



# E-News



March 2010

## COABC CONFERENCE – MARCH 5<sup>TH</sup> – 7<sup>TH</sup> 2010

Registration closes 5pm Thursday March 4<sup>th</sup>

Registration is available on line at <http://www.certifiedorganic.bc.ca/infonews/conference2010/registration.php>

For Details see <http://www.certifiedorganic.bc.ca/infonews/conferenceagm.php> )

### WHAT'S NEW

#### **BC Organic Grower – Spread the Word!**

Web Banners are now available from the office to add to your website which can be linked directly to the BC Organic Grower subscription page. This is a great way to support the BC Organic Grower and spread the word. Please contact Sarah at [admin@certifiedorganic.bc.ca](mailto:admin@certifiedorganic.bc.ca) for more information.



#### **BC Organic Grower looking for farmers to profile**

Spring Gillard the author of the most 2 recent and finest BCOG Farmer Profiles ever seen is looking for a subject for at least the next edition. In fact she has some precise requirements particularly “a male farmer (my last two were women), possibly blueberries or other berries or fruit, could be milk or eggs too. Fraser Valley, Island(s), Kootenays, Peace, Caribou.” Probably wouldn't hurt to have a few as future suggestions too, so the more suggestions the merrier. Contact Spring at [gardnhrt@shaw.ca](mailto:gardnhrt@shaw.ca)

#### **Organic Federation of Canada**

- **A Report on the 11th Meeting of the Canadian General Standards Board - Committee on Organic Agriculture**

See the report at <http://www.certifiedorganic.bc.ca/infonews/kyi.php>

- **Free Standards**

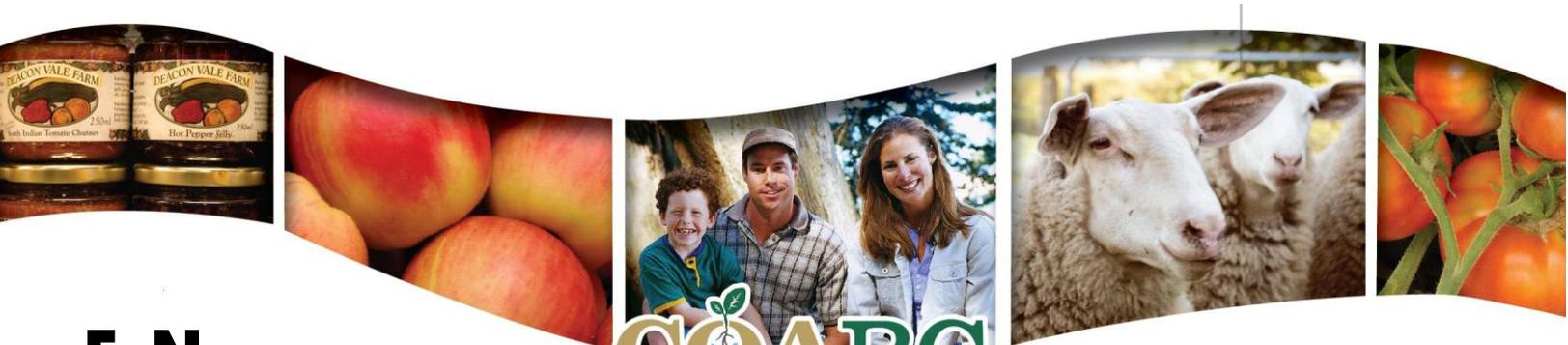
The CFIA and the Canada Organic Office are pleased to announce that the CGSB Organic Standards are now available on the CGSB website free of charge.

English: [http://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/cgsb/on\\_the\\_net/organic/index-e.html](http://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/cgsb/on_the_net/organic/index-e.html)

- **Are you in favor of parallel production?**

Parallel production is not allowed in Canada but it is allowed in the US, and the EU prohibits it with exceptions. The issue is under debate at the level of the CGSB Committee on Organic Agriculture and a proposal for amendment will be submitted for balloting.

Should Canada be more flexible on the issue of parallel production? If it were allowed, could parallel production be managed without compromising organic integrity? Can consumers trust the organic quality of produce grown on a unit where organic and non-organic crops are produced? What is your opinion? To leave a comment, visit the OFC blog, <http://ofcbbc.wordpress.com/>, click on "Comments" and then on "Reply" at the bottom of the list of comments that will pop up! OFC Blog: <http://ofcbbc.wordpress.com/>



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## Training Grants

\$1500 TRAINING GRANTS FROM THE Workplace Training for Innovation Pilot Program. The Ministry of Advanced Education and Labour Market Development program is designed to provide eligible employers with funding up to \$1500 per employee for employee training. Both businesses and not-for-profit employers may be eligible to receive funding. Eligible employers must be: Small organizations (less than 50 employees), in good standing with the BC Corporate Registry, in existence for one year or more. Complete eligibility in the application form and program guidelines. Applications will be accepted until January 31, 2011, subject to availability of funding.

