



Investment
Agriculture
Foundation
of British Columbia

HIGHLIGHTING IAF's
role in program delivery
partnerships with
government and project
support for industry.

2012

ANNUAL REPORT

FINDING COMMON GROUND

CONSERVATION & THE ENVIRONMENT

British Columbian farmers and environmentalists share a common interest in maintaining a healthy and productive environment, but are often cast on opposite sides of issues.

The first ever Forum on Agriculture and the Environment challenged this thinking by bringing together leaders from agriculture, environmental organizations, government, First Nations and local communities to create understanding, and identify ways to work together to address the challenges and opportunities facing agriculture and the environment in BC.

Peter Bloome inspired many in the room with his keynote address on the successes and challenges of the Oregon Environmental Council, where environmentalists and agriculturists have been working to address issues of shared interest for the past 10 years. He encouraged participants to focus on what may be possible while pointing to the practical reality of the situation.

"The number one indicator that we can accomplish environmental goals with agriculture is that agriculture producers are economically viable," he said, describing the Oregon experience. "Once we had recognition that agriculture needs to be viable, the discussion took us to all kinds of places."

In addition to growing food, farmers produce environmental goods including clean air, water, wildlife habitat and other ecological functions. Whether they are working independently or through programs like Environmental Farm Planning and Beneficial Management Practices, farmers are making significant investments in maintaining these social and environmental values.

David Bradbeer from the Delta Farmland Wildlife Trust and Lee Hesketh, program manager for the Farmland - Riparian Interface Stewardship Program (FRISP) managed by the BC Cattlemen's Association, spoke to some of the successful initiatives that are already underway in BC's agriculture sector.

"Farmers may be traditional, but we get things done. We are the ones who are making changes because we always have to adapt to make a go of it," said Lee Hesketh.

The Forum on Agriculture and the Environment was an excellent first step in creating a foundation of trust for future collaboration and partnership. Participants from across the spectrum recognized the value of creating this kind of opportunity.

"We don't get enough of these opportunities to come together at the same table, and that's one of the reasons that mistrust can occur," said John Werring from the David Suzuki Foundation. "Kudos to the agriculture sector for bringing these groups together."

Looking ahead, the challenge will be turning goodwill and relationships into constructive solutions for farmers, conservation groups, and the environment.

"There are some tough questions to address, but today we saw a shared desire to work together, and perception that our challenges are not insurmountable," says Reg Ens, general manager of the BC Agriculture Council. "Now it's up to us to take a leadership role in engaging the general farm population."

The Forum on Agriculture and the Environment was a collaborative project between The Investment Agriculture Foundation of BC (IAF), the BC Agriculture Council (BCAC), and the Agriculture Environment Programs Committee (AEI).

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Funding for the Forum on Agriculture and the Environment was provided by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the BC Ministry of Agriculture through the Agriculture Environment Initiative. (AEI12-015)

The Investment Agriculture Foundation was established in 1996. We are an industry-led, not-for-profit organization.

OUR MISSION IS TO ASSIST BRITISH COLUMBIA'S PRODUCERS, PROCESSORS, AGRI-BUSINESSES AND RURAL COMMUNITIES TO DEVELOP SOLUTIONS AND SEIZE OPPORTUNITIES.

Funding is available to help the agriculture and agri-food industry in British Columbia enhance sustainability, competitiveness and profitability.

Information about our mandate, vision, core values and available funding can be found in the About Us section of our website.

www.iafbc.ca

INSIDE

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 2 Message from the Directors | 6 Livestock & Poultry, Aquaculture + Value Added |
| Minister's Messages | 8 Pan Agriculture |
| Award of Excellence | 10 Board Initiatives |
| 4 Crops + Value Added | 12 Board of Directors / Staff |



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTORS

Dear Friends of the Foundation,

Helping industry transform ideas into solutions is what we focus on every day here at the Investment Agriculture Foundation. 2012 has been an exemplary year for demonstrating the value that IAF adds by facilitating industry-led projects and initiatives.

As an industry organization, our priority is to work collaboratively with our clients to advance agriculture in BC. We do this by investing in projects that enable you to respond to issues and seize opportunities, and we are continually striving to enhance our partnerships to build a competitive, profitable and sustainable agricultural community.

Here is a brief snapshot of some of the programs we've had the privilege of working on during the past year. We hope our partners will join us in celebrating what this collaboration has yielded.

Launched in 2011, the Canada-BC Agri-Innovation Program is nearing completion with a number of important results that will enhance profitability and competitiveness across agricultural sectors.

The Ranching Task Force Funding Initiative is another example of the Foundation's collaboration with the federal-provincial governments and industry. We are pleased to assist BC's cattle sector as they help create more value for beef produced in BC.

The Foundation has expanded its program administration portfolio by working with the provincial government to administer the BC Buy Local Program, which aims to increase the use of BC agrifoods in the domestic marketplace.

In collaboration with the BC Agriculture Council, IAF was honoured to host the first-ever Forum on Agriculture and the Environment in October. The event brought agricultural leaders and environmental conservation groups together to foster new relationships and facilitate a more collaborative approach to dealing with environmental issues and challenges.

Last June the IAF board toured the Prince George region, where directors and staff had a blast visiting various agricultural operations and connecting with local industry members. From learning about new opportunities for north-central livestock producers, to discovering the potential

for bioenergy projects at the University of Northern British Columbia, to visiting the first aquaponics operation in northern BC, we had a fun and informative trip all around!

In addition to Prince George, we also hosted outreach sessions across the province to explore opportunities for enhancing our collaboration with industry groups, post-secondary institutions and government.

2012 also saw a number of changes to the Foundation. We said good-bye to directors Stuart Wilson, Bar Hayre, Derek Janzen, and welcomed Ken Bates, Dale Krahn and Rick Gagner. We also bid a fond farewell to our Senior Communications Officer, Sandra Tretick and welcomed Tamara Leigh. We extend our appreciation and thanks to each of them, and wish them the greatest success with all their new endeavours!

At IAF, we take great pride in what we do and are honoured to be serving agricultural interests. As a board, we are entrusted with providing stewardship over the investments that the federal and provincial governments make in funding programming.

2012 has also been a time of change for the industry, as adaptation councils across Canada learned that, after 16 years and thousands of valuable projects nationwide, the councils' role in the delivery of federal adaptation funding would not be renewed in 2014. While not the most promising of tidings, the news has served as a reminder to us of how truly fortunate we are. IAF is a significant contributor to investments in the future of agriculture in BC, and we will continue to fulfill this role. We will focus on adapting our suite of programs and exploring new opportunities to invest in. As always, we remain committed and excited to building a prosperous and sustainable agriculture and agri-food industry in BC.

And finally, after six years as a director with IAF and the last one as chair, this is my final official message. I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting and working with so many people

in various agricultural sectors throughout BC. Seeing agriculture from the Foundation's perspective gave me an insight that cannot be duplicated. There are countless dedicated people in agriculture and witnessing their valuable input offers reassurance that the industry will not only survive but continue to prosper. I am thankful for the experience.

