



More on BC Young Farmers

BCYF members are young farmers or young agricultural supporters between the ages of 19 and 40. Joining BCYF is as easy as sending us an e-mail asking to be added to the distribution list. There is no cost involved.

Some more information on BCYF



The BC Young Farmers are a committee under the BC Agriculture Council; it was started in 2008. We have an amazing membership of over 250 registered young farmers (and that number is growing) with small and large operations alike, from commodity categories including: beef cattle, berries, dairy, field vegetables, flowers, fox, grain, greenhouse, hay, mink, nursery, pork, poultry, pigeon, eggs, duck, geese, sheep, lamb, goats, horse, vineyard, tree fruits, bees, and organic & specialty producers. It is a young organization, energized and excited about moving into the future.

BCYF is run by a board of directors that meets about ten times per year to plan events and to discuss local issues. Directors are either young farmers or representatives from agricultural services and allied trade. The goal of BCYF is to hold educational events in a social setting. BCYF assists in the transition of young farmers to board rooms and to owning farms. In social and interactive settings, BCYF members learn leadership skills, explore community development, improve agricultural awareness, explore individual talents and most importantly, meet fellow young farmers. There is usually one or two short presentations along with a tour and a social.

BCYF is a member of the Canadian Young Farmers Forum, the national young farmer organization.

Here are the events that BCYF had in 2017:

- **January** – directors met with MP Jati Shidhu
- **January** - they were active at the Pacific Agriculture Show where they shared a booth with BCAC.
- **January** – social at Townhall Public House
- **February** – directors attended Darryl Plecas' breakfast meeting to talk about young farmers



- **February** – tour of three Abbotsford agri-businesses – ACI Foods (a hemp processor), VanderPol Eggs, and Old Abby Ales
- **February** - seven BCYF delegates attended the Canadian Young Farmers Forum in Ottawa.
- **April** – tour in Agassiz including: Golden Eagle Fish Farm, UBC Dairy Research Center, The Farm House Natural Cheese.
- **June** – Summerland farm tour including: Carlsons' cherry orchard and packinghouse tour, Garnett Valley Organic Farm, and a tasting at Dominion Cidery
- **August** – Abbotsford farm tour Including Van Bell Nursery and a drone demonstration in a blueberry field by gUAVas.
- **October** – Delta and Richmond farm tour including: West Coast Seeds, Ocean Spray Cranberries and Country Vines Winery
- **November** - Farm Fest at UFV Chilliwack with presentations on BC Economic Forecast & Market Trends in Agriculture, the Agricultural Land Reserve, and public trust in agriculture.
- **December** – Curling social



The events for 2018 are still in the planning stages.

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Website: <http://bcyf.ca/>