[http://www.aved.gov.bc.ca/workplace\\_training\\_program/welcome.htm](http://www.aved.gov.bc.ca/workplace_training_program/welcome.htm)

<[http://www.aved.gov.bc.ca/workplace\\_training\\_program/welcome.htm](http://www.aved.gov.bc.ca/workplace_training_program/welcome.htm)>

## Seeing with new eyes: Children's perspective on farm safety

Are you a farm family with children between the ages of 5-6 years old?

Would you like to participate in a research study that will determine how children view farm safety?

The study will be used to create and evaluate farm safety strategies for pre-school children.

This is a project that is being done across Canada; we have an opportunity to provide input from the BC perspective. If it saves one child from being injured it will be a success.

This study is not focused on the comparative accident rate of agriculture versus other sectors. The project's objective is to make farms safer for children by developing educational material and raising awareness. The children will be given cameras to take pictures of what they think is safe and unsafe. It will provide information from a child's perspective. They will then discuss the pictures with the child and the parents. It shouldn't take too long.

If interested, please contact Tara at 604-809-8139 or [tara.cairo@gmail.com](mailto:tara.cairo@gmail.com)

## GOVERNMENT OF CANADA DELIVERS ENERGY LOANS FOR FARMERS

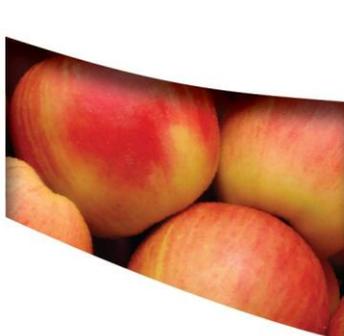
**OTTAWA, Ontario, February 22, 2010** – Canadian agriculture producers and agribusiness operators who are considering the use of renewable energy sources in their business will soon have a new financing option thanks to a new Energy Loan announced today by Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz.

The Farm Credit Canada (FCC) Energy Loan is designed to assist producers and agribusiness owners who want to make the move towards producing their own renewable energy. The loan announcement came as part of Minister Ritz's presentation to the Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA) Annual General Meeting held today in Ottawa.

"There are sources of energy all around Canadian farmyards and we're helping producers invest in the technologies needed to tap those opportunities," said Minister Ritz. "This initiative is good for the environment and it's good for the bottom line on farms across Canada."

"We're definitely seeing an increase in the number of people across the country that are interested in renewable energy sources to reduce costs and demand on the energy grid," says Greg Stewart, FCC President and Chief Executive Officer. "The Energy Loan ensures FCC is taking an active role on the renewable energy front and shows our commitment to improving rural Canada."

A recent FCC Vision survey showed that 60 per cent of individuals surveyed are considering new ways to find financial value by reducing their environmental impact. The survey, completed in November 2009 by 1,172 producers and



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agribusinesses across the country, revealed that 37 per cent of those people looking at reducing their impact are considering the use of renewable energy sources in their operation.

Available on March 1, the Energy Loan will help producers and agribusiness operators purchase and install on-farm energy sources like biogas, geo-thermal, wind or solar power. The Energy Loan offers an interest term of up to five years at variable or fixed rates and with monthly, quarterly, semi-annual and annual payments available.

For more information on our Vision survey, visit: <http://www.fccvision.ca/InAction.aspx>

As Canada's leading provider of business and financial services to farms and agribusiness, FCC advances the business of agriculture. Operating out of about 100 offices located primarily in rural Canada, FCC employees are passionate about the business of agriculture. A healthy portfolio of more than \$18 billion and 16 consecutive years of portfolio growth reflect our customers' success. FCC reports to Canada's parliament through the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food.

For more information, visit [www.fcc.ca](http://www.fcc.ca).

In addition to this loan's support for Canadian farmers, Canada's Economic Action Plan continues to support agriculture as a core economic driver in this country. The Government of Canada is focused on strengthening the economy, while preparing to pay down the deficit and to create and protect the jobs of the future. Investments in viable, innovative technologies will help strengthen agriculture industry and the Canadian economy. For more information on Canada's Economic Action Plan, visit [www.actionplan.gc.ca](http://www.actionplan.gc.ca).

For more information about the new loan, please contact:		For more information on Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's programs visit <a href="http://www.agr.gc.ca">www.agr.gc.ca</a> or media may contact:	
<b>Shaun Humphries</b> Corporate Communication Farm Credit Canada <b>306-780-6987</b> <a href="mailto:shaun.humphries@fcc-fac.ca">shaun.humphries@fcc-fac.ca</a>	<b>Éva Larouche (bilingual)</b> Corporate Communication Farm Credit Canada <b>1-888-780-6647</b> <a href="mailto:eva.larouche@fac-fcc.ca">eva.larouche@fac-fcc.ca</a>	<b>Media Relations</b> Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Ottawa, Ontario <b>613-773-7972</b> <b>1-866-345-7972</b>	<b>Meagan Murdoch</b> Press Secretary The Office of the Honourable Gerry Ritz <b>613-773-1059</b>

### Metro Vancouver Agriculture awareness grants

Metro Vancouver is now accepting applications from non profit organizations interested in promoting agriculture awareness through public education about local agriculture production. A total of \$30,000 will be granted in 2010. The application form is posted on the Metro Vancouver website <http://www.metrovancouver.org/Pages/default.aspx> Or click on the following link to go directly to the online application form.

