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# Apper Stage Stage

COVID-19 PANDEMIC ILLUMINATES EXCITING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

### **MISSION**

Working to bring BC agriculture and food education to students throughout the province  $\,$ 

### **VISION**

Inspiring students to actively engage with BC agriculture and food systems.

### **PURPOSE**

BC Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation (BCAITC) is a registered charity #891720161RR0001 whose purpose is:

- To promote the value of agriculture, sustainable food systems, and the protection of BC's agriculture resource base to our educators, students, and society
- To provide educators and students with quality educational resources, programs, and other agricultural information that highlight agriculture as an important part of our economy, health, and way of life
- To enable students to make informed decisions about food choices, food safety, and the importance of local supplies of food and other agricultural products
- To partner with the education, agriculture, health, and business communities to develop, implement, and evaluate quality initiatives
- To build the relationship between BCAITC and its stakeholders to accomplish the purpose of the Foundation
- To promote careers in agriculture as a viable and desirable career choice

# LEARNING NEW WAYS



PRESIDENT'S REPORT MELANIE LANTZ

2020 – What a year it has been. Not really sure how to describe it other than it was a

year of disruption on a global scale; a year that demanded we change everything about how we conduct business, function in society, at work, and at play. This past year was a true test of our resiliency, strength, and ability to persevere on every level. But in the true spirit of our Foundation, we did it. Not only did we meet the challenge, we rose above it, and through a tremendous collective effort, I believe we are better organization than we were a year ago.

Much of the credit is due to our Executive Director, Pat Tonn, and the exceptional group of people we are so fortunate to have on Staff under her charge. Through their commitment and dedication they were able to maintain all of our school programs through the most difficult months (March to June) and see the 2019-2020 school year through. The summer months provided some respite for fall program planning and to enable Staff some downtime to rest and re-group ahead of the 2020-2021 school year when most students would physically be back to school.

More than anything, 2020 taught all of us how to be flexible and adapt to sudden changes, namely having to pivot from "in-person" to "virtual" ways to communicate. This shift impacted our monthly Board meetings and AGM as we have had to move exclusively to an online format for delivery. It is my sincere hope that by next year we are able to gather again "in-person" and being concerned about our personal safety outside of our homes will be a thing of the past.

But not only did the AGM and Board meetings make the shift to virtual formats. In response to the pandemic, we've also ramped up our virtual presence through more robust social

media engagement to support our offerings. Prior to the pandemic, our 2020 silent auction held in conjunction with the annual BCAC Gala raised close to \$11,000. Delivery of a virtual auction in 2021 was an even greater success I suspect due to our ability to reach a broader audience across the province. Most significantly though, we managed to successfully navigate our way through the 2020–2023 Strategic Planning process in fall 2020 exclusively through online meetings. That was a true test of our ability to collaborate; the entire Board and Staff invested several hours to see that project through and we should all be truly proud of what we managed to accomplish together.

Aside from operations, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge that amongst all of this upheaval we welcomed new Board members Dave Comrie, Julie Dickson Olmstead, Amy Chow, and Katie Lowe. We also acknowledge and appreciate the generous contributions of our 2 outgoing members, Grin Cheema and Chantal Keely, at the conclusion of their terms in 2020.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved with and/or associated with the BCAITC from our Board and Staff, to our donors, volunteers, teachers, and students. A holistic vision and collective efforts have ensured our success through what has likely been one of the most difficult periods we will experience in our lifetimes.

On behalf of the Board a heartfelt THANK YOU and looking forward to when we can once again connect in-person.





EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT PAT TONN

What a year! We have learned so much, so

quickly; about adapting and flexibility, as well as change, kindness and gratitude. Thank you, each industry organization, teachers and friends who have answered our call to build resources for electronic delivery, have been creative in delivering hands on programs, and worked together with us in learning about and using virtual teaching tools.

We continued all our programs from March to June with several changes due to pandemic restrictions. The growing programs: Planting a Promise, Celebrating Liberation with a Promise, Spuds in Tubs and Harvest Bin saw adaptations such as students taking home the started growing tubs, and finishing them through to harvest while messaging and sending photos to their classmates reporting out on the progress. Some programs saw rotating responsibilities to students and families weekly at the school site, others saw weekly reporting from teachers to students measuring growth, plant changes and harvest benefitting local needy families or food banks.

The Take a Bite of BC program changed to culinary arts students cooking along at home with our Chef Trevor Randle through generous sponsorship from the BC Greenhouse Growers' Association. Our BC School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program +Milk, continued to be delivered into BC communities and local food programs for students as well as community food banks as COVID-19 hit in the spring. In the fall, almost all schools developed their health safe protocols, and we delivered the program into BC public and First Nations schools with new "Fresh Stories" activity sheets for teachers to expand the learning on BC fruit, vegetable and milk products.

We broke new ground with the Teacher Summer Institute Course going completely virtual. Not an easy feat to get teachers excited about BC agriculture, food, exploring the tough questions and sharing gratitude with BC farmers, but it worked! They shared their experiences, they laughed, they cooked, and they asked the tough questions and gained a new appreciation for BC agriculture. Thanks to the great team of instructors, industry partners, sponsors and staff who built a new success!

In the fall, we developed our 2020-2023 Strategic Plan. Thanks to stakeholders, we collected your comments through surveys, interactive online platforms, and our virtual meeting. The plan provides an overall direction to help grow the organization's educational footprint in British Columbia. The plan assesses where we are - and where we are going. It focusses on three key priorities: (1) program and learning resources; (2) financial and organization stability; and (3) communications and collaborations. Our Strategic Plan will help us respond to opportunities and challenges in the years ahead. It will help us enhance and expand our educational offerings.

