



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Investment Agriculture Foundation Holds Annual General Meeting

VICTORIA, BC - April 17, 2020: Yesterday the B.C. Investment Agriculture Foundation (IAF) held a virtual Annual General Meeting. Due to the COVID-19 global health pandemic, this meeting was held in conjunction with both the BCAC and AgSafe Annual General Meetings.

During the meeting the IAF chair, Arzeena Hamir reported on the recently launched strategic plan and highlighted some of the strategic priorities.

“I’m really proud of the work that the Foundation has done. We have undergone some large strategic planning sessions and we have a tactical plan that will ensure that we move forward according to the direction set by both members and directors. Moving forward we really want to ensure that IAF remains an enduring resource for the sector.”

Treasurer, Glenda Gesy provided an overview of the 2019 Audited Financial Statements, while financial auditor, Kent Fullerton of Grant Thornton, outlined the steps taken during the auditing process, indicating that the financial statements fairly represent the financial position of IAF.

Hamir concluded the AGM with the appointment and re-appointment of Directors for 2020. Five new directors were appointed to the IAF board – Mike Manion (Agri-Business, Retail and Agri-Tech) and Corine Singfield (General Farm Interest) were appointed for a one-year term and Irmi Critcher (Grains, Oilseeds and Specialty Crops), Jack Dewit (Horticulture) and David Eto (Food and Beverage Processing) were appointed for a two-year term.

Current director Angela Groothof (Supply Managed Commodities) was re-appointed to the IAF board, followed by acknowledgements for the contributions of retiring directors – Arzeena Hamir (Emerging Sectors), Dennis Lapierre (Community Agriculture), Kiren Sihota (Field Vegetables, Berries & Mushrooms), Kalpna Solanki (Post-Farm Gate) and Walter Fritsche (Grains, Forage & Oilseeds).

In conclusion, Hamir thanked members for their active participation over the last year, as well as Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the B.C. Ministry of Agriculture for their ongoing support.

Additional information, including IAF's strategic framework, strategic priorities and progress made in the delivery of government-funded programs in 2019, can be found in the 2019 Annual Report: <http://iafbc.ca/annual-reports/>

About the B.C. Investment Agriculture Foundation

The B.C. Investment Agriculture Foundation is an industry-led not-for-profit that delivers government funded programs to the agriculture and agri-food sector of British Columbia. For more information on IAF and the programs it delivers, visit www.iafbc.ca

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