



Minutes of November 9, 2021 Board Meeting
via Zoom call and in person

Attendees: Jason Smith (Chair), Jack Bates, Gurprit Singh Brar, Bryce Guliker, Charanjit Chahal, Surjit Gosal, Raj Grewal, Humraj Kallu, Ripan Malhi, Harjot Toor, Eva Wang, Carolyn Teasdale, Anju Gill (staff), Clara Moran (staff), Karen Carter (staff),

Regrets: Dalbir Benipal

1. **Call to order** – A. Gill informed the Board that Dalbir Benipal resigned as Chair for personal reasons, but will remain as a director of the Board. J. Smith agreed to be the Chair of the Board until the next AGM in June 2022.
2. **Approval of the Agenda** [Motion 21/11/09](#): To “approve the agenda with the addition of items 7.1 and 7.2”. Carried
3. **Approval of the September 20, 2021 meeting Minutes.** To “approve the meeting minutes of September 20, 2021.”
4. **Business arising from the Minutes - none**
5. **Reports:**
 - 5.1. Chair – no report
 - 5.2. ED – A. Gill provided a written report and highlighted
 - 5.3. Promotions Committee – H. Kallu presented a written report and highlighted a few key points, particularly the possible need to reduce promotions spending due lower levy collection and going back to 40% levy commitment.
 - 5.4. Research Committee - G. Brar presented a written report and highlighted a few key points.
 - 5.5. IR Committee – R.Malhi presented a written report and highlighted:
 - A survey was sent out to processor/packers and growers on various issues. Separate meetings with grower and processor-packers will be held to further explain the initiative. These meetings are scheduled to take place on Nov 25 and 26.
 - Field Day will be held on November 30 and will have a pollination theme/focus.
 - 5.6. BCBC rep reports – G. Brar presented a written report on Ag Days in Victoria. He expressed having blueberry representation at these meetings is essential.
6. **Financial report**
 - There was a call for more Board members to join this committee as well as recruit additional members. It will be beneficial to have someone part of the committee with a strong financial background. [Motion 21/11/09](#): “The BCBC Board to recruit an outside professional to be a member of the Finance Committee”. Carried.

7. Planning session debrief and Board engagement

7.1. Structure of Board – nominations for the Finance Chair and Vice-Chair position due to J. Smith's move to fill the Chair position.

- Finance committee chair – Motion “to approve Harjot Toor as the Finance Chair”. Carried.
- Vice Chair – Motion to approve “Eva Wang as the Vice-Chair”. Carried.
- Director development – on-going director training is beneficial and as the past Chair perhaps J. Bates could lead this initiative.
- J. Bates attended an online board training session through COGA and found the information useful. **Action:** Information will be sent out to the BCBC Directors.

7.2. In-person board meeting attendance decision- [Motion 21/11/09](#): “In person meetings will require proof of vaccination, Zoom meetings will be made available for those without. This decision is to be reviewed frequently.” Carried.

7.3. Planning session debrief –

- A. Gill stated that the document that was to be a working plan framework for the Board, was not developed enough (due to lack of participation) at this point to be an effective tool. It needs to be further developed with critical eye to set well focused direction of the Council's work.

8. IAF membership

Jack Dewit (Chair) and Michelle Koski (CEO) joined the meeting at 9:30 to encourage BCBC to become a member of IAF. They provided general information about the organization and its mandate.

Directors deliberated on the issue and decided in favour of joining IAF: [Motion 21/11/09](#): “That BCBC apply to become a member of the IAF”. It would allow BCBC to have a voice at the table.

9. [Ag Refresh](#) feedback (as per my Oct. 20th email). Meeting with the city of Abbotsford is scheduled for November 10th, Board members are encouraged to give feedback to A. Gill.

10. **Pollination strategy** (as per the Almond/Canola model in Paul van Westendorp report). After a lengthy discussion and with IR committee's recommendation, it was decided to explore this model.

- **Action:** A sub group to be established to head this initiative, with E. Wang as Chair.

11. Scorch strategy

- Scorch and shock sub-committee meetings have reconvened to hold regular meetings. The general direction is to support testing, and removal of plants infected plants.

12. In-camera

13. Next board meeting – proposed date December 14

14. Adjourn