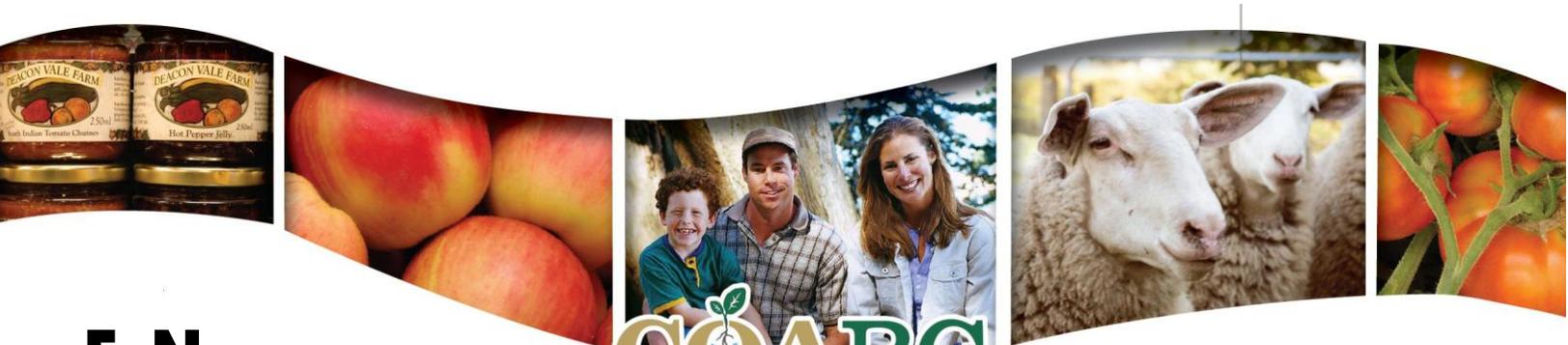
[Metro Vancouver Agriculture Awareness 2010 Application Form](#)

The application deadline is March 31, 2010.

### CHC OFFS Manuals updated on Canada GAP website

We are pleased to announce that all of the CHC's six commodity-specific On-Farm Food Safety (OFFS) Manuals have been updated for 2010, and are available for download at:

[www.canadagap.ca/en/tools/off-manualdownloads.aspx](http://www.canadagap.ca/en/tools/off-manualdownloads.aspx)



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Commodity	Updated Version Number
Combined Vegetable	4.0
Greenhouse	4.0
Leafy Vegetable and Cruciferae	4.0
Potato	5.2
Small Fruit	4.0
Tree and Vine Fruit	4.1
Appendices	4.1

Documents showing revisions to the manuals from previous versions are also available.

All of the updated manuals were approved in January 2010 by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency as part of the ongoing process to maintain their technically reviewed status.

If you do not have the CHC member password for COABC please contact Kristy at [office@certifiedorganic.bc.ca](mailto:office@certifiedorganic.bc.ca)

## ONGOING

### COABC List Serve Archive

The COABC Listserve has a searchable archive. <http://www.certifiedorganic.bc.ca/listarchive/search.php>

Just enter in a search word(s) and all postings with your search term will be listed. Click on the posting and your search term will be highlighted in red within that posting. Archive now includes any attachments sent.

### Reminder – shipping in and out of Province

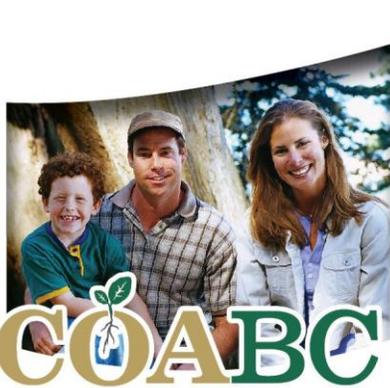
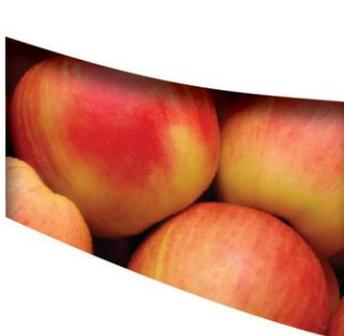
For certified organic operators who wish to ship outside the province (nationally or internationally) don't forget that you now must be certified under under ISO rather than the provincial BC certified organic program.

