

**INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW  
ABOUT THE BRITISH COLUMBIA 2012 IOIA ORGANIC INSPECTOR TRAINING**

This document is the companion document for the application for attending the following IOIA organic inspector trainings held at the Best Western Rainbow Country Inn Hotel & Conference Center, 43971 Industrial Way, Chilliwack, British Columbia, Canada V2R 3A4 (Ph: 604-795-5039 or toll free 800-665-1030) [www.rainbowcountryinn.com](http://www.rainbowcountryinn.com).

<b>Advanced Organic Inspector Training:</b>	<b>Mon. Feb. 27– Wed. Feb 29, 2012</b>
<b>2012 IOIA Annual Meeting:</b>	<b>Thurs. March 1, 2012</b>
<b>Processing Operations/Field Trip:</b>	<b>Fri., March 2, 2012</b>

All registration is through the IOIA office. If you have any questions, please phone/fax: (406) 436-2031, or email: [ioia@ioia.net](mailto:ioia@ioia.net). Application forms and information can also be downloaded from the IOIA website at [www.ioia.net](http://www.ioia.net). On-line registration is available.

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR THE ADVANCED TRAINING IS JANUARY 30, 2012.**

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

IOIA will cosponsor Advanced Inspector Training at the Best Western Rainbow Country Inn Hotel & Conference Center, Chilliwack, BC in conjunction with the 2012 Annual Meeting.

Private and shared rooms are available at the Best Western Rainbow Country Inn Hotel. Rate including tax is \$100 plus 15% tax. If you prefer a private room, you must book it directly with the hotel. To book a room, call (Ph: 604-795-5039 or toll free 800-665-1030) before January 31, and ask to reserve a room in the **International Organic Inspectors Association** room block. After that date, rooms may only be reserved on a space-available basis. Each guest room features free high speed internet access, Cable television and free local calls. For floor plans and details about suites, see <http://www.rainbowcountryinn.com>. Amenities include indoor pool, Jacuzzi, sauna, garden atrium, on-site dining in the Garden Court Atrium Dining Room, Wine & Liquor Store, and dancing at JD's lounge (Jazz Night on Thursday). The hotel is pet friendly (small dogs and cats), \$10 pet fee for 1 or 2 small pets. The hotel rooms are 100% non-smoking.

Additional pre and post conference sessions will extend the learning opportunities. A late afternoon session is being developed on February 27 for early arrivals, and field trips to processing operations are being organized for March 2. Nominal participation fees will be collected for these optional sessions to cover costs.

The Annual Meeting on March 27 will feature an organic lunch (free to IOIA Inspector Members), business meeting, and keynote address - *“Canada Organic - a state of evolution & cooperation” Beth McMahon & Gunta Vitins*. McMahon is Executive Director of Canadian Organic Growers. Vitins is President of Canada Organic Trade Assoc. & Agri-Food Canada’s Organic Value Chain Roundtable Industry Chair.

**Weather in early March will be cool and could be rainy -average high 50° F (10° C) and low 35° F (2° C). For current weather forecasts, check weather before departure at [www.weather.com](http://www.weather.com).**

**TRANSPORTATION**

**Nearest Airport is Abbotsford BC (YXX). Other options are Bellingham, Washington, USA (BLI), about 45 minutes away or Vancouver International Airport (YVR), slightly over an hour away.** Individuals are responsible for making their own transportation arrangements to and from the hotel. Direct shuttle service is available from Abbotsford or Vancouver through Gerry’s Shuttle. Plan to call at least 2 days in advance; the driver will need your airline, arrival time, and flight #. Cost is \$40 CAD from Abbotsford or \$100 from Vancouver (cash only). Gerry Scott's Shuttle service – Ph:(604) 791-2709; or email [gerrymcscott@shaw.ca](mailto:gerrymcscott@shaw.ca). Shuttle can seat 4 comfortably with luggage. Participants will be emailed as a group to assist carpooling efforts.