For the 2020-21 school year, all of our programs are running and fully subscribed. It is great to see such a commitment to adaptation and agricultural learning from teachers. Our social media sites and downloadable online resources for teachers have seen a new height in usage and popularity.

Thank you to the Staff and Board Members for their flexibility, many adaptations, and resiliency throughout this year.



### **OUR TEAM**



Pictured from left to right above, in order listed

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President Melanie Lantz BSc (Ag), PAg Commercial Agriculture, RBC Vice President John Munro BSc, MEd Teacher, School District #34 – Abbotsford Treasurer Kurt Bausenhaus CPA, CA, Retired from KPMG LLP

**Secretary Michelle Johnsrude** BSc, BEd Teacher

Director Donna Jack Producer/Women's Institute

**Director Sydney Massey** MPH, RD, Director of Nutrition, BC Dairy Association

Director Marc Schutzbank MSc, BC, BSBM

Director Julie Dickson Olmstead Managing Director, Public Affairs and CSR, Save-On-Foods LP

**Director Amy Chow** BSc, RD, CDE, Registered Dietician, Chow Down Nutrition

Director Katie Lowe PAg, Executive Director, BC Egg

**Director David Comrie BA, MA** 

### **STAFF**

Pat Tonn BHEc, BEd, Executive Director

Sabrina Bhojani BSc, BEd, MEd, Education Specialist 2020-2021

Amy Stafford BEd, Education Specialist, 2019-2020

Paul Boudreau Program Coordinator, Logistics

Patty Blackmann Program Coordinator

**Glenda Johnston** Growing Programs Coordinator and Office Coordinator

Jody Fraser Program Assistant

Meghan McCrea BCom, Communications Coordinator

Jessica Birchall Garden Programs Assistant



# 500+ ONLINE RESOURCES

### **VIRTUAL LEARNING**

BCAITC has over 500 resources available at www.bcaitc.ca and on our interactive Grow BC app to teach K-12 students about agriculture and food! Dozens of innovative new resources (lessons, unit plans, videos, recipes, and read-alongs) were developed in 2020 to accommodate new learning environments during the pandemic. Teachers, home educators, and students are able to download all of BCAITC's resources 24/7 from www.bcaitc.ca for learning anywhere/anytime!



### **TOP NEW 2020 RESOURCES**

- Fresh Stories: 30 fun new Fresh Stories lesson plans teach primary/intermediate students about locally grown fruits, vegetables, and milk to make connections between farmers and food.
- Spotlight Series: 3 new toolkits showcasing eggs, cranberries, and apples feature lessons, GIS activities, recipes, and videos to help secondary students learn about food from farm to fork.
- Reggie's Technology Learning Pack: Farm Robots and Farms of the Future lesson plans link Reggie's Technology Adventure storybook, a collaboration with AITC-Canada, to primary Applied Design Skills & Technology education.
- A Scavenger Hunt Through BC's Agriculture Commodities:
   This lesson plan teaches secondary students about commodities and the Agriculture Land Reserve through the Grow BC GIS map.
- Fresh Flavours: In conjunction with BC Greenhouse Growers' Association, this new cooking video series showcases greenhouse recipes created by Chef Randle
- Games Page: A new page on www.bcaitc.ca provides users with links to interactive agriculture activities at all grade levels.
- Additional Lesson Plans: 10 new lesson plans offer more curriculum linked teacher resources.



21,852
RESOURCE DOWNLOADS

34,997
WEBSITE VISITS
(52% INCREASE)\*

47
NEW RESOURCES

18
NEW RECIPES

13 NEW VIDEO

### WE FRESH & HEALTHY FOOD

### BC SCHOOL FRUIT AND VEGETABLE NUTRITIONAL PROGRAM

With the help of over 4,000 volunteers and incredible industry partners, BC School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program provides BC grown fruit and vegetable snacks to students in their classrooms 12 times a year, allowing them to sample BC produce such as apples, plums, pears, mini cucumbers, tomatoes, and mini peppers. The program is delivered to over 90% of public and First Nations schools throughout British Columbia, reaching over half a million students.

Educational resources, such as the new Fresh Stories lessons, accompany the BC School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program to help students make the connections between farm and food, especially important during the COVID-19 pandemic.



**Supported by:** The Province of British Columbia | The Provincial Health Services Authority | The First Nations Health Authority | Save-on-Foods | Saputo Dairy Products Canada | Community Nutritionists of BC

**Product Suppliers:** BC Fresh | BC Hothouse | BC Tree Fruits | Cawston Cold Storage | Consolidated Fruit Packers| Direct Organics Plus | Fresh Direct Produce Ltd. | Harker's Organics | Houweling's Tomatoes | Petkov Kiwi | South Alder Farms | Village Farms | Windset Farms



SCHOOL FRUIT AND VEGETABLE NUTRITIONAL PROGRAM



Students love the fresh fruit. Thank you so much for continuing to provide us with nutritional foods for our students during these difficult times. Thank you to all and the growers who make this possible.

-Sherry Hamilton, Sensisyusten House of Learning, Westbank



### +MILK

Milk and its nutritional benefits have been a positive addition to the BC School Fruit and Vegetable Nutritional Program since 2013. Milk delivery was delivered to kindergarten to grade five students thanks to a partnership with the BC Dairy Association. Primary students also enjoy the story "A Cow's Tale" with their teachers; a story about life on the dairy farm.



**Supported by:** The Province of British Columbia | The Provincial Health Services Authority | The BC Dairy Association





Milk! Milk! Milk! Yes, We Love MILK!

-Marylee Harris, New Hazelton Elementary



1,390 schools

3,231 VOLUNTEERS

526 FARMERS 6,270,420 FRUIT & VEG SERVINGS

737 SCHOOLS

138,900 SERVINGS 500 FARMERS

12 TIMES A YEAR

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

### NUGGETS OF LEARNING

### FRESH TO YOU FUNDRAISER

The Fresh to You provides a unique and healthy school fundraising opportunity! Schools receive bundles of locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables to sell to family and friends and receive a 40% profit! The program also provides valuable BC food information and recipes.

