

CROSS-COMMODITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Date:	June 25, 2024
Time:	10:00 AM to 12:00 PM (lunch to follow)
Location:	In person: RDCO's Woodhaven Boardroom, 1450 KLO Rd, Kelowna Virtual: Join the meeting now Meeting ID: 265 077 564 553 Passcode: CWa7GE

MEETING AGENDA

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Recommended Motion

"THAT the June 25, 2024, meeting agenda be adopted as presented."

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES (page 2)

Recommended Motion

"THAT the April 30, 2024, meeting minutes be adopted as presented."

4. ROUND TABLE UPDATES FROM MEMBERS

5. REGULAR BUSINESS

5.1 CCLSP Committees and Communications (page 8)

5.2 Stabilization Fund: Housekeeping

5.3 Stabilization Fund: Current Projects

a) Cross-Commodity Leadership Support Project (page 9)

b) BC Fruit Works (page 11)

c) Global Club Access for BC Growers

5.4 Stabilization Fund: New Applications

a) B.C. Access to Plant Material (BCFGA) (page 12)

Recommended Motion

"THAT the Cross-Commodity Advisory Council approve the B.C. Access to Plant Material TFISP application submitted by the BC Fruit Growers' Association, with a maximum funding contribution of \$33,000, and a project timeline of June 27, 2024, to December 31, 2025."

5.5 Discussion of other Cross-Commodity Issues and Opportunities

a) Local Government Engagement – Proposal for Fall Forums (page 22)

b) Water Management – Irrigation Efficiency projects, Agriculture Water Infrastructure Program

c) Emergency Preparedness and Response

6. OTHER BUSINESS

6.1 Labour Supply Research Project (page 24)

7. ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting will be held on November 26, 2024.

CROSS-COMMODITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

CCLSP
Advisory Council Meeting
June 25, 2024
Agenda No. 3.0

Minutes of the **Cross-Commodity Advisory Council** held hybrid in the RDCO Woodhaven Boardroom, Kelowna BC, and via MS Teams on April 30, 2024.

PRESENT

Adrian Arts
Beth Cavers
Boyd Tyerman
Gord Morrison
Jesse MacDonald
Kate Durisek
Laurel Van Dam
Madeleine van Roechoudt
Melissa Tesche
Michelle Cook
Nikki Callaway
Ryan Ostertag
Sukhpaul Bal (CO-CHAIR)
Tyrion Miskell
Walter Makepeace

BC Ministry of Agriculture & Food (Virtual)
BC Cherry Association
BC Tree Fruits Cooperative (Virtual)
Consolidated Fruit Packers
Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada
BC Wine Grape Council
BC Tree Fruits Cooperative
Grower at Large (Virtual)
BC Fruit Growers' Association
Okanagan-Kootenay Sterile Insect Release Program
BC Grapegrowers' Association
Consolidated Fruit Packers
BC Cherry Association
BC Grapegrowers' Association (Virtual)
Okanagan-Kootenay Sterile Insect Release Program

REGRETS

None

GUESTS

Derek Sturko

Inner Harbour Consulting Inc. (Virtual)

STAFF

Kellie Garcia (CO-CHAIR)
Shamore Watson
Tanya Littley

CCLSP Project Director
CCLSP Domestic Labour Lead
OKSIR Office Manager

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

1.1 Acknowledgement of Traditional Territory

Kellie Garcia, CCLSP Project Director, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Kellie respectfully acknowledged that the meeting was being held on the traditional and unceded territory of the Syilx Okanagan Nation.

1.2 Round Table Introductions

Members introduced themselves and stated whether they are new to the stabilization planning process or returning participants.

2. ELECTION OF CO-CHAIRS

Kellie explained that the Advisory Council will begin under a co-chair structure with herself being one of the chairs.

She will run the meetings for now but would like to see the Council eventually move towards having co-chairs from tree fruits and wine grapes that alternate running the meetings, with lots of support from her.

Kellie requested nominations for co-chair. Laurel Van Dam nominated Sukhpaul Bal. Sukhpaul accepted the nomination. There being no other nominations, Sukhpaul was elected co-chair.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by: Beth Cavers

Seconded by: Laurel Van Dam

"THAT the April 30, 2024, meeting agenda be approved as presented."

CARRIED

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1 No minutes to adopt.

5. TERMS OF REFERENCE

5.1 Terms of Reference for Advisory Council

Kellie provided an overview of the stabilization plan and the CCLSP as an orientation for those who are new to the process. She then reviewed the Terms of Reference for the Advisory Council.

