

**Title of Project:** Canola Council Liaison (2001) or Canola Committee Project (2001\2002)

**Report Title:** Annual Report

**Report Covering Period:** April 1, 2001 to March 31, 2002

**Organization(s):** B.C. Grain Producers Association

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## **Canola Committee Report**

### **2002 Annual General Meeting BC Grain Producers Association**

#### **Addendum: Year End Report to Committee Funders: PRAD & GIDC**

##### **Objectives:**

The focus of this committee is two fold:

1. Represent the BC Grain Producers on the Canadian Canola Growers Association board of Directors, and
2. To sit on the Canola Council of Canada's Crop Production Committee.

##### **Accomplishments:**

###### **Canadian Canola Grower's Association (CCGA).**

In 2001 there were 3 main thrusts for the CCGA.

1. Review and make changes to the Non-Board Cash Advance Program, which the CCGA administers. Several changes were undertaken that have reduced the cost of administration and streamlined the procedures. CCGA continues to lobby for increases (\$) to the non interest bearing portion of the Cash Advance Program so that it would more fairly represent the needs of the growing size of today's farms.
2. CCGA Strategic Planning – A two day planning session was held in Saskatoon in an effort to redefine the goals and function of the CCGA. From this meeting the CCGA has formed three new committee's, the Executive Committee is to oversee the Cash Advance Program and financial aspects of the CCGA. The Market Development Committee is to look into how best CCGA can forward market development within the canola industry. The Intergovernmental Affairs Committee will look at issues and regulations that effect canola growers and if necessary develop policies from a **Canola** perspective.
3. Lindane – When Lindane was deregistered in July there was suppose to be NO seed or product left in Canada. Unfortunately that was not the case. Approximately 2.5 million acres of treated seed remain in warehouses and an additional 3.5 million acres of product remains in manufacturer's hands. The Canola Council of Canada has been co-coordinating an industry wide initiative to allow, at a minimum, the seed to be sold and seeded. This is the most cost effective and safest way to dispose of the treated seed. As of yet there has been no decision made ( or announced) by either the Pesticide Management Regulatory Agency (Canada) or Environmental Protection Agency (US). If decisions are not made ASAP then it will soon become a non issue.

###### ***Canola Council of Canada Crop Protection Committee***

The major thrusts of these meetings are to get input from Grower's, Researchers and industry personal with regards to the CCC Canola Productions Center's (CPC) It is a great way to ensure on an ongoing basis that the Canola Productions Center's remaining relevant in a ever changing world.

We are very fortunate to have one of only 10 CPC in Western Canada. Thru our involvement with the CCC and its Canola Production Committee we will endeavor to maintain our site and it's value to our area growers.

**Meeting attended: Saskatoon - Winnipeg – Edmonton – Vancouver.**

**ADDENDUM:** To update on work of the committee has done since the BCGPA Annual General Meeting in February 2002 to the completion date of the Canola Project – March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2002

Four major accomplishments have occurred since the BCGPA AGM. In order that they occurred.

1. Previously treated Lindane coated canola seed is approved for sale for the 2002 seeding season only. This is something that CCGA and the CCC especially have been working on for almost a year. This decision by the Pesticide Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) to allow the seed to be sold achieves two very important objectives. It is the most cost effective and environmentally sound way to dispose of the treated seed, a side benefit to farmers is that it will also reduce the cost of seed, as lindane is a far cheaper seed treatment than it's replacements.
2. Completion and publication of the Seed and Seedling Vigor research project conducted by Dr. Bob Elliot. A copy of the printed results are supplied with this report, as well we have requested a CD copy of Dr. Elliot's power point presentation which will be forwarded when it arrives. This report is extremely important, especially with the lindane seed being marketed. As the report becomes more readily available producers will be able to use it to ensure they are getting seed of the highest quality.
3. Canola Project Chairman Ross Ravelli was elected to the position of President of the Canadian Canola Grower's Association at its AGM in Vancouver in March, his term is for 2 years. As CCGA president Ross will also sit on the Canola Council of Canada as a Director. These positions will allow the BCGPA to become an important player in the canola industry for years to come.
4. Canola Council of Canada Annual General Meeting was held in Vancouver March 23 thru 26<sup>th</sup>. We were very fortunate to be able to have 5 BCGPA directors attend. The meetings major benefit is that it allows growers to interact with all components of the canola industry – other growers from across Canada, Crushers and Exporters, as well as many international buyers and processors. By all accounts this way a very worthwhile trip.

With Ross Ravelli's expanded role in the Canadian canola industry, 2002 \03 will be a very exciting year for the Canola Committee.

Submitted by

Ross Ravelli  
BCGPA Canola Chair

Note: Finances as per attached sheet

**Title of Project: Pulse Project**

**Report Title:** Annual Report

**Report Covering Period:** April 1, 2001 to March 31, 2002

**Organization(s):** BC Grain Producers Association

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**Objectives:**

- obtain information pertinent to pulse crop producers in BC Peace Region
- to hold membership with a Pulse Growers Association
- receive Pulse Crop Newsletter and provide producers with information from it
- provide producers with videos about pulse growing information
- have input in variety selection for pulse growers

**Accomplishments:**

- attended **Alberta Pulse Grower's Association** Annual General Meeting in Red Deer, Alberta
- attended **Prairie Registration Recommending Committee for Grain (PRRCG) in Saskatoon** in Feb 2002: input into discussion of variety registration of pulse and special crops (field peas, lentil, dry bean, chickpeas) into schedules A, B, & C for registration with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency
- continuing dialog with Sask. Pulse Growers Assoc., CDC, AB Pulse Growers Assoc.
- developing pea markets within Alberta and from BC into Alberta
- exploring possibilities of alternative pea markets
- promoting of peas for the area goes hand in hand with investigating new markets.

**Extension and demonstration:**

- interviewed by Brenda Birley (PRASP) for newspaper articles about meeting highlights.
- shared information with area producers

**Finances:**

Total Budget \$ 800.00

**Variances from original work plan, schedule or budget:**

Bruce Baxter attended pulse industry meetings in both Red Deer & Saskatoon.

**Summary comments, conclusions:**

- it is important to have affiliations with pulse grower associations on a federal level

**Attachments:** detailed financial pulse project summary attached.

Letter of recommendations from PRRCG to CFIA available upon request