To assist with food security during the COVID-19 pandemic, a special program incentive was offered in fall 2020. Schools received a free caring bundle of produce for every bundle sold. The schools donated this extra food to local families in need. In total 3,794 caring bundles were distributed to communities province-wide, proving "sharing is caring"!



### FRESH TO YOU FUNDRAISER

66 It was a tremendous way for our families to give back to the community during these difficult times.

-Program Participant



This has been a wonderful program and we are so happy to be part of it.

-Teacher, Anahim Lake Elementary/ Junior School

**Supported by:** The Province of British Columbia | Provincial Health Services Authority

**Distribution Partners:** BC Fresh |

**Buy-Low Foods** 

### SPUDS IN TUBS

Students love digging in the soil, planting the seed potatoes, tending the plants, and then wriggle with excitement when the harvest yields hundreds of potatoes to eat!

Spuds in Tubs is adaptable to various learning environments and through the COVID-19 pandemic, the program ran strong! Teachers and students brought tubs home and shared the growing journeys virtually. In addition to learning benefits, the growing program provided stress relief, hope, and inspiration.

Thank you to the volunteers who helped with the Spuds in Tubs program in 2020: Barb Hudson, Gail Chan, Sheryl Martens, Jody and Pete Fraser, and Jim Johnston.



Partners: W & A Farms | BC Potato and Vegetable Growers | BC Youth in Agriculture Foundation | Canadian Western Bank | CY Grower Supplies Ltd. | Terra Link Horticulture Inc. | Vandeven Financial Solutions Ltd./The Cooperators Insurance

Supporters: Art Knapp Plantland - Courtenay | Benjamin Moore - Abbotsford | Buckerfields | Hunter's Garden Centre | Dykhof Nurseries Ltd. | GardenWorks - Mandeville and Lougheed | Minter Country Gardens | Phoenix Perennials | Sticks 'N Stones Nursery | Grow and Gather | PEI Bag Company | Leslie McConnell - MNP | Rotary Club of Langley | Royal Oak Women's Institute | Farm Credit Canada | Individual Donors





Thank you so much for all the fun this project provided us with!
Science and Math came to life!

-Program Teache



150 134,374 3,794 \$35,730 COMMUNITIES LBS FRESH BC PRODUCE BUNDLES SOLD PROFITS FOR SCHOOLS

**511** schools

12,100 STUDENTS

2,555

**114,742** 

### **PLANTING A PROMISE**

Planting a Promise lets teachers take the classroom outdoors, so students can connect positively with nature and learn science through a hands-on way of exploring the life cycle of a plant. When those cheerful, yellow daffodil blooms greet students in the spring, it gives them a sense of pride in contributing to their school and community.

Celebrating Liberation with a Promise added a new dimension to this program in 2020. School gardens became awash with Canadian Liberator Tulips in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Europe. The bright red tulips raised awareness and brought honour to the Canadians those that contributed to the end of World War II.



Partners: Van Noort Bulb Co. Ltd. | Alpine Garden Club of BC | Art Knapp's Plantland – Courtenay | Buckerfield's Ltd | Hunter's Garden Centres – Vancouver, Surrey | Dykhof Nursery – North Vancouver | GardenWorks – Mandeville, North Burnaby | Grow and Gather – Maple Ridge | Minter Country Garden - Chilliwack | Phoenix Perennials - Richmond | Sticks N Stones Nursery – Campbell River | Individual Donors

**Supporters:** Dutch Liberation Canadian Society 2020 | Van Noort Bulb Co. Ltd. | Assante Wealth Management | City of Burnaby | Data Roots Web Development | Hemlock Printers | Jak's Beer Wine Spirits | Minter Country Garden | Schiphol Industries | Triple Tree Nursery Land



### Planting A Promise

My class had an amazing time when we planted the bulbs and then as we followed their initial growth. I also often saw students from other classes and parents after school standing by our planter box looking at the plants and at the stages of growth sign we put inside the box.

-Cindy Howard, Semiahoo Trail Elementary





# PLANT GROW HARVEST

### **HARVEST BIN PROJECT**

The Harvest Bin Project provides schools with bins as raised beds and seed money for establishing their own growing gardens helps students learn the business of farming on a small scale! This program modelsthe principles of sustainable agriculture.

Planting, maintaining, and harvesting the gardens with the 3-year program offers hands-on, placebased experiential learning, with cross-curricular connections to courses at multiple grade levels.







We thank the sponsors of the Harvest Bin project for their generosity in helping make this program a success. We have big visions for the future of our school garden, and it all started from the Harvest Bin project. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

**-Jennifer Mcfarlane,** Boundary Central Secondary



**Partners:** BC Youth in Agriculture Foundation | Diamond Delivery | Rick's Heart Foundation | Silver Valley Farms | Snowcrest | Vancity | Individual Donors

394
ASSROOMS

9,850 STUDENTS

**41,475** BULBS PLANTED

78
COMMUNITIES

19 schools 95 BINS 900 STUDENTS 44
EDUCATORS

### OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE

### THE PENCIL PATCH

The Pencil Patch is our amazing BCAITC learning garden that provides visitors with a multi-sensory approach to agriculture learning Students that participate in self-guided tours of garden learn about BC agriculture subjects such as soil, pollinators, water, growing zones, the Agriculture Land Reserve, invasive species, greenhouses, crop rotation, and more. Plus, student visitors receive a free carton of milk, courtesy of Mainland Milk Producers Association.

