

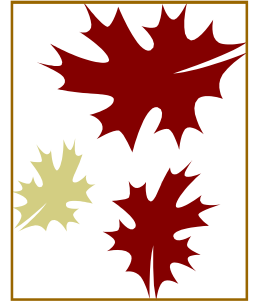


Fall Newsletter

October 2010

President's Message

Irmi Critcher, President BCGPA



Dear Member:

Harvest is done and oh what a year it was!! Most farmers I have talked to have indicated that it was their worst year ever! Without hesitation we can add our name to that list.

The Peace Region was hammered with a severe snowstorm after seeding followed by one of the driest summers on record and of course regional frosts and showers during harvest – it turned out that there were poor yields, green crops and tough grain! Now that the crop is off and the bins remain mostly empty the high prices are just teasing us, with most of us having contracted at lower prices than what the market is now. Discounts for off grade canola just adds insult to injury. So where to go from here?

Turn in your harvest completion notices, get your bins measured (which isn't very hard this year, just bang on the walls and you can hear it) and wait for your crop insurance payout. Most likely your banker and your Agri-retailer will fight over it! Also, Agri-Stability which is hailed as "the all "end all" will have to deliver. But don't hold your breath; you might still be sitting here next year at this time with no payment, this cynical analysis is based on historic performance.

However, we have been assured that all claims will be processed expeditiously. There is never a time when this is needed more than now. The programs will have another poor year to add to their data, which eventually will render them ineffective.

The BCGPA board was expecting our Minister of Agriculture to come up here this week to meet with us; however, this won't happen now with the cabinet shuffle and a new Ag Minister. He will likely have a lot on his plate and may not consider us a priority; we are not sure what level of importance poor economics will hold with our current Government.

Grande Opening of new farmer owned Elevator



The farmer owned elevator in Fort St. John had their Grande Opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony and lunch at noon this past Friday, October 29. There were about 120 people in attendance including several dignitaries, who had a turn at the podium and farmers who gathered for the opening celebrations.

A great need was realized for extra grain handling capacity in the North Peace so the North Pine Farmers Institute championed the revitalization of the old Cargill elevator which had been abandoned a few years ago.

Pulling this all together was no small feat; it took dedicated people endless hours of planning and working on the project at hand. Praise was given to the chair of the North Pine Farmers institute Larry Houley and his directors for all the hard work they have put into making this day a reality. Also, thanks was given to Viterra's Management and employees for their role in the Partnership and for their Cooperation. Jerry Hill was the first farmer to deliver a load of canola into the new commissioned facility.

We are confident that this new partnership and the extra space available will greatly benefit the grain farmers north of the River and the BC Grain Producers Association wishes you all the best and bushels of success!

Our 2010 Growing Season will have a huge financial impact on our farms and the region as a whole, but we will have to wait and see what, if any, assistance will come our way.

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Richard Phillips
Ex Director

This fall's Parliamentary session is in full swing, and the Grain Growers are focussing on four key agriculture files.

Science-based Decision Making

We are advising the government on the need for sound science and the threat of Bill C-474. We have also assumed leadership in coordinating a producer/industry coalition to ensure that this anti-new crop technology bill, proposed by BC New Democrat Alex Atamanenko, is defeated.

The Conservatives have opposed this legislation, but Liberals supported taking it to the Standing Committee for further review and to hear from witnesses. Both the Bloc Quebecois and the Federal NDP want to slow or stop any new crop technologies, primarily due to their opposition to anything genetically modified.

The Liberals have now communicated to us very clearly, that they will no longer support this move away from sound science and into the realm of "Ouija-board" decision making. This change is due in large part to a wave of outrage from credible farm organizations and a concerted MP education effort by the Grain Growers and other partners. The Liberals and the Conservatives will now have enough votes to kill it.

Increased Research Funding

Agricultural research is key for Canadian farmers to remain competitive in the global marketplace.

As part of the Federal budget process, the Grain Growers has submitted a report calling for a combination of increased funding for public research and a seed tax credit to spur both public and private investment especially in the cereals, pulse and forage sectors.

The Grain Growers has recently advocated this position at the House Finance Committee and at the Senate Agriculture Committee.

Research is one of the very few issues that unifies all farm organizations across Canada, and in fact has supporters in all of the political Parties.

We are now lobbying the Ag Committee to formally look into this and issue a formal report with recommendations to improve the funding of crop research in Canada, both in the public and private sectors.

This would be a huge step forward in the right direction.