Melissa and Madeleine stated concerns about the new clause in the Terms of Reference that applicants must leave the room when the Council is making the final decision on their application. Kellie explained that the Council is acting as a review committee and if we endorse the application, it will be funded by IAF, in most if not all cases. It is highly unusual for an applicant to be present when their application is being reviewed and approved for funding. This new process will make sure we are not open to criticism of perceived conflicts of interest. The applicant can still be present for the discussion to make sure the case is made for the application and all questions and concerns are addressed before the resolution of support is brought forward.

6. STAFF REPORTS

6.1 Project Director

Kellie told the Council that she has been working with the Partners Table to prepare a Strategic Plan for the CCLSP that includes five goals and several performance metrics for each goal. CCLSP staff are already tracking many of the performance metrics and will report out annually. She explained that this continual evaluation will help CCLSP staff and partners measure success, identify and fix shortcomings, track progress, and measure outcomes. Sharing this information broadly with industry will establish accountability and transparency and help build buy-in from the industry.

Kellie then explained that the CCLSP has committed to releasing quarterly progress reports in addition to the annual progress report required by IAF. She referred to the 2023 Q4 and 2024 Q1 reports included in the agenda package, which highlight the significant progress made on administration and project management, leadership transition, domestic labour, extension, innovation and technology, new varieties, local government engagement, and communications and relationship-building. Statements of financial activities are also included for each quarter.

With respect to Council membership, Kellie explained her decision not to invite local governments to join the Council yet. She would first like to engage with local government staff and spend more time researching their agricultural plans and policies and then decide how best to include them in the Council's work. The CCLSP could organize a workshop for November or December that brings together local government and producers.

6.2 Administration & Communications Manager

Kellie gave the report in Shelby's absence. She told the Council that the CCLSP is running three committees:

Extension, Domestic Labour, and Innovation and Technology. Each committee has a Terms of Reference and broad membership that includes tree fruit and wine grape producers, winemakers, industry association staff, provincial and federal government staff, and others. The committees meet quarterly and will be vital to identifying and carrying out new projects and activities that will benefit industry and providing advice on current initiatives like BC Fruit Works and the labour supply access research project.

Other communications activities Shelby has worked on since she started in her role include organizing the Building Bridges conference in February, developing a website for the CCLSP, launching a common online calendar for industry events, and creating an infographic to illustrate TFISP's progress over the last three years and introduce the CCLSP. Shelby also helped write a letter to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada outlining local research needs for apples, cherries, and wine grapes on behalf of CCLSP partners.

6.3 Domestic Labour Lead

Shamore started by giving a quick background on BC Fruit Works for the benefit of the new members. She explained that the project is in its third year and the objective is to facilitate connections between tree fruit and wine grape growers in the BC Interior and domestic farm workers and provide HR support and resources to orchards and vineyards. In previous seasons the project used the CrewDriver platform to facilitate job matching. We are pausing that partnership this year and moving to a service-driven approach focused on relationship-building.

Shamore told the Council she is currently updating the BC Fruit Works website, launching the marketing campaign, determining the best job matching strategy, reviewing human resources materials, and communicating with partners and producers.

Sukhpaul requested that Shamore share the marketing materials with him before distribution.

Sukhpaul told the Council about the foreign labour committee that has been managed under the BC Fruit Growers' Association and suggested it be consolidated with the domestic labour committee, so we have just one group. Melissa responded that she has had preliminary discussions about this with Kellie and Shamore and will continue to consider how to better integrate work on foreign and domestic labour. She reminded the Council that Shamore's current position is temporary and that there is a need for year-round support so we should think about how that could be funded.

7. REGULAR BUSINESS

7.1 Stabilization Fund: Roles & Responsibilities for Application Review and Project Administration

Kellie walked the Council through the new process for reviewing and recommending applications for the stabilization fund. She explained that the CCLSP will be taking on some of the responsibilities that were previously carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture. The CCLSP will be the overall coordinator on stabilization fund projects on behalf of industry. Duties will include helping to identify projects and prepare applications, bringing applications forward to the Advisory Council for review and endorsement, liaising with IAF and the Ministry, and helping recipients prepare progress and final reports. The CCLSP can also provide administration and project management services if required by recipients.

Next, Kellie went through the draft Due Diligence and Review Template included in the agenda package. She explained that she will do the initial review of the application using the template before bringing it to the Advisory Council. But Council members will need to read the application in order to make the final decision on whether the application should be recommended for funding.

Melissa asked for clarification about who can apply for the fund. She stated that traditionally it has been only industry associations that can apply. Kellie said that the applicant eligibility assessment states "Legal agricultural industry association or entity" so she will need to clarify with IAF and the ministry who could qualify as an "entity."

Michelle asked Kellie to better explain the stabilization fund for those who are new to the process. Kellie explained that the former TFISP steering committee allocated “buckets” of funding to specific recommendations in the plan, but the Advisory Council can likely move those allocations around. She will verify the exact amount still available, but she thinks it is in the ballpark of 1.5 million. She will engage with IAF and the Ministry and present more accurate information at the next Advisory Council meeting.

