

Volume 1, Issue 1

April 1, 2020

# Agrologists Agronomes Canada Spring 2020 Newsletter



*Canada's Agrology Professionals*

## Special points of interest:

- Quebec's Budget to Provide \$295 million over Six Years
- Biennial Agriculture Symposium To Be Held in Cornerbrook, NL in November 2020
- Provincial Annual General Meetings Update
- SIA Seeks Internationally Trained Agrologists for Paid Work Experience

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## Introduction and Welcome to the Inaugural Issue

Agrologists Agronomes Canada (AAC) is pleased to welcome you to the inaugural issue of its bi-annual newsletter.

Due to challenges resulting from the Covid-19 virus situation, some information that was accurate at the time of publication may have changed. Please contact the relevant provincial institute for the latest information.

Notable for this edition

is the implementation of a national employment bank, which may be viewed at

<https://agrologistscanada.ca/employment-opportunities/>.

The sharing of information across provinces, and refreshment of the AAC website continues to be ongoing priorities.

Once again,

“Notable for this edition is the implementation of a national employment bank, which may be viewed at <https://agrologistscanada.ca/employment-opportunities/>.”

welcome! Check the website frequently at <https://agrologistscanada.ca/>

## Quebec's Budget to Provide \$295 million over Six Years

The 2020-2021 Quebec government's budget will provide \$295 million over six years for development of the agricultural sector, including \$125 million over five years for implementation of the Sustainable Agriculture Plan.

The new budget has a focus on the future: a green economy,

education and improving services for Quebecers in need.

The government is doubling its investments to fight climate change with a \$6.7-billion plan over six years to build a green economy.

In line with international commitments, the province aims to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 37.5 per

cent below its 1990 level by 2030.

Sustainable agriculture will receive \$125 million and managing residual materials has been allotted \$83 million. For more highlights, visit <https://montrealgazette.com/news/quebec/highlights-of-the-2020-21-quebec-budget>.



## BCIA Enacts new Bylaws, Introduces RTAg Designation

BC Institute of Agrologists (BCIA) is pleased to announce new Bylaws which came into effect on March 1, 2020.

The new Bylaws will guide BCIA forward as the profession continues its protection of the public interest and assists in the responsible development of British Columbia's natural resources sector under the Professional Governance Act.

It is expected that further

amendments will be made to the Bylaws by November 2020, in order to comply with the implementation of the Professional Governance Act.

The Bylaws can be found at <https://www.bcia.com/sites/default/files/imce/Bylaws/2020/FinalBylaws%20Mar%201%202020.pdf>

BCIA is also pleased to announce a new

registration category: Registered Technologist in Agrology (RTAg), in conjunction with the associated articling program.

To celebrate the new technologist category, BCIA will waive half (\$100.00) of the RTAg application fee for all applicants from March 1, 2020 to February 28, 2021.

For more information, and to apply, please visit <https://www.bcia.com/members/applications-registration/pag-and-rtag>.

*“ The Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources (CAPERN) has tabled its report with 32 recommendations on the use of pesticides and professional independence.”*

## OAQ Response to CAPERN Report on Pesticides

The Ordre des agronomes du Québec took part on the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Energy and Natural Resources at the end of September 2019.

The committee was created to examine the impact of pesticides on public health and the environment and examine current and future innovative alternative practices in the agriculture

and food sectors, with due regard for the competitiveness of Québec's agri-food sector.

The comments sent to OAQ members regarding the report the government published on February 19, 2020 may be viewed in **English** at <https://agrologistscanada.ca/wp-content/uploads/Profession>

[al-Independence-Report-OAQ.pdf](#)

The original report in **French** is available at [https://oaq.qc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Commentaires\\_CAPERN-1.pdf](https://oaq.qc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Commentaires_CAPERN-1.pdf).



**Our Food.  
Our Future.**



Growing Opportunities in Agriculture

## Biennial Agriculture Symposium To Be Held in Cornerbrook, NL

**Our Food. Our Future:** Growing Opportunities in Agriculture through Innovation and Collaboration will be held in Cornerbrook, NL on November 3-5, 2020.

This three-day symposium is intended for those interested in agri-food production, research and

food systems and want to learn about a successful farming, innovative methods and technologies, sustainable intensification, small-scale production, farm diversification, marketing and consumer awareness.

The event will include a trade show, a series of

“lightning talk” presentations, and presentations from local and international industry and business professionals.

Complete information can be obtained by visiting <https://www.gov.nl.ca/ourfoodourfuture/biennial-research-symposium/overview/>.