During the pandemic, public schools were unable to visit the garden due to field trip restrictions — but we were able to quickly pivot and offer 135 homeschool students self-guided tours in fall 2020. They Loved the opportunity to learn... and play outdoors! We appreciated the support of garden volunteers Gail Chan, Barb Hudson, and Sheryl Martens.



**Partners:** BC Youth in Agriculture Foundation | City of Abbotsford | Mainland Milk Producers Association | McDonald & Ross Construction Ltd.







My student enjoyed the hands on aspects of the tour (e.g. picking a carrot) and also being able to see the variety of things growing in the community garden.

-Homeschool Pare

### TAKE A BITE OF BC

For over 10 years, BCAITC, together with the BC Culinary Arts Specialist Association, BC agricultural commodity groups, and BC producers, deliver fresh, BC grown product several times a year to secondary schools running a Culinary Arts program. The teaching chefs provide awareness about the foods that are grown on farms in the province and the students are inspired to create recipes featuring these products to offer the student population at their school.







This is the fourth year that Gulf Islands Secondary School (GISS) has been in the Take a Bite of BC program. Once again, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for being in the program, and the donation of food products. At the GISS culinary program we cook from scratch. Real food, and real cooking techniques...

-Mark Kilner, Chef Teacher, Gulf Islands Secondary School

Partners: BC Blueberry Council | BC Broiler Hatching Egg Commission | BC Cattlemen's Association | BC Chicken Marketing Board | BC Cranberry Marketing Commission | BC Dairy Association | BC Egg | BC Fresh | BC Frozen Foods Ltd. | BC Hot House Foods | BC Pork Producers' Association | BC Processing Vegetable Industry Development Fund | BC Raspberry Industry Development Fund | BC Salmon Farmers' Association | BC Shellfish Growers' Association | BC Strawberry Growers' Association | BC Tree Fruits | BC Turkey Marketing Board | Creekside Hothouse Ltd. | Fraser Valley Cole Crop Growers' Association | Fraser Valley Peas, Bush Beans & Corn Growers' Association | Golden Valley Foods | Highline Mushrooms | Houweling's Tomatoes | Mainland Milk Producers Association | Metro Vancouver Agriculture Awareness Grant | Nature's Touch Frozen Foods (West) | Ocean Spray | Silver Valley Farms | Snowcrest Foods | South Alder Farms | Sunrise Poultry Processors | Van Eekelen Enterprises Ltd. | VersaCold Logistics Services | Windset Farms | Alberta Canola Producers Commission



135

VOLUNTEERS & STAFF

14
LEARNING STATIONS

100'S OF SMILES

55
TEACHING KITCHENS

6,874
CULINARY ARTS STUDENTS

54,374
LBS FRESH BC PRODUCE

### **SUMMER INSTITUTE**

Every July, teachers hungry to expand their knowledge of agriculture become the students at BCAITC and the UBC Faculty of Education's Summer Institute course. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 5-day course shifted to an online format in 2020- and was very well received! The virtual course featured culinary instruction from BCAITC Chef Trevor Randle and dynamic presentations from industry representatives, farm video tours, projects, lively debates and discussions, and more.

The Summer Institute provides teachers with professional development tools and resources to help them integrate concepts related to food, the agriculture industry, and environmental sustainability into their classrooms. The result is created curriculum projects and lesson units that can be shared with students, as well as other educators around the province, that are rich in agricultural literacy.



Partners: UBC | BC Cattlemen's Association | BC Chicken Marketing Board | Creekside Hothouse | BC Egg | Fresh Roots | Little Qualicum Cheeseworks | Provincial Agricultural Land Commission | Sardis Secondary School Farm | W & A Farms

### Summer Institute



S I would highly recommend this course to anyone who is interested in learning about the food production industry – plant or animal, cooking with local ingredients, the importance of agriculture on our economy, and the farm-to-table movement. It was one of the best classes I have ever taken in undergraduate or graduate studies! 🥤 🤇

-Heidi Phillips, Summer Institute Participant



# **EVENTS**



**CANADIAN AGRICULTURE LITERACY MONTH** 



**FIELD TO FORK CHALLENGE** 



engAGe!



**PACIFIC AGRICULTURE SHOW** 



**DONOR APPRECIATION** 



**BC AGRICULTURE GALA** 



BATEMAN EQUESTRIAN PARTNERSHIP

### **EDUCATION SPECIALIST REPORT**



**EDUCATION SPECIALIST AMY STAFFORD**January to June 2020

In January, I had the opportunity to present at the New Teachers

Conference in Richmond. It was an energetic day full of excited teachers who couldn't believe that we were "just giving away" free resources for all grade and subject areas. These Pro-D events always remind me of how important outreach work is for encouraging our teachers to use agriculture resources in their classrooms.

BCAITC and Agriculture in the Classroom Canada partnered to host the engAGe! agriculture careers conference, which saw over 300 Lower Mainland high school students, teachers, and volunteers gather at UBC to celebrate agriculture in our province and learn about the diverse careers available to them in the sector. From dynamic guest speakers, to a variety of breakout activity stations, and even a culinary tutorial led by Chef Randle, the event was an astounding success. A huge thank you to all of the participants, volunteers, agriculture industry guest speakers, and members of the organizing committee for making this day come together so well.

As we turned the corner into March, the world shifted in response to COVID-19, and BCAITC was no exception. Continuing the role of Education Specialist from home was not always an easy transition, but my goal remained the same – providing our teachers, parents and students with quality agriculture learning resources. Like many teachers, I have often felt a bit overwhelmed with the task of online

learning. This is not something in many of our comfort zones, and it can be challenging to find resources or activities that will fit the needs of our students and the curriculum while being engaging and accessible for online completion. Nevertheless, I am overwhelmed by the positive responses we have received from teachers using our resources, viewing our live reading events on social media, and continuing to bring our growing programs to life for their students, and am constantly inspired to bring new resources to life for them to use.