7.2 Stabilization Fund: Updates on Current Projects

a) Cross-Commodity Leadership Support Project

Kellie presented the CCLSP progress report and financial summary that will be submitted to IAF to receive a second payment. The Advisory Council must provide a recommendation for payment via resolution.

Moved by: Melissa Tesche

Seconded by: Walter Makepeace

“THAT the Cross-Commodity Leadership Support Project progress report and financial summary be approved and that a recommendation for release of payment in the amount of \$225,000 be provided to the Investment Agriculture Foundation.”

CARRIED

b) Extension Practitioners Conference

This update was provided under agenda item 6.2.

c) BC Fruit Works

This update was provided under agenda item 6.3.

d) Global Club Access for BC Growers

Madeleine provided an update on the variety access project. She said that the committee met once and discussed what type of entity they would want to form – for-profit or not-for-profit. The project deliverables are checklists to decide what is needed in a grower, a marketer, a packer, etc.

7.3 Stabilization Fund: New Applications

a) Mapping of Climatic Suitability of Grape Varieties (BCWGC)

Kate told the Council that she is working on an application with Dr. Elizabeth Wolkovich from the University of British Columbia. Using a combination of existing climate models and some new models, the project team would map the suitability of the top planted white and red grape varieties to their optimal growing regions as defined by the BCVQA regions. The maps would help producers with their decision making, particularly when it comes to replanting. The application is for approximately \$30K and is part of a bigger 5-year project that they are breaking into smaller pieces. Kate also explained that she is awaiting feedback from the Ministry of Agriculture on whether the project will fit under the Wine Grape Task Force funding. If it does, she will apply for funding there instead.

Melissa agreed that the project is timely because growers will need to make decisions on replanting soon.

Tyrion asked Kate to clarify what she is asking for - whether it is full or partial funding. Kate responded that it would be full funding but at this point she is just bringing the idea forward to the Council to see if it is a project they would support. The application is still under development.

Kellie commented that while the research is commodity-specific, the goal will be to use the outcomes to begin expanding DAS (which is a cross-commodity tool) to winegrapes.

Sukhpaul also agreed that the project is needed, and he would support it being funded under stabilization if the Task Force will not fund it.

Madeline stated that she is very supportive of DAS and thinks bringing wine grapes into that tool would be a great decision.

b) BC Access to Plan Material (BCFGA)

Melissa told the Council about an application she is working on with Lindsay King at the Ministry of Agriculture. The project focuses on creating a systems approach to manage oriental fruit moth during production of nursery stock in hopes of finding a solution to CFIA's trade restriction limiting the movement of fruit tree nursery stock into BC. The application will most likely come to the Advisory Council via email soon.

7.4 Discussion of Other Cross-Commodity Issues and Opportunities

Melissa stated that she has attended recent drought meetings held by the province and is concerned about what is coming this year. She would like the Advisory Council to consider how the CCLSP can help with communications and action around this topic.

Kellie told the Advisory Council that she has been a member of the Thompson Okanagan Regional Drought Team since 2016 and will continue participating in her new CCLSP role. While she cannot be the voice of agriculture, she can make sure all relevant information discussed at the meetings is transferred to industry associations. She can also help prepare newsletter articles and other communications materials and point farmers to relevant resources.

Melissa stated that it is very important that we work together to shed light on potential impacts of drought on our growers and work on solutions.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

8.1 Update on Labour Supply Access Research Project

Kellie informed the Advisory Council that the funding applications to IAF (through their Workforce Analysis and Planning Program) and Mitacs were successful, and the labour supply access research project will launch soon. Administration for the project is currently being transferred from the BCGA to the CCLSP in collaboration with Kwantlen Polytechnic University as a research partner. Kellie told the Council that she will provide a better update about the project at the next meeting. Members of the domestic labour committee and Partners Table will be important advisors for the project, among others.

8.2 Update on long-term strategy for the Okanagan-Kootenay Sterile Insect Release Program

Michelle told the Advisory Council that she recently came on as the General Manager for OKSIR, taking the place of Melissa who moved to the BCFGGA. She is continuing with the business development work that is focused on increasing moth sales to Washington so OKSIR will remain viable as acreage in the Okanagan reduces.

8.3 Update on Orderly Marketing Commission

Melissa stated that work on the orderly marketing commission is ongoing. The BCFGGA is neutral and is responsible for bringing information to growers. Even if the industry votes yes, it is up to the Ministry of Agriculture to put the commission in place. There is a draft for the proposed scheme of the commission.

Sukhpaul asked who will coordinate the voting process. Melissa responded that the government would hire contractors to administer the vote.

8.4 Update on BC Government data strategy

No update.

