

**Cross-Commodity Leadership Support Project
Domestic Labour Sub-Committee Meeting
November 3, 2023
MEETING NOTES**

Attendees:

Tyrion Miskell, BC Grapegrowers' Association (CHAIR)
 Kellie Garcia, Cross-Commodity Leadership Support Project
 Annelise Simonsen, BC Fruit Growers' Association
 Connor Williamson, Ministry of Agriculture and Food
 Abbey Nyberg, BC Cherry Association

Regrets:

Sukhpaul Bal, BC Cherry Association
 Beth Cavers, BC Cherry Association
 Brent MacKinnon, BC Tree Fruits Cooperative
 Deep Brar, BC Fruit Growers' Association

| Topics | Notes |
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| 1. Introductions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee members introduced themselves and explained their connection to and interest in domestic labour. • Tyrion told the committee that Kellie is taking over project management of BC Fruit Works and administration of the Labour Sub-Committee through the Cross-Commodity Leadership Support Project (CCLSP). |
| 2. Review and discuss committee membership | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tyrion suggested that we add more industry reps to the committee. We can start by reaching out to people in the BC Fruit Works participant list. • Tyrion wondered if WorkSafe BC might be a good organization to participate on the Committee. Connor thought they'd be good as a resource on best practices and networks but not appropriate as a committee member. • Annelise suggested that we consider the 50 – 30 Challenge for membership (https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/ised/en/50-30-challenge-your-diversity-advantage). The committee agreed that this is a good goal. <p>ACTION: Kellie will draft email text to be used to recruit members that outlines the purpose of the committee, the responsibilities of members, and the time commitment required (i.e., pull out the relevant sections of the TOR and include in email format.)</p> <p>ACTION: Tyrion and Kellie will send out invitations to potential industry reps and will engage members in this process as needed.</p> |
| 3. Review and revise Terms of Reference and discuss issues | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kellie walked through the draft TOR that was provided via email on Mon, Oct 30. • Kellie explained that she would like to see the committee work on more things than just BC Fruit Works and would like to hear ideas from members. |

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| <p>and opportunities for labour and the labour committee</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annelise would like to see formal minute-taking for the committee meetings. Kellie explained that would come from the CCLSP now. • The Committee decided to meet quarterly – mid-month in Jan, Apr, Jun, and Nov. Additional meetings can be added as needed. • Tyrion suggested that the committee work on housing challenges, such as supporting more campground situations like Loose Bay. • Another suggestion was that the committee should think more about where domestic labour and temporary foreign labour intersect and how this committee can best connect with the TFW committee. • Tyrion brought up the issue of it being difficult for temporary foreign workers becoming permanent residents. Connor told the committee about the AAFC pilot project that is providing a pathway for TFW in the Ag Stream (long-term, high skill) to obtain permanent residency. • Annelise thinks the committee could look at the issue of travellers not being able to get visas without leaving the country. We could look at Australia’s model. It needs to be easier for travellers to stick around and work. <p>ACTION: Kellie will revise the TOR and send to committee via email for review and approval.</p> <p>ACTION: Kellie will send out calendar invites for 2024 meetings.</p> |
| <p>4. Update on BC Fruit Works</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kellie gave a brief update about BC Fruit Works. • An evaluation of 2023 is underway via surveys and targeted phone calls and the funding application for 2024 is being drafted. • The TFISP Steering Committee has allocated \$200K to BCFW in 2024, but we are considering asking for a \$150K uplift on top of that. • Kellie gave a presentation about BCFW to the TFISP Steering Committee on Oct 26 and alluded to the uplift. • The Steering Committee would like to see the results of the 2023 evaluation before supporting the 2024 funding and would also like to see more involvement and support from the Labour Sub-Committee. • Kellie will give a presentation to the Labour Sub-Committee that includes the 2023 evaluation and plans for 2024 at the November meeting. |
| <p>5. Update on Application to the Workforce Analysis and Planning Program</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tyrion told the committee about the application that was submitted to IAF’s Workforce Analysis and Planning Program by the BCGA on October 6. • The research project will collect data on the job market and labour pool for tree fruits and grapes. • It is a 70/30 matching fund, so Tyrion is seeking out contributions from industry groups and is stacking MITACS funding to maximize the ask of IAF. • We are partnering with Kwantlen Polytechnic University. |
| <p>6. Set date for next meeting and adjourn</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next meeting will be held on Nov 30 at 10 am via Teams. <p>ACTION: Kellie will send out a calendar invite to the next meeting.</p> |