### Sponsorship Program

Who do you connect with in your daily life that may be interested in sponsoring the COABC? Health professionals, organisations that want to make an environmentally friendly statement, distributors etc...If you or a contact is interested in supporting the COABC contact Sarah Clark at [admin@certifiedorganic.bc.ca](mailto:admin@certifiedorganic.bc.ca) or (250) 260-4429.

### Survey Monkey and Agriwebinar

COABC Extension Services is offering its Survey Monkey <http://www.surveymonkey.com/> (professional version) and Agriwebinar c <http://www.agriwebinar.com/> apacity to Certification Bodies and Grower Groups. If there is a survey you would like to conduct or a webinar you would like to offer get in with Rochelle Eisen [extension@certifiedorganic.bc.ca](mailto:extension@certifiedorganic.bc.ca) or 250.499.2413. All reasonable requests will be supported; cost recovery for webinar support will be necessary.



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## INTERESTING

### Biodegradation of genetically modified seeds and plant tissues during composting (From the OACC website)

T. Reuter<sup>1</sup>, T. W. Alexander<sup>1</sup>, W. Xu<sup>2,3</sup>, K. Stanford<sup>2</sup> and T. A. McAllister<sup>1\*</sup>

#### **Abstract**

**BACKGROUND:** The increasing global market of genetically modified (GM) crops amplifies the potential for unintentional contamination of food and feed with GM plants. Methods proposed for disposal of crop residues should be assessed to prevent unintended distribution of GM materials. Composting of organic material is inexpensive and location-independent. The objective of this study was to determine the effectiveness of composting for disposal of GM plants in terms of reducing seed viability and promoting the degradation of endogenous as well as transgenic DNA.

**RESULTS:** Duplicate samples of corn kernels, alfalfa leaves, and GM canola seeds, meal and pellets were sealed in porous nylon bags and implanted in duplicate 85 000 kg (initial weight) feedlot manure compost piles. Samples were collected at intervals over 230 days of composting. Canola seeds and corn kernels were not viable after 14 days of composting with temperatures in the piles exceeding 50 °C. In all samples, PCR analyses revealed that plant endogenous and transgenic fragments were substantially degraded after 230 days of composting. Southern blotting of genomic DNA isolated from canola seeds identified differences in the persistence of endogenous, transgenic, and bacterial DNA.

**CONCLUSION:** Composting GM and non-GM plant materials with manure rendered seeds non-viable, and resulted in substantial, although not complete, degradation of endogenous and transgenic plant DNA. This study demonstrates that composting could be effective for disposing of GM crops in the event of their inadvertent entry into the food or feed chain.

#### **Source**

Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture (2010) 90: 650-657

#### **Author Locations & Affiliations**

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(3) Department of Bioscience and Biotechnology, Dalian University of Technology, Dalian 116024, China

\* Corresponding author, E-mail [tim.mcallister@agr.gc.ca](mailto:tim.mcallister@agr.gc.ca)

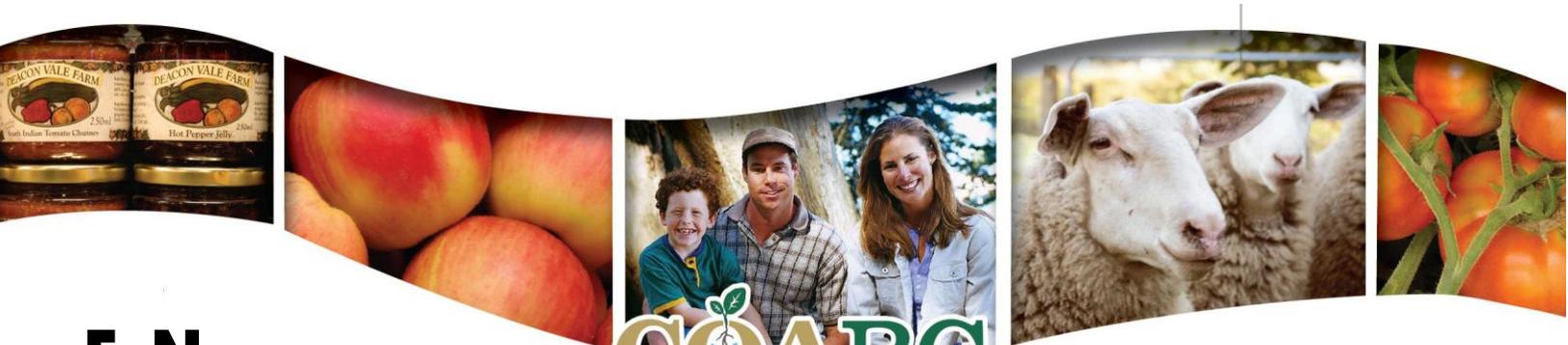
### Stop GE Alfalfa from Contaminating Canadian Farms:

#### **Canadian Farm and Consumer Groups Urge U.S. Department of Agriculture to Stop Monsanto's New GE Seed (from Canadian Biotechnology Action Network)**

Saskatoon, March 3, 2010 - Today a number of prominent Canadian farmer and consumer groups urged the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) not to permit the introduction of Monsanto's genetically engineered (GE) alfalfa in the U.S., citing serious concerns about the future of organic food and farming in North America.