On behalf of the directors,

Peter Levelton
Chair

Peter Donkers
Executive Director





AWARD OF EXCELLENCE FOR INNOVATION

in Agriculture and Agri-Food



The 2012/2013 recipient of the Foundation's award for innovation was Dr. Jim Thompson, Professor and Director of the UBC Dairy Education and Research Centre.

Dr. Thompson was recognized for his pioneering efforts in creating and developing the Centre, a contribution which has yielded significant advancements for dairy cattle science and practice in BC and beyond.

"It is very gratifying to be recognized for my efforts with the Centre," remarks Dr. Thompson. "Taking the vision from concept to reality has been an incredible journey, and the rewards of witnessing dairy cattle practice improve in the province are ongoing."

A self-sustaining operation that supports the development and adaptation of new technologies for the dairy industry, the Centre is not just unique to BC, but remains unparalleled on an international scale. The facilities are designed to support research and teaching in the areas of cattle reproduction, nutrition, housing, welfare, and nutrient and energy recovery from manure.

Beyond helping individual producers implement best practices on their farms, the work undertaken by Dr. Thompson and his colleagues helps inform industry standards. In fact, many of the recommendations in the Dairy Farmers and Canada National Code of Practice are based on this research.

The Centre is also a key resource for public education about the dairy industry, hosting thousands of visitors every year, including schools, community groups and individuals.

MINISTER'S MESSAGES

Message from Minister Ritz



From beef to blueberries, the British Columbia agriculture and food industry helps drive Canada's economy, generating over \$10 billion in sales, and \$2.5 billion in exports. With the support of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the Investment Agriculture Foundation helps this dynamic sector seize new opportunities and deal with emerging issues.

Looking ahead, the future is bright, with a growing global population demanding the safe, high-quality foods BC farmers and processors can deliver. Our Government will continue to work with the British Columbia agriculture and food sector to capture these exciting opportunities by opening new markets for our products and strengthening the Asia Pacific Gateway to get them there.

Along with the provinces and territories, we are investing \$3 billion over five years under the new Growing Forward framework to deliver strategic initiatives to the industry here in BC and across Canada around competitiveness, innovation and market development.

Best wishes to IAF for a prosperous year ahead.

Hon. Gerry Ritz, PC, MP

Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food

Message from Minister Letnick



The BC Government would like to thank the Investment Agriculture Foundation (IAF) for another successful year of leadership for farmers across British Columbia. The agrifoods industry is a stable job-creator and is integral to our province's economy and it is through our partnerships with organizations such as IAF that we can ensure our industry continues to grow.

For example, the IAF is assisting the provincial government's efforts to increase local food consumption in British Columbia by administering \$1.5 million in provincial government funding. The Province's buy local program supports the promotion of BC foods and increases awareness of the social and economic benefits of eating fresh and local foods. I know the foundation has been actively involved in the panel reviewing the applications and their expertise and professionalism is appreciated.

This is an exciting time for our British Columbia agrifoods sector. In 2012, the BC Government launched BC Agrifoods: A strategy for Growth. This strategy – part of the BC Jobs Plan – builds on the growing trading relationship our province has established with existing partners as well as those with emerging markets. One of the key goals of the strategy is to advance the development of innovative products and processes, something I know the IAF is a champion of. With the support of groups like IAF, we aim to grow our industry from the current \$10.5 billion to \$14 billion-a-year by 2017, and build on the 61,000 direct jobs the industry currently provides.

Best wishes to IAF and the board of directors. We look forward to working with you in 2013.

Norm Letnick

Minister of Agriculture



CROPS & VALUE ADDED

British Columbia is often credited with having the most diverse agricultural industry in all of Canada. We are lucky not only to have access to these farms – both large and small – that yield such a bountiful array of crops, but also to the quality of products grown by our producers and processors. Whether organic or conventional, fresh or processed, British Columbians are fortunate to live in such a bountiful province.

The Foundation delivers a number of funding programs designed to help all horticultural sectors flourish and prosper. In 2012, 29 crop-related projects were approved for \$1,449,845. In addition to these new projects, the cranberry, greenhouse, and tree fruit sectors continued to receive funding for priority projects under strategic initiatives established in prior years.

In 2012, the provincial government announced that IAF, in partnership with the BC Fruit Growers Association, would have the privilege of *(continued on page 5)*

APPROVED CROP PROJECTS PRIMARY AGRICULTURE

FILE NO.	PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT LEAD	IAF'S SHARE	FUNDING PROGRAM ☆	
A0618	Cultivar Trials of Eastern Filbert Blight-Resistant Hazelnuts in the Fraser Valley	BC Hazelnut Growers Association	\$17,950.00	SNF	2
A0680/W0174	Influence of Climate Change on New Genetics and Agronomic Practices	BC Grain Producers Association	\$520,014.00	CAAP	
A0681	Leading the Way: Horticulture Invasive Plant Certification Pilot Project	Invasive Species Council of BC / BCLNA	\$107,000.00	CAAP	
A0684	Research and demonstration of re-vegetation of disturbed land by oil and gas activities	Peace River Forage Association of BC	\$264,090.00	SNF/CAAP	
A0706	Innovative Methods for Determining Factors Contributing to Raspberry Yield Decline over Multiple Years of Production	Raspberry Industry Development Council	\$20,000.00	CAAP	1
A0707	Cultural Innovations for New Blueberry Cultivars ('Liberty', 'Aurora' and 'Draper') to Overcome Developing Production Challenges	BC Blueberry Council	\$40,000.00	CAAP	1
A0712 ES	Developing genetic fingerprinting tools and enhancing essential oil quality in lavenders	The University of British Columbia (UBC): Okanagan Campus	\$115,000.00	AFFF	
A0716	E-learning: Pilot project for blueberry growers in BC	BC Blueberry Council	\$42,000.00	SNF	
A0720	Ornamental Landscape Industry Survey: Part 1: Identifying Scope and Priorities for Industry Survey	BC Landscape & Nursery Association	\$5,150.00	SNF	
INN063	Development of a Personal-Bin Moving System for High Density Orchards and Vineyards	Robert Neville	\$30,650.00	CBCAIP	
SP187	Reduced-risk Fireworm Management	BC Cranberry Marketing Commission	\$8,766.00	CAAP	
SP188	Fusarium as a Potential Mycoherbicide for the Management of Yellow Loosestrife	BC Cranberry Marketing Commission	\$1,750.00	CAAP	
SP189	Field-testing of Sex Pheromone of Cranberry Tipworm	BC Cranberry Marketing Commission	\$4,025.00	CAAP	
SP190 ES	Adaptation of premium sake rice varieties to the Fraser Valley	Artisan SakeMaker Inc.	\$4,993.50	CAAP	
[1] Project approved in 2011; [2] Incremental increase; ☆ See Funding Program legend on p. 10					

