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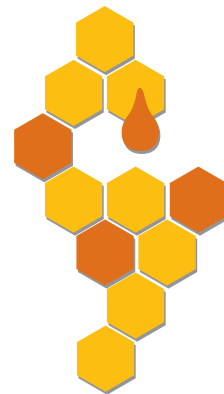


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Canadian Honey Council Report



Earlier this summer, an extremely worrisome CAPA overwintering report followed a disastrous loss report in the United States. While not as devastating as the losses in the USA, it still represented one of the worst national over winter losses in Canadian history. It is becoming increasingly apparent that national average losses of 15-20% may be a thing of the past, at least until such time as a newer and better varroa control product becomes readily available. Even some beekeepers who had varroa under control had high losses pointing to other secondary factors that are having an impact on bee health. Viruses and pathogens would seem to a primary culprit, but nutrition, climate, pesticides and other environmental pressure all play a part. Beekeeping is becoming increasingly difficult, and its profitability varies widely from year to year.

Going into the fall, I have heard that honey production has been variable. A cold wet spring in some areas, drought in others, impacted the honey flow. Beekeepers who focused only on honey production are finding it increasingly challenging, especially as prices are mostly dependent on the US market. In addition, difficulties in shipping to Japan, and low priced “honey” imported domestically put downward pressure on pricing. The CHC continues to pressure the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to do more honey testing to ensure that consumers, at the very least, are buying honey when purchasing cheap imports.

On the labour front, we are awaiting feedback from ESDC on the development of the new Temporary Foreign Worker Program. There has been increasing pressure on the program recently, but there seems to be agreement

from all political parties that agriculture is unique in its employment needs. Complicating matters for a number of beekeepers is the fact that the VAC office in Managua, Nicaragua was closed earlier this spring and has yet to reopen. Those employees requiring biometrics will have to leave the country to get it done unless a VAC office opens before spring of 2026. Courier services can be used to send passport documents, or they can be delivered in person to VAC offices outside Nicaragua.



Rod Scarlett, Executive Director, CHC

Later this fall, Jake Berg, Chair of the CHC, will be attending the Canadian Federation of Agriculture’s Lobby Day to advocate for beekeepers’ interests to various MP’s on Parliament Hill. Since joining the CFA, the CHC has had a number of opportunities to provide input on a wide array of agricultural policy initiatives. Those initiatives include the financial support programs that a number of beekeepers now use to help stabilize their financial situation.

Finally, please note that the CHC will be hosting the largest beekeeping conference in Canada (outside of Apimondia Congresses) February 12-14, 2026 at the Westin Airport Hotel in Calgary.

All the pertinent information can be found on the CHC website. www.honeycouncil.ca

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Regional Reports



Atlantic



Rodney Reid

Beekeeping in Atlantic Canada: Weathering the Extremes Together

This past summer brought a rollercoaster of climate challenges to beekeepers across Atlantic Canada. From droughts to wildfires, the season tested the resilience of both bees and their keepers—but it also highlighted the strength and adaptability of our community.

Droughts and Fires: A Season of Extremes

Newfoundland and Labrador saw highly varied conditions. While some areas experienced normal or even increased honey production, most regions faced reduced yields due to August's extreme drought. The Avalon Peninsula was particularly hard-hit, with severe forest fires and heavy smoke preventing bees from foraging. Though no colonies were lost to fire, many bees consumed more honey than they produced, forcing beekeepers to feed syrup during peak production times.

Dry conditions across Atlantic Canada spanned from "abnormally dry" to "exceptional drought," with Labrador seeing isolated areas of normalcy while the Avalon Peninsula of Newfoundland bore the worst of the fire season. Newfoundland, which averages 118 wildfires annually, faced an unprecedented surge with 234 wildfires this summer—setting a record. Fire bans were enforced throughout all Atlantic provinces. The widespread drought created tough conditions for farmers, with many regions reporting severe impacts on crops and pollination.

Agriculture and Pollination Under Pressure

The drought didn't just affect honey yields—it also hit pollinated crops hard. Wild blueberry harvests were down significantly, with New Brunswick reporting a 70% drop compared to the recent three-year average. Similar conditions were observed in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, underscoring the widespread impact of climate volatility.

Adapting for the Future

As climate change continues to reshape our environment, beekeepers are finding new ways to adapt. Techniques like adjusting

hive management timing, relocating hives to follow nectar flows, and innovating with hive design are becoming essential tools in our collective toolkit.

Looking Ahead with Optimism

Despite the challenges, our community has shown incredible resilience. By sharing knowledge, supporting one another, and embracing innovation, we're laying the groundwork for a more climate-resilient future in beekeeping.

As we head into fall, may your hives be strong, your bees healthy, and your spirits high. Here's hoping for a traditional winter with low mortality—and a spring that brings renewal, growth, and plenty of nectar.

Québec



Maggie Lamothe Boudreau,
agr., M. Sc.

Chères apicultrices, chers apiculteurs,

C'est avec enthousiasme que je vous présente ce bref rapport de direction, résumant les faits saillants de notre province québécoise et de la saison apicole 2025.

Une saison marquée par les contrastes

Le printemps 2025 a démarré tôt, mais est demeuré anormalement froid et trop pluvieux, provoquant un décalage entre la floraison rapide de certaines espèces mellifères et la capacité des colonies à suivre le rythme. Malgré ces conditions, plusieurs apiculteurs rapportent une bonne miellée estivale, notamment dans les bleuétières, où les rendements ont surpris à la hausse dans certaines régions. La production globale de miel reste toutefois inégale selon les secteurs : certaines zones ont connu un bon volume de récolte (entre autres en Montérégie), tandis que d'autres, affectées par la sécheresse en juillet et en août, ont vu leur rendement diminué.

Une communauté qui grandit

Notre communauté continue de croître avec l'adhésion de 14 nouveaux membres issus de plusieurs régions du Québec, portant notre total à 144 membres actifs. Cette vitalité se reflète également dans la participation à nos événements, comme la Journée du

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miel (86 participants) et l'activité *Jason l'abeille* en Montérégie (40 participants). Ces rencontres ont permis de renforcer les liens entre membres tout en identifiant des améliorations à apporter aux éditions futures.

Des événements à venir

Côté activités à venir, nous vous invitons à réserver les 20 et 21 février 2026 pour l'AGA à Victoriaville, où nous explorerons les différences entre les programmes de sélection génétique France-Québec. Une tournée régionale est aussi prévue à Joliette le 15 novembre, sous forme de brunch. Suivez notre bulletin hebdomadaire pour plus de détails concernant ces activités.

Enjeux collectifs : financement et représentativité

L'un des enjeux majeurs discutés est le nouveau régime de cotisation proposé par l'UPA. Celui-ci prévoit une contribution obligatoire selon le revenu brut agricole. Le conseil d'administration travaille activement avec d'autres groupes dans des situations similaires à la nôtre afin de continuer à représenter adéquatement nos intérêts particuliers.

Recherche et protection des abeilles

Sur le plan scientifique, l'AADQ appuie un projet de recherche en Gaspésie sur les effets potentiels des fongicides sur les ruches et leur survie dans un contexte d'agriculture intensive. Ce projet se fera sans engagement financier de notre part, et Sarah, notre 2e vice-présidente, y assurera notre représentation.

En conclusion

Votre conseil reste pleinement engagé pour vous représenter, soutenir vos réalités et protéger nos abeilles. Merci pour votre confiance, et au plaisir de vous rencontrer lors de nos prochaines activités.

Dear beekeepers,

It is with great enthusiasm that I present this brief Director's Report, highlighting key developments across the province of Quebec and summarizing the 2025 beekeeping season.

A Season Marked by Contrasts

Spring 2025 began early, but it remained unusually cold and overly rainy, creating a mismatch between the rapid blooming of certain nectar-producing plants and the colonies' ability to keep pace. Despite these conditions, many beekeepers reported a strong summer honey flow, particularly in blueberry fields where yields were surprisingly high in some areas. Overall honey production, however, remains uneven across the province: some regions, notably Montérégie, reported good harvest volumes, while others—affected by drought in July and August—saw reduced yields.

A Growing Community

Our community continues to grow with the addition of 14 new members from various regions of Quebec, bringing our total to 144 active members. This vitality is also reflected in participation at our events, such as Honey Day (86 participants) and the "Jason l'abeille" activity in Montérégie (40 participants). These gatherings helped strengthen bonds between members and identified improvements to consider for future editions.