The USDA invited comments on their Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the environmental and socioeconomic impacts of allowing Monsanto's GE (herbicide tolerant) alfalfa. Canadian groups – including the Saskatchewan Organic Directorate, Beyond Factory Farming, and the National Farmers Union - responded by submitting highly critical analyses to the USDA. They argue that GE alfalfa plantings in the U.S. would contaminate Canadian alfalfa and cause serious harm to Canadian farmers and the environment.

If the USDA disregards these and similarly critical comments from American farmers and consumers, the U.S. will likely allow GE alfalfa by the end of the summer. If the USDA decides in favour of GE alfalfa, the current court injunction



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on plantings in the U.S. will be lifted. Monsanto is also challenging this same injunction at the U.S. Supreme Court. The case is scheduled for argument on April 27. Should the Supreme Court find in Monsanto's favour, it could lift the injunction pending the conclusion of the EIS.

"The USDA argues that GE contamination of alfalfa could be prevented or minimized which is ludicrous and doesn't match the real world experience of farming," said Arnold Taylor of the Saskatchewan Organic Directorate (SOD). Taylor and other farmers in SOD detailed the many ways in which GE contamination would happen in their 21-page submission to the USDA <[www.cban.ca/alfalfa](http://www.cban.ca/alfalfa)>. "There's no doubt we'll see widespread contamination of Canadian alfalfa if Monsanto gets its way in the U.S.," said Taylor.

"Alfalfa is irreplaceable for all the benefits it brings to farmers and the soil," said Taylor. Alfalfa is a perennial that builds soil fertility, improving the productivity of farmland.

GE alfalfa needs variety registration before its legal to sell the seeds in Canada but our government has approved it for human and environmental safety. This means that GE alfalfa from the U.S. could legally be imported as hay for animal feed, for example.

Alfalfa is widely used as a high protein livestock feed and is referred to as the "Queen of Forages" because of its important and unique characteristics. "If organic farmers are forced to stop growing alfalfa due to GE contamination there will be a severe shortage of feed for certified organic livestock and dairy cows. This will limit this important and growing sector of the food system," said Cathy Holtslander of Beyond Factory Farming.

"Conventional and organic alfalfa growers in Canada agree that GE alfalfa would be an utter disaster for our markets" says Maggie Mumm an organic alfalfa seed producer and co-owner of Mumm's Sprouting Seeds, "We know from the current flax contamination crisis that GE contamination can cost farmers dearly."

107 farmer and consumer groups have so far signed a statement against GE alfalfa.

"We can't allow Monsanto's GE seeds to destroy the livelihoods of farmers and jeopardize the future of organic farming," said Lucy Sharratt, Coordinator of the Canadian Biotechnology Action Network.

For more information: Lucy Sharratt, Canadian Biotechnology Action Network 613 241 2267 ext.6; Arnold Taylor, Saskatchewan Organic Directorate, cell: 306 561 7788 or 306-252-2783; Maggie Mumm, 306 747 2935. <http://www.cban.ca/alfalfa>

## EVENTS

### Growing Connections 2010

FoodRoots invites you to a day of workshops geared to beginner and small farmers interested in growing for market. Hear practical advice on farming from experienced growers in our region. Presenters include Ruby Commandeur, Dan Ferguson, Brian Hughes, Heather Stretch, Candace Thompson, Graham Myers and others.

To view program details go to [www.foodroots.ca](http://www.foodroots.ca)

Saturday, March 13, 2010: 8 AM to 4:30PM

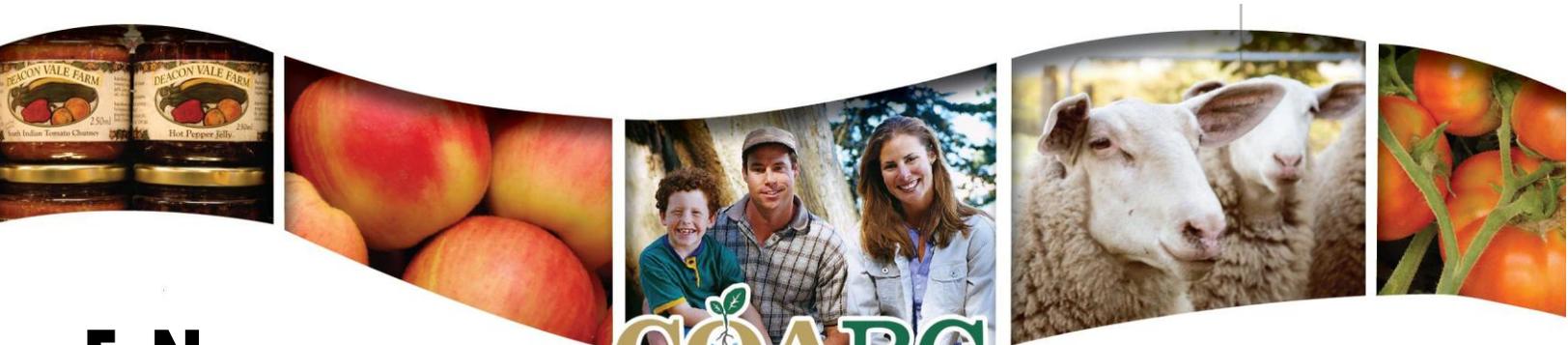
First Unitarian Church, 5575 West Saanich Road