International Trade

The Grain Growers recently appeared as a supporting witness on the pending Canada - Jordan trade agreement. In opposition to us that day, were a European human rights group and a large US trade union.

We were key in helping get the Canada-Columbia trade deal through Parliament, which caused over twenty US farm organizations to write and demand their Government get engaged with Columbia to stop Canadian farmers from getting an "unfair advantage".

Currently, the federal government is also considering a start to negotiations with India, Morocco and Turkey. The Canada - European Union trade talks are proceeding at a "blistering pace" - at least by Ottawa standards, and should conclude in 2011. Both Federal and Provincial negotiators are keeping in close contact with the Grain Growers and a large number of commodity associations.

Agricultural trade with the EU, however, will only be meaningful if it includes a process for dealing with low-level presence issues. Non-tariff trade barriers are often as important to solve as tariff levels. We need a strong dispute resolution process because a trade agreement is only as good as your ability to enforce it.

Both the Conservatives and the Liberals have been strong supporters of trade agreements that open markets for Canadian farmers. Recently, the Liberals named Martha Findley Hall as trade critic and we have been impressed with her attitude and understanding.

Unfortunately the Federal NDP and the Bloc Quebecois are opposing all of the trade deals. We have pointed out repeatedly that we are the fourth largest agricultural exporter in the world, but they either ideologically oppose trade or simply demand impossible conditions.

Rail Transportation

On the transportation file, the Level of Service review panel released its interim report in early October, following many submissions by farm groups, shippers and the railways. The report's interim recommendations are frankly disappointing and the Grain Growers is continuing to work with other shippers on both our political strategies and our joint responses. Cost is also a concern for many farmers, but we also have to fix the relatively poor level of service over the past ten years. In recent months it has improved, but this is due much more to a general slowdown in the economy, than material improvements in processes. In fairness CN has been making efforts to at least improve communications with shippers.

The panel's final report will be released at the end of December. We will keep our members updated as information becomes available.

Summary



Part of what makes the Grain Growers successful in Ottawa is having strong member organizations like the British Columbia Grain Producers Association. We often turn to your staff and Board members for advice, support and direction to help ensure we are truly representing producers here in Ottawa.



Canadian Wheat Board candidates

Open Forum for District I

will be hosted by the

BC Grain Producers Association

on

Tuesday, November 9th at 10am

in

Dawson Creek

at the BCGPA Research Centre.

401-114th ave

**(past Douglas Lake Equipment near the
auction market)**

All Farmers are welcome to attend.

Candidates are:

Dan Gauthier and Henry Vos



Henry and his wife Anne have farmed for the past 30 years. Up until 2008, their family farm at Fairview produced pedigreed seed and commercial crops as Peace Pedigreed Seed. Today the farm produces commercial wheat, barley, canola, oats and forage crops on 2500 acres.

Henry has been involved in a number of agricultural businesses, including ECO Seeds and Three Links AgResearch Inc. He was also a founding director of Canterra Seeds and has been a long-time member of Secan Ltd. and the Canadian Seed Growers Association.

He has been a director of the Alberta Agricultural Research Institute and a committee member of the Agriculture and Food Council. Henry is currently serving on the Alberta Feed Grain Advisory committee.

During his past term as Canadian Wheat Board director, Henry has worked constructively for changes that would improve the value of wheat and barley to farmers. He also served as the vice-chairman of the Canadian International Grains Institute (CIGI), which provides important technical marketing expertise for Canadian wheat and barley buyers.

These activities have convinced Henry that the CWB has done well in international market development and branding of Canadian grains. He believes that the CWB has a good relationship with most of its international customers. However he sees in CWB Producer Surveys and hears from farmers that they want a change in their business relationship with the CWB.

“Farms and their marketing needs throughout Western Canada are changing. In this region and across the prairies, I keep hearing from farmers that they need increased flexibility to manage their farm businesses.”

Henry has a passionate vision for the Canadian Wheat Board. He supports a CWB where farmers have the freedom to operate and manage their businesses with relatively few restrictions.

“These freedoms do not have to come at the ‘sacrifice’ of the CWB,” Henry says.



I am Dan Gauthier of Donnelly, Alberta and I strongly support the Canadian Wheat Board (CWB) single desk. I know that when farmers work together, they have more control over marketing and transportation. As a result, they get better prices and reduce their

risks. I believe the CWB provides a united voice for farmers. That’s why I am seeking election to the CWB Board of directors as your representative in District 1.