9. MEETING SCHEDULE

9.1 Determine meeting schedule for 2024 and 2025

Kellie referenced the proposed meeting schedule – from 9:00-12:00 on June 25 and November 26, 2024, and January 14, April 8, June 24, and November 25, 2025.

Some members expressed concern about the June date because it is a busy time for cherries.

Kellie explained that the proposed quarterly schedule considers when the various committees meet, CCLSP staff availability, board room availability, vacation/down time (e.g. Christmas, summer), and demands for some members during the growing season. It appeared that most people agreed on the next meeting date for June 25, 2024, and so scheduling will proceed.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Derek shared that this was his last meeting and wished everyone the best. The Advisory Council thanked Derek for his dedication to the stabilization work.

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 pm.

The next Cross-Commodity Advisory Council meeting will be held on June 25, 2024.

MEMORANDUM

To: Cross-Commodity Advisory Council

From: Shelby Austen, CCLSP Admin. & Comms. Manager

Subject: Update on CCLSP Committees and Communications

June 13, 2024

Committees:

Extension

This committee met on June 13 and 10 people were in attendance. We made a promising connection with new committee member Asha Wareham from the BC Agricultural Climate Action Research Network. Asha's work with BC Food Web, which translates complex agricultural research into accessible briefs for producers, is particularly exciting. She plans to provide more details soon about a fee-for-service approach to enhance collaboration and expand their reach. Committee members are enthusiastic about this development and look forward to collaborating to deliver current research to growers.

Domestic Labour

The committee is set to meet on June 21. I will provide a verbal update at the Advisory Council meeting.

Innovation & Technology

The committee met on June 5, with 14 members present. Karen Yeung, a leader in the wine grape sector, was elected as the industry co-chair. The committee received a document outlining their priorities and project principles. Most of the meeting focused on roundtable updates and project ideas. The key project needs identified included information/data sharing, weed management, ground cover, irrigation, and region-specific disease modeling.

Communications:

I have finalized a communications plan to ensure clear, consistent, and effective information dissemination to stakeholders, fostering transparency and aligning with CCLSP goals. The plan is now awaiting review from the partner's table. A key component of the plan is the CCLSP website, which now features an updated industry events calendar. I collaborated with a website developer to improve functionality and ease of use for industry practitioners and growers. The events calendar can be filtered by commodity, organizer, and event location, and site visitors can submit their own events for my review and approval. Additionally, I have been working with cross-commodity partners to integrate the calendar on their websites for consistency, and it is currently featured on three out of five partner sites.

In collaboration with the partners table, we organized a series of lunch and learn sessions for producers, focusing on available financial support options and mental health in agriculture. The financial support sessions featured Agricultural Credit Corporation and Farm Credit Canada, while the mental health session was held in partnership with AgSafe and the Canadian Mental Health Association. These sessions were recorded, edited, distributed via industry newsletters, and posted on the BCFGA's YouTube channel to broaden our reach. The financial support sessions received a large amount of positive feedback, although attendance for the mental health session was lower. We aim to continue working with AgSafe and CMHA to increase awareness and break the stigma surrounding mental health.

CCLSP
Advisory Council Meeting
June 25, 2024
Agenda No. 5.3a

MEMORANDUM

To: Cross-Commodity Advisory Council

June 13, 2024

From: Kellie Garcia, Project Director

Subject: Update on Cross-Commodity Leadership Support Project

The [Cross-Commodity Leadership Support Project](#) (CCLSP) is a 3-year pilot funded by the Government of B.C. through the Tree Fruit Industry Stabilization Initiative delivered by the Investment Agriculture Foundation of B.C. It is providing the framework for the tree fruit and wine grape sectors to assume responsibility for key projects of the [Tree Fruit Industry Stabilization Plan](#), delve into other common issues and opportunities, and develop a long-term leadership structure to action cross-sector initiatives and support continued collaboration. The Partners Table, which includes senior staff from the BC Cherry Association, BC Grapegrowers' Association, BC Fruit Growers' Association, BC Wine Grape Council, and Okanagan-Kootenay Sterile Insect Release Program, is providing overall guidance and accountability for the CCLSP.

Report on Progress

We are writing our progress report for 2024 Q2 and will provide it to the Advisory Council via email in mid-July. It will also be posted on our website at <https://crosscommodity.org/our-work/>.