Registration and lunch \$25.00

Email [leefuge@pacificcoast.net](mailto:leefuge@pacificcoast.net) or call 250-385-7974 **Registration deadline: March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

### BCSPCA Lottery

<http://www.sPCA.bc.ca/support/participate/lottery-for-the-animals/2010-lottery-for-the-animals.html>



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## **BC Association of Farmers' Markets 2010 Conference: New Partners, New Opportunities - Marketing Caravan**

March 12th and 13th

Friday evening through Saturday (followed by the AGM)

Penticton Ramada Inn, Penticton

The BCAFM partners with the BC AgriTourism Alliance and Canadian Farm Business Management Council to provide the industry's best one-day workshop on how to understand your customers, reach them through innovative marketing techniques and build a business, farmers' market or product to be proud of!

Register online or download registration form at [www.bcfarmersmarket.org/conference/reg.htm](http://www.bcfarmersmarket.org/conference/reg.htm)

Deadline for mail in registration is March 3rd.

\$80 for BCAFM and BCATA members \$100 for non members

### **Conference Contact**

Phone: 604-255-4250

Email: [conference@bcfarmersmarket.org](mailto:conference@bcfarmersmarket.org)

[www.bcfarmersmarket.org/conference/index.htm](http://www.bcfarmersmarket.org/conference/index.htm)

Georgia Stanley

Administrative Coordinator

BC Association of Farmers' Markets

[bcafmadmin@gmail.com](mailto:bcafmadmin@gmail.com)

<http://twitter.com/bcfarmersmarket>

### **Marketing Caravan - "When Pigs Fly"**

Marketing Caravan - "When Pigs Fly" is free for high school and university students. May be your members' children would want to learn how to market agricultural products.

**Where:** Penticton Ramada Inn,

**When:** March 13, 2010

BCAFM members \$80 Non-members \$100 - free for high school and university students who must prepay and will be reimbursed.

Join us for the industry's best one-day workshop on how to understand your customers, reach them through innovative marketing techniques and build a business, or product to be proud of!

To register please visit:

<http://www.bcfarmersmarket.org/conference/index.htm>

an initiative of Canadian Farm Business Council hosted by the BC Association of Farmers' Markets.

### **Tax Planning Seminar: Succession Planning for Your Family Farm**

The Partners of Baker Newby and KPMG Enterprise™ are pleased to invite you to our Tax Planning Seminar on **Thursday, March 18, 2010.**

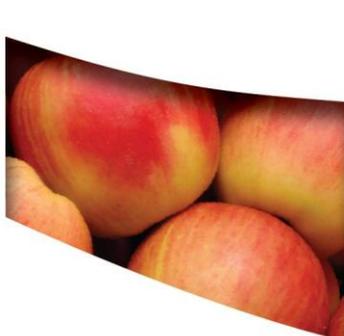
#### **Agenda:**

**Trevin B. Rogers**, Managing Partner, Baker Newby

**Steven Araki**, CA, Associate Partner, Taxation Services, KPMG

**David Metzger**, CA, Senior Principal, Taxation Services, KPMG

Have you been wondering what will happen to your farm when you no longer want to run it? Does the transfer of the farm to the next generation result in tax? Should there be a transfer of assets during your lifetime, and how should



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those assets be managed. If the planning is carried out properly, attention will be given not only to the income tax considerations, which are obviously important, but also to the legal, business, and personal considerations, which, in most family situations, have an even greater significance. Please join us at our seminar, where our professionals can shed some light on the appropriate path to succession planning for you and your family.

### Event Details:

**Date:** Thursday, March 18, 2010

**Time:** 2:30 to 4:30 pm

**Location:** Best Western Rainbow Country Inn

43971 Industrial Way

Chilliwack, British Columbia

To register for this event, please phone **Candice Ashe** at 604.701.3351 or **Laurie Rempel** at 604.793.4703 before Friday, March 12, as space is limited. There is no cost to attend this seminar; refreshments will be provided.

### More information:

To find out more about either firm's Agriculture Services team, contact:

**Baker Newby:** Abbotsford (604) 852-3646 or Chilliwack (604) 792-1376

**KPMG:** Abbotsford (604) 854-2200 or Chilliwack (604) 793-4700.

### Basic Organic Crop & Process Inspection training

Frankfort, Kentucky on May 18-22 and May 24-28. See <http://www.ioia.net/training.html>

**The deadline to apply is March 26.**

Thanks for your time and we look forward to receiving your applications. If you wish to be removed from our mailing list please let us know.

