



# THE BC HOP COMPANY LTD.

## KILN DRYING TECHNOLOGY

# \$285K

FUNDED BY THE  
CANADA-BC  
AGRI-INNOVATION  
PROGRAM

### Background

- The BC Hop Company Ltd. in Abbotsford is building an innovative hop processing facility that will introduce new technologies currently used in Europe.
- Canada-BC Agri-Innovation Program is contributing \$285K to install advanced kiln drying techniques to increase Fraser Valley's hop production and quality.
- The drying kiln will allow the assembly of a growing cell – a network of partner farmers that are strategically located and proximal to the harvest process facility.
- The technology will process 116M mega tons of dried finished product annually valued at \$3.5 million in the market.
- The company is planning to expand in 2018 and will provide a world leading and consistent quality source of hops for local breweries.

# \$3.5M

ANNUAL REVENUE

### Funding from the Governments of Canada and British Columbia allowed the BC Hop Company to develop:

- An integrated hops processing facility.
- Three stage indirect fired kiln which will reduce emissions and improve air quality.
- A ConAqua© conditioning unit that is used to equilibrate the hops post drying.



IMPROVED TIME TO  
MARKET



HIGH QUALITY HOPS



### Industry Snapshot

130 breweries are now estimated to be operational or close to operational in B.C. by the end of 2016. The B.C. Government estimates the number of craft brewers in B.C. has more than doubled since 2010, from 54 breweries to 118 currently. In B.C., craft beer market share accounts for nearly 15% of all beer sold according to the Craft Brewers Association of British Columbia (now BC Brewers Guild), maintain that brewers are experiencing sales growth between 15 and 20% per year.

### Benefits to British Columbia

The estimated total size of the current market for hops is equivalent to 450-500 acres. This is greater than the province's current production which is produced by a small number of farms operating at very small scales. This project:

- Provides processing to help grow the hops sector by over 150 acres.
- Provides local farmers with the opportunity to increase their earning potential.
- Creates jobs and a reliable local supply of quality hops for the growing craft beer industry in B.C.
- Will provide a world leading and consistent quality source of hops for local breweries.

Funding for the Canada-BC Agri-Innovation Program has been provided by the Governments of Canada and British Columbia through *Growing Forward 2*, a federal-provincial-territorial initiative.