

# Cross-Commodity Leadership Support Project

## Q3 Progress Report for 2024 (July 1 to September 30)

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### Background

In early 2023, a coordinated effort to address leadership challenges and improve collaboration among industry organizations representing tree fruits and wine grapes was established by industry, with support from the BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food and funding provided from the Stabilization Fund. The Cross-Commodity Leadership Support Project (CCLSP), a 3-year pilot, was launched in late August 2023 to provide the framework for industry to assume responsibility for key projects of the Tree Fruit Industry Stabilization Plan and work on new cross-commodity initiatives deemed important by industry. Ultimately, the CCLSP will evolve into a long-term leadership structure to action cross-sector initiatives and continue collaboration. The Okanagan-Kootenay Sterile Insect Release Program is administering the CCLSP, and the Partners Table<sup>1</sup> is providing overall guidance and accountability.

### Key Accomplishments

The third quarter of 2024, mainly focused on project development. Key accomplishments include:

- Preparation and approval of funding for five project applications:
  - BC DAS Operations
  - BC DAS Expansion to Winegrapes
  - Research Briefs & Videos
  - Local Government & Agriculture Tours
  - 2025 Extension Practitioner's Conference
- Planning of agriculture bus tours in November to bring together planning staff, producers, and industry partners to discuss challenges and opportunities with local policies and regulations affecting agriculture.

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<sup>1</sup> Partners Table member organizations are the BC Fruit Growers' Association, BC Grapegrowers' Association, BC Wine Grape Council, BC Cherry Association, and Okanagan Kootenay Sterile Insect Release Program.

## Description of Progress

Details of progress made are provided in the table below.

<b>Work category</b>	<b>Description of progress</b>
Partners Table and Cross-Commodity Advisory Council	<p>Met virtually with the Advisory Council on September 5 to review and approve five stabilization funding applications.</p> <p>Continued identifying projects for the stabilization fund.</p>
Domestic labour	<p>Prepared progress report for BC Fruit Works and submitted to Advisory Council and IAF in early September.</p> <p>Sent email update to committee in mid-September.</p> <p>The Labour Supply Research Project team conducted interviews with growers and workers, completed a literature review, and performed a preliminary analysis of census and Statistics Canada data.</p> <p>Work with BC's Employment Standards Branch to plan an employment standards webinar for agriculture in November.</p>
Extension	<p>Prepared funding application for research briefs and videos project to be completed in partnership with the BC Agricultural Climate Action Research Network. Also prepared funding application for 2025 extension practitioners conference. Applications were approved by Advisory Council and submitted to IAF in early September.</p> <p>Met for research briefs project with ACARN, BC Food Web, and BCWGC in August.</p> <p>Organized a panel session on soil and water for the BCGA and BCWGC Grower Day in August.</p> <p>Sent email update to committee in mid-September.</p>
Innovation & Technology	<p>Prepared funding applications for continued operations of BC DAS and for expansion of BC DAS to wine grapes. Applications were approved by Advisory Council and submitted to IAF in early September.</p> <p>BCDAS Committee meeting in July.</p> <p>Sent email update to committee in mid-September.</p>
New varieties	<p>Completed Phase 1 of the project, which included creating a PowerPoint deck, electronic copies of organizing documents and an electronic "Organizing Checklist" with information about how to establish a legal entity. Also began developing a Club Variety ROI Model and engaging with Algoma.</p>

<b>Work category</b>	<b>Description of progress</b>
Local government	<p>Prepared funding application to hold local government and agriculture bus tours in central and south Okanagan to bring together local government staff and tree fruit and wine grape producers to build relationships, discuss challenges, and find opportunities to work together. Application was approved by Advisory Council and submitted to IAF in early September.</p> <p>Attended RDCO's regional planning lab focused on soil deposit and removal bylaws.</p>
Communications and relationship-building	<p>Attended relevant events to enhance knowledge of industry needs and opportunities and build relationships, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BCGA/BCWGC Grower Day</li> <li>• OKSIR Board meeting in July</li> <li>• Drought Stakeholder Working Group meetings hosted by the Regional District of North Okanagan,</li> <li>• Visit to Secrest Hill Agriculture Worker's campsite,</li> <li>• BCWGC R&amp;D Committee meetings,</li> <li>• Okanagan Basin Water Board Annual General Meeting, and</li> <li>• Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions Integrating Drought Research in Risk and Resilience Assessments workshop.</li> </ul> <p>Updated CCLSP website to include news and updates section and improvements to the Our Work page.</p> <p>Prepared project spotlights for active CCLSP projects.</p> <p>Delivered several communications for BC Fruit Works, the labour supply research project, and CCLSP partners.</p> <p>Drafted a news article about the Advisory Council.</p>

## Report on Performance Metrics

Twenty indicators are being tracked by CCLSP staff and a full report on our performance in 2024 will be provided in our Q4 progress report.

