



Kamloops Branch Tour to Horstings Farm and Indian Gardens

Sixteen members of the Kamloops branch visited Horstings farm on September 24th, 2016 where we received a well explained farm tour and tasted their delicious strawberries and raspberries. We had lunch which consisted of their homemade bread and tasty fillings. [Read More...](#)

Victoria & Islands Saanichton Tour

On Sept 17, 2016 the Victoria & Islands Branch went on a field trip to Saanichton Farm and the Phillips Brewing & Malting Company.

The tour began with a behind the scenes tour of the Phillips Malting plant by Matt Phillips. This is the only craft brewer in Canada to malt their own barley.

In their commitment to supporting the local community they discussed how they receive 40% of the barley they use from Vancouver Island farmers (including the Saanichton Farm) and the remaining 60% from other areas in British Columbia, such as the Peace River area. In fact, they are looking for more farmers who are interested in growing barley on Vancouver Island.

[Read More...](#)



Vancouver Branch Mentor Appreciation Night

This year marked the third annual BCIA Vancouver Branch Mentor Appreciation Night, which was hosted this year at the Yaletown Distillery Bar and Kitchen. The setting was perfect with couches to lounge and visit, and standing room to mix and mingle. [Read More...](#)

An A.Ag's Perspective

An excerpt taken from Laura Warren's A.Ag. essay.

The A.Ag. program has kept me accountable to a professional body throughout my career as an environmental scientist. As an A.Ag., I have had to maintain professional development hours, document my work experience, maintain dialogue between myself and other professionals, attend meetings and workshops that foster professionalism, and uphold ethical considerations in everything I do. [Read More...](#)

Kamloops Branch (cont'd)

Many branch members bought pies, jams, bread and fresh veggies. We then continued onto Juniper Beach where we met Bob Haywood-Farmer (Indian Gardens) and he explained his intensive grazing regime and how they sourced water for the cows. We also toured around the grazing lease.

Kalin Johnston, P.Ag.



Vancouver Branch (cont'd)

The turnout was great with mentors, mentees, members and guests networking throughout the evening. Complementary drinks and food had people in the festive mood. The evening was full of having great conversation, making new Agrologist friends and swapping of business cards. Mentors took home some fun gift sets and prizes this year, with the Vancouver Branch President thanking the mentors for their continued hard work and role of shaping the next group of Professional Agrologists. It was great to see everyone!

Jenny Beugeling, P.Ag.

An A.Ag's Perspective (cont'd)

All of these have been advantageous in developing me into a responsible professional who is personally independent and maintains competency in my field of practice. The Code of Ethics has been pivotal in helping me with my decision making process in the field, and dealing with my employer and clients, as it has kept my work objective and accountable. The A.Ag. program has provided a body professionals that I can depend on to support my decision making as an environmental professional. This professional network has been an invaluable peer group.

Laura Warren, P.Ag. (Peace River)



New Victoria & Islands Branch P.Ag.'s were presented with their certificates at the branch AGM on Nov. 5, 2016

Victoria & Islands Saanichton Tour

(cont'd)

The second half of the tour took place at the Saanichton Farm where Bryce Rashleigh discussed the innovative ways his family has adapted to the changing farming landscape. They produce Red lentils, Hard Red Spring Wheat, Malting Barley, seasonal turkeys and chickens. His family's commitment and love of farming was a joy to see.

A serious concern to farmers is the growing goose population, which is known to decimate crops. His son has been instrumental in helping create a goose deterrent as a project in his engineering class at the University of Victoria.

A wonderful farm fresh lunch was provided to BCIA members at the conclusion of the tour. A fabulous time was had by all.

Lyndsey Douglas, P.Ag.



P.Ag.'s Ryan Holmes and William Elliott host an information booth at the Smithers Farmers' Market in June 2016.

Share your BCIA experiences and photos with BCIA members.
Email admin@bcia.com



*Victoria & Islands Branch
Tour of Tod Creek Cidery
Nov. 5, 2016*



CCI Branch's - Conducting Business Meetings & Robert's Rules

Have you ever wanted to have the skills and knowledge to effectively run or participate fully in a board meeting? The CCI branch did. On December 15th they brought in a registered parliamentarian, and accomplished public speaker, John Noonan.

The focus of the four hour session was to provide clarity around board governance as well as the use of Robert's Rules of Order. The session was well attended with participants from all across the cariboo central interior, with remote connection being provided for those not able to travel. The interactive platform promoted discussions, and scenario building to develop a greater understanding of how to deal with the issues that often create chaos in meetings. We learned the roles and responsibilities of board members through the understanding of structural governance, and built upon our awareness of proper procedures through Robert's Rules of Oder.

We all left the meeting with a trusty condensed version of Robert's Rules of Order and a greater understanding of what our role is in ensuring meetings are carried out with a few less hiccups. This is a valuable foundation to have and build upon. I would highly recommend this training to anyone who has found themselves volunteering on a board or if you would simply like to get more out of the meetings you attend. For more information on John Noonan please check out his website: www.registeredparliamentarian.com

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Lila deLury, P.Ag.