I began farming in 1984 on a third-generation family farm in the MD of Smoky River when I was 19 years old. Together with my wife, Rhonda and other family members we crop 5,400 acres of wheat, canola, oats and peas. I am also an experienced business manager. I know that in an uncertain economic climate – where commodity prices fluctuate wildly - the CWB single desk is a valuable tool that allows farmers to achieve maximum value from the global market. Grain companies, railways and chemical companies have a lot of muscle in the marketplace, and that’s why they make big profits. Farmers need to match that economic power – and the way to do that is by working together. **We need to keep our collective power in an industry that is becoming more and more concentrated.** If we lose the CWB, we will face monopolies, but someone other than the farmers own them.

In District 1, rail line abandonment and elevator closures have shifted grain transportation costs onto individual farmers. It’s a long way to tidewater from the Peace River and Athabasca regions, and farmers have no practical alternatives to the railways. **The CWB is a strong advocate for farmers when it comes to dealing with the railways and it’s also the agency that connects us directly with foreign buyers. If we lose those levers, our access to export markets will only get worse.**

As a long-time producer car shipper, I’m very concerned about the loss of producer car loading sites in District 1. Producer cars not only save farmers money, they keep business in our local communities. Virtually all the producer cars that get shipped are loaded with Board grains. There’s a reason for that. Without the CWB, producer cars would effectively disappear. We rely on the CWB to make sure sidings are available, and producer cars remain a viable option for farmers.

As your elected representative on the CWB Board of Directors for District 1, I will bring practical, no-nonsense experience as a genuine farmer, and business manager to the table. I am no stranger to farmers’ organizations, having served two terms on the Alberta Canola Producers Commission, where I was appointed to the Canadian Canola Growers Association, the Canola Council of Canada, and the Western Canadian Canola/Rapeseed Recommending Committee. I have also been active in local community groups, including the UFA advisory committee, Guy-Donnelly Sportex Society and as a leader in our 4-H club.



Beneficial Management Practices

Environmental farm planning is a no charge, confidential, voluntary process available to producers to identify both environmental strengths and potential risks on their farms. The *Growing Forward* Canada-BC Environmental Farm Plan Program will complement and enhance the current environmental stewardship practices of producers. This initiative will encourage producers from all parts of the province to adopt Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs) that enhance agricultural sustainability and contribute to a cleaner, healthier environment.

Who will deliver the program?

The BC Agricultural Research & Development Corporation (ARDCorp) will deliver the program on behalf of the British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture and Lands (BC MAL) and in co-operation with AAFC, and other partner agencies. EFP Program Planning Advisors, with assistance from ARDCorp, BC MAL, AAFC and other agency partners, will provide producers with technical support to help them prepare their Environmental Farm Plans.

Principles and benefits:

ARDCorp, in co-operation with BC MAL and AAFC, is committed to making sure that the EFP process in British Columbia is driven by producers, encourages voluntary participation, assures EFP confidentiality and encourages producers to implement their EFP action plans by providing funding that is directed to support on-farm actions to reduce agri-environmental risks.

The following are some of the BMP's available to Grain Producers:



**Environmental
Farm Plan
Program**

- Field access improvements: alleyway/access lane upgrades
- Improved on-farm storage and handling of agricultural products (e.g. fertilizer, silage, petroleum products, and pesticides)
- Sealing & capping old water wells: Protecting existing water wells from surface contamination
- Riparian Buffer Establishment
- Improved Stream Crossings
- Climate stations or improved irrigation management
- Establishment of shelterbelts
- Tree and shrub materials required for shelterbelt establishment
- Consultative services to develop nutrient management plans, planning and decision support tools
- Consultative services to develop integrated pest management plans, planning and decision support tools
- Consultative services for preparing certified irrigation plans.
- Consultant fees to conduct riparian health assessment & produce report for farmer with BMP recommendations that include a design layout, species list and maintenance protocols
- Precision farming applications that reduce input application and overlap
- Replacement of fossil-fuel-driven motors with electrical motors
- Power line extension for replacement of fossil-fuel driven motors with electrical motors
- Alternative energy technology (Wind, Solar, & On Farm Hydro) for powering previously fossil-fuel dependant farm equipment and replacement of diesel generators
- Replacement of fossil-fuel dependant space heating with renewable heating
- Thermal energy efficiency improvements that increase insulation
- Lighting efficiency improvements

More detailed information may
be found at www.bcefp.ca

Or call Toll Free :
1-866-522-3447

A 2011 EFP BMP funding review request form was sent by the BCGPA recently for future considerations of BMP's:

1. On farm biofuels initiative
2. Increase of organic matter in soils
3. (Wildlife) Stack yard fencing renewal
4. Replacement of grown trees killed by pine beetles with desired species.