Report on Budget

CCLSP General Operating Expenses, 2024

	2024 Budget	Expenses			Remaining
		Q1	Q2	To Date	
Communications	\$4,500	\$216	\$1,399	\$1,615	\$2,885
Meetings & Travel	\$7,500	\$2,040	\$935	\$2,975	\$4,525
Employee Expenses	\$207,550	\$46,083	\$40,118	\$86,201	\$121,349
Supplies, Software & Subscriptions	\$5,500	\$2,985	\$678	\$3,663	\$1,837
Rent	\$2,600	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,600
Contract Services	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$10,000
Contract Admin (SIR 8.5 %)	\$20,200	\$4,362	\$3,666	\$8,029	\$12,172
TOTAL	\$257,850	\$55,686	\$46,797	\$102,482	\$155,368

Administered Projects

	Expenses				Remaining
	Budget	Q1	Q2	To Date	
BC Fruit Works	\$162,540	\$3,620	\$33,114	\$36,734	\$125,806
Labour Supply Research	\$115,000	\$0	\$25,463	\$25,463	\$89,538
Global Club Access	\$48,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$48,000
TOTAL	\$325,540	\$3,620	\$58,577	\$62,197	\$263,343

Project Funding

	Total Funding Expected	Received to Date
CCLSP	\$855,658	\$374,730
BC Fruit Works	\$162,540	\$90,000
Labour Supply Research Project	\$115,000	\$50,000
Global Club Access	\$48,000	\$40,000
TOTAL	\$1,181,198	\$554,730

Update on Advisory Council Membership

We are still working to secure representatives from the BC Grapegrowers' Association and the BC Fruit Growers' Association. The Advisory Council could also benefit from adding "grower members at large," so please let me know who I could approach.

MEMORANDUM

To: Cross-Commodity Advisory Council

From: Shamore Watson, Labour Project Lead

Subject: Update on BC Fruit Works

June 13, 2024

BC Fruit Works Website Updates

The requested website updates were completed by our marketing partner, T2 Marketing, and the updated website is live. The language translation was initiated and should be completed within 48 hours. The website address is <https://bcfruitworks.com/>.

Marketing Recruitment Campaign

Our social media campaign materials are now ready. We are sharing them with the domestic labour committee this week and would also appreciate your feedback before we launch. We're still determining the labour needs of our growers, so we've made sure not to overpromise in our messaging.

Kindly review and comment on the materials using this link - https://docs.google.com/document/d/1u6C-gbxlyuiGtggRBap60tgRyx_m07HjOQBRMu7p6o/edit?usp=sharing.

Job Matching Strategy

So far, we have had approximately 30 workers register and one grower/employer. We are actively working to increase the number of growers in our pool. I am having a difficult time getting any responses from growers and would appreciate your advice on how to improve engagement.

Human Resource Material Development

Our initial batch of Human Resources materials is complete. I am currently working on additional materials and will have everything finished by the end of June.

Industry Engagement

I have attended numerous industry events, including meetings with the Domestic Labour Committee, the Cross-Commodity Advisory Council, the Labour Research Project Team, Ministry of Agriculture, and the Lake Country Farmer's BBQ.



Tree Fruit Industry Stabilization Initiative

Application Form

SECTION 1: APPLICANT INFORMATION *(Required)*

Organization Name	BC Fruit Growers' Association
Street Address	880 Vaughn Avenue
Town, Village or City	Kelowna
Province	BC
Postal Code	V1Y 7E4
Telephone Number	250-762-5226
Website	www.bcfga.com
Project Lead (First /Last)	Gail Nelson
Project Lead Phone No.	250-762-5226
Project Lead Email	gnelson@bcfga.com

SECTION 2: PROJECT OVERVIEW *(Required)*

2.1	Project Title (Max. 10 words)	B.C. Access to Plant Material
2.2	Planned Start Date	2024-06-27
	Planned End Date	2025-12-31
2.3	Executive Summary (Max. 250 words)	<p>The Tree Fruit Industry Stabilization Plan (TFISP) recommends development of a comprehensive process to support the acquisition, development, commercialization, and marketing of new varieties and new value-added products. Without access to high quality nursery stock, this is not possible.</p> <p>There continues to be a shortage of locally produced nursery stock, leaving growers dependent on imported rootstocks and finished trees from the Pacific Northwest (PNW). Through the Tree Fruit Stabilization Initiative (Rec #5), the Plant Materials Access Sub-Committee began working with nursery partners in the USA and Eastern Canada (E Canada) to address this issue. The sub-committee has come to recognize that the current methyl bromide fumigation requirements for nursery material entering B.C. are</p>