## Report on Expenditures

A statement of financial activity from July 1 to September 30, 2024, is outlined in the tables below.

### CCLSP General Operating Expenses

	2024 General Expenses					Remaining
	2024 Budget	Q1	Q2	Q3	To Date	
Communications	\$ 4,500	\$175	\$ 1,391	\$ 52	\$ 1,618	\$ 2,882
Meetings & Travel	\$ 7,500	\$ 2,040	\$ 1,498	\$ 212	\$ 3,751	\$ 3,749
Employee Expenses	\$ 207,550	\$ 46,083	\$ 56,409	\$ 38,220	\$140,712	\$ 66,838
Supplies, Software & Subscriptions	\$ 5,500	\$ 2,985	\$ 724	\$ 461	\$ 4,170	\$ 1,330
Rent	\$ 2,600	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,600
Contract Services	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000
Contract Admin (SIR 8.5 %)	\$ 20,200	\$ 4,359	\$ 5,102	\$ 3,310	\$ 12,771	\$ 7,429
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 257,850</b>	<b>\$ 55,642</b>	<b>\$ 65,125</b>	<b>\$ 42,255</b>	<b>\$ 163,023</b>	<b>\$ 94,828</b>

### Administered Projects Operating Expenses

	2024 Project Expenses					Remaining
	2024 Budget	Q1	Q2	Q3	To Date	
Agriculture Tours	\$ 14,595	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,595
BC DAS Operations	\$ 300,545	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300,545
BC DAS to Wine Grapes	\$ 115,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 115,500
BC Fruit Works	\$ 162,540	\$ 3,620	\$ 44,433	\$ 27,707	\$ 75,760	\$ 86,780
2025 Extension Conference	\$ 35,385	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,385
Labour Supply Research	\$ 115,000	\$ -	\$ 25,463	\$ 38,800	\$ 64,263	\$ 50,737
Global Club Variety Access	\$ 48,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,143	\$ 17,143	\$ 30,857
Research Briefs	\$ 143,850	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 143,850
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 935,415</b>	<b>\$ 3,620</b>	<b>\$ 69,896</b>	<b>\$ 83,650</b>	<b>\$ 157,166</b>	<b>\$ 778,250</b>

### Project Funding (Revenue)

	Total Revenue Expected	Received to date	Remaining
CCLSP	\$ 855,658	\$ 374,730	\$ 480,928
Agriculture Tours	\$ 14,595	\$ -	\$ 14,595
BC DAS	\$ 300,545	\$ -	\$ 300,545
BC DAS to Wine Grapes	\$ 115,500	\$ -	\$ 115,500
BC Fruit Works	\$ 162,540	\$ 140,000	\$ 22,540
Extension Conference	\$ 35,385	\$ -	\$ 35,385
Labour Supply Research	\$ 115,000	\$ 58,000	\$ 57,000
Global Club Variety Access	\$ 48,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 8,000
Research Briefs	\$ 143,850	\$ -	\$ 143,850
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,791,073</b>	<b>\$ 612,730</b>	<b>\$ 1,178,343</b>

## Looking Ahead to Next Quarter

CCLSP staff will focus on the following tasks in the fourth quarter of 2024:

- Hire a contractor for BC DAS Expansion to Winegrapes project.
- Begin phase 1 of the BC DAS Expansion to Winegrapes project to assess available models and perform a needs assessment.
- Hire contractor for BC DAS Operations project and renew agreement with Washington State University.
- Prepare work plan for BC DAS Operations project.
- Host bus tours for local government and tree fruit and wine grape growers to foster relationships, encourage open dialogue on policies and regulations impacting agriculture, and share insights through a summary report.
- Plan winter lunch and learns focused on employment standards, business management, succession planning, mental health, data management, and other topics.
- Plan the 2025 extension practitioners conference in collaboration with feedback and guidance from the extension committee.
- Meet with Advisory Council, Partners Table, and all cross-commodity committees.
- Continue project development and identify additional projects eligible for stabilization funding.