APPROVED CROP PROJECTS VALUE ADDED/PROCESSING

FILE NO.	PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT LEAD	IAF'S SHARE	FUNDING PROGRAM ☆
A0708	Unregulated Ready-to-Eat Fresh Produce and Asian Vegetable Grower Assistance	BC Vegetable Marketing Commission	\$57,239.00	SNF
BL001	Discover BC Cranberries	BC Cranberry Marketing Commission	\$15,700.00	Domestic Marketing Strategy
BL003	British Columbia (BC) Seed Potato Web Platform Project: Raising Awareness of the Value of BC Certified Seed Potatoes	BC Certified Seed Potato Growers Association	\$5,000.00	Domestic Marketing Strategy
W0185 QP6703	Proposal to Establish a Promotion and Research Agency for the Canadian Strawberry Industry	Association des producteurs de fraises et de framboises du Québec	\$20,750.00	CAAP
☆ See Funding Program legend on p. 10				



“ It is because of this project that we are able to plan the future course and potential success of the Okanagan apple industry. Adding a cider component to their business could help apple growers increase their returns. Previously this might have been too risky a venture for most growers to consider, but IAF funding enabled us to do the research necessary to determine not only if market potential existed, but the best ways to capitalize on it.”

Melissa Dobernigg, Dobernigg Orchards

APPROVED CROP PROJECTS PRIMARY AGRICULTURE					
FILE NO.	PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT LEAD	IAF'S SHARE	FUNDING PROGRAM *	
SP194	Improving spider mite control for potatoes	BC Potato & Vegetable Growers Association	\$4,550.00	CAAP	
SP195	Control of aphid-vectored non-persistent viruses for conventional and organic seed potato production	BC Potato & Vegetable Growers Association	\$5,000.00	CAAP	
SP197 ES	Initiation of a germ plasm bank for selected plants with potential to be new crops for BC	Institute for Sustainable Horticulture	\$9,180.00	SNF	
SP198	Developing a degree day model to predict egg hatch and timing of insecticide drenches	Raspberry Industry Development Council	\$7,391.00	CAAP	
W0134 SK5004CO	Northern Adapted Flax Variety Development Project	Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission	\$12,500.00	CAAP	2
W0172 QP6651	Assessing the Effect of Various Pesticides on Predatory Mite Populations in Apple Orchards	Centre de recherche agroalimentaire de Mirabel	\$10,500.00	CAAP	
W0178 ON0291	Managing the Threat to the Nursery Sector of Boxwood Blight (Cylindrocladium Buxicola)	Landscape Ontario Horticultural Trades Association	\$41,400.00	CAAP	
W0179 QP6691	New strategies for day-neutral strawberry fertilization	Institut de recherche et de developpement en agroenvironnement inc.	\$10,500.00	CAAP	
W0181 QP6712	Comparing and Evaluating Irrigation Management Tools	Institut de recherche et de developpement en agroenvironnement inc.	\$10,000.00	CAAP	
W0189 ON0340	Using sterile male leafminer (Liriomyza trifolii) alongside Diglyphus isaea to eradicate leafminer in ornamental greenhouses	Flowers Canada (Ontario) Inc.	\$25,000.00	CAAP	
W0191 ON0259	Domestic Vine Certification Program	Grape Growers of Ontario	\$64,890.00	CAAP	
W0192 QP6706	Botrytis cinerea fungicide resistance monitoring in strawberries, raspberries and vines	Compagnie de Recherche Phytodata Inc.	\$9,456.00	CAAP	
W0193 QP6695	Adapting a Tool for Scouting Cranberry Tipworm Adults for Cranberry Production	Institut de recherche et de developpement en agroenvironnement inc	\$19,400.00	CAAP	
[1] Project approved in 2011; [2] Incremental increase; ✦ See Funding Program legend on p. 10					

administering \$2 million in funding over the next three years through the Orchard Replant Program. The funding will help BC’s tree fruit industry renew plantings of apple and other tree fruits to newer, more marketable varieties that are expected to improve grower returns. The program also includes a grafting and budding component which will assist growers to get new trees into production faster.

MAKING HARD CIDER EASY IN THE OKANAGAN

Vernon orchardists David and Melissa Dobernigg have big hopes for Okanagan’s apple industry, despite the struggles and dwindling profits experienced by many apple growers in recent years.

With funding through IAF, the Doberniggs led a study to determine the market potential for ciders. They conducted valuable market research and are sharing this information so other growers can more accurately determine feasibility and minimize risk for their own operations.

IAF is happy to report that the project has established that there is indeed demand for high quality craft ciders in the BC marketplace. Growers can now visit the Doberniggs’ website (<http://thebexpress.com/>) to access free, detailed information covering both the production side of cider-making and consumer preference for different cider varieties.

The project’s potential extends far beyond the Dobernigg’s backyard, however. The entrepreneurial couple believe that the development of a craft cidery region is an opportunity for growers throughout the valley to not only add revenue streams to their business but also to utilize cull fruit normally discarded and reserve their best fruit for the fresh market.

Not only that, but according to Melissa Dobernigg, a craft cidery region could significantly boost agri-tourism in the valley.

“Craft cider is a big trend right now, especially just across the border,” Dobernigg explains. “This could really open the doors for agri-toursim and help growers attract people to the farm.”

So what’s next for the Doberniggs? Now that consumer demand has been confirmed, the couple along with other growers are proceeding with an on-farm cidery and are contemplating forming an industry-wide organization representing cider makers and cider variety growers.

According to Melissa, “There’s a real spirit of collaboration among cider enthusiasts, we’re all excited to see this unfold in the valley. There’s been a lot of uncertainty in the industry lately, but this will help us move forward with more confidence.”

Funding: \$4,858 provided through the Canadian Agricultural Adaptation Program. (SP176)

LIVESTOCK POULTRY & AQUACULTURE +VALUE ADDED

British Columbia’s ranchers, farmers and beekeepers raise livestock and poultry for meat and an array of animal products from eggs and milk to honey. In turn, processors turn this into quality meat products, delectable cheeses and nutritious animal feed.

