

# Growers of Organic Food Yukon (Society)

Regular Meeting Agenda  
Saturday, Dec 15, 2012, 2:00pm  
Whitehorse Public Library

## A) Roll call, appointment of chair/recorder/timekeeper

*Present: Enrica, Shiela, Brian, Joanne, Gwyn, Simone, Graham, Tom, Sarah, Kim, Joan, Alan*

*Regrets: Cain, Roland and Mary, Barbara*

*Chair: Enrica      Recorder: Kim      Timekeeper: Joanne*

## B) Approval of agenda and minutes from last meeting (Nov 18). *consensus*

## C) Old Business

Date	Item	Lead	Update
2012-12-15	Revamp (spice up) mission statement	Brian	
2012-12-15	Food system design – request quarterly updates, ask about process for joining project advisory committee, invite to speak at meeting in new year	Kim	
2012-12-15	Circulate YG workplan and 2020 doc	Kim	
2012-12-15	Ask young farmers group about logo project	Kim	
2012-12-15	Circulate egg grading info	Tom	
2012-12-15	Go through hiring process for farmers in schools design – Simone and Shiela to collaborate, Kim to manage e-logistics through <a href="mailto:goofy@yukonfood.com">goofy@yukonfood.com</a>	Shiela	
2012-12-15	Draft position on GMO for organic farmers, collaborate with all certified producers	Brian	
2012-12-15	Request round-table with YG on GMO (circulate draft first)	Shiela	
2012-11-18	Circulate latest info on GM alfalfa	Tom	✓ 12/12
2012-11-18	Put in application for \$ to GF for researching design of farmers in schools program	Shiela	✓ 12/12
2012-11-18	Write letter of nomination for Shiela to sit again on AIAC	Kim	✓ 11/12
2012-11-18	Request clarification from Jerome on proposed changes re: cabinet to minister approval	Shiela	ongoing
2012-11-18	Contact Kevin re: egg workshop	Matt	?
2012-11-18	Continue troubleshooting googlegroup	Kim	✓ 11/12
2012-11-18	Redo membership for COG	Simone	✓ 12/12

2012-10-14	Develop and submit proposal for multimedia support	Sarah	Deadline missed
2012-03-17	Write a letter/article describing the New GoOFY group for InFARMation	Enrica, Brian	In process
2012-04-19	Prepare report on how to approach following through on Strategic Plan/Vision	Cain, Sarah, Brian	ongoing
2012-04-19	Look at website, provide feedback/updates to Simone	All	ongoing

#### D) Standing Reports (20 min)

- Financial – Simone (*report below*)
- AIAC – Shiela (*report below*)
  - *acknowledgement by YG that gm alfalfa conversation affects the Yukon as alfalfa can grow here; we should issue a statement on our position against all GM and the impacts that introduction of GM crops would have on organic farmers and their certification, and ask for a round-table on GMO between YG and GoOFY (ministers and ag branch folks).*
  - *Nominations for GF2 evaluation committee due in new year – Enrica has interest in sitting*
- OFC – Joanne (*report below*)
  - a. *Highlight the COABC conference to be hosted by OFC in Vernon in February.*

#### E) Committee Reports (20 min)

- Visioning follow up (Cain, Sarah, Brian) - *Organisational Efficiency (see Vision excerpt below)*
  - *Reminder to look at actions etc in context of yg 2020 document*
  - *Part time staff goal – is this actually part of GoOFY’s vision? Possibly? Let’s move forward on a project basis, and see if something more long term can evolve from the farmers in schools coordinator*
  - *Triple membership goal – varied views on diversifying membership: affirm that producer complement must remain strong within group, and that focus must remain on growing organically; concerns raised on how to maintain these values while opening up to broader membership; re-affirm member commitment to learn standards and make conscious decisions on whether or not to use methods; acknowledgement that group could do a lot more with a more varied membership; opportunity to educate more people by opening up group; need to find a way within GoOFY to allow for farmer-farmer learning as well as ‘whole group’ activities and education/outreach outside of core farmers – opportunity to look at restructuring (ie: board/executive vs membership at large)*
  - *We should review our vision/mission statement*
- Bylaw (Tom, Kim) *in progress*
- Website (Simone, Joanne) *please send photos/resources/ideas*
- College Greenhouse (Scott, Sarah, Simone) *have taken on additional project: humic acid and spinach*