I am sad to be leaving the role of Education Specialist, as this position has allowed me to grow and develop my teaching practice in ways I couldn't have imagined when I first joined the organization in 2018. The passionate staff and teachers I get to work with on a daily basis have cemented the importance of agriculture education and I will cherish many fond memories of my time with BCAITC. I will be returning to the classroom in the fall of 2020, teaching Home Economics and Leadership courses, and will continue to bring agriculture to my future students.





EDUCATION SPECIALIST SABRINA BHOJANI September to December 2020

I began the position of Educational Specialist

in September working 3 days per week. With extensive experience in educational leadership, but very little agricultural experience, the first few months were a steep learning curve as I began to learn the story of our food and farming in British Columbia. The BCAITC team was extremely supportive as I discovered the world of agriculture.

The start of the school year was unlike any other, and being in the throngs of a global pandemic, many schools had begun using blended or online learning for delivery. In order to meet the needs of learners, I began helping to build the capacity of staff by conducting a workshop on "How to Host and Run a Successful Zoom Meeting." I followed this up with a presentation on "How to do Professional Development Presentations via Zoom" to our Teacher Ambassadors; enabling them with the tools to plan and conduct upcoming virtual agriculture-related Pro-D events in their respective regions.

In October 2020 I presented our new lesson plan - Scavenger Hunt Through BC's Agriculture Commodities- to 90+ teachers at the BC Science Teachers Association virtual conference. I also showcased the organization's initiatives; the conference attend were pleasantly surprised with the vast array of free resources and other school programs offered by BCAITC.

In the remaining months of the calendar year, I presented to two UBC Teacher Candidate Cohorts about agriculture and food literacy and conducted a workshop showcasing our Fresh Stories to AITC-C. Additionally, I coorganized the Field to Fork Challenge day in conjunction with our 4-H BC partners for students who had won the Field to Fork Challenge with their winning BC ingredient recipes. Student attendees learned about apple, cranberry, and pork farming with fun activities that I created like Using our Senses Apple Tasting, a Cranberry Conundrum Kahoot Game, and a Palatable Pig digital crossword puzzle.

The first months have been busy but extremely rewarding as I continue to learn the value of agriculture, sustainable food systems, and the protection of BC's agricultural resource base. Through this knowledge I am able to develop and provide teachers with high quality resources that provide students with a richer understanding of the importance of agriculture as a desirable career choice as well as its importance to our economy and our way of life.





### BC AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM FOUNDATION IS A

Agriculture in the Classroom Canada (AITC-C) is made up of ten provincial member organizations across the country. Together, we are committed to engaging Canadian students and educators to enhance their knowledge and appreciation of agriculture and food. We coperate to deliver accurate, balanced, and current curriculum-linked agri-food education and offer dynamic opportunities to connect with Canadians who make their living in agri-food.

### MEMBER OF AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM CANADA

BCAITC delivers AITC-C national initiatives in our province, including Canadian Agricultural Literacy Month, engAGe!, and the career-focused thinkAG initiative as well as offers national teaching resources through the Canadian Agriculture Educator's Matrix and spanAG information sheets

Our own Executive Director, Pat Tonn, is the voice for British Columbia on the Board and is also the AITC-C Chair for the 2020-2022 term

### **2020 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

### KENNETH A. FORCIER CPA INC.

### CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANT

Accounting \* Auditing \* Income Tax

109 - 2611 Pauline Street Abbotsford. BC V2S 3S2 Telephone: 604-853-4707 Fax: 604-853-9288

### INDEPENDENT PRACTITIONER'S REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT

To the members of:

British Columbia Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation

I have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of British Columbia Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation that comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2020 and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### **Practitioner's Responsibility**

My responsibility is to express a conclusion on the accompanying financial statements based on my review. I conducted my review in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements, which require me to comply with relevant ethical requirements.

A review of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements is a limited assurance engagement. The practitioner performs procedures, primarily consisting of making inquiries of management and others within the entity, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures, and evaluates the evidence obtained.

The procedures performed in a review are substantially less in extent than, and vary in nature from, those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

### KENNETH A. FORCIER CPA INC.

### CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANT

Accounting \* Auditing \* Income Tax

109 - 2611 Pauline Street Abbotsford. BC V2S 3S2 Telephone: 604-853-4707 Fax: 604-853-9288

### **Basis for Qualified Conclusion**

In common with many not-for-profit organizations, British Columbia Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation derives revenue from fundraising activities, the completeness of which is not susceptible to me obtaining evidence I considered necessary for the purpose of the review. Accordingly, the evidence obtained of these revenues was limited to the amounts recorded in the records of British Columbia Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation. Therefore, I was unable to determine whether any adjustments might have been found necessary with respect to fundraising revenue, excess of revenue over expenses, and cash flows from operations for the years ended December 31, 2020 and 2019, current assets as at December 31, 2020 and 2019 and net assets as at January 1 and December 31 for both the 2020 and 2019 year ends. My conclusion on the financial statements as at and for the year ended December 31, 2019 was modified accordingly because of the possible effects of this limitation in scope.

