friday, April 11, 2008
9:00 am, Ramada Convention Centre, Abbotsford, BC
“Farming on the Fringe, Challenges to Farming in South Coastal BC ”

Welcome

At 9:10 am Susan Ames P.Ag, BCIA President welcomed the 230 attendees from across the province and invited some special guests to bring greetings.

Greetings

Greetings from Honourable George Ferguson, Mayor of Abbotsford
Mayor Ferguson welcomed the AGM attendees to his city. He spoke about the ways that Abbotsford, the City in the Country, has changed in the many years that he has lived there and congratulated BCIA on their success as a professional body.

Greetings from Ken Davies P.Ag., CEO & Registrar, Alberta Institute of Agrologists
Congratulations on such a great meeting. Ken remembered BCIA when there were only 30 to 50 people attending an AGM. AIA and BCIA have been working together for quite some time with further cooperation in the future in harmonizing our programs.

Greetings from Allan Balogh, President, RPF, Association of BC Forest Professionals
Thank you to everyone for the opportunity to participate in today’s event.

Greetings from Rob Thomson, RPBio, College of Applied Biology
On behalf of CAB I would like to thank you for the invitation. As with BCIA, CAB received their Act in 2004. CAB is currently working on the internal audit program.

Long Term Pins

BCIA long term membership pins were awarded to members who had preregistered for the AGM:

27 years Bill Weismiller P.Ag.
28 years George Geldart P.Ag
29 years Pat Brisbin P.Ag.
Russ Horton P.Ag.
Marney James P.Ag.
30 years Wendy Hayes-Van Vliet P.Ag.
Grant Kowalenko P.Ag.
32 years Ruth Hardy P.Ag.
Bruce Rutley P.Ag.
Phillip Youwe P.Ag.
33 years Ron Charles P.Ag.
Vic Wright P.Ag.
40 years Walt Goerzen P.Ag.

Special Recognition (having received pins at previous AGMs)

43 years Wayne Wickens P.Ag. (Retired)
45 years Herb Luttmerding P.Ag.
46 years Gary Runka P.Ag.
53 years Alf Bawtree P.Ag. (Retired)

New P.Ags

President Susan Ames P.Ag presented P.Ag certificates and stamps to Vafa Alizadeh P.Ag, and David Trotter P.Ag.

Voting Members

Prior to the confirmation of the agenda for the AGM, Dave Spittlehouse, P.Ag., Chair, Resolutions Committee and Andrea Gunner, P.Ag., Parliamentarian, confirmed that there were 191 voting members in attendance.

President's Report

Following the confirmation of the agenda and approval of the amended minutes of 2007 AGM in Prince George President Susan Ames P.Ag. presented her President's Report. Susan congratulated Dave Spittlehouse P.Ag. on receiving the Agrologist of the Year award and Cathleen Nichols P.Ag. on receiving the BCIA Special Recognition Award. They are very well deserved. Her report expressed the desire to increase the involvement of BCIA members in the affairs of the Institute and especially in the professional development activities.

Disposition of 2007 Resolutions to 60th Annual Meeting

Resolution #1

Be it resolved that the BCIA require all active and practicing Agrologists who, in the course of their professional activities, use the designation P.Ag. or Agrologist and render opinion or comment, whether written or verbal, be required to complete the BCIA Ethics Workshop or an approved alternative within 2 years of the passing of this resolution.

This resolution was passed; by a majority of the members attending the AGM and forwarded to the Council for consideration. As resolutions from the AGM are not binding on Council, with the exception of those dealing with dues, Council at a subsequent meeting passed the following motion.

That the BC Institute of Agrologists require all active and practicing Agrologists who, in the course of their professional activities, use the designation P.Ag. or Agrologist and render opinion or comment, whether written or verbal, be required to complete the BCIA Ethics Workshop or an approved alternative. The reporting of such course to be included in the annual Professional development declaration. Carried.

Council determined that the two year time frame in the original motion could be unworkable given the resources of the Institute while still subscribing to the concept that all members should expose themselves to periodic discussions on the ethics of the profession, in particular the BCIA ethics statements and guidelines.

Treasurer's Report

Brian Mauza P.Ag presented the Treasurer's Report. He reviewed the audited financial statement and noted that the budget was under spent by \$39,000.00 with revenues higher than budgeted due to new members. He presented a budget for 2008, moved the appointment of Joyce and Dilba as auditors for 2008 and confirmed that membership fees will be staying at the current levels.

Credentials Committee Report

In the absence of Elisabeth Deom Eldridge P.Ag., Don Rugg P.Ag presented the report.

The Credentials Committee is composed of:

Elisabeth Deom Eldridge P.Ag. Chair
 Lyndsey Burton A.Ag.
 Diane Douglas P.Ag.
 Alec Drysdale P.Ag
 Martin Sills P.Ag (rep from Council)
 Donna Thornton P.Ag.