Investment Agriculture Foundation—100th meeting



**Investment
Agriculture
Foundation**
of British Columbia

The Investment Agriculture Foundation had its 100th board meeting in Richmond on October 26, 2010.

The Investment Agriculture Foundation of B.C. is a not-for-profit organization that manages and distributes federal and provincial funds in support of innovative projects to benefit the agriculture and agri-food industries in B.C.

This is quite a milestone, which we celebrated with a luncheon that included member representatives and past IAF chairs. A couple of interesting bits of information shared at the event:

IAF was incorporated under the B.C. Society's Act on October 31, 2006 to deliver adaptation programming in B.C. Since then, more the \$137 million in adaptation programming have flowed into IAF to assist industry.

Meeting #1 was held in Abbotsford in November 1996. Bruce Bakker chaired the first meeting on behalf of the members.

At Meeting #4, \$15,000 in funding was approved to enable the Central Farm Working Group to develop a proposal for establishing a central farm organization in B.C., out of which the B.C. Agriculture Council was born.

The first 11 applications came to Meeting #5 in May 1997. Five were approved for funding totalling nearly \$1 million.

Meeting #100 was held in Richmond in October 2010. IAF reviewed 8 project applications at the meeting, bringing the total number to 1011 (not including applications under the Agri-Food Futures Fund or special initiatives like the Livestock Waste Tissue Initiative).



In the photo (left to right): Bruce Bakker, 1st chair of the IAF members' group (1996); Gary Kenwood, 1st IAF chair (1997-2003); Bert Miles, 3rd IAF chair (2006-2008); Stuart Wilson, 4th IAF chair (2008-present); Missing is Walter Goerzen, 2nd IAF chair (2003-2006).

41 industry-appointed directors have served on the IAF board between 1996 and the present day.

John Berry has been Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's representative on the IAF board since day one.

We have 13 directors representing the various sectors (12 different sectors, 2 represent post-farm gate). There are 10 members. But we serve all of agriculture. I am the current director on the IAF board representing Grains, Oilseeds & Forage. My predecessors from this area were Garnet Berge and Jim Collins also representing our industry as well as Viggo Pederson representing Dairy. The BC Grain Producers have greatly benefited from having the Foundation in place as we were able to access funding for a number of years to conduct the grain & oilseed research we are doing in our area.

Submitted by: Immi Critcher

Provincial Cabinet Shuffle

Most of you will have heard of the Cabinet shuffle announced last week. This announcement was, however, much more than a Cabinet shuffle. *Taken from BC Ag Council Andy Dolberg*

The following is an overview of some of the changes that have direct and indirect implications for agriculture:

Ben Stewart was appointed **Minister of Agriculture**, and **Steve Thomson** as appointed as **Minister of the newly created Natural Resource Operations Ministry**. Ben Stewart takes on the Agriculture portfolio, but the "lands" side of the former Agriculture and Lands Ministry has moved to Forests and the new Natural Resource Operations ministry. A potential positive of this smaller Agriculture Ministry is that the focus of the new Minister should be solely on agriculture issues but, on the other hand, we were often told by MAL that being together with Lands provided opportunities such as greater flexibility in budgeting.

With respect to the natural resource sectors particularly, they have essentially kept the overall policy responsibilities within the various natural resource ministries and have moved the "operations" responsibilities into one new Ministry – the Ministry of Natural Resource Operations, which is now Steve Thomson's portfolio. This is positive in that many of the issues affecting agriculture have a Minister responsible with a very good understanding of agriculture. On the potential negative side, this is such a major structural change within government that it could take considerable time and present many challenges in its implementation.

The Natural Resource Operations Ministry has operations responsibilities in environment, Forests, mines and lands, including among many other things like water use planning, watershed restoration, fish, wildlife and habitat management, drought management, dam and dyke safety and regulation, forests and range authorizations and independent power production.



Farmer's Advocacy Office now open in Dawson Creek

Submitted by:
Anne Clayton

The Farmers' Advocacy Office held its official opening on October 7, 2010. It is located at:



1032-103 Ave, Dawson Creek, V1G 2G5
phone 250 782 1088, fax 250 782 1090
toll free 1-877-503-2765. E-mail
info@farmersadvocate.ca

Office hours are 9 – 5 Monday through Friday.