		<p>prohibitive to many nursery exporters. This has resulted in a shortage of high-quality nursery stock available to producers in B.C.</p> <p>Since December 2021, our sub-committee has been communicating with the Northwest Nursery Improvement Institute (NNII) to work towards a mutually beneficial and safe solution for both partners. In June 2022 our committee submitted a letter to APHIS in support of the efforts of the Northwest Nursery Improvement Institute to create a systems approach to ensure adequate Oriental Fruit Moth management during the production of nursery stock, in hopes of finding a solution to the trade restriction limiting the movement of fruit tree nursery stock from Oregon and Washington State into B.C.</p> <p>In November 2023, CFIA responded to the proposal put forward from the NNII and our sub-committee. The sub-committee met with CFIA on February 8, 2024, to further discuss the parameters of the proposed systems approach and the APHIS response to CFIA's concerns raised during bilateral negotiations. CFIA and our subcommittee discussed various strategies to reduce risks once tree fruit stock is imported. It was suggested that the sub-committee work closely with the NNII to monitor procedures and progress of the systems approach during the initial growing seasons after implementation. CFIA requested industry assistance with additional oriental fruit moth monitoring in B.C. and industry outreach activities to educate grower-importers on the topics of continued monitoring and inspection of stock upon receipt.</p>
2.4	Which recommendation of the Tree Fruit Industry Stabilization Plan does this project	<p>Recommendation 5: It is recommended that industry leadership collectively establish a comprehensive process to support the acquisition, development, commercialization, and marketing of new varieties and new value-added products.</p>

SECTION 3: PROJECT DETAILS *(Required)*

3.1	Please list the objectives of your project.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work with the NNII to address concerns put forth by the CFIA in a way that is practical for nurseries, including on-site visits to ensure protocols are in place. 2. Assist with a potential 'pilot' systems approach in 2024, including monitoring of imported nursery stock and outreach and education to growers. 3. Collect B.C. data to quantify risk of OFM establishment from importation of nursery stock. 	
3.2	Please detail the activities that constitute your project:		
	Activity Title	Activity Description	Estimated Date of Completion
	Updated Systems Approach proposal	Review CFIA comments to systems approach and work with NNII to revise proposal. This may include interviewing relevant nurseries in the PNW and E Canada.	June 29, 2024
	Continued communications and information sharing between sub-committee, CFIA and NNII	Work with federal staff and NNII to provide feedback and adjust the Systems Approach, as needed.	Ongoing 2024 and 2025
	Systems Approach pilot	Work with PNW and E Canada nurseries to run a pilot of the Systems Approach in 2024, including on-site visits to participating nurseries in WA to monitor field trapping, and stock inspections.	2024 growing season
	First tree shipments	Work with PNW and E Canada nurseries to run a pilot of the Systems Approach in 2025, including monitoring of imported nursery stock within B.C.	2025 growing season

	Grower extension and outreach	Support growers with monitoring of imported trees. Provide extension and outreach regarding identification of OFM and in-orchard trapping protocols	Fall 2024 (development of materials) to Spring 2025 (delivery to growers)
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SECTION 5: PROJECT DELIVERABLES *(Required)*

Please list the key deliverables for your project:

I.e. what materials or outcomes will take place as a result of project activities? Research report, stakeholder engagement, etc.

	Project Deliverable	Measurement Tool
5.1	Acceptance of Systems Approach for importation of nursery stock into B.C.	Sub-committee approval
	Pilot Systems Approach	Participation of nurseries in PNW and/or E Canada
	B.C. grower OFM awareness	Delivery of extension materials to B.C. growers, including monitoring of sentinel traps for OFM
	Please add more rows if required.	

SECTION 6: PERFORMANCE PLAN *(Required)*

Please detail the key performance indicators for your project:

i.e. how will you measure the success of the project activities?

6.1	Near-term performance indicators:	
	Key Performance Indicator	Measurement Tool
	The project will be successful if these goals are realized:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An updated Systems Approach Proposal is approved by the CFIA. 2. Collaboration with NNII and nurseries in PNW and E Canada is achieved. 3. The updated proposal meets CFIA requirements and is operationally feasible for nurseries.
	Please add more rows if required.	
6.2	Medium to long-term performance indicators (beyond project timeline / scope):	
	Key Performance Indicator	Measurement Tool
	Success of proposal	CFIA approves and implements the systems approach
	Pilot Systems Approach for nursery material is launched	B.C. industry collaborates with nursery and industry colleagues in PNW and E Canada to execute a pilot of the Systems Approach in 2025.
	Please add more rows if required.	
6.3	Are there any risks associated with this project that would impact implementation or performance? If yes, please describe below.	
	<p>CFIA requirements may be too time consuming and costly for nurseries in PNW and E Canada to continue with the Systems Approach.</p> <p>To mitigate this risk, this proposal includes work to quantify the actual risk of OFM introduction into B.C. by imported nursery stock. If the data concludes that the risk to the B.C. industry is low, industry could approach CFIA to review the value of maintaining a quarantine area for OFM.</p>	

