



IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Investment Agriculture Foundation New Executive

May 16, 2006 – Victoria, B.C. The Investment Agriculture Foundation of B.C. announces the appointment of its new executive, with Bert Miles continuing as chair, Gary Sandberg moving to vice chair, Derek Janzen as secretary and Stuart Wilson as treasurer.

Bert Miles currently resides in the lower mainland and is one of three directors representing the post farm gate sector. Miles served the IAF for four years including a term as treasurer before assuming the role of chair in May 2006. Miles has extensive senior management experience in farming and post-farm gate sectors. As a Certified Management Accountant, he has a range of experience in accounting and administration. He is general manager of Burnaby Lake Greenhouses based in Surrey, and also has experience as an executive member and chair of Surrey Metro Savings Credit Union, now Coast Capital Savings, and as an executive member of the Credit Union Central of B.C.

Gary Sandberg lives in Chilliwack and has represented livestock industries other than cattle and poultry on the IAF board since 2003. He previously served as secretary and now takes on the role of vice chair. Sandberg has an extensive background in the food industry. In addition to owning Three Stirrups Stables in Chilliwack, Sandberg holds a PhD in food science and is currently the head of the food technology program at BCIT with an adjunct professorship at UBC. Sandberg sits on the boards of the Western Canada Functional Food and Nutraceuticals Network and Enwave Corporation, and is a member of the Horse Council of B.C.

Derek Janzen joined IAF's board in 2006, representing the poultry sector. Janzen is new to the executive and takes on the role of secretary. Janzen owns and operates a poultry farm in Aldergrove and a trucking company that transports chickens from farms in the Fraser Valley to processing facilities in Vancouver. He is chair of the BC Egg Producers Association, a member of the BC Poultry Association and a board member of Fresh Start Foods.

Stuart Wilson, who represents the post farm gate sector, joined the IAF board in 2006. Wilson is also new to the executive and takes on the treasurer role. Wilson spent two years in the private sector, working with various food processors before joining the federal government. He has 32 years of experience with Agriculture Canada and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). He served as regional director with CFIA and has represented Canadian agriculture on missions to France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. Now semi-retired, Wilson currently works as a financial consultant in Surrey.

Bert Miles says the new executive provides a good balance with three members representing agricultural producers and one representing non-producer sectors.

Funding provided by:



“IAF makes funding available for projects all along the agriculture and agri-food value chain that help industry thrive and prosper,” says Miles. “To ensure that the interests of the entire agri-food sector are reflected in our decisions, it is important that our board and our executive have broad industry representation.”

The Investment Agriculture Foundation is a not-for-profit organization that manages and distributes federal and provincial funds in support of innovative projects to benefit the agriculture and food industries in British Columbia. Funding is available to help industry adapt, diversify and grow.

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