Their website, www.farmersadvocate.ca is currently under construction. When complete, it is intended to be a virtual office with links to relevant information such as lease rates, land values, legislation, case law, mapping sites, and an on-line calendar of events. You will be able to check on the availability of our meeting room. The Farmer's Advocacy Office (FAO) site is being built with the needs of dial-up users in mind.

There is a public workstation in our office with high-speed internet, where you can conduct your own research or prepare your case for mediation or arbitration. One of our staff will be available to help you through the process. You can save your work to a CD and take it with you. We have wireless access for your laptop.

The farmers' advocacy office has a meeting room available to landowners at no charge for meeting with land agents and company representatives in a neutral setting, for negotiations or mediation.

Our staff includes two advisors and a research assistant, who will be pleased to assist you – whether it is to point you in the right direction for information, help you research it, or look over documents for you and give you advice.

The Farmers Advocacy Office wants you to be aware of your rights, be able to negotiate in your own best interest, and not feel pressured to sign agreements without thoroughly considering the consequences. We're here to help and we look forward to hearing from you.

We will be conducting information sessions in various locations in the Peace over the next few months.

The FAO is independently operated by Aspen Grove Property Services and New Harvest Media Inc., and is jointly funded for 18 months by the Peace River Regional District and Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources.

Logbook training workshops were well received

Submitted by: David Wuthrich

The BCGPA held two logbook training sessions this spring, one in FSJ and one in DC. Both were well attended by local farmers.



Topics covered were the new hours of service regulations, farm plates versus farm fleet conditions, national safety code compliance, and the main issue of logbooks. There was much discussion on what vehicles need to complete a logbook or just a pre trip inspection and on how to accurately fill out your logbook.

The agricultural industry has many different situations that aren't adequately addressed with the current National Safety Code and the BCGPA will continue to educate its members and the Ministry of Transportation to these shortfalls.

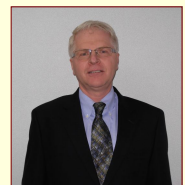
All in all the sessions were very informative and a clearer understanding of our responsibilities was achieved.

If there is interest in organizing more sessions please contact BCGPA office to set one up. (250 785 5774)

If you have any questions for the Ministry of Transportation please call Harpreet S. Aulakh at 250-787-3205 and he will gladly set you in the right direction.

Editors note:

Most humble apologies to Ken Nickel for the misspelling of his name in the Summer Newsletter.





Key highlights of recommendations to the ALC by the BC Grain Producers Association:

Protection of agricultural lands is directly dependent upon the ability of farm businesses to be profitable.

Support Programs and other Government Initiatives:

- Have an effective meaningful PI program in years of disaster that negatively affect historical data
 - Special consideration through the Federal/Provincial Agri-Recovery Program for disaster years
 - Exempting the agriculture sector entirely from paying the carbon tax and that credits from the tax proceeds be given for climate change mitigation activities on farms
 - The Provincial government should fund an Ecological Good & Services program which financially rewards agricultural producers for their ecological contributions.
- Allow ecological restoration, efficient irrigation systems, water storage, etc. in addition to previous uses for land clearing, and well drilling.

Other Improvements:

- The implementation of impartial Agricultural Land Commission Regional Panel members with the return of authority from the OCG and adequate funding to uniformly apply the Agricultural Land Commission's guidelines for decision making.
 - Provide Regional flexibility to carry out activities that do not conflict or impede agricultural interests in order to provide additional farm income.
 - Allow additional residences when legitimate farm need for succession\ labour exists or natural separation or poor farming potential lends itself to subdivision.
 - Provisions should be made for land titles to be separated from original title and that new home site applications are referred to the Agricultural Land Commission for review and approval.
 - Eliminate split tax assessments on raw land portions of actively farmed agricultural units.
 - Promote redevelopment of existing buildings and encourage innovation through investment in on-farm improvements and exempt farm improvements from full taxation.
 - Establish an open and effective appeal process that is supported by the agricultural community.
 - Consider the present and future water needs for agriculture and ensure these needs are given priority.
- Better community development and coordinated land use planning.

Community Development & Land Use Planning:

- Ensure that density level plans are in place and met before considering applications to expand the municipal boundaries.
 - Local Governments should have an Official Community Plan developed that is complimentary to Agriculture Area Plans.
- Harmonized lists of permitted uses on ALR lands between the local government and the ALC and work to streamline the application process for landowners
- The BC Grain Producers Association lends its support to the Agricultural Land Reserve on the condition that recommendations made to encourage farming\ranch viability; improvements to governance of the Land Reserve, community development and land use planning are implemented.

