



**Islands
Agriculture Show**
February 2-3, 2024
Cowichan Exhibition Park, Duncan



Time	MNP Room	BMO Room
8:00 AM	Registration Opens	
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	<p>Building Healthy Soils</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emma Holmes, <i>Soil Health and Organics Agrologist, B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Food</i> • Carson Li, <i>Agronomy Consultant, B.C. Center for Agritech Innovation</i> <p>A session on regenerative soil management, soil health indicators, soil micro-biome, and compost.</p>	<p>Management of Rats and Geese on Farms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conrad Berube, <i>Senior Integrated Pest Management Officer, Ministry of Environment</i> • Graeme Fowler, <i>Principal, Wildcrop Wildlife and Agricultural Services</i> <p>Presentations on Integrated Rat Management and local geese management strategies.</p>
10:00 AM – 10:30 AM	Break and transition	
10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	<p>Keynote 1: Economics of Innovation (MNP Room)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curtis Grainger, <i>Director Lending Product and Sustainability Programs, Farm Credit Canada</i> <p>How lenders are working with farmers on sustainability initiatives.</p>	
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Lunch Break (<i>food available for purchase from venue concession</i>)	
	<i>No Sessions Scheduled</i>	<p>Demo & Info Corner</p> <p><i>Conference participants are welcome to bring their lunch and drop-in for demonstrations and information sharing by conference speakers and others.</i></p>
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM	<p>Sheep Nutrition for Quality Meat and Fiber</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lori Vickers, <i>Livestock Specialist, B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Food</i> • Emily McIvor, <i>Owner/Operator, New Wave Fibre</i> • Lorea Tomsin, <i>Shearer/Producer</i> • Francine McCabe, <i>Representative, Vancouver Island Fibreshed</i> • John Buchanan, <i>Owner/Operator, Parry Bay Sheep Farm</i> <p>A presentation on sheep nutrition and a panel on sheep health, wool as a secondary product for income, and fiber sales opportunities.</p>	<p>Effective Irrigation and Water Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bruce Naka, <i>Consultant, Sound Water Advice</i> <p>Irrigation system efficiency and strategies to effectively irrigate forage and horticulture crops in a changing climate.</p>
2:30 PM – 3:00 PM	Break and transition	
3:00 PM – 4:00 PM	<p>Planting Hedgerows for Pollinators and Pest Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kristen Miskelley, <i>Biologist, Satinflower Nursery</i> • Renee Prasad, <i>Department Head and Associate Professor, Agriculture Technology Department-University of Fraser Valley</i> • Robin Tunnicliffe, <i>Owner/Operator, Sea Bluff Farm</i> • Sasha Kubicek, <i>Owner/Operator, Sea Bluff Farm</i> <p>A presentation on designing and planting hedgerows and covercrops for attracting pollinators and beneficial insects. How does this help with pest management and crop production?</p>	<p>Nitrogen and Phosphorus Management on Vancouver Island</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Josh Andrews, <i>Nutrient Specialist, B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Food</i> • Lindsay Benbow, <i>Regional Agrologist, B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Food</i> • Mike Witt, <i>Consultant, Forage Based Solutions</i> <p>Research on nitrogen management & low-emissions manure spreading technologies. An update on the new Phosphorus Index tool being developed.</p>
4:00 PM	<p>Welcome Reception</p> <p>Hosted by: Islands Agricultural Show Society</p> <p>Please join us to enjoy a delicious sampling of local foods, wines, craft beers and other beverages. All registered conference participants are welcome.</p>	



Time	MNP Room	BMO Room
8:00 AM	Registration Opens	
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	<p>Farm Business Economics and Budgeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrea Gunner, <i>Consultant, AG Consulting</i> • Dennis Palmer, <i>Director Indigenous and Entrepreneur Services, B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Food</i> <p>Knowing Your Own Costs of Production: A workshop on record keeping basics, using records to calculate cost of production by enterprise, and cash flow scenarios. It will be interactive with a group exercise on Enterprise Budget calculations and evaluation of potential innovation & funding opportunities.</p>	<p>Preventing Burnout</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Megz Reynolds, <i>Executive Director, Do More Ag Foundation</i> • Wendy Bennett, <i>Executive Director, AgSafe B.C.</i> <p>Agriculture is an industry with busy seasons, long days and uncertainty. Preventing burn out begins with understanding the signs and individual self-maintenance requirements. This session will be a facilitated discussion on mental wellness from experts at the Do More Ag Foundation and AgSafe B.C.</p>
10:00 AM – 10:30 AM	Break and transition	
10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	<p>Keynote 2: Indigenous Agriculture: Creating Food Systems that are Indistinguishable from Nature (MNP Room)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jared (Qwustenuxun) Williams, <i>Indigenous Cultural Educator</i> <p>A presentation on indigenous food systems to produce food and heal the environment. Growing Indigenous foods paired with eating locally and seasonally drastically reduces our reliance on agricultural inputs and food transportation.</p>	
11:30 AM – 1:00 PM	Lunch Break (<i>food available for purchase from venue concession</i>)	
	<i>No Sessions Scheduled</i>	<p>Demo & Info Corner</p> <p><i>Conference participants are welcome to bring their lunch and drop-in for demonstrations and information sharing by conference speakers and others.</i></p>
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM	<p>Scaling Up Poultry Production</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glen Beaton, <i>Owner/Operator, Stonecroft Farm</i> • Andrea Gunner, <i>Consultant, AG Consulting</i> • Cammy Lockwood, <i>Owner/Operator, Lockwood Farms</i> • Gigi Lin, <i>Welfare, Extension and Emergency Management Veterinarian, B.C. Ministry Agriculture and Food</i> <p>Presentations on poultry business considerations for scaling-up production, barriers and opportunities, regulatory and quota requirements, and local Avian Influenza updates. Also, a discussion with local producers who have successfully scaled up for eggs, chicken, and turkey.</p>	<p>Climate Adapted Farming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lucas Nebert, <i>Research Associate, Oregon State University</i> <p>A presentation on research and strategies for farms to adapt to climate change, such as dryland farming; a type of farming that relies on natural precipitation and moisture instead of irrigation.</p>
2:30 PM – 3:00 PM	Break and transition	
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM	<p>On Farm Meat Processing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raquel Kolof, <i>Project Coordinator, Small Scale Meat Producers Association</i> • Brent Smith, <i>Enforcement Officer, B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Food</i> • Dave Semmelink, <i>Owner/Operator, Lentelus Farms</i> • John Buchanan, <i>Owner/Operator, Parry Bay Sheep Farm</i> <p>Small scale farm slaughter opportunities, Farmgate and Farmgate Plus licensing, insurance, economics of scaling-up your business, and lessons-learned from local producers.</p>	<p>Growing and Marketing Grains and Pulses on Vancouver Island</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mike Doehnel, <i>Owner/Operator, Field Five Farm and VI Malt</i> • Tom Henry, <i>Owner/Operator, Stillmeadow Farm</i> <p>Presentations by local grain producers on crop cultivation, equipment needed, and marketing opportunities.</p>
4:30 PM	End of Day 2	

Funding for the conference sessions is provided in part by the governments of Canada and British Columbia through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a federal-provincial-territorial initiative.



THANK YOU TO THE ISLANDS AGRICULTURE SHOW SPONSORS!



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