



IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Executive Director Leaving Investment Agriculture Foundation

March 10, 2006 – Victoria, B.C. The Investment Agriculture Foundation of British Columbia announces that Rob Simon will be leaving his position as executive director effective March 31, 2006. This concludes Mr. Simon's two and one-half year executive exchange agreement with the Foundation.

"I have truly appreciated the opportunity to serve the Foundation and work with its team of dedicated staff," said Simon. "I cannot think of another organization that could have provided me with more broad and meaningful learning experiences – both professionally and personally."

Mr. Simon has accepted a new position with the B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Lands as Industry Strategic Planning Specialist.

"On behalf of the board, I would like to express our appreciation to Rob for his service to the Foundation," said Walter Goerzen, Foundation chair. "We extend our best wishes to Rob as he takes on his new position."

The Foundation has begun the search for a permanent executive director to manage its business operations, and to coordinate effective stewardship of its resources and delivery of its programs.

In the interim, the Foundation is pleased to announce the appointment of one of its current staff members, Al Helmersen, as executive director while the recruitment process proceeds.

The Investment Agriculture Foundation is a non-profit organization responsible for the distribution of federal and provincial funds toward innovative projects benefiting the agri-food industry in British Columbia.

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