SECTION 7: PROJECT RESOURCES *(Required)*

7.1	<p>Describe the internal capacity that your organization has to deliver this project.</p> <p>Please include staff and financial resources.</p>	<p>The BCFGa has a dedicated Horticulture and Research Projects Manager who would be the lead on the project. We also have a Communications Manager to aid with outreach, extension, and dissemination of results.</p>
7.2	Describe the external resources that you have in place to carry out the project.	
	Potential Project Partners	<p>Yes/No</p> <p>Description (e.g. capacity, level of engagement, experience in the sector or subject matter)</p>
	Third-Party Consultant	<p>Yes.</p> <p>A qualified consultant will be engaged to carry out this work on behalf of the sub-committee.</p>
	Agricultural Advisory Committee or Equivalent	<p>Yes</p> <p>Updates will be provided to the Cross-Commodity Advisory Council throughout the project. The Council is also available to provide feedback if appropriate and as requested by the sub-committee.</p>
	Other government or technical support	<p>Yes</p> <p>Representation of AF and AAFC staff on sub-committee.</p>
	Other agriculture/ industry stakeholders	<p>Yes</p> <p>Representation of BCFGa on sub-committee.</p>

SECTION 8: WORKPLAN SUMMARY AND BUDGET *(Required)*

Activity and Expense Items	Budget (CAD\$)	Timeline (MM/YYYY)
Duties of hired consultant:		
Materials (traps and lures for OFM monitoring, meeting materials)	\$500	Growing season 2025
Travel to WA state for nursery meetings and on-site inspections and data collection	\$5,000	Summer and Fall, 2024; Spring and Summer/Fall, 2025
Data collection, reporting, extension material preparation, delivery of extension (grower meetings, industry engagement, administration, etc.)	\$24,500	June 2024 - December 2025
Administration fee at 10% for administering association	\$3,000	
TOTAL BUDGET	\$33,000	
Total TFSI Funding Requested	\$33,000	

Due Diligence and Review Template for the Stabilization Fund

This form is to be completed by the CCLSP Project Director in consultation with the Cross-Commodity Advisory Council.

1) Project Overview

Organization Name	BC Fruit Growers' Association
Project Number (IAF only)	
Project Title	B.C. Access to Plant Material
Total Project Costs	\$33,000
Total Funding Requested	\$33,000
TFISP Recommendation Targeted	5. It is recommended that industry leadership collectively establish a comprehensive process to support the acquisition, development, commercialization, and marketing of new varieties and new value-added products.

2) Applicant Eligibility Assessment

Applicant is Eligible:	Yes	No
Legal agricultural industry association or entity participating in the stabilization plan process.	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has the resources to execute the project as described, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project management resources (staff, consultant, industry) • Financial management capacity • History of past project reporting and execution with IAF (if applicable) 	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
Notes / Comments (if any)		
The BCFGFA has a dedicated Horticulture and Research Projects Manager who would be the lead on the project. They also have a Communications Manager to aid with outreach, extension, and dissemination of results. CCLSP staff can also assist with the project as needed.		

3) Project Due Diligence

All required information to assess project:	Yes	No
Relevant fields completed and sufficient detail provided given the scope or scale of the project.	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
Planned activities serve to support the TFISP Recommendation targeted.	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
Timeline appears reasonable for scope of work proposed.	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
All project activities and costs eligible:		
Planned activities/costs eligible for TFISP funding	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
Planned activities/costs appear reasonable and realistic	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
Planned activities/costs support implementation of the TFISP targeted recommendation	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>

All required information provided to assess project deliverables and key performance indicators:	Yes	No
Project deliverables are reasonable and realistic given proposed activities.	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
Performance plan provides detailed and reasonable near, to medium-long term performance indicators.	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
Key performance indicators are measurable and timebound.	✓	<input type="checkbox"/>
Notes / Comments (if any)		
A risk would be not having someone available to do this type of work. Does the BCFGa have a consultant/company in mind already that they can approach?		

4) Recommendation

	Yes	No
Funding recommendation (yes or no)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Date (mm/dd/yy)		
Notes / Comments (if any)		
This proposal addresses a specific and immediate need and builds on work and engagement already completed by the sub-committee. The project is commodity-specific but the approach will be documented and could be applied to other commodities in the future.		

Agriculture and Local Government Forum

Proposal for review by the Cross-Commodity Advisory Council

Objective

The CCLSP will host two forums in October and/or November 2024 that bring together growers, staff from local governments, industry associations, the province, and the ALC, elected officials, and others to share perspectives and discuss challenges and opportunities related to policies and regulations impacting agriculture.

Do you agree with the general idea of having these forums?

Goals

The goals of the forums are to:

1. Facilitate communication between the participants, helping to strengthen relationships and make connections.
2. Enable a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by the participants and begin identifying possible solutions and opportunities to collaborate.
3. Provide a forum to share expert insights and best practices and discuss how current policies and regulations are impacting agriculture.
4. Connect growers with supports provided by groups such as the CCLSP and the Economic Development Commission.

Do you agree with these goals? Are we missing anything?

