



British  
Columbia  
**Certified  
Organic**

## COABC's 2nd Annual Organic Roadshow!

We took our organic expertise on the road this year to celebrate Organic Week – and BC's thriving organic sector. Sessions included everything from Rochelle Eisen's Organic Certification: Basics and Beyond in Northern BC and Candice Appleby's session on Value Added on Vancouver Island to DIY Animal Feed at UBC farm and a panel discussion on Transitioning to an Organic Future at the Organic Okanagan Festival at Summerhill.

Despite a few weather-related hiccups, attendees were enthusiastic about the speakers and subject matter. A major takeaway for many was the growing demand for organic food, BC's leadership in the sector, and the importance of supporting farmers through the transition process.

On Facebook, the Organic Roadshow reached 12,000 people, highlighting the excellent speakers and their sessions. The majority of those viewing the Roadshow were ages 25-44, showing a desire for mentorship and knowledge transfer in the next generation of farmers.

We're already looking forward to next year's Roadshow! If you have ideas for sessions you'd like to see in 2017, reach out to Eva-Lena Lang at [assistant@certifiedorganic.bc.ca](mailto:assistant@certifiedorganic.bc.ca).

## Using Green Manure Crops

In November, COGS is launching an online course called Using Green Manure Crops. This course will run from November 1st - 27th, 2016.

Join experts Lee McFadyen and Jacques LeCavalier as they explore the benefits and practices of using green manure crops.

A green manure crop is any crop grown specifically to be returned to the soil as part of a larger soil building program. Using green manure crops enhances soil fertility by providing a living cover which eventually will be turned into the soil, along with all its biomass and nutrients. This course will explore benefits, techniques, potential limitations, selection, cultivation, and the particulars of various green manure crops. Through a mixture of live-webinars, videos, interactive slideshows, readings, assignments and discussions, this course will actively engage the student, culminating with a test of their knowledge marked by an expert.

For more information or to register: contact: [sarah@cog.ca](mailto:sarah@cog.ca)

or go to [www.cog.ca/our-services/Green-Manure-Course](http://www.cog.ca/our-services/Green-Manure-Course)





## Standards Interpretation Committee

### New public comment period

The Standards Interpretation Committee (SIC) launches a new public comment period for addressing questions and comments issued by the industry.

The Standards Interpretation Committee is now opening a public comment to answer questions and comments issued by the industry.

We want to inform organic stakeholders that, given the numerous questions that have been submitted to our attention during the summer, we will meet more regularly, every second week, to accelerate our work and satisfy the needs of the sector.

We invite you to continue submitting your questions; our objective will be to respond in a timely manner to support the work of the Canadian organic operators.

<http://organicfederation.ca/>

### Business Workshops:

#### Social Media

October 26, 2016 (6-8pm)

#### Sales

November 23, 2016 (6-8pm)

Registration/ More information:

Contact: 250.838.6727

[info@enderbychamber.com](mailto:info@enderbychamber.com)

Costs: \$15.00 or \$25.00

Location:

Meeting Room 2, Splatsin

Community Centre, Enderby

### Agri-Food Business Planning Program

2 Days, 8 Modules

Business and Marketing Development

Comox Valley Oct 18-19

Nanaimo Oct 20-21

Cowichan Nov 9-10

Kelowna Nov 16- 17

This two-day workshop takes you through a planning process specifically designed for food and farm businesses

For more information and registration: [farmfooddrink.ca](http://farmfooddrink.ca)

### Growing Your Farm Business: Marketing, HR and Loans

November 08th (9am – 4pm)

Join Clint Ellison and Rob Short to learn about business planning/strategy/structure, human resources and information about business loans.

Registration fee: \$20.00

Location: Community Futures, 3105 33 St, Vernon

[okanagan@youngagrarians.org](mailto:okanagan@youngagrarians.org)

### BC Agrifood and Seafood Conference

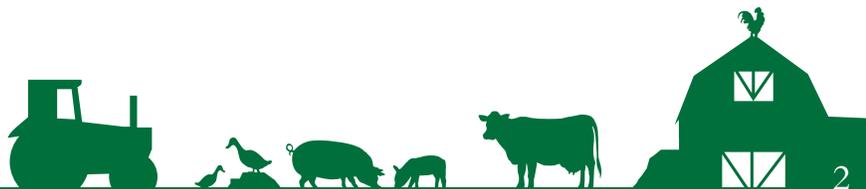
November 14-15, 2016

Develop, strengthen, and build relationships while shaping the future of our agrifood and seafood sectors. Attend interactive panel discussions and breakout sessions on: industry innovation, domestic growth, access to markets, food supply security.

Registration:

[www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/agrifood-seafood-conf-2016/conference-home](http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/agrifood-seafood-conf-2016/conference-home)

Location: Coast Capri Hotel, Kelowna, B.C.





# REMINDERS

## BCCO Logo

ISO operators are fortunate to be able to use the Canada Organic label AND the BC Checkmark side by side.

The logo of the BC Certified Organic program is a key tool to identify certified organic products in BC. It is important that the symbol is used correctly; here is a quick reminder, especially for websites and the exclusion zone (white space.)



The Program Symbol is enclosed by a black border. The border ensures that the appropriate white space or exclusion zone is provided

around the composite mark. The Program Symbol must be enclosed by the border if the Symbol is applied against colored or complex backgrounds. However, if the background is white or off-white, it may be desirable to omit the border while ensuring the appropriate exclusion zone.

## Complaints

### Submission Form

Canada Organic Office complaint submission form can be found at [www.certifiedorganic.bc.ca/programs/cor.php](http://www.certifiedorganic.bc.ca/programs/cor.php).

For complaints against an interprovincial traded product see the COO complaint form at [certifiedorganic.bc.ca/programs/cor.php](http://certifiedorganic.bc.ca/programs/cor.php) or [www.certifiedorganic.bc.ca/programs/cor.php](http://www.certifiedorganic.bc.ca/programs/cor.php).

Complaints on this form are to be directed to the Canada Organic Office directly mail to: [OPR.RPB@inspection.gc.ca](mailto:OPR.RPB@inspection.gc.ca)

### Planning a move?

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 the BC Organic Grower and other materials.

## Meanwhile, on social media...



Certified Organic Associations of BC - COABC shared Think Before You Eat's video.

Published by Darcy Smith [?] · September 22 at 11:30am ·

"When we started farming organically, it provided the environment for the earth to come to life. It was like, ah, that's what it's about!"

Healthy soil is life! #OrganicWeek #ChooseOrganic

Forstbauer Family Natural Food Farm



14,783 Views

Think Before You Eat

September 22 at 10:45am ·

"When we starting farming organically, it provided the environment for the earth to come to life. It was like, ah, that's what it's about!"

Healthy soil is life - and organic farmers are making it happen! Celebrate healthy soil this #OrganicWeek, #ChooseOrganic!

12,225 people reached

View Results



/CertifiedOrganicAssociationsBC



@coabccanada



@coabccanada

## Newsletter Links

BC Agriculture Council  
COABC is a member under the  
Community Agriculture seat:

<http://www.bcac.bc.ca/>

OFC info-bio:

[www.organicfederation.ca/newsletter](http://www.organicfederation.ca/newsletter)

BCSPCA:

<http://www.spc.ca/>

## Organic Questions?

Try CYBER-HELP!

[www.certifiedorganic.bc.ca/rcbtoa/index](http://www.certifiedorganic.bc.ca/rcbtoa/index)