#### F) Business

1. Presentation on Terra Madre and Italy – Graham

*Lardo Recipe* 20g salt per kg meat (fat), with rosemary, lemon zest, pepper, salt – ground and put into sausage casing, use like butter

2. This group – organic – who are we? – Shiela (10 min) *mission statement needs revising, group inclusion and structure needs clarity (ie: identify key positions within group that need to be certified organic (current or past or part), eg - chair and OFC rep), separate farmer-farmer practical discussions from board activities from general membership meetings? ongoing discussion...sort this out by AGM*

3. Next meeting: 13 January 2 pm at the library

4. Adjourn 4:45pm

**Deferred items**

1. Step-up Program – Joanne (5 min)

2. How we do meetings – Joanne (5 min)

3. Food System Design and Planning for the Yukon – report received from K Mullinix (attached)

4. State of the industry report – Joanne (5 min)

5. InFarmation and Yukonfood articles (5 min)

6. Food Secure Canada – Tom (5 min)

7. Canadian Biotech Action Network – Tom (5 min)

**G) Reports**

Financial – Simone

*We're showing a loss right now because we made three fairly large payments that we didn't yet receive funds for.*

*- Greenhouse research project \$1000 (project total in addition to our current is \$2500)*

*- OFC final payment \$743 (growing forward final report needed)*

*- COG handbooks \$1206 (contract signed; cheque should arrive soon)*

Growers of Organic Food Yukon						
Worksheet						
December 14, 2012						
ACCOUNT TITLE	TRIAL BALANCE		INCOME STATEMENT		BALANCE SHEET	
	DEBIT	CREDIT	DEBIT	CREDIT	DEBIT	CREDIT
Cash	1,806.41				1,806.41	
Special Project Asset OFC	(702.97)				(702.97)	
Special Project Asset Inspector Training	2,088.00				2,088.00	
Special Project Asset Organic Poster	1,976.77				1,976.77	
Special Project Asset Visioning	(285.00)				(285.00)	
Special Project Asset Greenhouse	45.34				45.34	
Special Project Asset Handbooks	(1,206.00)				(1,206.00)	
Planned Training		2,088.00				2,088.00
GoOFY Equity		4,115.97				4,115.97
Membership		415.00		415.00		
Bank Interest		5.51		5.51		
Growing Forward - visioning		2,100.00		2,100.00		
Growing Forward - training		2,341.90		2,341.90		
Growing Forward - OFC		2,530.00		2,530.00		
Other Funding - Yukon Research Cnt		19,207.34		19,207.34		
Advertising & Promotion	120.70		120.70			
Bank Charges	53.40		53.40			
Rent Expense	540.00		540.00			
Societies Expense	80.00		80.00			
Special Project Expense OFC	4,832.17		4,832.17			
Special Project Expense Visioning	2,385.00		2,385.00			
Special Project Expense Training	2,341.90		2,341.90			
Special Project Expense Greenhouse	17,722.00		17,722.00			
Special Project Expense Handbooks	1,206.00		1,206.00			
	32,803.72	32,803.72	29,281.17	26,599.75	3,522.55	6,203.97
Net Loss			(2,681.42)			(2,681.42)
			26,599.75	26,599.75	3,522.55	3,522.55

Accounting2004-current.xls  
WKSHT12dec

10/12/2012

## OFC Report – Joanne

*The OFC board met on Tuesday Dec 11/12 by teleconference. We were one member short of a quorum, but went through the agenda.*