Upcoming Events

Looking ahead, we invite you to mark your calendars for February 20–21, 2026, for our Annual General Assembly in Victoriaville, where we'll explore differences between queen selection programs in France and Quebec. A regional tour is also planned in Joliette on November 15 in the form of a brunch. Stay tuned to our weekly newsletter for more details

Collective Issues: Funding and Representation

One major issue discussed was the new contribution model proposed by the UPA. This model introduces a mandatory fee based on gross farm income. Our board is actively working with other groups in similar situations to ensure our particular interests continue to be represented fairly and effectively.

Research and Bee Protection

On the scientific front, the AADQ is supporting a new research project in Gaspésie studying the potential effects of fungicides on hive survival in an area where intensive agriculture is expanding. This project will proceed without any financial commitment from us, and our second vice-president, Sarah, will serve as our representative on the file.

In Closing

Your board remains fully committed to representing you, supporting your day-to-day realities, and protecting our bees. Thank you for your continued trust, and I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

Ontario



Albert Devries

As is often the case the weather has been the biggest influence in how the active beekeeping season has played out. For most of Ontario spring was cool and wet. The warm weather was slow to arrive. As we transitioned to summer Ontarians experienced a lot of heat. What influenced our honey crop the most was rain. My understanding is that most areas had too little rain which limited plants ability to produce nectar. Elgin County is the area where we keep most of our bees. We were spared from the worst of the drought conditions. Pollen yields were down but has been offset by having one of our best honey crops ever. Many beekeepers I've talked to are also reporting low mite levels.

Hopefully this is able to translate into less winter loss.

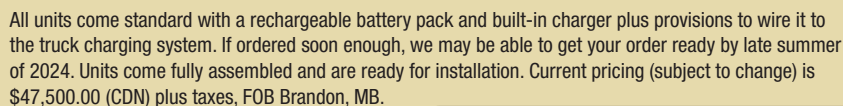
The Ontario Beekeepers Association is pleased to announce our new Tech Transfer Lead Dr Britteny Kyle. Here is an excerpt from her introduction email.

Britteny is a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and is currently completing her PhD research at the University of Guelph focussed on American foulbrood management in Ontario honey bee colonies. In addition to her Masters and PhD research being focussed on honey bees and beekeeping Britteny got her own hives in 2019. Britteny brings experience in the not for profit sector through several roles she filled with the international not



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for profit Honey Bee Veterinary Consortium (HBVC) including creating, launching, and administering the CertHbV certification program within HBVC. Britteny also teaches a week long honey bee rotation to veterinary students at the University of Guelph. Britteny has been very productive both in academic publications and speaking engagements as well as outreach and extension work as she shares her research with local beekeeping associations and other industry groups. I am thankful Dr Kyle has joined our team and look forward to working with her. I'm also thankful for our General Manager Mel Kempers as she has done double duty and kept the TTP running the past two years.

Finally the OBA is holding its AGM in Guelph Nov 28 and 29. We are going to be able to see the new Honey Bee Research Centre at the University of Guelph. I'm looking forward to it very much. I hope to see you there.

Saskatchewan



Jake Berg

I recently attended Apimondia in Copenhagen, Denmark. This event was jointly hosted by Sweden, Denmark, and Norway and was very well organized with over 8000 participants. Nearly 100 Canadian beekeepers and researchers took part in Apimondia. It's always amazing to see so many passionate beekeepers from all corners of the world come together in one place and share their experiences and insights into bees and beekeeping.

The 50th Apimondia Congress in 2027 will take place in the United Arab Emirates. The 51st Apimondia Congress in 2029 will be held in Germany.

At the end of October I will be attending the CFA lobby day in Ottawa as the CHC representative. This is part of the new membership CHC has with the Canadian Federation of Agriculture.

Alberta



Real Dubeau

Another summer has passed and most operations in Alberta are winding down. There have been some late flows with the extended summer weather leading into the first couple weeks of fall, but most have had to feed in early September. The mild autumn weather gave everyone plenty of time to get mite treatments and feed into their hives. Mite threshold numbers started lower than last year in early September, but for some, including myself, have risen throughout the fall. In our operation, we are using oxalic sublimation to combat the rise in mites in our hives and having success with it. We will continue to treat with oxalic until we move bees indoors for wintering.

The summer harvest reports from beekeepers that I have talked to were all over the place. Some were very good and others very bad. It was very dry in Northeast Alberta and the smallest of

showers created a big difference in the nectar flow. But all in all, I think the overall crop in Alberta should be close to average.

We are coming into the months of Board meetings and events that are going to be interesting and informative. I recommend that all beekeepers attend their respective provinces' conventions and meetings, and if you can, visit your neighboring provinces to witness the differences and similarities that each beekeeping operation has across this great country of ours.

I look forward to seeing my fellow directors at the various meetings and events to be held in the next few months. I am also anticipating the robust discussions that arise during these gatherings. There are a lot of topics to discuss and I hope we can all work together to keep the Canadian Beekeeping industry strong.

British Columbia



Jeff Lee

As we head into winter, there is much to report from British Columbia, including the search for a new provincial apiculturist, the summer honey report, an update on the provincial tech-transfer program and the fall annual general meeting of the BC Honey Producers Association.

The Long Goodbye of Paul van Westendorp

The retirement of Paul van Westendorp, B.C.'s long-serving chief apiculturist, remains somewhat up in the air. While he has technically entered retirement as of the summer, he remains on standby, offering lab services while the Ministry of Agriculture finds his replacement.

That, it appears, is no easy task, complicated by a new provincial requirement that the successful applicant also be a registered agrologist. The ministry opened up the competition for his job in July, and as of late September has narrowed the search to several candidates. It was expected the ministry would announce the winning candidate in time for the BCHPA's annual general meeting in late October.

However, BC's chief veterinarian is continuing to work through a requirement instituted in 2021 after van Westendorp was hired that such professionals meet the BC government's Professional Governance Act. In this case, the winner needs to be registered with the B.C. Institute of Agrologists. What this means for the short-listed candidates is unclear.

In his last column for the BCHPA's BeesCene magazine van Westendorp noted that while he officially retired August 1 he continues to carry out basic functions and services until his successor is found. The 11 regional apiary inspectors who provide on-the-ground inspection services remain active.

The BCHPA planned a celebration of van Westendorp's long and valuable service to BC beekeepers for its AGM in Salmon Arm Oct. 24-26. The event included a roasting and review of his accomplishments. I have the pleasure of presenting van Westendorp with a lifetime membership to the BCHPA.



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Van Westendorp has been the Provincial Apiculturist for exactly 35 years. He took over from Doug McCutcheon in 1990, but had worked with McCutcheon, and his predecessor PA John Corner, from the time he was a summer student in the 1970's.

Van Westendorp's career in B.C. was marked by many highs and a few lows. He worked with Harry Laidlaw and met Eva Crane, and was central to the successful Apimondia Conference in Vancouver in 1999. He also taught the Beemasters' Course at the University of B.C. until it was dissolved a few years ago. He also presided over the hiring of part-time apiary inspectors who cover all regions of the province. One of his lasting legacies has been the development of a free online beginning beekeeping course.

But van Westendorp also witnessed and had to help shape regulations for what he calls Canada's "loss of innocence", the discovery of the varroa mite in B.C. in 1990. He's also dealt with the emergence of small hive beetle in the Lower Mainland in 2015, the arrival of the Northern Giant Hornet on Vancouver Island, and bee health issues in blueberry pollination. He exits as Canada prepares for the potential of both the Tropilaelaps mite and vespa velutina, the yellow-legged Asian hornet.

Whoever takes over will have huge shoes to fill.

Honey Season Report

As always, predicting honey and bee health can be confounding. Years can be good, mediocre or bad. Some regions can be better or worse than others. This year is no different.

For 2025, most of B.C.'s various regions reported better-than-average honey yields. But there were some head-scratchers and odd spots.

In the urban Lower Mainland, most beekeepers reported above-average yields, helped by moderating weather during the spring and blackberry flows. But some beekeepers reported having to feed their bees during the raspberry season because of a non-existent flow. Raspberries are one of the most dependable honey crops in the area. As one career beekeeper with thousands of colonies said, "this is the first time I've ever had to feed bees in raspberries."

In the Peace region, honey was abundant and over the average, largely because of the lack of super-hot summer. The same was the story in the Okanagan and Kootenays, where a hot June and mild and moist July produced steady honey flows that ended with above-average yields. The lack of serious wildfires in most areas helped keep bees flying.

On Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast beekeepers reported significantly lower yields, partly because of a dry spring and hot summer. And yet in the Northwest quadrant of the province honey yields were half of the annual average, in part due to a cold and wet spring that set starting colonies back.

Most beekeepers have reported observing lower mite loads and far less pre-winter losses, unlike last year, which was marked by an eight-year high in wasp predation.