### **Qualified Conclusion**

Based on my review, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the Basis for Qualified Conclusion, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that the financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of British Columbia Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation as at December 31, 2020, and results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Kenneth A. Forcier CPA Inc. Chartered Professional Accountant

Abbotsford, British Columbia March 22, 2021

### AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM FOUNDATION

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

(Unaudited)

### As at December 31, 2020

		<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
	ASSETS		
CURRENT			
Cash and Cash Equivalents (Note 3) Accounts Receivable GST Refundable Inventory (Note 4) Prepaid Expense		\$ 5,267,255 11,550 19,253 19,606 3,177 5,320,841	\$ 3,654,149 4,275 26,281 19,057 3,921 3,707,683
LONG TERM			
Capital Assets (Note 5)		<u>533</u>	<u>708</u>
		\$ <u>5,321,374</u>	\$ <u>3,708,391</u>
	LIABILITIES		
CURRENT			
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities Unearned Revenue (Note 6)		\$ 17,314 <u>4,149,721</u>	\$ 38,784 <u>2,544,407</u>
		4,167,035	2,583,191
	NET ASSETS		
NET ASSETS			
Capital Asset Fund Unrestricted Net Assets		533 <u>1,153,806</u>	708 <u>1,124,492</u>
		1,154,339	1,125,200
		\$ <u>5,321,374</u>	\$ <u>3,708,391</u>
Approved by the Board			

### **BRITISH COLUMBIA**

### AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM FOUNDATION

### STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

(Unaudited)

### For the year ended December 31, 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
RECEIPTS		
Donations	102,848	95,05
Program Revenue and Other (Schedule 1)	193,960	253,39
Program Sponsorships and Grants (Schedule 2)	72,340	178,28
Interest	106,592	127,28
Resource Sales	150	47
Temporary wage subsidy	9,373	
	485,263	654,50
EXPENDITURES  Advertising and Promotion	31,228	36,76
	31,228	36.76
Conference and Meetings	6,767	4,43
Contracts and Wages	272,461	307,10
Insurance	3,649	3,56
Office and Miscellaneous	8,107	6,79
Professional Fees	6,150	6,15
Resources Development and Printing	27,614	42,03
Travel	164	3,62
Programs - Other (Schedule 3)	99,809	158,16
	455,949	568,64
SURPLUS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	\$ 29,314	\$85,86

### AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM FOUNDATION

### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

(Unaudited)

### For the year ended December 31, 2020

	<u>A</u>	pital <u>sset</u> und	<u>Uı</u>	nrestricted		<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
BALANCE, beginning of year	\$	708	\$	1,124,492	\$	1,125,200	\$ 1,039,576
Surplus of revenue over expenditures: Transfer from unrestricted:		-		29,314		29,314	85,862
Amortization		<u>(175</u> )	_		-	(175)	(238)
SURPLUS, end of the year	\$	533	\$_	1,153,806	\$_	1,154,339	\$ <u>1,125,200</u>

### **BRITISH COLUMBIA**

### AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM FOUNDATION

### **STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

(Unaudited)

### December 31, 2020

Cook Presided by Oneroting Activities	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Cash Provided by Operating Activities Net surplus	\$ <u>29,314</u>	\$ 85,862
Changes in non-cash working capital:		
Accounts Receivable	(7,275)	10,627
GST Recoverable	7,027	1,965
Inventory	(549)	5,009
Prepaid Expense	744	(744)
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	(21,469)	(1,204,536)
Unearned Revenue	<u>1,605,314</u>	<u>579,230</u>
	1,583,792	(608,449)
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	1,613,106	(522,587)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	3,654,149	4,176,736
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ <u>5,267,255</u>	\$ <u>3,654,149</u>

### AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM FOUNDATION

### **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Unaudited)

### December 31, 2020

### 1. PURPOSES OF THE ORGANIZATION

British Columbia Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation is a non-profit organization and was incorporated under the *Society Act* of British Columbia on August 9, 1999. The foundation is a charity registered under section 149(1)(i) of the *Income Tax Act* and is therefore not subject to taxation.

The purposes of the foundation are:

- to promote an awareness and understanding of sustainable agriculture and food systems in B.C. Schools;
- to enable students to make informed decisions about food choices, food safety, the importance of our own supply of food and other agriculture products as well as the protection of B.C.'s agriculture resources;
- to foster awareness of careers to be found in agriculture and food systems;
- to attract funding for the research, development and implementation of programs to meet the above stated purposes of the society;
- to provide classroom ready resource material and activities on the agri-food system which can be integrated into the existing school curriculum;
- to provide in-service professional development on the agri-food system for British Columbia teachers; and
- to establish a clearing house of agri-food system resources for classroom teachers.

### 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounting policies of the foundation are in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNPO). Outlined below are those policies considered particularly significant.

The financial statements have, in management's opinion, been properly prepared within reasonable limits of materiality and within the framework of the accounting policies summarized below:

### **BRITISH COLUMBIA**

### AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM FOUNDATION

### **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Unaudited)

### December 31, 2020

### (a) FUND ACCOUNTING

The Foundation follows the restricted fund method of accounting for contributions.

The General Fund accounts for the organization's program delivery and administrative activities. This program reports unrestricted resources and restricted operating grants.

The Capital Asset Fund reports the assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses related to the Foundation's Capital Assets.

### (b) INVENTORY

Inventory, which is comprised of publication materials held for distribution, is valued at the lower of cost or replacement cost.

### (c) USE OF ESTIMATES

When preparing financial statements in accordance with ASNPO, the Foundation makes estimates and assumptions relating to:

- Reported amounts of revenues and expenses;
- Reported amounts of assets and liabilities; and
- Disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities.

Management's assumptions are based on a number of factors, including historical experience, current events and actions that the organization may undertake in the future, and other assumptions that I believe are reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results could differ from those estimates under different conditions and assumptions. Estimates were used when accounting for certain items, such as the useful lives of assets, impairment of long-lived assets and deferred operating grants.

Amortization is based on the estimated useful lives of property, plant and equipment. These estimates and assumptions are reviewed periodically and, as adjustments become necessary they are reported in the periods in which they became known.

### (d) REVENUE RECOGNITION

Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year when related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Unrestricted investment income is recognized as revenue when earned.

### AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM FOUNDATION

### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Unaudited)

### December 31, 2020

### (e) CONTRIBUTED GOODS

Products having a fair market value \$54,238 (2019 - \$ 112,327) have been donated to the foundation for use in their programs by the following organizations: BC Cattlemen's Association, BC Chicken Marketing Board, BC Dairy Association, BC Egg Marketing Board, BC Fresh, BC Raspberry Growers Association, BC Shellfish Growers Association, BC Strawberry Growers Association, BC Tree Fruits Cooperative, BC Turkey Farmers, Hallmark Poultry, Johnston's Meats, Little Qualicum Cheeseworks, Ocean Spray of Canada, Saputo, Silver Valley Farms, Van Eekelen Enterprises, Van Noort Bulb Co. Ltd, Versa Cold Logistics Services, Windset Farms, W&A Farms, BMO, and Alberta Canola Producers.

### (f) FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Foundation uses risk management to monitor and manage its risk arising from financial instruments. These risks include credit risk, interest rate risk and market risk.

The Foundation does not use any derivative financial instruments to mitigate these risks.

### Credit risk

Credit risks arise from two sources; cash and cash equivalents and accounts receivable. Cash and cash equivalents are deposited with reputable, major financial institutions to limit the credit risk exposure. The credit risk from parties not paying accounts receivable is not considered to be significant.

### Interest rate risk

The Foundation is exposed to interest rate risk with respect to cash equivalents. Changes in interest rates can affect the fair value of investments and the cash flows related to interest income and expense.

### Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk exposure is dependent on the receipt of funds from Provincial Government grants and other sources to enable the Foundation to pay its liabilities as they become due.

### Market risk

In my opinion, the Foundation is not exposed to any significant market risk.

### **BRITISH COLUMBIA**

### AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM FOUNDATION

### **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Unaudited)

December 31, 2020

### (g) CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital Assets are recorded at cost. Amortization has been calculated using the following methods and rates as follows, except in the year of acquisition when one half of the rate is used. No amortization is applied in the year of disposal.

Displays and fixtures	20% diminishing balance
Computer equipment	30% diminishing balance
Equipment	20% diminishing balance

### 3. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

		<u>2020</u>		<u>2019</u>
Canadian Western Bank business savings account, bearing interest at 0.35%	\$	737	\$	711
Canadian Western Bank operating account, bearing interest at the banks prime rate - 1.65%		766,338		1,147,288
Canadian Western Bank flex account, bearing interest at the banks prime rate - 1.45%		4,500,180		1,506,150
Canadian Western Bank GIC, bearing interest at 2.73% matured August 24, 2020	_		_	1,000,000
	\$	<u>5,267,255</u>	\$_	3,654,149

### AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM FOUNDATION

### **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Unaudited)

### December 31, 2020

### 4. INVENTORY

	<u>2</u>	020	<u>2019</u>
BCSFVNP	\$	4,537 \$	4,251
Alfalfabet Book		5,422	7,467
Spuds in Tubs		4,019	812
Other		5,628	6,527
	\$	<u>19,606</u> \$	19,057

### 5. CAPITAL ASSETS

		Cost	 cumulated preciation		Net <u>2020</u>	Net <u>2019</u>
Computer equipment Displays and fixtures Equipment	\$ _	21,179 4,207 4,299	\$ 20,942 4,177 4,033	\$ 	237 30 266	\$ 338 38 332
	\$_	29,685	\$ 29,152	\$_	533	\$ 708

### 6. UNEARNED REVENUE

Unearned revenue relates to certain funding received during the year that, in the opinion of the directors is attributable as income in a subsequent year. The funds will be used to deliver the BCSFVNP.

### **BRITISH COLUMBIA**

### AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM FOUNDATION

### **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

(Unaudited)

December 31, 2020

### 7. CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATION

The foundation is committed to a premises lease expiring August 31, 2022, with amounts due over the next 3 fiscal years as follows:

Year	Amount
2021	\$50,870
2022	\$35,013

### 8. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE

The foundation received the majority of its funding from the Province of British Columbia and is therefore economically dependant on continued funding in order to ensure ongoing delivery of certain of its programs.

### 9. REMUNERATION OF EMPLOYEES

As required to disclose by the Societies Act of British Columbia, the Executive Director was remunerated \$121,447 in wages and benefits.

### 10. COVID-19 RISK

The COVID-19 pandemic is causing significant financial and social dislocation. The situation is dynamic with various cities and countries around the world responding in different ways to address the outbreak. The Foundation has made various changes to its operations and programs as a result of the pandemic. The Foundation continues to monitor and assess the impact COVID-19 will have on its business activities. To date, there has not been a significant financial impact to the Foundation.

### AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM FOUNDATION

(Unaudited)

For the year ended December 31, 2020

### SCHEDULE I - BC SCHOOL FRUIT AND VEGETABLE NUTRITIONAL PROGRAM

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
REVENUE		
BCSFVNP Fresh to you BC School Fundraiser	\$ 3,370,353 <u>56,278</u>	\$ 4,410,249 <u>66,392</u>
	3,426,631	4,476,641
EXPENDITURES		
PROGRAM - BCSFVNP		
Product and Primary Distribution Carrier Costs Program Materials PAC Funding and Training Salaries and Training Program Office and Administration Computer Programming Special Projects Fresh to You BC School Fundraiser Fridge Grants Program Evaluation	1,733,025 511,630 30,068 750 161,216 64,013 47,730 5,353 105,539 4,702 5,031 2,669,057	2,407,289 595,743 35,684 2,250 162,631 76,682 44,613 - 56,902 18,092 384 3,400,270
PROGRAM - MILK		
Product and Primary Distribution Carrier Costs Computer Programming	511,823 51,791 - <u>563,614</u> 3,232,671	752,193 67,784 2,999 <u>822,976</u> 4,223,246
BCAITC ADMINISTRATION FEE	\$ <u>193,960</u>	\$ 253,395

### **BRITISH COLUMBIA**

### AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM FOUNDATION

(Unaudited)

### For the year ended December 31, 2020

### **SCHEDULE 2 - SCHEDULE OF PROGRAM SPONSORSHIPS AND GRANTS**

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
RECEIPTS		
Planting a Promise	125	1,994
Spuds in Tubs	4,030	55,259
Summer Institute Sponsor	-	1,155
Take a Bite of BC	14,350	19,600
Grant Income	53,835	100,281
	\$ <u>72,340</u>	\$ <u>178,289</u>

In-kind Donations were received for the following programs in 2020: Take a Bite of BC \$46,990, Summer Insitute \$310, Spuds in Tubs \$5,438.