Rita: Office Manager/Member Services

International Organic Inspectors Association

P O Box 6, Broadus, MT 59317-0006 USA

Phone/Fax (406) 436-2031

Email: [ioiassistant@rangeweb.net](mailto:ioiassistant@rangeweb.net)

Website: [www.ioia.net](http://www.ioia.net)

### From the Table to the Field - Turning Discussion into Action

**An islands conference advancing Agriculture, Community and Environmental Awareness**

What are the elements of an economically viable farm?

How do we organize ourselves regionally?

How do we balance agriculture and the environment?

Come and be part of the Action!

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Brian Brett, author of Trauma Farm

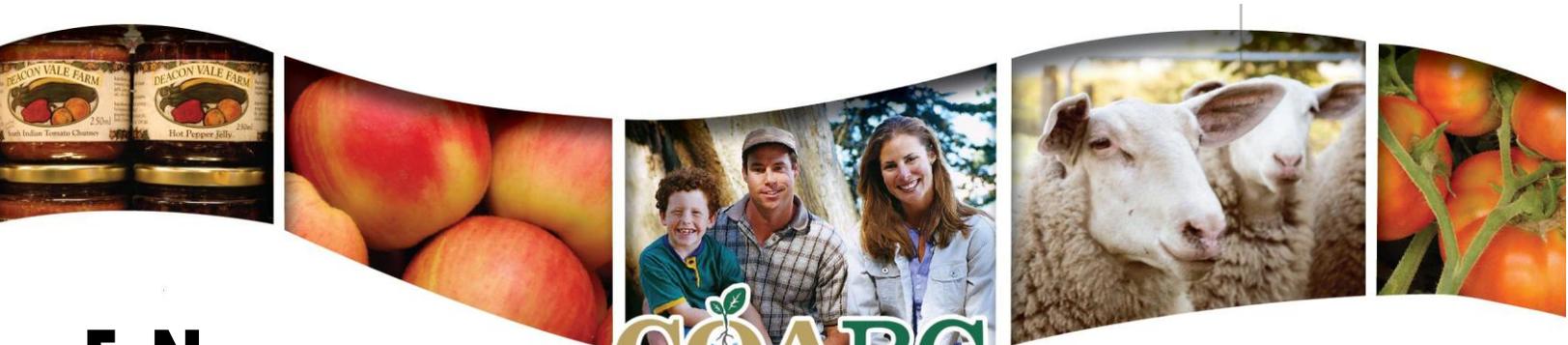
\***WHERE:** Galiano Island, Community Hall, Sturdies Bay Rd.

\***WHEN:** Sunday, March 21. Doors open at 9am

Conference begins at 9:30am until 4:00pm

\***COST:** \$25 includes breakfast and lunch (\$30 after March 1st)

\***REGISTRATION:** through our website <http://galianofoodprogram.ca> ..... or mail cheque (payable to the Galiano Club) to:



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From the Table to the Field  
c/o Janice Oakley  
S - 18, C - 2,  
Galiano Island V0N 1P0

**\*TRANSPORTATION:** See attached ferry schedule.

For people arriving by boat/ferry, we will arrange pick ups. Please note that we strongly recommend not bringing a car. Let us help you with transportation: to make arrangements, call 530-5375.

**\*ACCOMODATION:** Check our Chamber of Commerce website: [www.galianoisland.com](http://www.galianoisland.com)..... for whatever your needs are.

**\*ISLANDS PROJECTS:** If you are involved in an exciting project in your community email us about it to see if we can help you share it. We will be providing tables for folks to share information, as well as scheduling short presentation slots for local island initiatives.

**\*OUR CONFERENCE CARBON FOOTPRINT:** See attachment for how we can make this as Earth-friendly as possible.

**\*NETTLEFEST:** A day of celebrating this wonderful and abundant local food. Takes place Saturday before the conference, all day, finishing with a community meal at the Hall.

All welcome!

## **Building Sustainable Communities Conference**

Fresh Outlook Foundation is busy planning its fourth Building Sustainable Communities conference in Kelowna November 16th to 18th, 2010.

