

Report prepared for Peace River Agricultural Development Fund

Title of Project: Safety Nets Project
Report Title: Annual Report
Report Covering Period: April 1, 2002 to March 31, 2003
Organization(s): BC Grain Producers Association.
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Objectives:

Represent the grain & oilseed producers on Safety Nets Advisory Committee in program development by the Ag Risk Management Branch. Represent the BCGPA on the BC Agriculture Council (BCAC) and forward relevant information to BC producers, as well as travel to Grain Grower's of Canada meetings to represent BC Grain Producers.

Accomplishments:

For the past 12 months, the safety net committee has mainly focused on the development and transition to the new Agriculture Policy Framework. (APF) This past year the committee has participated in:

- 2 APF round table consultation meetings
- 1 private APF meeting with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- 5 provincial safety net meetings and 2 conference calls
- 8 national safety net meetings and 4 conference calls
- 1 Crop Insurance Advisory meeting

In addition, through our membership in the Grain Growers of Canada, (GGC) we have attended 2 multi day meetings and participated in 6 conference calls, in regards to developing the GGC's position on safety nets. The BCGPA representative has put in countless hours in consultations and meetings, read endless reports and analytical work and has actively contributed towards the development of a new Risk Management program as well as had input into the distribution of \$600Mill in transition funding.

To report on any program specifics at this time would be purely speculation, program details need to be addressed and finalized before an official program template can be announced, as of March 31, 2003 new timelines were set for completion of the Business Risk Management pillar.

Tasks in progress:

- Ongoing liaison with Provincial & National Safety Nets Advisory Committee members and government personnel with the BC Ag Risk Management Branch as changes to programs are developed
- Ongoing liaison with BC Agriculture Council
- Ongoing liaison with provincial crop insurance (production insurance) advisory committee
- Consultations on part 2 of transition funding (\$600 Mill)
- Assisting in Information workshops to introduce new Risk Management program

Extension and demonstration:

- Circulation of information as it becomes available to BCGPA directors.
- Participate in Provincial stakeholder info sessions
- Made presentations at the BCGPA AGM in February
- Multiple interviews with media (paper\radio) to update on Safety Nets Developments

Finances:	Budget	Actual
Income	\$17,209.00	\$15,496.92
Expenses	\$17,209.00	\$15,496.92

Variances from original work plan schedule or budget:

Membership to associations was included as per original budget.

Summary comments, conclusions:

This committee continues to be a high priority for BCGPA directors, members and area producers. The coming year will show a transition from the current Safety Nets to a new approach to a Business risk Management strategy under the new Agriculture Policy Framework.

Attachments: detailed Financial Safety Net Project statement attached