These sectors also benefit from the wide range of funding programs which the Foundation delivers. In 2012, 14 new projects were approved for funding of \$870,228. Additionally, the strategic initiative for farm animal care has continued to work on enhancing animal handling practices in areas like transportation, and will be focusing on developing a sustainability plan in the upcoming year. *(continued on page 7)*



APPROVED LIVESTOCK PROJECTS PRIMARY AGRICULTURE

FILE NO.	PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT LEAD	IAF'S SHARE	FUNDING PROGRAM *
A0673 ES	Commercial application of non-surgical embryo transfer in dairy goats	British Columbia Goat Association	\$22,910.00	CAAP
A0686	Improved Feeding Management for British Columbia Dairy Herds	CanWest DHI	\$67,000.00	SNF
A0713	Increased reproductive performance in high genetic value dairy cattle through improved donor selection and use of OPU/IVP systems with reverse sex sorted semen.	Abbotsford Veterinary Clinic	\$457,500.00	SNF
A0719	Genomic Testing of Dairy Heifers: The Early Genetic Selection of Dairy Cattle and the cost/benefits	Greenbelt Veterinary Services Ltd.	\$41,097.00	SNF
AIF016	Small poultry flock health, management, and biosecurity	BC Chicken Marketing Board	\$12,900.00	PIB/ERP
AIP009.01	Risk Based Insurance Product Design & Implementation Plan	Agri-Saki Consulting	\$39,200.00	PIB/ERP
LWTI071	GIS Study to determine possible sites for mass livestock carcass disposal in RDofN	Regional District of Nanaimo	\$1,000.00	LWTI
LWTI072	GIS Study to determine possible sites for emergency mass livestock carcass disposal in the RD of N Okanagan	District of Coldstream	\$1,000.00	LWTI
LWTI074	FMD Exercise and Update of the BC Foreign Animal Disease Emergency Support FADES Plan	Smart Risk Control, Inc	\$64,246.00	LWTI
LWTI075	GIS Study to determine possible sites for emergency mass livestock carcass disposal in the Comox Valley RD	Comox Valley Regional District	\$21,000.00	LWTI
LWTI076	CRD Farmed Animal Mass Carcass Disposal Tabletop Exercise	Capital Regional District	\$7,422.40	LWTI
LWTI077	RDEK Farmed Animal Mass Carcass Disposal Tabletop Exercise	Regional District of East Kootenay	\$8,160.00	LWTI
LWTI078	RDB - Nechako Farmed Animal Mass Carcass Disposal Tabletop Exercise	Regional District of Bulkley - Nechako	\$8,422.40	LWTI
LWTI079	Freshet 2012	Rick Van Kleeck	\$8,680.00	LWTI
LWTI080	City of Surrey Farmed Animal Mass Carcass Disposal Tabletop Exercise	City of Surrey	\$6,910.40	LWTI
LWTI082	Field Team Template for the Disposal of Animal Carcasses in a Foreign Animal Disease Response	Risk Reduction Strategies	\$16,305.00	LWTI
LWTI086	Evaluation of changing Protocol #1 siting criteria on available land suitable for emergency landfilling of carcasses	McElhanney Consulting Services Ltd.	\$8,600.00	LWTI
RTF008	Development of rapid fatty acid and tenderness profiling	Thompson Rivers University	\$541,800.00	RTF

☆ See Funding Program legend on p.10

APPROVED LIVESTOCK PROJECTS VALUE ADDED/PROCESSING

FILE NO.	PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT LEAD	IAF'S SHARE	FUNDING PROGRAM *
BL002	Educational chicken industry video for middle & high school students and the general public	BC Chicken Growers' Association	\$15,500.00	Domestic Marketing Strategy
INN053	Developing a Viable and Economical Bio-Fuel from Waste Horse Bedding	GreenScene AgriTek Inc.	\$146,600.00	CBCAIP
RTF002 Addendum	Consumer Education and Research Program - Addendum	BC Cattlemen's Association	\$292,400.00	RTF
RTF006	Strategic Economic Assessing of the BC Beef Cattle Value Chain	British Columbia Cattlemen's Association Program Development Inc.	\$37,300.00	RTF
RTF010	Developing a cost per serving tool for Restaurant/Food Service to encourage whole carcass utilization/purchasing	British Columbia Association of Abattoirs	\$319,150.00	RTF
RTF011	Market Research and Network Development for BC Beef, Focusing on Asian Markets in Vancouver, BC	BC Association of Cattle Feeders	\$90,250.00	RTF
RTF013	Developing a Hide Value Chain and a Market for Beef By-Product Utilization	BC Association of Abattoirs	\$93,300.00	RTF
RTF017	BeefTrade Mission to Asia 2012	BC Cattlemen's Association	\$10,500.00	RTF
RTF018	Guichon Ranch Grass Fed Beef from Different Grass Types	Gerard Guichon Ranch Limited	\$7,615.94	RTF
RTF019	Beyond the Market: Regional Beef Value Chain Initiative	Community Futures Fraser Fort George	\$33,200.00	RTF
RTF020	Beef Industry Video Messages	BC Cattlemen's Association	\$194,864.00	RTF
SP196 ES	Gulf Islands Spinning Mill Improvement Project, Feasibility Study	Salt Spring Island Farmers Institute Foundation	\$9,775.00	CAAP
W0186 SK5160	The Advantageous Use of Unique Saskatchewan Feed Ingredients Arising from Biofuel Production in High Producing Dairy Cows	Saskatchewan Milk Marketing Board	\$7,650.00	CAAP

[2] Incremental Increase ; ☆ See Funding Program legend on p.10

“ The BC Cattlemen’s Association has benefitted from the funds administered by the Investment Agriculture Foundation both large and small. The small projects funding has allowed us to quickly deliver on the ground workshops and projects that benefit our members. One of our most recent and very successful projects funded through IAF is the “Behind the Beef” consumer education and awareness program. The Foundation has helped the beef industry adapt and meet the needs of British Columbia’s Ranchers.”

Kevin Boon, General Manager
BC Cattlemen’s Association

APPROVED LIVESTOCK PROJECTS PRIMARY AGRICULTURE

FILE NO.	PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT LEAD	IAF'S SHARE	FUNDING PROGRAM [☆]
RTF009	An Evaluation of the Mechanism of Action of Inhaled Nitric Oxide	University of British Columbia	\$284,042.00	RTF
RTF012	Producer Field School Series: Engaging with Specialists in Applications for the Cariboo	Cariboo Cattlemen's Association	\$31,430.00	RTF
RTF014	Solving the BRDc problem through patented application of Nitric Oxide	BC Cattlemen's Association	\$178,050.00	RTF
RTF015	Leveraging Traceability on the Farm	KRL Solutions	\$115,250.00	RTF
RTF016	Testing soil carbon sequestration potential in BC rangelands with sustainable ranching practices	Thompson Rivers University	\$193,600.00	RTF
RTF021	Wren Community Pasture Silvopasture Pilot	Wren Community Pasture Association	\$48,400.00	RTF
RTF022	Observed Loss of Closed Basin Ponds in BC Rangelands	Thompson Rivers University	\$45,920.00	RTF
SP192	Guided Learning Support Material for Dairy Production Technician 1 - Pilot	HortEducationBC	\$5,000.00	SNF
W0169 ES QP6624	Impact of Beta-Hydroxybutyrate (BHB) Levels on Dairy Goat Productivity	Société des éleveurs de chèvres laitières de race du Québec	\$14,273.00	CAAP
W0171 ES QP6641	Goat herd improvement on productivity and health using genomics	Société des éleveurs de chèvres laitières de race du Québec	\$28,000.00	CAAP
W0183 QP6702	Analyzing the Genetic Variability of Canadian Sheep Breeds from Parentage Data Provided by the Canadian Livestock Records Corporation	Centre d'expertise en production ovine du Quebec	\$11,661.00	CAAP
W0187 ON0253	Provincial Dairy Farmers - Leveraging Standards for Technology and Software	Dairy Farmers of Ontario	\$8,137.00	CAAP
BL005	Buy Local Shellfish	BC Shellfish Grower's Association	\$35,125.00	Domestic Marketing Strategy
SI005	Development of closed-containment and aquaponics technologies for White sturgeon aquaculture	Vancouver Island University, International Centre for Sturgeon Studies	\$70,000.00	AQUA
SI007	Tides Canada Salmon Aquaculture Innovation Fund	Tides Canada Venture Society	\$150,000.00	AQUA
SI008	Nanaimo Rainbow Trout Production Facility based on the Canadian Model Aquafarm Concept	Taste of BC Aquafarms Inc.	\$82,500.00	AQUA
SI010	Sustainable Aboriginal Aquaculture Development: Opportunities for First Nations	Aboriginal Aquaculture Association	\$6,000.00	AQUA