Tech Transfer update

Fahim Raza, the lead for the BCHPA's tech-transfer program, is continuing to work on several projects. One of them is an American Foulbrood surveillance project. He's been collecting

samples of pooled honey from beekeepers with the intent of benchmarking the prevalence of AFB spores in the samples.

He's already collected 95 samples from 45 different operations but is still looking for another 50. His findings should be available by some time in 2026.

B.C. is also part of a mite-sampling project operated by the National Bee Diagnostic Centre. Last year the tech-transfer program's collection of mite samples resulted in the confirmation that amitraz resistance in varroa was now established in B.C.

BCHPA AGM

By the time you read this the BCHPA's annual general meeting in Salmon Arm will have just concluded. I obviously can't give you a detailed report on what was expected to take place, but the agenda for the business day included discussions of the association considering halting its' spring semi-annual event.

With the rise of hotel conference costs, travel and the work of organizing two events a year the BCHPA executive is considering moving the spring business meeting into an online event and doing away with its education days. In place of that the board is considering holding a rotating road show operated by its tech-transfer program that create regional education programs for local clubs and branches. A decision on this format is scheduled for this AGM.

Bee Maid



Marina Oirik

New Workshops Launched to Support and Inspire Beekeepers

In 2025, Bee Maid Honey took an exciting step toward strengthening our connection with the beekeeping community by launching a new series of hands-on workshops. These sessions were created to support hobbyists and newer beekeepers who are just starting their journey, providing practical knowledge and confidence to help them succeed.

Our workshops are designed to be approachable, engaging, and rooted in real-world experience. By gathering in person, we're not only sharing skills and information—we're building connections within our beekeeping community.

This fall, we're expanding the program to reach even more people by focusing on wax and candle making. These workshops invite both beekeepers and the general public to explore the beauty and versatility of beeswax, offering a fun and creative way to connect with the world of bees.

During the Saturday workshops, our Spruce Grove and Winnipeg Bee Supplies Stores are open, making it easy for attendees to pick up supplies, ask questions, and connect with our knowledgeable staff.

Work is already underway on our 2026 workshop schedule, and we look forward to creating even more opportunities to connect with our community.



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It is anticipated that BeeTech 2026 will be the largest ever beekeeping and trade show in Canada outside of the Apimondia Congresses.

The CHC and CAPA AGMs and board meetings will be held on February 11 and 12 (am)

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Details at: <https://honeycouncil.ca/beetech2026/>**



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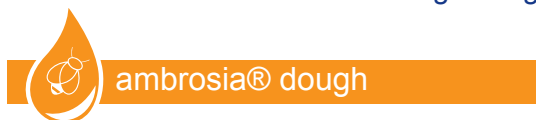
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More custom features are already on the way, as Cancade continues to refine and adapt to customer needs.

Perhaps what sets the WorkerBee apart most is Cancade's commitment to service. Local manufacturing, local parts, and local technicians mean fast turnaround times and support you can count on. That reliability has sold the WorkerBee not just across the prairies, but as far afield as Texas and Atlantic Canada.

And we are not stopping there. Plans are already underway to launch a trailer-mounted demonstration model, bringing the WorkerBee directly to your fields and apiaries for in person demonstrations. Call or email Cancade if you are interested in hearing more about the WorkerBee or check us out on social media.

Like the magnificent creature it's named after, the WorkerBee is hardworking, adaptable, and built for the long haul. For beekeepers looking for strength, simplicity, and service, it's proving to be the right tool for the job.



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on Page 8**

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Educating our next generation of beekeepers

By Lenka Petric and John MacFarlane, Kawartha Junior Beekeeper mentors and Team Canada/IMYB Coordinators



It's hard to believe that it has been eight years since the dream of developing a program to educate young people about beekeeping became a reality through the Kawartha Junior Beekeeper Program. Four beekeepers, including the authors, Tom Childs, and Marcia Palmer, created the program after comparing notes about doing presentations in schools and youth clubs. They realized that while there was lots of interest, the one-off nature of the presentations left many kids eager to learn more. A pilot junior beekeeper program was run in 2017 with 10 kids. It received positive feedback from parents and participants. Since then, 80 youth have gone through the program (2017–2019, 2023, 2024), with several returning for two or three years. This year, we have 18 young beekeepers registered.

Overview of the Junior Beekeeper Program

The Junior Beekeeper Program is a hands-on program for youth aged 9 to 14 who are interested in learning about beekeeping. The monthly program follows the beekeeper's year—from equipment preparation to winterizing. Participants learn about pollination, bee biology, and pest management through hands-on, engaging activities. They use microscopes to study bee anatomy and development stages, build hive boxes and frames, and learn about the many flavors of honey through honey tastings. At the hive, they put into practice what they learn in the classroom, including identifying brood, honey, and pollen, splitting colonies, learning about treatments, and

monitoring the progress and health of the hive. The program is led by experienced beekeepers who are volunteer mentors. Guest speakers, such as Dr. Susan Chan, a pollination biologist, and Joanna Paul, a volunteer with the Xerces Society, bring in outside expertise. A field trip to Kawartha Lakes Honey, a commercial apiary, introduces students to the possibility of beekeeping as a career.

The objectives of the program are to:

- Introduce youth to the world of honeybees and the role of the beekeeper.
- Communicate the importance of honeybees and native bees as pollinators.
- Encourage and educate a new generation of beekeepers.

There are currently two junior beekeeper programs operating in Ontario: the original Kawartha Junior Beekeepers and the Northumberland Junior Beekeepers (started in 2023, with 20 graduates to date). The Kawartha program is run in partnership with Hunnabees Honey and Co., a local apiary whose owners, Keri and Dave Nicolaou, provide their property and participate as mentors in the program. The Northumberland Program operates from Dancing Bee Equipment, which provides space and access to equipment. Beekeeper Dana Petrillo coordinates the program. Because of the proximity of the two programs, mentors and other resources are shared. The Central Ontario Beekeepers Association and the Ontario Beekeepers Association are key supporters of the Junior Beekeeper Program.



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In 2026, a pilot program for young beekeepers will launch in Newfoundland. It will operate under the umbrella of the Newfoundland and Labrador Beekeeping Association (NLBKA) and partner with Memorial University of Newfoundland (MUN) Botanical Gardens. It is hoped that after the pilot year, it will be spread out to other areas of the province.

The program will be fashioned after the Kawartha Junior Beekeeper program. Mentors and space have been put in place, and the search is on for sponsors to help with the cost of supplies for the program. There will be 10 to 14 spaces available for youth aged 9-14 years. More information about the program will be available in late November on the NLBKA and the Gardens Facebook pages and websites.

Learning from Young Beekeeper Programs in Other Countries

The education of young beekeepers is popular in many countries and often has a long history. Slovenia, for example, recently held its 47th annual young beekeeper competition, where 600 young beekeepers and 100 mentors gathered to compete for coveted beekeeping awards. This country, with a population of about 2.1 million, had 176 beekeeping clubs and 2,164 young beekeepers in 2024. Through these beekeeping clubs, local beekeeper associations work with primary and secondary schools to provide theoretical and practical beekeeping programming. In nearby Czech Republic, there are 150 beekeeping clubs and over 1400 young beekeepers. They host regional competitions and a culminating national competition. Their national competition this year saw 500 participants vying for the “Golden Bee”. Similar beekeeping programming and competitions occur in Slovakia, Germany, and Austria.

While there may be differences in the way these countries educate their young beekeepers, they are similar in that they reach thousands of young people and are often coordinated with the involvement of their national and/or regional beekeeping associations. Countries like Australia (Tasmania) and the United Arab Emirates have more recently developed programs for young beekeepers. The creation of resources and supports for young beekeepers varies from country to country. In Scotland, for example, which has a thriving community of young beekeepers, the Scottish Beekeepers Association has created a Junior Beekeeper Certificate designed to encourage young people to become interested in bees and beekeeping. The importance of supporting young beekeepers has been recognized by the European Beekeeping Association (EBA), which earlier this year established the Scientific Committee for Young Beekeepers. The goals of the Committee include facilitating youth engagement in beekeeping, creating a pan-European mentorship network, as well as community and school partnerships and collaboration with industry and research. There is much to learn from other countries and their education programs.

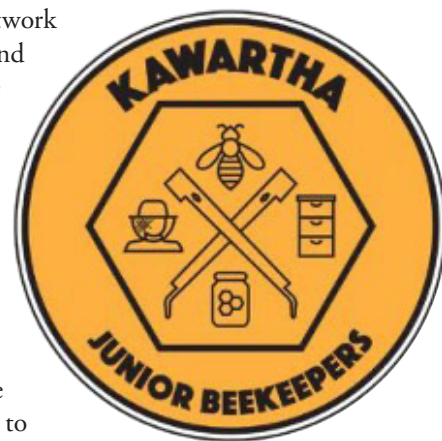
We'd Like to Hear About Other Programs for Young Beekeepers in Canada

We are interested in learning about other programs for young beekeepers in Canada and exploring the potential for

creating a national network for information sharing and cooperation. If you are involved in any way in the education of young beekeepers, we'd love to hear from you.