### **SCHEDULE 3 - SCHEDULE OF OTHER PROGRAMS**

EXPENDITURES	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
PROGRAMS - OTHER		
Pencil Patch	796	1,419
Regional Science Fair Awards	610	1,000
Planting a Promise	4,766	4,791
Spuds in Tubs	34,577	26,803
Summer Institute	5,202	10,654
Take a Bite of BC	38,696	57,064
Teacher Workshops	2,136	27,366
The Harvest Bin Project	1,279	4,395
Trial Program Initiatives	<u>11,747</u>	24,670
	\$ <u>99,809</u>	\$ <u>158,162</u>

### **SMILES**

### 2020 OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARD Sponsored by Dairy-Crop Solutions

Each year, we recognize a BC teacher who has been a champion in agriculture education. The 2020 award was presented to Gary Funk, a teacher at MEI School in Abbotsford. The award was presented to Gary for demonstrating outstanding leadership in agriculture education.

Gary gathered a team of enthusiastic MEI teachers and community partners, and together they developed the land across from the school to include a greenhouse, vegetable garden, a pollinator garden, a field composting system, and a small orchard of fruit trees. Complimentary curriculum for a new pre-agriculture program - the Ecological Stewardship Program - was also developed for pre-K-12 students.

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, products harvested from the MEI program were donated to the Abbotsford Food Bank, Communitas, and Abbotsford Gleaners. Thanks to Gary's efforts, MEI students can grow plants from seed, devise botany experiments, and take a Specialized Science 12 course. Future opportunities are endless! Congratulations on this award Gary!



### **SCIENCE FAIR AWARDS**

To highlight the connection between agriculture and science, BCAITC supports the Science Fair Foundation of BritishColumbia. Each year, we contribute 13 regional science fair awards for outstanding projects that demonstrate the practical application of scientific principles to agriculture.

### THANKS TO OUR SUPPORT TEAM

- Chef Trevor Randle Chef Instructor from Maple Ridge Secondary – is the official BCAITC Chef, promoting the value of fresh, BC grown products through recipes, food education, and event appearances.
- Nicole Davey is the bookkeeper for the Foundation. Nicole works closely with the Executive Director and Treasurer.
- Nathan Hampson and his team at Stratum Systems administers the website and school log-in and provides support services for our computer systems.
- Michela Sorrentino of hermani + sorrentino design and Jackie of Two Bears Creative who provides graphic design for the Foundation.
- · Ken Forcier of Kenneth A. Forcier CPA Inc. of Abbotsford completed the review engagement for 2020 and subsequently provided the Foundation's financial statements.
- Barbara Adams of HR Architects work with the Foundation, board, and staff on board governance and human resources.

# THANK YOU

### **TO OUR DONORS IN ANNUAL GIVING 2020**



### Champions \$5,000+

Harker's Organics | Alpine Garden Club of BC | Vandeven Financial Solutions Ltd./The Co-operators

### Blue Ribbon Donors \$2,500+

Sydney Massey | Gerry Kasten | Gerry Kokkelink | Sarah & David Ryall | Walter & Elsie Goerzen | BC Provincial Employee Community Service Fund | DairyCrop Solutions | Andreas Dolberg

### Red Ribbon Donors \$1,000+

Dr. Norma Senn | Pat Tonn | Leslie McConnell | Margaret Sampson/Semiahmoo Suffolks | Golden View Farms Ltd. | E.S. Cropconsult Ltd. | Royal Oak Women's Institute | Bill Weismiller | Katherine Webster | Silver Valley Farms | South Malahat 4-H Senior Council

White Ribbon Donors \$500+

Lance Hill | Greta DeJong

### Green Ribbon Donors \$50+

Canada Helps | Brayden Eshuis | Michael Murray | Cheryl Chevalier | Bill Boesterd/Denbow | Dutch Liberation Canadian Society | First Unitarian Church of Victoria

### Special Gifts

Springford Farm

In memory of Henry and Myrtle Chung -The Chung Family

In memory of Wendy Chung - Marnie Bangay, Brian & Victoria Chan, Robert Tait, Rhonda Bowman, Valerie & Rod Lee, Laurie Maloney, Gerry Kokkelink, Calvin B. Lee, Cynthia T. Lowe

# ON OUR EDUCATIONAL JOURNEY

Thank you to everyone who has supported BC students, teachers, home-educators, and schools over the past year. There are many ways you can get involved with BCAITC — partner, donate, or volunteer. Visit www.bcaitc.ca to discover the opportunities and help us expand our educational footprint!



# REACHING OVER 500,000 STUDENTS ACROSS BC

WORKING TO BRING BC AGRICULTURE AND FOOD EDUCATION TO STUDENTS THROUGHOUT THE PROVINCE



### BC AGRICULTURE IN THE CLASSROOM FOUNDATION

1767 Angus Campbell Road, Abbotsford, BC V3G 2M3 1.866.517.6225 | info@aitc.ca | www.bcaitc.ca Contact: Pat Tonn, Executive Director