☆ See Funding Program legend on p.10

Two years ago, the federal and provincial governments announced \$5 million to help BC’s beef industry stay competitive and develop new marketing strategies. The money is used to fund some activities recommended by BC’s Ranching Task Force. In 2012, the management committee approved 17 projects totalling more than \$2,517.072.

The provincial Livestock Waste Tissue Initiative continues to help the meat industry dispose of specified risk material (SRM) and other abattoir waste and help communities prepare for the possibility of a future mass carcass disposal event. In 2012, 11 new projects were approved for a total of \$151,746.

In the area of poultry biosecurity, implementation of the avian influenza strategic plan continues. The BC poultry industry is pursuing the development of a captive insurance model which would be registered in BC, managed by the industry and designed to share risk should another major avian influenza disease event occur. Upon completion of an on-farm biosecurity risk and mitigation consultation program for the non-regulated commercial poultry sector, the focus in 2012 evolved to establishing and launching a biosecurity program for these producers.

BEHIND THE BEEF MOVES CATTLE ISSUES FORWARD

When issues strike, it’s important to be prepared and have relationships in place that will allow you to get accurate information to the people who need it. In a year that has seen the public image of beef impacted by a massive E. coli recall and controversy surrounding “pink slime” in the United States, the Behind the Beef project has allowed BC cattlemen to respond to consumer concerns face-to-face in their local grocery stores.

“Having our educators out in the stores providing accurate information for consumers showed that the beef industry wasn’t hiding or shying away from the issues,” says Kirsten Hollstedt, program coordinator for Behind the Beef.

Behind the Beef is a consumer education and research program started by the BC Cattlemen’s Association to improve consumer awareness and understanding of cattle ranching and the beef industry. The program hires beef educators and provides training on common consumer questions about how cattle are raised and how beef is processed, nutritional information, and advice on how to choose and prepare different cuts of beef.

What started with 12 beef educators in the Lower Mainland, quickly expanded to 20-30 educators located across the province to meet the enthusiastic demand of retailers, fairs and community events. In the first year of operations, the Behind the Beef team has attended 864 events, eclipsing their original goal of 400 per year.

“Retailers were very supportive and picked it up quite quickly,” says Hollstedt. “Overwaitea came on board right away, and then we had other retailers, fairs and community events knocking on our door when they heard what we were doing.”

Beef educators visit grocery stores once a month, providing valuable information to staff and customers at the stores. As a result, they were already familiar faces at the local grocery store when the beef recall hit, and were able to get the facts out by providing lists of recalled products and information on food safety practices. Their existing relationship with consumers and the public made them a trusted source for information about the beef industry.

“The majority of consumers felt more comfortable about the situation and felt they could still eat beef once they were given information,” says Hollstedt. “Every link in the communication chain is important. If we can inform one person in the store, they will pass it on to others.”

In addition to the beef educators, Behind the Beef has developed supplemental materials including fact sheets and recipes, as well as behindthebeef.ca, a website where people can access information and ‘Ask an Expert’ if they have more involved questions about beef production.

The project has not only helped the beef industry to get their message out, it has created an opportunity for them to listen and gather information about what consumers really want to know about beef production. The program is tracking consumer questions and feedback through their beef educators and their website, gleaning valuable insights for the ranching industry as they turn good relationships with consumers into greater value for BC ranchers.

Funding: \$825,158 allocated through the Canada-BC Ranching Task Force Funding Initiative. (RTF002)



PAN AGRICULTURE

Not all agricultural initiatives and projects fit neatly into “plant” or “animal” categories. Some cross multiple commodity groups, while others are designed to broadly assist the entire agriculture and processing sectors. In 2012, 14 new projects were approved for a total of \$1,756,080.

The Foundation often funds projects led by local governments where the intent is to make agriculture more viable or address urban/rural interface issues.

Helping BC food producers and processors increase the use of BC agrifoods in the domestic marketplace through the Buy Local Program is another Foundation priority that crosses multiple sectors.

Several broadly-based strategic initiatives continued through 2012, including those aimed at helping farmers markets, developing Agroforestry practices, supporting the organics and processing sectors, encouraging environmental practices, and more.
(continued on page 9)

APPROVED PAN AGRICULTURE PROJECTS

FILE NO.	PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT LEAD	IAF'S SHARE	FUNDING PROGRAM [☆]	
A0683	Thompson Shuswap Food Connections	Community Futures Development Corporation of Thompson Country	\$38,796.00	SNF	
A0694 ES/ S0011-C146	Small-scale Organic Certification Research	Certified Organic Associations of British Columbia	\$51,624.00	CAAP	
A0697 ES	First Nations Skilled Agriculture Labour Pool Development : Phase 1	Aboriginal Agricultural Education Society of British Columbia	\$12,500.00	CAAP	
A0700 ES	Syilx Ethical Agricultural Project	Okanagan Indian Educational Resources Society	\$36,750.00	CAAP	
A0709	Co-production of Renewable Heat and Carbon Dioxide using Landfill Gas at Village Farms	Quadrogen Power Systems, Inc.	\$250,000.00	CAAP	3
A0711	Beyond the Market: New Farm Development Initiative	Community Futures Fraser-Fort George	\$35,000.00	SNF	
AEI	Agriculture Environment Initiative programming	BCAC	\$1,000,000.00	various	
INN064	BC Agricultural Commodity On-Line Price Discovery and Sales Mechanism Development : Market Analysis Phase	United Flower Growers Co-operative Association	\$42,000.00	CBCAIP	
INN071	Conversion of agricultural wastes into higher-value biochar fuel	Diacarbon Energy Inc.	\$142,575.00	CBCAIP	
SP193	Export Seminar for the BC Agri-Food Sector	British Columbia Food Processors Association	\$7,260.00	SNF	
SP199 ES	Organic Sector Strategic Planning Session	Certified Organic Associations of BC	\$12,850.00	AFFF	
W0168 ON0191	Agriculture Issues Centre Pilot Program	Ontario Farm Animal Council	\$77,115.00	CAAP	
W0180 ES SK5168	Healthy Foods and Ingredients in Western Canada: Surveying the Consumer	Presagio Technology Group Inc.	\$20,757.89	CAAP	
W0190 ES YT1108	Foundational Agri-Food System Design for the Yukon Territory	Yukon Agricultural Association	\$28,852.00	CAAP	
[3] Repayable contribution; ☆ See Funding Program legend on p. 10					



“IAF’s contribution to the farmers’ market sector has been huge. We now understand the economic benefits of farmers’ markets, how municipalities can help them thrive, who the farmers are who sell at markets, how to support them to build capacity to be more successful and more.”

