

## NEWS RELEASE



### Auction Proceeds Hit All-Time High!

*B.C. farmers and ranchers show their support.*

#### ABBOTSFORD, BC – February 3, 2021:

BC Agriculture Council (BCAC) is thrilled to share the results from the annual silent auction which saw proceeds hit the highest level it has ever raised, wrapping-up at \$13,255.

For the fourth consecutive year, the proceeds from the auction will be donated to BC Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation (BCAITC). [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.

"Given these times, the silent auction is a perfect example of how the farming community is incredible for showing up and supporting each other," says BCAC President, Stan Vander Waal. "A tremendous thank you to everyone who took the time to be with us virtually – whether it was for our gala or the silent auction – we feel your support!"

The BC "Ag Gala" was also a success with over 400 households viewing the virtual event last Thursday evening. Congratulations to award winners, Carmen Wakeling, Bev Whitta and Gary Funk.



“BCAC also wants to acknowledge our incredible sponsors, partners in government and silent auction donors,” says Danielle Synotte, BCAC Director of Communications and Stakeholder Relations. “We weren’t certain what the Gala was going to look like this year but, together with our partners, we pulled together an event we all could be part of – so thank you to everyone for your collaboration!”



In case you missed it, the full Gala program or some of the highlights are available to be viewed on the [BCAC Gala webpage](#).



**Photos (in order of appearance):**

1. Opening countdown (photo from past Gala)
2. Rhonda Dridiger, BCAC Vice President and Gala Emcee
3. Stan Vander Waal, BCAC President
4. Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau
5. Minister Lana Popham
6. Rex Murphy, Keynote Speaker
7. Bev Whitta, Scotiabank Champion of Agriculture Award Winner
8. Gary Funk, BCAITC Outstanding Teacher Award Winner
9. Carmen Wakeling, BCAC Excellence in Agriculture Leadership Award Winner

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