Title of Project: Safety Nets Project/ BCAC Liaison

Report Title: Annual Report

Report Covering Period: April 1, 2000 to March 31, 2001

Organization(s): BC Grain Producers Association.

Contact Person: Jim Smolik, Chair

Address: Box 161, Dawson Creek, BC, V1G 4H3

Telephone: 250-782-8686 Fax: 250-782:8690 Email: bcgpa-c@pris.bc.ca

Objectives:

- Represent the grain/ oilseed producers on Provincial Safety Nets Advisory Committee in program development by BC Ag Risk Management Branch.
- Organize local meetings to update producers on program developments.
- Represent the BCGPA on the BC Agriculture Council (BCAC) and forward relevant information to BC producers.
- > Travel to meetings to represent BCGPA as required meeting objectives above

Accomplishments:

- Compiled a brief as requested by BCAC & presented it to Senate Committee in Ottawa on May 15, 2000 on the farm income situation and suggestions for federal and provincial safety nets programs
- Negotiated with BCMAFF to be compensated with an equitable payment to what Sask/Man producers received
- > Designed guidelines & application process/ forms for Transportation Adjustment Fund
- Delivered fund to area producers (2 cheques) and reported to BCMAFF
- Compiled our position for both the federal NISA review & BC provincial position
- > Participated in inaugural annual general meeting of Grain Growers of Canada
- Successfully spearheaded reduced premiums for crop insurance and hail insurance for 2001

Tasks in progress:

- Ongoing liaison with Provincial Safety Nets Advisory Committee members and government personnel with the BC Ag Risk Management Branch as changes to program are developed
- Ongoing liaison with BC Agriculture Council
- Ongoing communication and dialog with Grain Growers of Canada & part of GGC Safety Nets Committee
- Ongoing liaison with provincial crop insurance advisory committee
- > Selection of reps for Investment Agriculture Foundation board
- > Input into BC Ag Futures Fund
- > Ongoing negotiation with BCMAFF & Safety Nets Committee re: recently announced \$500 million

Extension and demonstration:

- Organized an emergency meeting during seeding (with a good turnout of producers) to provide input and comments on the brief.
- > Mailed out information, application forms, etc. to producers.
- Provided weekly updates on TAF progress during delivery of the fund.
- Made presentations at Field Crop Industry meetings in Nov. and BCGPA AGM in Jan.
- > Brought Kevin Muxlow up to our AGM to speak about the benefits of joining Grain Growers of Canada

Finances:

Total approved project funds (+Special Initiative re: BCA	AC membership) \$6370.00
Income from Levy Council, PRAD2	\$6020.40
Expenditures claimed (inc. administration)	\$4578.32
Excess or (deficit)	\$1442.08
Request for holdback from PRAD	\$ 0

Variances from original work plan, schedule or budget:

BCGPA decided to become voting members of BCAC & therefore fees increased by \$2000, so Special Initiative applied for and approved to cover the increase.

Summary comments, conclusions: This committee continues to be a high priority for BCGPA directors, members and area producers.

Attachments: detailed financial statements available on request