## Professional Independence Committee Report Released in Quebec

The members of the professional independence committee made 17 recommendations to the Ordre des Agronomes du Québec (OAQ).

In addition to requesting change from employers, OAQ will support agronomists to change their practices. New reference grids and guidelines will be communicated, and training in ethics and

professional conduct will be offered by the end of the year. When registering their membership in 2021, agronomists must declare the method of remuneration made by their employer.

The 2020 professional inspection campaign will be reviewed for the traceability of recommendations to the invoices in the client's file, and the presence in each client's file of the disclosure of interests made to clients

OAQ is committed to being transparent with members, the public, but also with its members and all external stakeholders. OAQ will be making communication changes in the coming weeks. The accessibility of the documents on the website will be reviewed, and a fulsome annual report is being prepared.

The full report and OAQs complete response is available in **English** at

<https://agrologistscanada.ca/wp-content/uploads/Professional-Independence-Report-OAQ.pdf> and in the original **French** at <https://oaq.qc.ca/actualites/rapport-du-comite-sur-lindependance-professionnelle/>.



## SIA Seeks Internationally Trained Agrologists for Paid Work Experience

The Ministry of Immigration and Career Training, via funding from the Government of Canada's Foreign Credential Recognition Program (FCRP) is piloting a workplace integrations support program to assist 60 internationally trained professionals (ITPs) in select occupations to obtain three months of Canadian work experience.

Many newcomer professionals report that even after obtaining their Canadian credential recognition, they have difficulty obtaining their first Canadian job due to a lack of Canadian work experience.

The Ministry is seeking 10 provisionally or fully licensed ITPs who are interested in participating in a three-month paid work experience.

Internationally trained agrologists with licensure from the SIA may be eligible to participate.

Employers who may be interested in participating are sought. A wage subsidy will be offered to eligible employers to offset onboarding costs and resources. For more information, email [Stella.Juma-Anderson@gov.sk.ca](mailto:Stella.Juma-Anderson@gov.sk.ca).

***“Seeking 10 provisionally or fully licensed ITPs who are interested in participating in a three-month paid work experience.”***

## BC's Riparian Areas Regulations (RAR) Now Riparian Areas Protection Regulations (RAPR)

The Riparian Areas Regulation (RAR) became the *Riparian Areas Protection Regulation* (RAPR) on November 1, 2019. The Riparian Areas Regulation was amended to provide improved oversight for the ministry, incorporate training requirements, and provide additional detail

and rigour in the application of regulatory standards. Amendments to the Riparian Areas Regulation came into force on November 1, 2019. Ministry staff are supporting the update process through a series of webinars and in-person meetings for Qualified Environmental Professionals (QEPs), local

government staff and other stakeholders.

Questions on the regulatory amendments should be directed to [RiparianAreas@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca](mailto:RiparianAreas@Victoria1.gov.bc.ca).



Photo credit: Province of British Columbia



uestions, comments  
and suggestions  
should be directed to  
[office@bcia.com](mailto:office@bcia.com)

**We welcome your feedback on  
our first edition!**

**Find us on the web at**

<https://agrologistscanada.ca/>

**Agrologists Agronomes Canada** is a national body comprised of nine provincial regulators. As members of the Agrologists Agronomes Canada team, the provincial regulators work together to;

- Meet obligations for national labour mobility (i.e. harmonizing licensing requirements so that agrology professionals are able to become licensed with any regulator within Canada)
- Promote the role of agrology and professional agrologists within Canada

***“As provincial regulators, we license agrology professionals and provide regulatory oversight to ensure public protection in each province via safe, competent and ethical practice.”***

## **Newfoundland and PEI Institutes of Agrologists Updates**

As some members may be aware, the Newfoundland and Labrador Institute of Agrologists (NLIA) introduced the Technical Agrologist (T.Ag.) designation during 2019.

NLIA has reported that it continues to work towards compliance with the National Entrance Standard. Evaluation of transcripts has been contracted out to other provincial institutes of agrology that have the appropriate resources to

review applicants' qualifications.

NLIA currently has 30 members, the majority of whom are employed with the Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Fisheries and Land Resources.

The PEI Institute of Agrology also introduced the Technical Agrologist designation with a one time fee reduction during January and February of 2020 to provide added incentive for new members to join.

PEI reported 92 members at deadline. Of these, 61 are full members (PAg) with an additional eight retired or honorary members.

There are ten members under the Permit to Practice (PPA) and an additional 13 Agrologists in Training (AIT).

PEIIA launched a new website in 2019 and welcomes comments. Please visit [www.peiia.ca](http://www.peiia.ca) to review and comment.