If you are a local or provincial beekeepers' association and would like to learn more about our program, please reach out. We're happy to do presentations and answer questions about setting up a program.

You can find out more about the Kawartha Junior Beekeepers here: jrbeekeepers.ca or by contacting the authors at macpet@nexicom.net.



The International Meeting of Young Beekeepers (IMYB)

An initiative of the International Centre for Young Beekeepers, the IMYB is an annual event that began in 2010 in the Czech Republic and has since become the largest gathering of young beekeepers worldwide. The event is held in a different country each year and includes social and cultural activities as well as a competition. The competition allows young beekeepers to test their beekeeping knowledge and skills. It consists of hands-on activities, including proper handling of bees in a hive, building a nuc, grafting and queen marking, identifying hive components, and building frames. There is also a written (multiple choice) component testing knowledge and understanding of topics such as bee anatomy, biology, entomology, and pests and diseases. Throughout the event, participants are exposed to different cultures, languages, customs, and beekeeping traditions from around the world. They leave with new skills, knowledge, and friendships. Learn more about the IMYB here: <https://www.icyb.cz/imyb>

In 2026, the IMYB will be held in Northern Ireland, where young beekeepers from 40 countries will gather for five days for a unique cultural experience and competition. Learn more about the 2026 IMYB here: <https://imyb-ni26.com>

The 2026 IMYB will be the 4th year that Canada will send a team to this event: 2019 in Slovakia, 2023 in Slovenia, and 2024 in the United Arab Emirates. To date, Canada has been represented by nine young beekeepers from Ontario and British Columbia. The Canadian Honey Council and many beekeeping clubs and business have been strong supporters of Canada's participation in the IMYB.

We are looking for three young beekeepers aged 12 to 17 to represent Canada in 2026. Involvement in a junior beekeeping program is not mandatory, but experience and passion for beekeeping are. If you are, or know of, a young beekeeper interested in this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, who is willing to participate in training and fundraising, please contact the Team Canada organizers at macpet@nexicom.net.

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Canadian Association of Professional Apiculturists

CAPA News



EDITORIAL BOARD MESSAGE

The semi-annual online Canadian Association of Professional Apiculturists (CAPA) News, CAPA News, is available in both English and French

CAPA News will highlight the Association's activities and provide valuable insights into apiculture and beekeeping. Each issue will feature a range of content, including reports, scientific article summaries, responses, notes, letters, reviews, and short commentaries. Topics will span honey bee health, emerging research, importation issues, provincial apicultural updates, national regulatory organizations, and studies on other insect pollinators.

Both language versions are accessible on the CAPA website:

<https://capabees.com/capa-news/>.

The English edition will also be republished in the Canadian Honey Council (CHC) newsletter, *HiveLights* (<https://honeycouncil.ca/educationresources/hivelights-newsletter-archive/>); and in *Bee Culture* magazine (<https://beeculture.com/>).

The French edition will be featured in the Quebec Beekeepers' newsletter, *L'Abeille* (<https://www.apiculteursduquebec.com/node/1>).

The Editorial Board warmly invites CAPA to contribute to the newsletter. We welcome reports, papers, and news items relevant to the beekeeping community. Please follow the newsletter's submission guidelines and send your contributions to: capa.news24@gmail.com.

CAPA AGM—2025



The 2024/2025 Canadian Association of Professional Apiculturists AGM was held in February at the Lord Elgin Hotel in Ottawa in conjunction with the Canadian National Beekeeping Convention hosted by the Canadian Honey Council. The two-day CAPA AGM was a success as representatives from across the country gathered to discuss pertinent issues like the efficacy of Varroa mite treatments, international bee importation, and the emerging threat of the *Tropilaelaps* mite. The AGM also offered an opportunity for CAPA to discuss the wide scope of work each of its members had undertaken in 2024: Provincial Apiarists reported on the beekeeping activities and statuses of their respective provinces, the eleven CAPA committees each delivered their reports, and representatives for the CHC were welcomed into the CAPA AGM for a joint meeting.

The AGM was followed up with the Canadian National Beekeeping Convention which featured scientific talks from national and international speakers, including several CAPA members. The talks covered topics like bee metabolism, bee health, IPM, nutrition, pollination, and acaricide evaluation. The Convention also featured three discussion panels on queen production vs importation and the *Tropilaelaps* mite. All in all, the three-day AGM and Convention was another valuable opportunity for representatives from Federal and Provincial governments, academia, and industry to convene and discuss the most prescient issues affecting apiculture and research findings influencing the beekeeping industry in Canada.

By: Cameron Menzies, CAPA News editor, crmenzies@gov.pe.ca.

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SUMMARY OF TROPILAELOPS WORKSHOP, UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

In November 2024 four Canadian apiculturists (Jordan Janisse, Paige Marchant, Derek Micholson, and Ali Panasiuk) attended the *Tropilaelaps* workshop at Auburn University in Alabama, this educational trip was both scary and reassuring.

The workshop covered *Tropilaelaps* biology, life cycle, parasitism, dispersal and distribution. We discussed the known behaviours of their native hosts, the Asian Giant honey bees, and the mechanisms they employ to manage mite loads compared to *A. mellifera*. There is a difference in the ability of the various *Apis* species to manage mite populations within their colonies. *A. mellifera*, with their short history of *Tropilaelaps* parasitism leaves them at a distinct disadvantage! This is part of the 'scary' I mentioned.

Other factors that raise the hair on the back of the neck are the 'rapid' change in the geographic distribution of *Tropilaelaps* and the potential for this mite to find its way to North America.

We examined preserved mite specimens from Thailand under scopes and observed them on sticky boards and had a try at identifying them amongst the debris, NOT an easy task! The session covered the various monitoring techniques available, similar to those used for *Varroa*, and discussed the viability of each.

A session on Incident Command Systems, their use and structures, was insightful especially for those of us whose roles would be directly involved in a response should *Tropilaelaps* make it to North America. We participated in two mock scenarios involving suspected *Tropilaelaps* introductions that were informative. A sample action flow chart, provided by Chris Rosario, was provided for each participant to take home and adapt to their own situation.

We discussed the needs in research, extension and surveillance and where gaps exist in these areas.

The key concepts I came home with were:

1. *Tropilaelaps* are small, fast and hard to detect as the damage is very similar to that caused by *Varroa*.
2. There is a need for *Tropilaelaps* specific best management practices, monitoring techniques and registered treatments.
3. We need to have multi-level action plans in place as soon as possible (regional, provincial, territorial, national, international).
4. Need to educate and have open dialogue at all levels.
5. This will be a collaborative effort North America wide. Maybe the most important is we are not alone! We have many knowledgeable people in the industry we can work with and that is the reassuring part.

By: Paige Marchant, Provincial Apiarist, Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, Corner Brook NL, Canada, PaigeMarchant@gov.nl.ca.

BC-TTP UPDATE

The graphic is a vertical layout with a green background. At the top left, under the heading 'THE TEAM', are four circular portraits of the team members: Becky Miller, Dr. Muhammad Fahim Raza, Leilani Pulsifer, and Dr. Nuria Morfin. To the right of the portraits is the 'Technology Transfer Program' logo, which includes a bee icon and the text 'BC Honey Producers' Association'. Below the portraits is a large green archway containing the website 'TTP-BCHPA.CA', the learning platform 'TTP-BCHPA-LEARN.CA', and social media handles '@BC_TTP' and '@BC TECH TRANSFER'. To the right of the archway, under the heading 'OUR COURSES', are three rectangular boxes representing different courses: 'INTRODUCTION TO HONEY BEE BIOLOGY & APICULTURE', 'DISEASES & PESTS OF THE HONEY BEE', and 'THE BCHPA BEEKEEPING INSTRUCTORS PROGRAMME'.

The British Columbia Technology Transfer Program (BC-TTP) is part of the British Columbia Honey Producers Association (BCHPA). Its mandate focuses on improving honey bee health, increasing productivity, and supporting local food production in BC by conducting research, creating educational resources for beekeepers, and facilitating the transfer of knowledge and technology. The program collaborates with various stakeholders, including the beekeeping industry, farmers, researchers, and government bodies. Key goals include promoting best management practices, integrated pest management strategies, and advancing sustainability within the beekeeping industry. The BC-TTP is a small (but mighty!) team composed of Dr. Nuria Morfin (Chair of the Steering Committee), Dr. Muhammad Fahim Raza (Technician in Apicultural Research), Becky Miller (Administrative Assistant), and Leilani Pulsifer (Science Communicator). Together with our collaborators, we are involved in various research projects aimed at enhancing the resilience and productivity of the beekeeping sector in British Columbia.