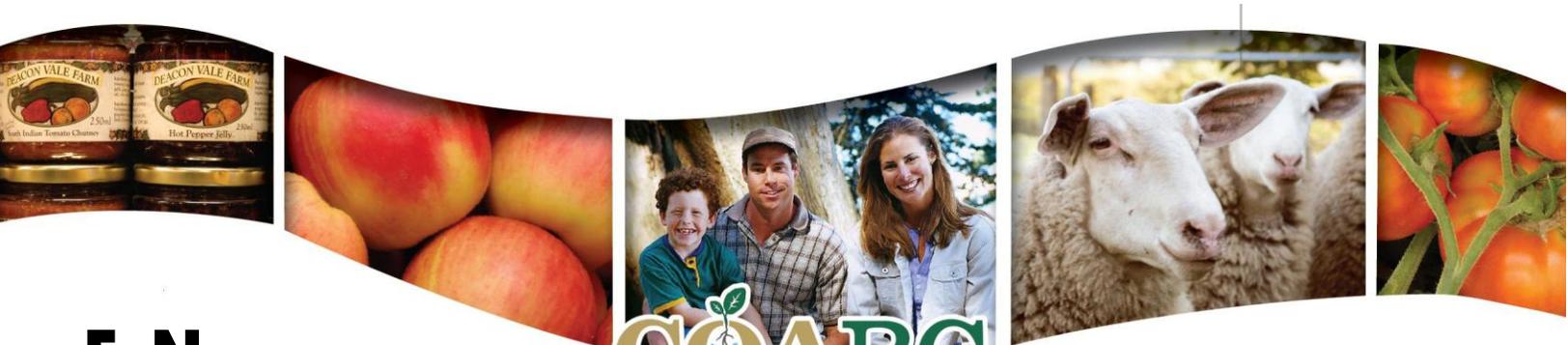
Last year's conference drew 450 delegates from more than 70 communities in BC (visit [www.freshoutlookfoundation.org](http://www.freshoutlookfoundation.org) for information and links to all presentations). One key conference objective is to motivate participants by featuring social, cultural, environmental, and economic successes from communities throughout BC. To that end, we're looking for presentations from municipalities and regional districts that showcase leading-edge sustainability planning exercises, public processes, policies, programs, projects, or partnerships. On day one we're featuring two streams: Pollution Prevention & Mitigation and Green Economic Development. Presentations on these specific topics are encouraged. If you have a sustainability story you'd like to share, please get back to me with a paragraph outlining the presentation topic, and why you think the information would benefit other jurisdictions. The deadline for submissions is Friday, January 15th at 4:30pm (sorry for the short notice on this one). Presenters will receive a free registration (valued at \$600). In exchange for covering their presenters' travel and accommodation costs, municipalities/regional districts will receive in-kind sponsorship benefits before, during, and after the conference. Joanne de Vries, Founder & CEO, Fresh Outlook Foundation [www.freshoutlookfoundation.org](http://www.freshoutlookfoundation.org)

250-766-1777

<mailto:jo@freshoutlookfoundation.org>



## DON'T FORGET



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## COABC Membership benefits:

- A copy of the BC Organic Grower magazine – four times per year
- The Cyberhelp website, <http://www.certifiedorganic.bc.ca/rcbtoa/> a source of information to help you daily in your work.
- The COABC website – from certification information, listing of all producers, general information about organics, educational information, research information and projects, the amazingly valuable COABC list serve and more
- Use of the Checkmark logo – the recognized mark of certified organic in BC
- Access to the Checkmark logo promotional materials
- Accreditation services
- Promotion of the Organic sector and its role at the Pacific Ag Show and at AG Day in Victoria with government representatives and additional events such as Ag in the City or Feast of Fields Okanagan.
- A say at the table of the Organic Federation of Canada (the national body representing organics in Canada) and the BC Agricultural Council
- Access to Food Safety manuals from the Canadian Horticultural Council
- Supporting the mandates and activities of IFOAM and COG
- Access to educational opportunities focused on BC's needs through the COABC Conference and Events such as the COABC Fall webinar series.
- Unified voice in the public forum
- Professional support, information and communication

## Correction

A small correction on the article congratulating Paddy on the excellence in agriculture leadership award from the February E-news: Paddy was the third president of the COABC; Fred Reid of Aldergrove was the first.

## Reminder – Shipping in and out of Province

For certified organic operators who wish to ship outside the province (nationally or internationally) don't forget that you now must be certified under under ISO rather than the provincial BC certified organic program.

## Other Interesting Newsletters

Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada [http://www.organicagcentre.ca/FriendsE-zines/february2010\\_e.asp](http://www.organicagcentre.ca/FriendsE-zines/february2010_e.asp)

BC AG Council

BC SPCA [http://support.spca.bc.ca/site/MessageViewer?em\\_id=1501.0&dlv\\_id=5361](http://support.spca.bc.ca/site/MessageViewer?em_id=1501.0&dlv_id=5361) (Animals newsletter)

BC SPCA [http://support.spca.bc.ca/site/MessageViewer?em\\_id=1481.0&dlv\\_id=5381](http://support.spca.bc.ca/site/MessageViewer?em_id=1481.0&dlv_id=5381) (Farm Sense newsletter)

## Got an Organic Question?

Try **Cyber-help** <http://www.certifiedorganic.bc.ca/rcbtoa/index.html> or contact Rochelle Eisen, BC's organic extension agent at [extension@certifiedorganic.bc.ca](mailto:extension@certifiedorganic.bc.ca)

**If you change your address or contact information send it to your CB office as soon as possible so that you don't miss out on receiving a BCOG and other materials.**