1. We are still waiting for word from CGSB on how much they will contribute to Standards Maintenance.
2. COABC has invited OFC to hold the face to face AGM at the conference in Vernon, FEB 22-24, 2013. We have accepted, and will meet just before or just after the COABC conference
3. Nicole Boudreau, our ED met with a representative of CEC (The Commission for Environmental Co-operation. It is an organization that spans three countries—Canada, US and Mexico and operates a trilingual website.
4. The Organic Science Cluster, the new one beginning in 2013, has conditionally accepted 50 projects to research over the next three years. It is now operating out of Dalhousie U, rather than Nova Scotia Agricultural College.
5. LLP consultation is still going on. It is a nightmare to control this contamination as the GMO's can be in containers coming from outside Canada and be transferred to whatever it goes in there.

6. Andrew Peregrine, a researcher at OACC has been working with sheep under conventional and organic regimes. All drugs that have been used in conventional regimes with sheep are showing resistance to the organisms, but he has found that sheep raised organically are doing very well. The OACC will make the paper more concise and send it to the Western Producer soon, then it will be posted on the OACC site.
7. The Brand Names List with Peppersoft. Ecocert and Procert are willing to share lists. OMRI wants to be a consultant, but other CB's are protecting their lists.
8. The CB's have requested the COO to shorten the comment period on questions about the Standards from 60 days to 30.
9. Should OFC be registered as a lobbyist? Probably no, we would have to pay someone to do it.
10. Most important thing on agenda—letter from OFC to CSTA Canadian Seed Trade Alliance (Patty Townsend) and Forage Genetics <http://www.foragegenetics.com/---> about our concerns about the release of GE Alfalfa. <http://cdnseed.org/>

AIAC – Shiela (*to be updated once I receive a digital report from Shiela*)

- CFIA contact is still Valerie Whelan
- CAAP/YAA funded project (Food system design); opportunities for goofy participation
- Grazing lease holders – access to GF2 funding (best management practices)
- Discussion on getting mobile abattoir up and running – don't give up!
- GF2 – looking at ways to ensure equitable review of applications
- Meat infrastructure group not going to come back for waste mgmt, so Tom and Kevin will spearhead new smaller group to look at this

Step Up Program – Joanne

The [\*\*STEP UP Mentorship program\*\*](#) is an on-farm learning placement. We match those planning or considering a farming career with an experienced farm manager so that new farmers can learn critical aspects of farm business management in a hands-on setting.

I am writing to see if you would be interested in sharing information about the STEP UP Mentorship Program with your members.

Mentees are matched with an experienced farm manager who will work with them to engage in the day-to-day management of a farm operation to see how goals are set, decisions are made, expand their professional network *and* get their hands dirty in the process. Mentorships are a minimum of 8 weeks long, and Mentors receive a \$2000 honorarium for participating.

If you are interested in learning more please contact me, visit <http://www.fmc-gac.com/step-up>, and/or see the attached file.

*We are accepting Mentee & Mentor applications for STEP UP 2013 now!*

Visioning (Brian, Cain, Sarah)

## WORKPLAN

<b>Organizational Efficiency</b>			
<b>Vision</b>	<b>Task</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
Part time staff available (staff)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application for pilot project leading to core funding</li> </ul>	GoOFY YG	
Follow our plan and values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular review of strategic plan</li> </ul>	GoOFY	
Triple membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advertise our meetings in public mediums</li> <li>• Ensure our meetings are worth attending (part business; part "show and tell"; presentation or demonstration on techniques.....) and offer food</li> <li>• Hold meetings at farms</li> <li>• Organize farm tours</li> <li>• Advertise and articles in InFARmation</li> </ul>	staff	
Formalize our local organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a Board Policies Manual</li> <li>• Register with YG as a Yukon non-profit</li> </ul>	GoOFY staff	
Maintain our practice of supporting each other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborative, hands-on sharing of responsibilities</li> <li>• Communicate between all members (everyone knows everything i.e. knowledge doesn't rest with one or a few people)</li> <li>• Each member needs to take on some responsibility</li> </ul>	GoOFY	

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