Key Projects:

Marker-Assisted Selection in Breeding: This study aims to improve beekeeping sustainability by using genetic markers to breed resilient bee colonies. It focuses on traits like hygienic behavior and low *Varroa* growth. Funding: Vancouver Foundation, Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership, and others. Collaborators: University of British Columbia, University of Manitoba, and the BC Bee Breeders Association.

Education and Knowledge Transfer: This initiative addresses the lack of formal beekeeping education in the region by creating a learning platform with courses on honey bee biology, diseases and pests, integrated pest management, and other vital topics. It aims to support the sustainable growth of beekeeping in British Columbia and the Pacific Northwest: <https://tpp-bchpa-learn.ca/> Funding: Project Apis m, BC Honey Producers' Association. Collaborators: Green Stone Learning Inc.

Amitraz Resistance in Varroa Mites: The BC-TTP supported Simon Fraser University in evaluating resistance to the pesticide amitraz in *Varroa* mite populations in the province, which is crucial for managing pest resistance. Funding: Abbotsford Community Foundation. Collaborators: Simon Fraser University.

Upcoming Project | Towards a Self-Sufficiency in Apiculture for Food Security in a Net-Zero Economy: The BC-TTP will support the University of British Columbia in a project that aims at evaluating strategies for overwintering honey bee queens in northern conditions and help improve local stock production and the sustainability of Canadian beekeeping. Funding: University of British Columbia, NSERC. Collaborators: Dr. Leonard Foster, UBC.

We also prioritize knowledge transfer by hosting workshops. Last year, we offered 21 workshops and presentations across BC, Canada, and abroad. These sessions covered topics such as integrated pest management and basic beekeeping.

For more information or to get in touch, please visit our website ([ttp-bchpa.ca](http://bchpa.ca)), send us an email (info@ttp-bchpa.ca) or send us a DM through Instagram (@BC_TTP) or Facebook (@BC Tech Transfer).

By: Dr. Nuria Morfin, Assistant Professor, University of Manitoba, Chair of the BC-TTP Steering Committee, nuriamorfin@ttp-bchpa.ca; & Leilani Pulsifer, Science Communicator for the BC-TTP, leilanipulsifer@ttp-bchpa.ca.

ATTA UPDATE

The Atlantic Tech Transfer Team for Apiculture (ATTTA) is the only regional tech transfer team in Canada, supporting beekeepers across the four Atlantic Provinces. The core of our work is in the Maritime region, but we also have very close relationships with the Newfoundland beekeeping industry. The overarching mandate for ATTITA is, “Building capacity, growth and competitiveness for a sustainable Atlantic Canadian honey bee and pollination sector.” Under this banner we have three themes which direct our efforts:

- Ensuring sustainability for the honey bee and pollination sectors through growth and continued application of best practices,
- Confronting challenges of the beekeeping industry through dissemination of current, credible information, a pluralistic approach to knowledge transfer, and an application of regionally appropriate research,
- Providing effective solutions to meet the demand and safeguard the consistency of the region’s supply of bees for pollination.

The support for the work of ATTITA comes directly from both the beekeeping and wild blueberry industries. The pollination of wild blueberries is a significant part of the overall beekeeping industry in the Maritime region and both of these



sectors are heavily reliant on each other. So, ATTITA’s work, in a large part, is to ensure that Maritime beekeepers are supplying healthy strong colonies to support wild blueberry production. The ATTITA is led by a full-time senior apiculturist supported by one other full-time apiculturist. Perennia Food and Agriculture, a Nova Scotia Crown Corporation, provides a base for ATTITA as well as managerial and administrative support. A steering committee made up of industry and government stakeholders provides strategic direction to the group. Depending on seasonal activities the team expands to include two or three seasonal apiculturists. This group is busy throughout the beekeeping season undertaking fieldwork, data collection and extension activities.

The Team’s applied research is focused around two main themes: honey bee health and pollination efficiencies. Collecting data on the *Varroa* status of beekeepers in the Maritime region, as part of a three-year project, is one current main focus of the seasonal work of the team. Investigating pollination efficiencies for wild blueberries is another significant aspect of our annual field work. The ATTITA participate in a large number of training and extension activities. Examples include our Fundamentals of Beekeeping program done in partnership with Dalhousie University. This course, which is taught throughout the entire beekeeping season, is a continuum of high-level beekeeper education provided in our region since 2012. Many of our most successful beekeepers have begun their beekeeping career with this educational foundation. The “What’s the Buzz with ATTITA” weekly blog is another important extension tool. This has been visited by over 130,000 beekeepers overall and has several thousand views per month.

Collaborating with the other six tech transfer teams across Canada has provided another great opportunity to share in knowledge and information. Most recently these collaborative efforts have been seen in the hugely successful webinar, “Staying Ahead of *Varroa*.” In Partnership with Véto-pharma and the CHC, this was a great example of how the Canadian honey bee industry works together to achieve a common goal. For more information on ATTITA, please reach out to atta@perennia.ca.

By: Dr. Andrew Byers, Program Lead Atlantic Tech Transfer Team for Apiculture, abyers@perennia.ca.

KRTP UPDATE

KRTP TEAM



Matthew Polinsky
Program Lead

Amanda Turriff
Technician

The Manitoba Knowledge & Research Transfer Program (KRTP) was established in 2021 by the Manitoba Beekeepers' Association (MBA). The mandate was conceived with four pillars: education, services to beekeepers, demonstrative research, and communication.

Like other tech transfer programs, our focus includes honey bee health, IPM strategies, best management practices tailored to local conditions, community engagement, and overall advancement of the beekeeping industry. To support Manitoba beekeepers in maintaining optimal bee health and productivity, the KRTP strives to:

- Contribute to filling knowledge gaps between research and real-world application.
- Develop and share knowledge and practices with both proactive and responsive approaches that address changing environmental, biological, and economic conditions — with the ultimate goal of ensuring beekeepers have access to the most current and beneficial information for their operations.
- Facilitate connections between the beekeeping community and apicultural researchers to advance science and practice.

Recent or Ongoing Research and Activities:

Research

- 2023-2025 Field Trials of RNA *Varroa* Biopesticide (Norroa™); Purpose: Evaluate efficacy of *Varroa* control product; Collaborator: GreenLight Biosciences.
- Field Trial: Impacts of Feed Quality on Wintering; Purpose: Assess impacts of various quality syrups on wintering, specifically acidic syrups that have been degraded by time, temperature or other factors.; Collaborator: University of Manitoba.
- Oxalic Acid Extended-release Strips (Varroxsan™) Winter Experiment; Purpose: Assess the safety and efficacy of OA glycerin strips in an indoor wintering setting; Collaborator: University of Saskatchewan.

- Miticide Resistance Assessments: Assess efficacy of Apivar® using Apiarium bioassays on mite populations of special interest, as well as collecting mites for genetic analysis at NBDC.

Services

- Syrup testing: Assist beekeepers to identify degraded syrups (pH, titratable acidity, BRIX) that may negatively impact colonies, especially pre-winter.
- Breeder stock evaluations: Assist beekeepers to evaluate breeder stock for pest and pathogen resistance traits using freeze-kill brood assays and UBeeO. The 2025 season will include low-*Varroa*-growth evaluations and marker-assisted selection tools via collaboration with the University of Manitoba.
- Bee Health Monitoring Program: Assist beekeepers with assessing health of their apiaries by inspecting and sampling colonies for *Varroa*, Nosema, viruses, and brood diseases.

Community Engagement

- The KRTP seeks to provide relevant, high-quality learning opportunities for the Manitoba beekeeping community, including: annual queen rearing workshop, presentations at regional association meetings, contributing guest lectures to the U of M beekeeping course, and hosting webinars.
- Core KRTP funding is provided by Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership.

Find us: Instagram @krtpmb; Facebook: KRTP – Manitoba: manitobabee.org; Polinsky: krtpmb@gmail.com.

By: Matthew Polinsky, Manitoba Knowledge & Research Transfer Program Lead, krtpmb@gmail.com.

