
NEWS RELEASE

Award Winners Announced at the 2018 B.C. Agri-Foods Industry Gala

ABBOTSFORD, BC – January 24, 2018: The BC Agriculture Council (BCAC) is pleased to announce the award recipients from the 16th Annual B.C. Agri-Foods Industry Gala.

1. **The “Champion of Agriculture” Award** – Presented by Champion Sponsor, Scotiabank
Award Recipient: David Schmidt
Recognizing his career in agriculture communications and journalism.
2. **The “Outstanding Teacher” Award** – Presented by BC Agriculture in the Classroom
Award Recipient: Tania Toth from Sardis Secondary School Farm
Recognizing a teacher who expands the learning in sciences and built the Sardis Secondary School Farm
3. **A “Special Recognition in Agriculture Leadership” Award** – Presented by BC Agriculture Council
Award Recipient: Kevin Boon, BC Cattleman’s Association
Recognizing Kevin’s leadership during the 2017 wildfires where he went beyond the call of duty.
4. **BC Agriculture Council’s “Excellence in Agriculture Leadership” Award** – Presented by BC Agriculture Council and sponsor HUB International Insurance Brokers
Award Recipient: Garnet Etsell

“The four winners are all leaders in their fields and have made significant contributions in supporting the hard work that farmers and ranchers do while also advancing agriculture in British Columbia,” says BCAC Board Chair, Stan Vander Waal.

“My heartfelt thanks goes out to the B.C. Agricultural community for coming together to celebrate successes and to recognise the challenges of 2017,” said Lana Popham, Minister of Agriculture. “I’m so grateful to have the opportunity to work with farmers, ranchers, producers and processors throughout our province this year to further build up the sector through Grow B.C., Feed B.C. and Buy B.C.”

For more information about the recipients of the awards, please visit www.bcac.ca

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BC Agriculture Council (BCAC) is the only provincial-wide general farm organization representing the farmers and ranchers of British Columbia. BCAC proudly serves nearly 30 commodity associations who in turn generate 96% of the farm gate sales in B.C.