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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Start Your Bidding – The BC “Ag Gala” Silent Auction Is Now Live! *Proceeds once again to be donated to BC Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation.***

**Abbotsford, BC – January 21, 2021:** Today, BC Agriculture Council (BCAC) is thrilled to announce the launch of the annual [BC Agri-Food Industry Gala online silent auction](#). For the fourth consecutive year, the proceeds from the auction will be donated to BC Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation (BCAITC).

“The BCAC Board is again thrilled to support the work of BC Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation whose activities are something our whole sector can unite on,” says BCAC President, Stan Vander Waal. “Given the past year, it is critical that we continue to collaborate and show support from within our community.”

[BCAITC](#) is a non-profit charitable organization that works to bring BC’s agriculture to over half a million teachers and students around the province. The Foundation helps students gain an appreciation for where food is grown or raised and an understanding of BC agriculture from farm-to-table.

“We are very grateful for BCAC’s support of agriculture education,” says Pat Tonn, BCAITC Executive Director. “This year more than any we have pivoted our lessons and programs to virtual learning and new ways of program delivery. The proceeds of this auction will assist us in taking agriculture education from Kindergarten to Grade 12 to a new level of complexity in the virtual classroom.”

The auction features many new items, along with some old favourites, including:

- children’s cowboy boots
- pet food for a year
- a virtual cook-along experience with a celebrity chef
- staycation getaways
- a stocked wine fridge and more.

The auction historically is held at BCAC’s annual gala. Being a virtual gala this year, the consistently sold-out event is now available to a larger audience and at no cost. It will feature Canadian commentator, Rex Murphy as keynote speaker, and an address from the Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, the Honourable Lana Popham, and BCAC President, Stan Vander Waal.

Gala tickets are available complimentary with [registration](#) for the Pacific Agriculture Show (must use code: pas2021). The silent auction will be open for bidding until 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 30, 2021. To start bidding, visit: [www.bcaggala.ca](http://www.bcaggala.ca)

#### **For more information:**

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