THE ONLINE WEBINAR:

Staying ahead of Varroa: challenges & strategies

On Saturday March 15, 2025 the Canadian Honey Council, in collaboration with the Canadian Bee Tech Transfer (BTT) Programs and with support from Véto-Pharma held an online event to address the challenges facing beekeepers in controlling *Varroa*. The program organizers' lead by Medhat Nasr invited speakers who gave the following presentations: 1 - Integrated resistance management for acaricide used on *Varroa* - by Phil Lester, Victoria University, New Zealand; 2 - *Varroa* management programs: Perspectives from Quebec – by Julie Ferland, Quebec Provincial Apiarist; and 3 - *Varroa* management programs: Perspectives from Saskatchewan by Geoff Wilson, Saskatchewan Provincial Apiculturist. A panel discussion followed the presentations. The panelists were Maggie Lamothe-Boudreau, Commercial beekeeper from Quebec, CHC director Rod Scarlett, Andrew Byers, Lead of the Atlantic Tech Transfer, Matthew Polinsky, Lead of Manitoba Tech Transfer, and Medhat Nasr, Program lead of the Saskatchewan



BTT Program. The key away messages from the webinar are the following:

- *Varroa* is one of the most significant pests of the honey bee globally.
- The Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a sustainable strategy

to control pests, but *Varroa* is a challenging pest for integrated management.

- So far, synthetic and organic miticides are the key component of mite control.
- Resistance already developed to Apistan, Checkmite and recently to variable degrees to Apivar in Canada.
- One key problem for *Varroa* integrated resistance management is that there is little to no evidence to reduced reproduction of resistant mites. Therefore, reversion of resistance is very slow.
- To have a successful sustainable IPM for *Varroa*, a program must be founded on three pillars: resistant bee stock, chemical treatment options and technical measures. To implement this program, good beekeeping management practices is required.
- The Saskatchewan *Varroa* management program is a beekeeper centric driven one. A consistent message is delivered by government specialists, researchers and Tech transfer personnel to beekeepers to avoid any confusions and stay focused.
- Sampling bee colonies for *Varroa* infestation multiple times through the bee season is important more than ever. Thus, *Varroa* treatment is applied at the right time to kill mites and protect the health of bees from any *Varroa* damages.
- One important message through the webinar was “BE READY FOR THE CHANGE BEFORE THE CHANGE HAPPENS”.

By: Dr. Medhat Nasr, Saskatchewan Bee Tech Transfer Program Research Lead, medhat.bees@gmail.com.

SHORT NEWS

Congratulations to Christine MacPherson (University of Guelph, supervised by Dr. Emma Allen-Vercoe), recipient of the A.S. Atwal Scholarship in Bee Research. This scholarship is annually awarded by the Canadian Association of Professional Apiculturists (CAPA) and Canadian Honey Council (CHC).

The 2025 Joint Annual Meeting of the **Entomological Society of Alberta (ESAB)** and the **Entomological Society of Canada (ESC)** will take place from 5-8 October 2025 in Calgary, Alberta.

The ESC-ESAB joint meeting will be held six symposiums including one on honey bee:

Symposium: Rising insights: advances in honey bee research
Organizers: Olav Rueppell, Shelley Hoover and Rassol Bahreini

Even though honey bees are not new to Canada, they give rise to an ever-increasing list of intriguing research problems, which are partially fueled by their elaborate social life and fascinating biology and partially by the severe health problems that this commercially important species is facing. In this symposium, we seek to highlight the many great directions that honey bee research is developing in Canada. We focus on honey bees as a long-standing model for many other insect species to bring together experts from various sub-disciplines and elucidate novel aspects of the biology and health of this particular species. Presented research will range across levels of biological organization and include basic and applied science, with a special emphasis on the novel approaches used in recent studies.

For more information visit: <https://entsocalberta.ca/jam2025/>

EDITORIAL BOARD

Rassol Bahreini
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The Editorial Board are pleased to invite you to submit your reports, research articles and news at:
capa.news24@gmail.com

Help Wanted 2026

Help Wanted: Fisher Branch (MB)

INTERLAKE HONEY PRODUCERS LTD.
in Fisher Branch, MB has the following positions:

Apiary Technician: 5 positions available for the 2026 season.

Seasonal, full time, days, evenings and some Saturdays. Work is mostly outdoors, so must be able to work under hot conditions. The job starts April 1st-July 1st. End date: Sept 10th-November 15th.

Wages \$16.00-\$22.00/hour depending on experience. Performance and/or production bonus may be available. Duties include but not limited to: feed and care for honeybees, replacement of hives and production of nucs, moving hives, supering hives, detect and report hive health and apply correct disease cures and/or controls, bee yard maintenance, keep field and/or production records, harvest honey, working on extracting line, cleaning extracting equipment and honey house, raise queens, assemble and maintain bee equipment, drive and maintain vehicles. Work is very physically demanding, with long days and heavy lifting. The job is located 2 hours north of Winnipeg in the RM of Fisher NE 33-23-1W in Fisher Branch, MB. Send resume to anita@ifsltd.ca

Help Wanted: Big River (SK)

West Cowan Apiaries "Quality Northern Saskatchewan Honey" Box 425, Big River, Saskatchewan. S0J 0E0

Apiary Technicians – NOC 84120 – 5 persons required. Must have 2-3 full bee seasons of apiary experience required.

Job Duties: Must be able to work in the presence of honey bees; assist with colony management; honey extraction and processing; queen rearing; to report beehive health issues and apply appropriate disease cures or controls. Feeding hives (Spring and Fall); creating nucs; carrying and stacking honey supers (80+ lbs) to the truck deck; maintaining bee yards; moving nucs inside/outside (Fall and Spring); building of honey supers; lids and bottom boards in the wood shop. Assist in supervising and giving direction to other employees. Keep field and production records; and perform any other apiary jobs that are required.

Wage: \$17.00- \$25.00 per hour (dependent on experience). Job is: Seasonal F-T, Minimum of 40+ hours per week. Length of employment: April 1- November, 2026 (7 months)

Apiary Workers- NOC 85100 – 5 persons required. Must have 1-2 full bee seasons of apiary experience required.

Job Duties: Must be able to work in the presence of honey

bees. The cleaning of the entire honey building; carrying and stacking of honey supers; grass cutting around the honey building and yard site; the cutting of the grass in the various bee yards; maintain the bee yards; extracting and processing honey; and any other jobs that are required.

Wage: \$15.50-\$16.95 per hour (dependent on experience). Job length is: Seasonal F-T; Minimum of 40+ hours per week. Length of employment: June 1-October 1, 2026 (4 months)

Training is provided on an ongoing basis. Please do not apply if you are allergic to bees!

All job requirements: You must have a valid driver's license, and vehicle to get back and forth to work. Experience driving a standard truck is an asset. To be in good physical condition and to be able to work in a team environment. Most jobs are performed outdoors in all kinds of weather, work is repetitive, and physically demanding.

Work locations are: SE 14-56-8 W3, our bee yards are located in the RM's of Big River, Shellbrook and Canwood.

Please apply by email to: c.warriner@sasktel.net. Mail or deliver in person your resume with references to: West Cowan Apiaries, Christopher & Lori Warriner. PO Box 425, Big River, SK. S0J 0E0 or phone to set up an appointment to: 306-469-4970.

Help Wanted: Granum, (AB)

SUPERNUC APIARIES located near Granum, AB (251032 TWP RD 104) has the following positions for the 2026 season. **APIARY WORKERS (NOC 85100)** 3 positions: starting at \$17.98 - \$22.00/hr, needed full time (45+ hrs/wk) from Mar 1, 2026 through October 31, 2026. Apiary workers must have a minimum of 1 season full time experience in a Canadian commercial apiary. Duties include assisting with beehive maintenance and treatments, building and repairing bee equipment, moving hives, harvesting and extracting honey, and winter preparation. Some evening, night and weekend work will be required. Accommodations are available. A valid driver's license and the ability to speak English is an asset. Must be physically fit and accustomed to working with honeybees. No educational requirements. All wages are negotiable based on experience and productivity. Bonuses may be available. Email resumes to aovinge@gmail.com or mail to Box 133, Granum, AB T0L 1A0.

Help Wanted (AB)

Poelman Apiaries Ltd requires workers for 2026 Season

Fifteen APIARY TECHNICIANS (NOC 84120) with a minimum of 2-3 years (seasons) experience working on a Canadian style commercial apiary in the min. capacity of Apiary Worker or General Farm Worker with employment March thru November 2026 (\$18plus to \$21/hour depending on exp. with possible bonus) (40+ hours/week); Duties include: caring for honeybee colonies in the appropriate manner; coordinating the production of replacement bees and equipment; recognizing, reporting, monitoring hive health issues and applying appropriate treatment/controls; harvest and fill honey barrels and containers; supervise small teams of workers; driving and daily maintenance of vehicles; operate and maintain other apiary equipment; conduct bee yard maintenance; keep some field production records, harvesting and rendering wax.

A motor vehicle operator’s license with no serious infractions, recognized by the Province of Alberta and major insurance companies will be an asset.