Elizabeth Quinn, Executive Director
BC Association of Farmers’ Markets

2012 ushered in the third year of the Organic Sector Development Program Strategic Initiative, delivered by the Certified Organic Associations of BC. Many projects involve applied research on problems specific to organic vegetable production, while the most recent project addition is examining the barriers experienced by small-scale producers to organic certification.

In the zone where forestry and agriculture meet, ten projects were approved for funding. 2012 marked the completion of a detailed market analysis for a Canadian hawthorn sales channel. The initiative is delivered by the Federation of BC Woodlot Associations.

Applications continue to be accepted for projects that align with the objectives identified in the organics sector strategic plan. As these initiatives are funded under the federal Canadian Agricultural Adaptation Program, all projects must be completed by December 31, 2013.

FARMERS’ MARKET INITIATIVE ADVANCES SECTOR

To Elizabeth Quinn, farmers’ markets represent a vital link between producer and consumer. As the executive director of the BC Association of Farmers’ Markets (BCAFM), Quinn has witnessed the local food trend prompt a wave of popularity for farmers’ markets.

“While promising for business, this increased demand has proven difficult to meet with current production capacity, leaving many markets struggling to meet consumer demand,” Quinn explains. “Currently, there are over 70 markets needing more farm vendors to offer the variety of products that their customers want.”

Since 2007, IAF has been proud to support the BC Farmers’ Market Strategic Initiative through projects that help farmers’ markets rise to the opportunities presented and contribute to their long-term success and sustainability.

In 2012, a province-wide study of the economic and community benefits of farmers’ markets was undertaken, which assessed 33 BC markets through feedback collected from vendors, customers, and neighbouring businesses.

Participants such as Haney Farmers Market in Memorial Peace Park were discovered to be a significant player in the local economy, contributing nearly \$1.6 million annually (in addition to \$1.1 million spent by customers at local businesses on the day of the market).

According to Quinn and market managers like Eileen Dwillies, it is important to understand not only what these markets contribute but also how much they contribute to local neighbourhoods, cities, and towns.

“Although people know the market is a great place to buy fresh, local food, the results of this study help us communicate to others how valuable the farmers’ market is to our community,” Dwillies emphasizes.

In comparing the study to its 2006 predecessor, the results show that farmers’ markets in BC have grown significantly over the past six years,



with total direct sales increasing from \$46 to \$113 million, and market economic contributions rising from \$69 million in 2006 to \$171 million in 2012.

For Quinn, the surge of popularity is not only gratifying but also promising now that the sector is better equipped to respond to the demand.

“We’re seeing new farmers enter the markets and then those markets finally have the variety they need to offer consumers each week, as well as other resources to help them manage and succeed,” Quinn observes. “Tremendous progress has been made through the initiative and we’re very excited to see the sector advancing.”

Other accomplishments achieved during the past five years of the initiative include the production of a Best Practices Guide to help municipalities establish, support and sustain a vibrant and successful farmers’ market, as well as a series of manager and board governance training workshops and manuals, a sector research and development project, and the MarketSafe training program, an award-winning food safety program designed for farmers’ markets.

Funding: \$219,000 allocated through former federal adaptation programming. (500004)





BOARD INITIATIVES

High priority issues of a cross-sectoral or pan-agricultural nature do not always have an industry champion with the necessary resources to lead on a strategic initiative or project. In this case, the Foundation is sometimes asked to partner with industry or assume the lead on addressing issues of high priority. *(continued on page 11)*

COMPLETED CROP PROJECTS VALUE ADDED/PROCESSING

FILE NO.	PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT LEAD	IAF'S SHARE	FUNDING PROGRAM *
A0598	Establishing National Councils for the Blueberry & Raspberry Industries	Raspberry Industry Development Council	\$98,500.00	SNF
INN064	BC Agricultural Commodity On-Line Price Discovery and Sales Mechanism Development: Market Analysis Phase	United Flower Growers Co-op	\$39,289.20	CBCAIP
SP170	Using Social Media to Increase the Sale of Fresh Strawberries in BC	Fraser Valley Strawberry Growers' Association	\$5,610.24	SNF
SP176	Exploring the Viability of Hard Cider as a Value-Added Product for Okanagan Apple Growers	Dobernigg Orchards	\$4,857.86	CAAP

✧ See Funding Program legend on p.10

✧ FUNDING PROGRAM LEGEND

ACAAF	Advancing Canadian Agriculture & Agri-Food (Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada), former federal adaptation program
AFFF	Agri-Food Futures Fund, a trust funded under a former federal-provincial Safety Nets Framework.
AQUA	Aquaculture Innovation Fund (BC Ministry of Agriculture)
Domestic Marketing Strategy	BC Government's Buy Local Program (BC Ministry of Agriculture)
CAAP	Canadian Agricultural Adaptation Program (Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada)
CBCAIP	Canada-BC Agri-Innovation Program (Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada and the BC Ministry of Agriculture through the Growing Forward Initiative)
RTF	Ranching Task Force Funding Initiative (Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada and the BC Ministry of Agriculture through the Agricultural Flexibility Fund)
LWTI	Livestock Waste Tissue Initiative (Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada and the BC Ministry of Agriculture)
PIB/ERP	Poultry Industry Biosecurity/Emergency Response Program (Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada and the BC Ministry of Agriculture)
SNF	former federal/provincial Safety Nets framework