BCGPA Director Profile– Walter Fritsche



Hello Grain Producers, My name is Walter Fritsche and I am the newest director on the BC Grain Producer board. I currently live in Dawson Creek and farm

along side my parents. I have worked with Ross Ravelli for a number of years. I also have a grain hauling business to compliment the farm. My wife Natalie and I are expecting our first child in December.
* The BC Grain Producers welcome the addition of Walter to the board and look forward to putting his farming expertise to good use.

Special Equipment for Rent

At the South Peace Grain Cleaning Coop in Dawson Creek: (250) 782-7820:

Pull Grader: \$150.00/day



Cat 60 Scraper: \$150.00/day



Bin Crane: \$135.00/day

At the Leunberger Farm in Flatrock: Martin Leunberger (250) 781-9180



12' Kello Bilt Disc:
\$3.00/acre + 50.00/day

Kello Bilt five shank Subsoiler: \$3.00 / acre + \$50.00/day

Leon Land-Scraper: \$100.00/day

*Equipment to be used for agriculture purposes only.

2010 Drought update



Submitted by: Immi Critcher



Managing Office:

Box 6004
Fort St. John, BC
V1J 4H6
Phone: 250-785-5774
Fax: 250- 785-5713
Toll free: 1-866-716-7170
E-mail: bcgpa-c@pris.bc.ca
www.bcgain.com
Janet Banman- Office Administrator

BCGPA Mandate:

The purpose of the BC Grain Producers Association (BCGPA) is to improve the viability of the grains and oil-seed industry in the BC Peace River region. The association and its members maintain sustained liaison with other agencies to benefit the field crop industry. The association encourages all farmers to participate within their industry so that their voices may be heard.

Some of you have asked “What are the BC Grain Producers doing about the 2010 drought? During the summer we have written letters to Steve Thomson, Provincial Minister of Agriculture, as well as Minister Ritz, Federal Minister of Agriculture. We also were in communications with local and Provincial staff and an invitation to visit the Peace was extended. At that time we made them aware of the pending drought and the strain it would put on the existing Safety Net programs. Both Ministers responded with reference to the availability of the current Business Risk Management (BRM) programs in place:

- **Agri-Insurance** is an existing program which includes insurance against production losses for specified perils (weather, pests, disease).
- **Agri-Invest** is a savings account for producers, supported by governments, which provides coverage for small income declines and allows for investments that help mitigate risks or improve market income.
- **Agri-Stability** provides support when a producer experiences larger farm income losses. The program covers declines of more than 15% in a producer's average income from previous years.
- **Agri-Recovery** is a disaster relief framework which provides a coordinated process for federal, provincial and territorial governments to respond rapidly when disasters strike, filling gaps not covered by existing programs.

We recognize that these programs are in place and appreciate that we do have some tools available to mitigate risks, but are also aware of the limitations of these programs. As some of you have experienced multiple years of drought and low income years, these programs are designed to limit their coverage if this occurs. As these are margin based programs, they do not work in multiple years of low income due to production issues or, as we have also experienced, chronically depressed prices. We also know that Agri-Stability (former CAIS) is very slow to respond and to a certain degree unpredictable.

As we have all watched the situation in the Prairies with the wet weather, these Provinces immediately recognized the plight the farmers were in and declared it a disaster. A coordinated effort was made between the Federal and Provincial Governments and Agri-Recovery responded outside the current suite of programs. One of the conditions was, that a Provincial Cost share of 40% had to be committed. The 2010 drought was all over the Peace River region including the Alberta Peace. Chris Warkentin, MP for Peace River, made a concerted effort to bring it to the Federal Governments attention and they also had their Provincial Minister of Agriculture come and visit. A drought was declared, however, according to the reports I got, nothing further came of it either!

We do have to mention that the local PI staff have been very responsive to the situation and we fully expect a fast processing of claims. With the move of the Agri-Stability administration to the Province we have high expectations that the history of slow processing of claims will come to an end; but the new way of doing things will be tested when our 2010 claims are being processed.

Special Thanks to all our Funding Partners:



**Investment
Agriculture
Foundation**
of British Columbia



PEACE RIVER
AGRICULTURE
DEVELOPMENT FUND



**Agriculture and
Agri-Food Canada**

**Agriculture et
Agroalimentaire Canada**