Fifteen APIARY WORKERS (NOC 85100) with a minimum of 1 year (season) experience and with employment March thru October 2026 (\$18 plus to \$20/hour depending on exp. with possible bonus) (40+ hours/week);

Duties include caring for honeybee colonies in the appropriate manner; assisting Technicians with bees and equipment; assisting with harvesting honey; assisting with the bee yard and equipment maintenance and helping with wax rendering.

All wages are negotiable based on experience and productivity. Applicants must be able to work in the presence of honey bees. All positions may require some evening, night & weekend work. All applicants must be in good physical condition and able to work in a team environment. Ability to speak English is an asset.

Help Wanted: Tees (AB)

TEES BEES INC. requires:

Three APIARY TECHNICIANS (NOC 84120) with a minimum of 2-3 years (seasons) experience working on a Canadian style commercial apiary in the min. capacity of Apiary Worker or General Farm Worker with employment March thru October 2026 (\$17.98-\$22/hr depending on exp. with possible bonus) (40+ hrs/wk);

Duties include: caring for honeybee colonies in the appropriate manner; coordinating the production of replacement bees and equipment; recognizing, reporting, monitoring hive health issues and applying appropriate treatment/controls; harvest and fill honey barrels and containers; supervise small teams of workers; driving and daily maintenance of vehicles; operate and maintain other

apiary equipment; conduct bee yard maintenance; keep some field production records.

A motor vehicle operator’s licence with no serious infractions, recognized by the Province of Alberta and major insurance companies is required.

Nine APIARY WORKERS (NOC 85100) with a minimum of 1 year (season) experience and with employment March thru October 2026 (\$17.98-\$21/hr depending on exp. with possible bonus) (40+ hrs/wk);

Duties include caring for honeybee colonies in the appropriate manner; assisting Technicians with bees and equipment; assisting with harvesting honey; assisting with the bee yard and equipment maintenance.

All wages are negotiable based on experience and productivity. Applicants must be able to work in the presence of honey bees. All positions may require some evening, night & weekend work. All applicants must be in good physical condition and able to work in a team environment. Ability to speak English is an asset.

Contact Jeremy Olthof at 23318-Hwy 50, Tees, AB; mail to RR1, Tees, AB T0C 2N0; or email at teesbeesinc@gmail.com.

Help Wanted: Argyle (MB)

Grysiuk Apiary Inc. requires **11 full time seasonal apiarists** in Argyle,MB. Wages are \$16.00 - \$18.00 per hour depending on experience(possible bonus) Job is physically demanding, must help with wrapping, feeding, making nucs, supering, pulling honey, honey extraction, medicating hives and winter preparation. Start date is March 1, 2026 November 15, 2026. Please apply by email: acgrysiuk@shaw.ca mail: 83 Acheson Dr., Winnipeg,MB. R2Y 2E8.

Help Wanted: Souris (MB)

HARLTON	APIARIES	has	4
Seasonal	positions	available	for
the 2026 Season			

4 Apiary Workers (NOC 85100) for March or April to end of October 2026

Wages are \$16.00 - \$19.00 per hour depending on experience. 1-2 years’ experience preferred. Operating a forklift, a valid driver’s license and the ability to speak English is an asset. Duties include Handle, feed, and care for honeybee colonies, assist in the production of nucs, splits or replacement hives, Recognize and report hive health issues and apply appropriate treatments, move hives, supering hives, Collect and package honey and beeswax, Bee yard maintenance, Manufacture, assemble and maintain hive equipment, Operate and maintain other apiary related equipment, Spring and Winter preparation of hives, heavy lifting required.

Contact Irwin or Joan Harlton, Harlton Apiaries Box 644
Souris (MB) R0K 2C0 204-483-2382

Or email: harltonapiaries@mymts.net

HELP WANTED: Rocanville (SK)

FOR SUMMER 2026!

APIARY TECHNICIAN (7 months)

6 seasonal positions available from March 21 - October 21 (2026).

Reporting to work at B. Strong Apiaries Ltd. 1 mile southwest of Rocanville, Sk. (NE 17-16-31 W1)

Wages dependent on experience (\$17.00 - \$22.00) Possible production bonus at end of the season.

Duties include but are not limited to: Unwrapping/wrapping hives, colony manipulation, application of honeybee treatments, making nucs, supering, maintaining equipment and a clean shop, pulling and extraction of honey, moving and feeding hives, keeping accurate and up to date yard records, etc.

Requirements:

- Minimum of 2 years beekeeping experience.
- Must not be allergic to honeybee stings.
- The work is physically demanding, applicants must be in strong and active physical condition to maintain the safe work environment.
- Required long hours and occasional weekend/holiday work (minimum 40hours a week).
- Must work well with others, and able to work long hours in the heat.
- Ability to speak English is an asset but not a requirement.

APIARY WORKER (6 months)

4 seasonal positions available from April 21 - October 21 (2026).

Reporting to work at B. Strong Apiaries Ltd. 1 mile southwest of Rocanville, Sk. (NE 17-16-31 W1)

Wages dependent on experience (\$16.00 - \$21.00) Possible production bonus at end of the season.

Duties include but are not limited to: Assisting apiary technicians in the unwrapping/wrapping of hives, colony manipulation, application of honey bee treatments, making nucs, supering, maintaining equipment and a clean shop, pulling and extraction of honey, moving and feeding hives, safely securing truckloads of honey/equipment, etc.

Requirements:

- Must not be allergic to honeybee stings.
- The work is physically demanding, applicants must be in strong and active physical condition to maintain the safe work environment.

- Required long hours and occasional weekend/holiday work (minimum 40hours a week).
- Must work well with others, and able to work long hours in the heat.
- Ability to speak English is an asset but not a requirement.

APIARY WORKER (3 months)

6 seasonal positions available from July 3rd-September 15 (2026).

Reporting to work at B. Strong Apiaries Ltd. 1 mile southwest of Rocanville, Sk. (NE 17-16-31 W1)

Wages dependent on experience (\$16.00 - \$21.00) Possible production bonus at end of the season.

Duties include but are not limited to: Cleaning warehouse at start of season. Daily upkeep and maintenance of extracting area/honey house, extraction of honey, cleanup after extraction season, painting of honey supers, painting and other general upkeep of the honeyhouse. etc.

Requirements:

- Must not be allergic to honeybee stings.
- Required long hours and occasional weekend/holiday work (minimum 40hours a week).
- Must work well with others, and able to work long hours in the heat.
- Ability to speak English is an asset but not a requirement.

Email bstrongapiaries@outlook.com or fax resume to (306)-645-4591

Help Wanted: Roblin (MB)

Positions available for 2026

**3012352 Manitoba Ltd. o/a Wendell Honey
Box 1439, Roblin, MB R0L 1P0**

Reporting to work at Wendell Honey, one-mile East of MacNutt, Saskatchewan.

Transportation provided from there to various bee yards.

18 Full Time Positions available at Wendell Honey in 2026

APIARIST TECHNICIAN (NOC 84120)

- help with Spring check, hive assessment and manipulation.
- help with pest and disease control.
- help with grafting, making nucs, and raising queens.
- assemble equipment.
- help super hives.
- help harvest honey.
- help keep field production records.
- help maintain bee yards.
- help with Fall feeding, assessment and treatments.
- help to wrap bees.
- team lead/supervise as required
- other duties as assigned
- Positions available from mid-2026 to mid-October 2026

- Min. 2 years of experience working with bees necessary.
- Work is physically demanding.
- Wages \$17.00 - \$28.00 per hour depending on experience
- Possible production bonus.

Email Shawna Kardux at
jobswendellhoney@gmail.com or
 or phone 204-564-2599.

15 Full Time Positions available at Wendell Honey 2026 Apiary Worker (NOC 85100) to

- assemble equipment.
- help super hives.
- help harvest honey.
- help maintain bee yards.
- help with Fall feeding.
- help to wrap bees.
- Positions available from mid-2026 to mid-September 2026
- No experience required.
- Work is physically demanding.
- Wages \$15.00 - \$20.00 per hour depending on experience
- Possible production bonus.

Email Shawna Kardux at
jobswendellhoney@gmail.com or phone
 204-564-2599.

Help Wanted: Nipawin, (SK)

Yves Garez Honey Inc, P.O Box 2016, Nipawin, SK, S0E 1E0 seeks employees for the March 2026 to October 2026 season at facilities located 10 km North-East of Nipawin, Saskatchewan.

Good work ethics, health and stamina essential, good physical condition required for hard work, heavy lifting, long days including some weekends. Those allergic to bee stings and work need not apply.

1 Apiary Supervisors (NOC 82030) with 5 years experience in handling bee hives. Duties includes unpacking and packing, checking, feeding, medicating, cleaning, moving, splitting, supering, raising queens, as well as harvesting and extracting honey, keeping records, supervising other employees. Valid driver's license required. Wages \$ 25.00 to \$ 30.00 per hour, depending on experience.