During the past year there were 97 applications. Changes in the BCIA registry over the past three years are:

BCIA Register			
Register Changes	2007	2006	2005
Resigned/Discontinued	56	30	27
Transfers in	14	6	10
Transfers out	3	4	3
P.Ag retired	13	6	-
Deceased	5	5	7
On Leave	29	16	-
Elevated to P.Ag. status	87	60	36
New A.Ag. members	109	77	39
Grad student status	15	15	7
Dual Agrologist Membership	15	6	-

Professional Practice Committee Report

Shannon Berch P.Ag. reported that the committee will be meeting in June to review the annual reporting of PD hours and start the process for development of a practice review and audit program.

The Professional Practice Committee is composed of:

Shannon Berch P.Ag. Chair
 Ryan Edwards P.Ag
 Heather Freeman P.Ag
 Russ Horton P.Ag (rep from Council)
 Jennifer McGuire P.Ag
 Steve Sadownik P.Ag
 Mark Turner P.Ag

Conduct and Discipline Committee

Bob Holtby P.Ag. reported that one C&D complaint had been received and dealt with during the past year. He suggested that current bylaws need to be revised to include a more transparent appeal process and provide more public accountability. He suggested that the Institute should take a great deal of pride in the fact that over a third of our membership have taken the Ethics workshop in the year since it was introduced.

The Conduct & Discipline committee is composed of:

Bob Holtby P.Ag Chair
 Jim Collins P.Ag
 Mike Doggart P.Ag.
 Walter Goerzen P.Ag
 Ken Long P.Ag

Mary Macgregor P.Ag (retired)

Annette Moore P.Ag resigned from the committee and Maureen Kent P.Ag. has been appointed to represent council

Communications Committee

Teresa Duynstee P.Ag reported that the Communications Committee conducted a membership survey in 2007 and have made recommendations to Council based on the results. The committee will be involved in implementing some of those recommendations this year.

The Communications Committee is composed of:

- Teresa Duynstee P.Ag. Chair
- Lynn Lashuk P.Ag.
- Sonja Leverkus A.Ag.
- Rhonda Maskiewich P.Ag.
- Brian Mauza P.Ag (rep from Council)
- Peter van Dongen P.Ag

Resolutions to the 61st AGM

There were no resolutions submitted and distributed prior to the meeting. As per the bylaws, resolutions from the floor first require a 2/3 majority of the voting membership in attendance to be accepted for discussion and then require a 2/3 majority of the voting membership in attendance in order to pass.

Resolution #1

This motion was proposed in response to a determination of the conduct and discipline committee as reported in the February 2008 newsletter. It was accepted by the membership in attendance for discussion.

Moved by Niels Holbek, P.Ag, seconded by Wendy Holm, P.Ag.

Therefore be it resolved that the decision of the conduct and discipline committee be referred to a lawyer with relevant experience in professional reliance, as selected by council, for review and report to the membership.

The motion was defeated.

A second motion dealing with advocacy regarding climate change was not accepted for discussion.

Confirmation of President Elect

Andrea Gunner is the president elect for 2008-2009

Introduction of Council for 2008-2009

- President Keith Duhaime P.Ag
- President Elect Andrea Gunner P.Ag
- Past President Susan Ames P.Ag

CCI Branch	Martin Sills P.Ag
Fraser Valley	Brian Mauza P.Ag
Kamloops	Russ Horton P.Ag
Kootenay Boundary	Gary Tipper P.Ag
Okanagan	Carl Withler P.Ag/Lynn Lashuk P.Ag (Alternate)
Peace River	Karrilyn Vince P.Ag
Vancouver	Maureen Kent P. Ag.
Victoria & Islands	David Spittlehouse P.Ag

Location of 2009 and 2010 AGM's

The 2009 BCIA AGM will be held in Whistler, BC on May 20, 2009, just prior to the 2009 BC Land Summit. The 2010 AGM will be held in the Peace River region, with a location and date yet to be determined.

Induction of New President

President Ames inducted Keith Duhaime, P.Ag as the President for 2008- 2009

The Road Ahead and Recognitions

President Duhaime presented a gift to Past President Susan Ames P.Ag in recognition of her term as President and recognized Ken Long P.Ag who was leaving council after his three year term as president elect, president and past president. In looking ahead, Keith expressed his view that BCIA was on the right track in developing programs and controls to ensure the professionalism of our members and build confidence within the public of our competencies and ethics. He complimented the membership on the uptake of the ethics course with over 1/3 of our membership having attended the workshop in the first 11 months and announced that BCIA will be starting a Due Diligence and Professional Liability workshop in the fall. He also provided his thanks to the chair persons and members of the standing committees of BCIA who are moving ahead on refining the credentials requirements, developing professional practice guidelines and reviews, preparing communications programs for council and ensuring that the conduct and discipline systems are in place. He also suggested that as it has been four years since the BCIA bylaws were put in place, it is also time to review them to ensure that they are supporting the requirements of the Act and providing proper guidance for our members.

Adjournment

Following the AGM, and over lunch, members heard from Honourable Valerie Roddick, Parliamentary Secretary to the BC Minister of Agriculture and Lands and Jordan Fellner, HUB International Insurance Brokers.