Event Details

The details for each forum are:

Forum 1: North & Central Okanagan	
Date:	Late October (Is there a better/worse day of the week? Is this time of year okay for the intended audiences?)
Time:	8:30 am – 3:00 pm
Potential Locations:	Is a hotel or a community centre better? <i>Coast Capri or Ellison Community Hall</i> <i>Sheraton Winfield Memorial Hall</i>
Forum 2: Okanagan-Similkameen	
Date:	Early November (Is there a better/worse day of the week? Is this time of year okay for the intended audiences?)
Time:	8:30 am – 3:00 pm
Potential Locations:	Is a hotel or a community centre better? <i>Osoyoos Watermark or Sonora Community Centre</i> <i>Oliver Community Hall</i>

The following is a draft schedule of events for both forums. **Do you agree with this general approach to the day? If not, what approach would you prefer?**

Agenda Item	Time	Location
Opening Remarks	8:30 am	Main Venue
Field Tour 1 (grape focused)	9:15 am	Winery/Vineyard
Field Tour 2 (tree fruits focused)	9:15 am	Orchard/Packer
LUNCH	12:00 pm	Main Venue
Presentations	1:00 pm	Main Venue
Panel Discussion	2:00 pm	Main Venue
Closing Remarks	3:00 pm	Main Venue

The following are options for potential field tours in each area. **What options should we pursue? Are there other options we should investigate?**

Forum 1: North & Central Okanagan		
Business Name	Location	Commodity
Ancient Hill Winery	Kelowna (Ellison)	Grapes
Day Century Growers	Kelowna (East Kelowna)	Pears
Dorenberg Orchards	Lake Country	Apples, pears, grapes
Farming Karma	Kelowna (Rutland)	Apples, cherries, juice
Jealous Fruits	Lake Country	Cherries
O'Rourke Family Estates	Lake Country	Grapes, wine
The View Winery/Wards Cider	Kelowna (East Kelowna)	Grapes, Apples
Upside Cider	Kelowna (Ellison)	Apples, cherries, cider
Forum 2: Okanagan-Similkameen		
Business Name	Location	Commodity
BCTF Packing House	Oliver	Tree fruits
Bordertown Winery	Osoyoos	Grapes
Howling Moon Cidery	Oliver	Apples

Invite List

Draft invite list is as follows. **Are these the most appropriate organizations? Are we missing any organizations? Do you have recommendations for specific people to invite? Should we invite elected officials or keep it at the staff level?**

- Members of the cross-commodity advisory council and its committees
- Cherry, apple, and wine grape growers
- North Okanagan RD
- Central Okanagan RD
- Okanagan-Similkameen RD
- Kootenay Boundary RD
- Central Kootenay RD
- Columbia Shuswap RD
- City of Vernon
- District of Lake Country
- City of Kelowna
- City of West Kelowna
- District of Summerland
- City of Penticton
- Town of Oliver
- Town of Osoyoos
- Village of Keremeos
- Town of Creston

Domestic Labour Supply Research Project – At a Glance

The agriculture sector is facing substantial labour issues, including difficulties in recruitment, retention, and workforce engagement, which impacts its productivity and sustainability. The Cross-Commodity Leadership Support Project is partnering with Kwantlen Polytechnic University to deliver a labour research project focused on the tree fruit and wine grape industries in the Okanagan region.

Project Goal

The goal of the project is to gain a better understanding of the domestic seasonal labour market to identify policies, actions, and strategies for addressing labour shortages.

Project Objectives

The objectives of the labour supply research project are to:

1. Understand the size and economic impact of the job market, current labour issues, and competing labour opportunities.
2. Analyze the experiences, needs, and perceptions of tree fruit and wine grape producers regarding domestic labour recruitment, retention, and relationship maintenance.
3. Understand worker demographics, motivations, migratory patterns, experiences, job-seeking methods, and employer relationship management practices.
4. Extract insights to guide strategies for addressing domestic labour shortages in BC's agriculture sector, with a focus on engagement.
5. Contribute to future domestic labour policies, programs, and industry standards.

Project Activity Highlights

The following activities will be completed as part of the project:

- Review literature related to agricultural labour and interview people from the tree fruit and wine grape industry associations and organizations such as WALI, BCAC, CAHRC.
- Interview producers and workers.
- Use data from Statistics Canada and other sources to estimate the size of the domestic labour pool and of the job market, average hourly rate and amount of wages paid out, and other relevant information.
- Develop key takeaways and recommendations based on the literature review, interviews, and secondary data.
- Prepare a final report and supporting communication materials, such as an infographic.
- Share results with industry via presentations, email, social media, newsletters, and other channels.

Timeline and Budget

The project will be completed between June 2024 and July 2025. The budget is \$145,000, with \$100,000 coming from the Investment Agriculture Foundation, \$30,000 from Mitacs, and \$15,000 from industry.