If you are not a local commuter, please try to arrange to arrive and register the evening before your course begins, no later than 9 p.m. Late arrivals may register in the morning, no later than 8 a.m. The bus will depart promptly at 8:30 a.m. Participants may also meet the group in Aggasiz and pick up their registration packet there. You must leave no earlier than the actual end of the course. Driving directions will be provided in the acceptance package. Driving directions are also available on-line at the hotel website. Individuals are responsible for making their own transportation arrangements to and from the hotel for the trainings.

## WHAT THE COURSES INCLUDE

**Advanced Organic Inspector Training:** Training will include one full day (Feb 28) of field trip activities at the Agri-Pacific Research Station Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the UBC Dairy Education and Research Centre, both in Aggasiz. Transportation will be provided. The morning session will focus on practical field indicators of soil health for inspectors. The afternoon includes a tour of the dairy research farm with focus on animal welfare projects, field indicators of animal health, feed audit exercise at the Feed Intake Research Facility, and gait score training workshop. The UBC Dairy Centre, the largest centre of its kind in Canada, was established in 1998 as a collaboration between the UBC Faculty of Land and Food Systems and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to conduct research and promote technology transfer with the dairy industry in BC and around the world. The Westgen Calf Research Facility –the most sophisticated calf research facility in the world – Feed Intake Facility and Heifer Research Facility is part of the Dairy Centre. Evening session will be “Inspectors’ Corner – BC Style” with informal discussion. Day 2 (Feb 29) will focus on an update of the Canadian Organic Standards, USDA NOP standards update, processing topics including Boilers and Boiler Additives – practical demonstration of boilers, filters and types of boiler chemical used, investigations, and assessing inputs for compliance. Speakers include Lindsay Fernandez-Salvador (invited), Program Director of the Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI). As the training agenda is updated and finalized, the agenda and speaker bios will be posted on the IOIA AGM web page.

## ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA: Advanced Inspector Training Acceptance Criteria

- ▶ Prior completion of two inspector training courses and 2 years inspection experience with at least 20 inspections or 1 year inspection experience with at least 30 inspections. Exceptions may be granted on a case-by-case basis and must be requested in writing to the IOIA Executive Director. Others who do not meet those criteria are welcome to audit the course and receive a Letter of Attendance.

## TUITION

Fees for the advanced course include tuition, course materials, and lunches both days. Participants are responsible for their other meals and their own lodging. Registration is available for one or both days.

### **Registration Fees (US currency)**

IOIA Advanced Organic Inspector Training (2 days)	\$600
IOIA Advanced Training (Feb 28 only)	\$300
IOIA Advanced Training (Feb 29 only)	\$300
IOIA Inspector Membership Dues	\$165
IOIA Supporting Membership Dues	\$125
Annual Meeting (IOIA Inspector Members):	\$15 (*Note: supporting members, contact IOIA)
Shared Room at The Best Western Rainbow Inn Hotel Lodging	\$60 /night

\*\*Shared Room option is provided as a convenience for those who want a roommate. For a Private Room, call the hotel and book your room directly with them. Shared room rate is guaranteed for Feb 27- Mar 1. If roommates are not available for other nights, you will be billed at the private room rate for those nights.

IOIA members receive a \$50.00 discount off the total amount for one training each year. You are welcome to join IOIA with this training and take the discount immediately. Your dues will be good through 2012. All fees are due with the application (US funds only - checks, money orders, traveler’s checks). Information to pay via VISA or MasterCard is in the application. If you are not accepted to the course, your fees minus a \$25.00 processing fee will be refunded. For those who cancel basic trainings after acceptance, refunds minus \$100 materials/processing will be given up to February 11. Course materials will be mailed to you after acceptance to the course (about one month before the beginning of the course). **Applications must be received by January 30, 2012. Applications received after that date will be accepted if the course is not full and if possible for an extra \$25 late fee. Minimum course size for each workshop or training is 15. If we do not have 15 applicants, the course will be cancelled and all funds will be returned to applicants, who will be notified by Feb 3.** IOIA welcomes all participants to consider joining IOIA. Please contact IOIA to request membership application forms or visit the website to download the appropriate application form. In addition to training discounts and discounts on IOIA publications, IOIA members receive many other membership benefits.