COMPLETED CROP PROJECTS PRIMARY AGRICULTURE

FILE NO.	PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT LEAD	IAF'S SHARE	FUNDING PROGRAM *
A0525	Climate and Feasibility Assessment of Wine Grapes in the Lytton-Lilloet Area	BC Grapegrowers Association	\$47,975.00	ACAAF
A0529	BC Peace River Cereal, Flax & Pulse Crop Enhancement Project	BC Grain Producers Association	\$1,321,632.20	ACAAF
A0576	Alternative Mulch Effects Upon Blueberry Root Health & Nutrient Management	BC Blueberry Council	\$60,000.00	ACAAF
A0579	Bulkley Valley Pasture Fertilization Demonstration Trials	Smithers Farmers' Institute	\$11,203.11	ACAAF
A0586	Evaluation of Silage Corn Hybrids for BC Dairy and Beef Farmers	Pacific Field Corn Association	\$29,969.33	ACAAF
A0597	Investigation of Godronia (Fusicoccum) Canker on highbush Blueberry in the Lower Mainland of British Columbia: Prevalence, Distribution & Infection Process of Godronia cassandrae	BC Blueberry Council	\$40,605.98	SNF
A0606	Nursery Industry Adaptation to National Phytosanitary Certification Program to Minimize Risk of Importing Invasive Alien Species	BC Landscape & Nursery Association	\$156,340.74	CAAP
A0636	BC Sustainable Winegrowing Program: Wineries & On-line Tools	BC Wine Grape Council	\$38,238.50	SNF
A0646 ES	Duncan Stock Assessment Yard & Assessment Training	BC Bee Breeders Association	\$11,029.20	CAAP
A0647 ES	Split Rock sekw'e'l'was Wild Plant Nursery	Cayoose Creek St'at'imc	\$62,900.80	AFFF
AF006-005	A Program to Coordinate Industry Communications and Best Practices for Mushroom Growers in BC	Mushrooms Canada	\$41,899.35	AFFF
SP159	British Columbia Vegetable Roundtable Project	British Columbia Vegetable Marketing Commission	\$6,350.00	SNF
SP174	Organic & Conventional Tools for Post-Harvest Control of Silver Scurf: Effect of Application Timing	BC Potato & Vegetable Growers Association	\$2,000.00	CAAP
SP178	Beneficial Management Practices in Commercial Field Vegetables & Berries in British Columbia - Modernizing Access for the BC Field Vegetable and Berry Industry	Lower Mainland Horticultural Improvement Association	\$9,750.00	SNF
W0138 AB1064CO	Development & Commercialization of Novel Fungicides & Bactericides for Horticultural Crop Disease Management: A Priority-based Approach	Agriculture and Food Council of Alberta	\$115,375.00	CAAP

COMPLETED PAN AGRICULTURE PROJECTS

FILE NO.	PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT LEAD	IAF'S SHARE	FUNDING PROGRAM *
A0630	BC Agriculture Climate Change Adaptation Risk & Opportunity Assessment	BC Agriculture Council	\$72,113.81	SNF
A0637	Benchmarking Anaerobic Digestion Feasibility Across BC's Agricultural & Agri-Food Sectors	BC Agriculture Research & Development Corp.	\$85,658.86	CAAP
A0644	Building the Foundation Against Invasive Plants	Invasive Species Council of BC	\$45,000.00	SNF
AF002-I0497	Islands Agriculture Show Pilot Project	Cowichan Valley Regional District	\$25,175.00	AFFF
AF002-I0503	Victoria Public Market Needs Assessment & Governance Model	Victoria Downtown Public Market Society	\$10,000.00	AFFF
SP183 ES	Agriculture Development Plan, District Lots 15052 and 15876	Lower Kootenay Indian Band	\$4,900.00	AFFF

✧ See Funding Program legend on p.10



“The support that we received from the Investment Agriculture Foundation enabled us to move forward with the Delta Agriculture Plan in a timely way and to be able to engage a consultant that had the right agricultural expertise and understanding of the agriculture community. We also benefited from the experience that IAF has gained working through the agriculture area plan process with other municipalities.”

Lisa King, Planner, Corporation of Delta

With the backing of industry, the board is also empowered to develop specialized programs to address specific priorities which fall within the Foundation’s mandate and funding principles. Examples of this type of activity include the ongoing Small Projects and Agricultural Area Planning programs and the Emerging Sectors Initiative.

SMALL PROJECTS PROGRAM

The Small Projects Program provides an expedited process for industry groups to access up to \$10,000 for projects valued at \$30,000 or less and lasting up to one year. 13 new projects were approved in 2012, totaling a commitment of almost \$90,000.

A recent policy change was made to clarify funding for producer education events. These may be eligible if they deal with an urgent issue that requires immediate attention, such as a regulatory change or a pest or disease management issue, but recurring events are not. The demonstration of new practices may also qualify, as will small applied research projects and market research for a sector.

Funding can be provided through any of the programs the Foundation delivers and is based on eligibility, demonstrated need and industry support. With no set intake deadlines, applications can be submitted at any time, but clients are encouraged to apply at least 30 days before a project starts.

The Small Projects Program makes up to \$10,000 in funding available for eligible projects through the various programs delivered by the Foundation.

EMERGING SECTORS INITIATIVE

In 2010, the Foundation established the Emerging Sectors Initiative to work with groups and individuals attempting to expand the frontiers of agriculture into new areas. Interest has been high, with many clients approaching the Foundation for the first time.

Since then, 15 new projects – ranging from apiculture and goats to small lot agriculture and bioproducts – were approved for almost \$400,000 in funding.

The Emerging Sectors Initiative provides funding to eligible projects through the federal-provincial Agri-Food Futures Fund and other programs delivered by the Foundation.



COMPLETED LIVESTOCK PROJECTS PRIMARY AGRICULTURE				
FILE NO.	PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT LEAD	IAF'S SHARE	FUNDING PROGRAM *
A0624	Optimized Finished Cattle in British Columbia	BC Association of Cattle Feeders	\$19,845.00	CAAP
A0628	BC Dairy Hoof Health Project	AR-PE Hooftrimming Ltd.	\$39,182.65	SNF
LWTI054	Cariboo Farmed Animal Mass Carcass Disposal Tabletop Exercise	Cariboo Regional District	\$8,450.33	LWTI
LWTI057	RD Fraser-Fort George Farmed Animal Mass Carcass Disposal Tabletop Exercise	Regional District of Fraser-Fort George	\$7,208.35	LWTI
LWTI058	Maple Ridge Farm Animal Mass Carcass Disposal Tabletop Exercise	District of Maple Ridge	\$7,417.57	LWTI
LWTI059	Technical Support & OMRP Compliance for BC Slaughter Waste Composting Facility Operators	BC Association of Abattoirs	\$41,434.10	LWTI
LWTI062	Develop the Township of Langley's Farmed Animal Mass Carcass Disposal Emergency Plan	Township of Langley	\$9,806.50	LWTI
LWTI064	Squamish-Lillooet Regional District Farmed Animal Mass Carcass Disposal Tabletop Exercise	Squamish - Lillooet Regional District	\$6,451.97	LWTI
LWTI065	GIS Study to Locate Emergency Composting Sites in the Fraser Valley Regional District	Fraser Valley Regional District	\$5,514.46	LWTI
LWTI066	District of Kent Agassiz Farmed Animal Mass Carcass Disposal Tabletop Exercise	District of Kent	\$6,359.37	LWTI
LWTI070	CFIA Permitting of Columbia Shuswap Regional District - Salmon Arm Landfill for SRM	Columbia Shuswap Regional District	\$6,138.92	LWTI
LWTI071	GIS Study to Determine Possible Sites for Mass Livestock Carcass Disposal in the Regional District of Nanaimo	Regional District of Nanaimo	\$17,433.08	LWTI
LWTI072	GIS Study to Determine Possible Sites for Mass Livestock Carcass Disposal in the Regional District of North Okanagan	District of Coldstream	\$19,772.26	LWTI
LWTI073	Develop the Thompson-Nicola Regional District's Farmed Animal Mass Carcass Disposal Emergency Plan	Thompson-Nicola Regional District	\$9,004.88	LWTI
LWTI077	Regional District of East Kootenay Farmed Animal Mass Carcass Disposal Tabletop Exercise	Regional District of East Kootenay	\$7,412.28	LWTI
LWTI079	Freshet 2012	Van Kleeck Consulting	\$6,613.26	LWTI
W0112 BC0112CO	Nutrient & Energy Recovery from Manure	The University of British Columbia	\$203,500.00	ACAAF
SI001	Genomics in Lice & Salmon (GiLS)	University of Victoria	\$34,000.00	AQUA
COMPLETED LIVESTOCK PROJECTS VALUE ADDED/PROCESSING				
FILE NO.	PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT LEAD	IAF'S SHARE	FUNDING PROGRAM *
A0633	Market and Logistics Research for Two Regional Beef Value Chains in BC	BC Association of Cattle Feeders	\$83,800.65	CAAP
AF007-078	Developing a First Nation's Grass-Based Beef Production Value Chain	Thompson Rivers University	\$46,664.31	AFFF
LWTI056	Fades VI (Foreign Animal Disease Emergency Support)	Smart Risk Control	\$95,906.63	LWTI
LWTI061	Farmed Animal Mass Carcass Disposal Exercise	Comox Valley Regional District	\$6,435.82	LWTI
RTF001	Nechako Valley Livestock Evaluation Course	College of New Caledonia	\$7,314.30	RTF
RTF017	Beef Trade Mission to Asia 2012	BC Cattlemen's Association	\$7,442.82	RTF
* See Funding Program legend on p.10				

