



**BC blueberries**  
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## **Draft Minutes** of September 20, 2021 Board Meeting via Zoom call

**Attendees:** Dalbir Benipal (Chair), Jack Bates (past Chair), Gurprit Singh Brar, Bryce Guliker, Charanjit Chahal (joined 8:35), Surjit Gosal (joined at 8:45) Humraj Kallu, Ripan Malhi, Harjot Toor, Eva Wang (joined 9:00), Carolyn Teasdale, Anju Gill (staff), Clara Moran (staff), Karen Carter (staff),

**Guests:** Promotions Team joined at 11:00 - Karen Hallam (Hallamedia), James Caron (Spring Advertising), Leeann Froese (Town Hall Brands), Tara Clark (Social T)

**Regrets:** Jason Smith (Vice-Chair), Raj Grewal

### **1. Call to order**

D. Benipal called the meeting to order at 8:03 am

### **2. Approval of Agenda**

Motion 21/09/20: “to approve the agenda as presented”. Carried.

### **3. Approval of the June 8, 2021 meeting minutes**

Motion 21/09/20 “to approve the minutes of the last meeting on June 8, 2021 as circulated”. Carried.

### **4. Business arising from the Minutes – None.**

### **5. Finance Update**

Our bookkeeper left the end of June and we have decided to outsource our bookkeeping.

Financial statements should be available by the end of October.

We filed claims for Agrimarketing and have received \$241,417 for 2020-2021. For AgriScience, we expect to receive \$200,000. We expect to receive 75,000 in funding from Buy BC after auditing.

Update on the Global Safeguard request for assistance from the packers/processors: We have received \$28,000.

### **6. Board training – Eben Louw, MNP joined the meeting at 9:00am**

Eben L. gave a presentation to the Board on the responsibilities of Board members.

### **7. Domestic PT, Media Relations and Marketing team introductions** (the team joined the group at 11:00). The team explained the services they provide to the Council.

### **8. Appointment of Committee Chairs**

Finance Committee – Jason Smith

Research Committee – Gurprit Brar

Promotions Committee – Humraj Kallu

Industry Relations – Ripan Malhi

### **9. Planning document**

The next meeting will be dedicated to prioritizing the Council’s activities for the upcoming year. Prior to the next Board meeting, directors are asked to review the Strategic map and

chart document as circulated with this agenda. A meeting will be scheduled in the first weeks of October.

**10. Pollinator discussion**

The Board is asked to read the previously circulated report by Paul van Westendorp, Provincial Apiculturist (attached). A meeting to discuss the report on bee shortage issues and possible solutions will be scheduled for the end of October.

**11. NABC voluntary fund proposal/crop report**

The board unanimously agreed on the following: since BCBC is a grower organization and has no say in processor-packers' affairs, it is up to individual processor-packers to engage in discussions on the UBTF's proposed MOU. It would be inappropriate for BCBC to participate in a decision that ultimately falls on the processor-packers.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am