ENSURING A VIABLE FUTURE FOR AGRICULTURE IN DELTA

Farming has a rich history in Delta, and has long been a driver in the community’s economy. Today, farming is still a significant activity in the area, but farmers are challenged by competing demands for use of the land, loss of processing capacity and the need for infrastructure improvements.

In 2010, the Corporation of Delta commissioned the development of an Agricultural Plan to support agriculture and integrate the sector more closely with the community by supporting the implementation of agricultural policies contained in the municipality’s Official Community Plan (OCP).

With financial support through IAF and the guidance of the Agricultural Advisory Committee, Delta worked through a two-year process of research and consultation with industry and the public to develop a plan that would help achieve their goal to create “a place where the business of farming can prosper while contributing to the community’s ecological attributes and social, cultural and economic well-being.”

The plan, adopted in October 2011, identifies 29 highest-priority recommended actions to address four key areas. The strategy also addresses areas and recommends partners to work together in dealing with some of the broader challenges that are beyond the scope of farmers.

In the first year of implementation, the Agriculture Plan has already resulted in a new bylaw limiting soil deposit and removal on farmland, and a pilot project on potential climate change adaptation strategies for agriculture.

“This plan provides a framework for farmers, government, industry and the community to work together to protect and enhance agriculture in Delta with a strong emphasis on maintaining the economic viability of farming,” said Mayor Lois E. Jackson. “I am very pleased with the input received while creating the plan and look forward to continued work towards the plan’s implementation.”

Funding: \$30,000 provided through the former federal-provincial Safety Nets framework. (B0016.22)

APPROVED AGRICULTURAL AREA PLANS & RELATED PROJECTS

FILE NO.	PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT LEAD	IAF'S SHARE	FUNDING PROGRAM *
A0685 ES	Agricultural Strategy for Tsawwassen First Nation	Tsawwassen First Nation	\$22,500.00	AFFF
A0690	Agricultural Area Plan Stage I: Background Report	Sunshine Coast Regional District	\$14,000.00	SNF
A0698	Shuswap Agriculture Strategy: supporting sustainability of the agriculture industry in the Shuswap	Columbia Shuswap Regional District	\$28,500.00	SNF
B0016.33	Agricultural Plan – Phase 2	Regional District of East Kootenay	\$25,000.00	SNF
B0016.34	Greater Terrace Agricultural Area Plan, Phase II: Agricultural Area Plan	City of Terrace	\$10,000.00	SNF
B0016.35	Lillooet and Area B Agricultural Area Plan	Squamish – Lillooet Regional District	\$25,000.00	SNF
B0016.36	Peace River Regional District, Regional Agriculture Plan	Peace River Regional District	\$45,000.00	SNF
SP183 ES	Agriculture Development Plan, District Lots 15052 and 15876	Lower Kootenay Indian Band (LKB)	\$4,900.00	AFFF

COMPLETED AGRICULTURAL AREA PLANS & RELATED PROJECTS

FILE NO.	PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT LEAD	IAF'S SHARE	FUNDING PROGRAM *
B0016.17	Boundary Regional Agricultural Area Plan	Regional District of Kootenay Boundary	\$27,859.22	SNF
B0016.21	Chilliwack Agriculture Area Plan	City of Chilliwack	\$40,000.00	SNF
B0016.22	Delta Agriculture Area Plan	Corporation of Delta	\$30,000.00	SNF
B0016.29	Agricultural Area Plan for RDOS Electoral Area "A" and Town of Osoyoos	Regional District Okanagan Similkameen	\$14,333.00	SNF
B0016.30	Regional District of Nanaimo: Area Agricultural Plan	Regional District of Nanaimo	\$37,805.50	SNF
B0016.31	Denman Island Farm Plan	Islands Trust	\$16,085.00	SNF

✦ See Funding Program legend on p.10

AGRICULTURAL AREA PLANNING PROGRAM

The Agricultural Area Planning Program provides funding to bring local governments and the agricultural community together to develop a local, shared vision for the future of agriculture and improve the viability of farming in municipalities and regional districts around British Columbia.

Since 1999, 38 projects aimed at creating or updating agricultural area plans have been approved for funding including eight new ones in 2012.

Kootenay Boundary, Chilliwack, Delta, Okanagan-Similkameen, Nanaimo and Denman Island completed projects in 2012, bringing to 29 the number of plans completed with funding support through the Foundation.

New projects are funded through the former federal-provincial Safety Nets framework. (B0016)

Our Board of Directors (2012-2013)

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Ken Bates <i>Represents: Field Vegetables, Berries & Mushrooms Region: Lower Mainland</i>	Dale Krahn <i>Represents: Poultry Region: Fraser Valley</i>
Philip Bergen <i>Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada Liaison</i>	Jens Larsen <i>Represents: Other Livestock Region: Central Interior</i>
Paula Brown, PhD Secretary <i>Represents: Emerging Sectors Region: Lower Mainland</i>	Peter Levelton Chair <i>Represents: Greenhouse,Floriculture & Nursery Sectors Region: Lower Mainland</i>
Chris Byra, DVM, MBA <i>Represents: Farm Supply Sector Region: Fraser Valley</i>	Grant Parnell <i>BC Ministry of Agriculture</i>
Irmi Critcher <i>Represents: Grains, Oilseeds & Forage Region: Peace River</i>	Jim Tingle, PAg Treasurer <i>Represents: Community Agriculture Region: Central Interior</i>
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