8 Apiary Technicians (NOC 84120) with minimum 2 years experience working with bees. Valid driver's license required. Duties includes wrapping and unwrapping Winter packs, checking, feeding, medicating, cleaning, moving, splitting, supering bee hives, raising queens, harvesting and extracting honey, general maintenance of equipment. Wages \$ 20.00 to \$ 25.00 per hour, depending on experience.

4 Apiary Workers (NOC 85100) No experience required. We will train successful applicants in Honeybees and Hive manipulation. Wage start at \$ 17.00 per hour. email: **yves@garezhoney.com**

Help Wanted: East of Saskatoon (SK)

Meadow Ridge Enterprises Ltd requires help for the 2026 beekeeping season. The contract term is from April 15th – October 31st 2026. Meadow Ridge Ent Ltd is a commercial beekeeping and queen rearing operation located 10 miles east of Saskatoon, NW 33 TP 36 RG 3 W 3rd in the RM of Blucher.

Apiary Supervisors (NOC 82030): Minimum 3-4 years of beekeeping experience.

Wage \$18.00 - \$21.00 depending on experience. Potential to earn bonuses. 3 positions to fill. Seasonal full-time (40 hr +/wk).

Duties include spring/fall feeding, unwrapping/wrapping hives, moving hives, monitoring hive health, assisting in all aspects of queen rearing, and commercial honey harvesting/ extraction. Keeping daily records, supervising other employees, fixing and building bee equipment, upkeep of bee sites, and maintenance of work vehicles. A valid Driver's license is required.

Apiary Technicians (NOC 84120): Minimum 1-2 years of beekeeping experience required.

Wage 15.35-\$17.00 depending on experience. Potential to earn bonuses. 3 positions to fill. Seasonal full-time (40+/wk).

Duties include spring/fall feeding, unwrapping/wrapping hives, moving hives, monitoring hive health, assisting in all aspects of queen rearing, and commercial honey harvesting/ extraction. Fixing and building bee equipment, upkeep of bee sites, and maintenance of work vehicles.

All applicant must be able to work with honeybees and not be allergic to bee stings. Will work in all kinds of weather, a repetitive and physical job that will require heavy lifting, reaching, crouching, and standing. Being in good physical condition is required. Contact: Albert J Robertson by email to **a.j.robertson@sasktel.net**

Help Wanted: Apiary Harvest Labourers B's Bee Ranch Inc. - Kinistino (SK)

Two Apiary Harvest Labourer positions available for up to 8 months (starting no earlier than March) required for the 2026 season. Labourers perform (but are not limited to) tasks such as assisting with supering hives, harvesting honey, cleaning honey extraction and storage equipment; barrel filling and moving; repair, assemble and maintain hive equipment and bee equipment; bee yard maintenance.

Availability to work long hours, evenings/nights, holidays and weekends is required. Work is fast paced and physically demanding with heavy lifting. Must be able to work in all weather conditions. Knowledge of the industry,

a valid driver's licence and English-speaking skills an asset but not mandatory. Wage starts at \$15.35/hr with subsidized housing option and transportation. Potential for bonuses based on performance, attitude and character. Interested applicants can email a resume and cover letter with references to B's Bee Ranch Inc at beeranch@sasktel.net

Help Wanted: Apiary Harvest Workers B's Bee Ranch Inc. - Kinistino (SK)

Three Apiary Harvest worker positions available for up to 8 months (starting no earlier than March) required for the 2026 season. Apiary Workers perform (but are not limited to) tasks such as supering hives, harvesting honey, cleaning honey extraction and storage equipment; barrel filling and moving; repair, assemble and maintain hive equipment and bee equipment; bee yard maintenance; assist with colony manipulation; assist with colony treatments; assist with moving colonies; assist with feeding colonies. Availability to work long hours, evenings/nights, holidays and weekends is required. Work is fast paced and physically demanding with heavy lifting. Must be able to work in all weather conditions.

Canadian beekeeping industry knowledge, 12 months experience in Canada, valid driver's licence and English skills required. Wage starts at \$16.35/hr - \$18.35/hr (depending on years of Canadian experience) with subsidized housing option and transportation. Potential for bonuses based on performance, attitude and character. Interested applicants can email a resume and cover letter with references to B's Bee Ranch Inc at beeranch@sasktel.net

Help Wanted: Kinistino (SK) Apiary Harvest Labourer

Position 1

Bacon Apiaries Ltd, located at 102 Ruttle Avenue in Kinistino, Sk., requires six honey harvest labourers for the upcoming 2026 crop season for extracting honey. Job duties include transporting full supers to extracting room, using an automatic lift to place full honey supers on a conveyor, running honey frames through an uncapper, moving frames into an extractor, removing empty frames from the extractor and putting them into supers, stacking supers away, assembling new honey equipment and repairing existing honey equipment.

The average workday is 6-12 hours or roughly 30-60 hours per week with wages starting at \$15.35/hr to \$18.35/hr depending on experience. Subsidized housing is available. Potential to earn bonuses based on production and performance. The approximate employment term is from June 25th, 2026, to September 25th, 2026.

To apply for this position, e-mail resume to dionebacon13@sasktel.net

Help Wanted: Kinistino (SK) Apiary Harvest Labourer

Position 2

Bacon Apiaries Ltd., located at 102 Ruttle Avenue in Kinistino, Sk., is seeking up to two (2) full-time employees to fill the seasonal positions of Apiary Harvest Labourer for the 2026 crop year. The position consists of work with honeybees. Duties primarily include, but are not limited to assisting with, moving colonies out of and into the wintering facility, feeding and medicating colonies, evaluation and development of colony strength, building and repairing of equipment, harvesting of honey supers, extracting and storing honey, and colony location maintenance.

The successful applicants need no experience to fill these positions, must be able to work outdoors in variable weather conditions, work well with other employees, work in a fast paced and physically demanding environment, and be able to work evenings and weekends when it is deemed necessary. The average work day is 6-12 hours or roughly 30-60 hours per week. Wage shall begin at \$15.35/hour.

Subsidized housing is available. Potential to earn bonuses based on production and performance. The position is for a term of approximately 7 to 8 months beginning no earlier than March 15th, 2026 and ending no later than November 15th, 2026. No experience required to fill these positions.

To apply for this position, e-mail resume to dionebacon13@sasktel.net

Help Wanted: Kinistino (SK) Apiary Harvest Labourers

Baconian Bee Farm Ltd., located at 102 Ruttle Avenue in Kinistino, Sk., is seeking up to **two (2) full-time employees** to fill the seasonal positions of Apiary Harvest Labourer for the 2026 crop year. The position consists of work with honeybees. Duties primarily include, but are not limited to assisting with, moving colonies out of and into the wintering facility, feeding and medicating colonies, evaluation and development of colony strength, building and repairing of equipment, harvesting of honey supers, extracting and storing honey, and colony location maintenance.

The successful applicants need no experience to fill these positions, must be able to work outdoors in variable weather conditions, work well with other employees, work in a fast paced and physically demanding environment, and be able to work evenings and weekends when it is deemed necessary. The average workday is 6-12 hours or roughly 30-60 hours per week. Wage shall begin at \$15.35/hour.

Subsidized housing is available. Potential to earn bonuses based on production and performance. The position is for a term of approximately 7 to 8 months beginning no earlier than March 15, 2026, and ending no later than November 15, 2026. No experience required to fill these positions.

To apply for this position, e-mail resume (English only) with subject line 'Work in Canada 2026' to dionebacon13@sasktel.net

Help Wanted: Kinistino (SK)

Apiary Harvest Workers/Technicians

Baconian Bee Farm Ltd., located at 102 Ruttle Avenue in Kinistino, Sk., is seeking up to **three (3) full-time employees** to fill the seasonal positions of Apiary Worker for the 2026 crop year. The position consists of work with honeybees. Duties primarily include, but are not limited to assisting with, moving colonies out of and into the wintering facility, feeding and medicating colonies, evaluation and development of colony strength, building and repairing of equipment, harvesting of honey supers, extracting and storing honey, and colony location maintenance.

The successful applicants must have a minimum of two years' experience in the industry, be able to work outdoors, work well with other employees, work in a fast paced and physically demanding environment, and be able to work evenings and weekends when it is deemed necessary. The average workday is 6-12 hours or roughly 30-60 hours per week. Wages shall begin at \$16.35/hour up to \$20.00/hour depending on years of experience in the beekeeping industry. Subsidized housing is available. Potential to earn bonuses based on production and performance. The position is for a term of approximately 7 to 8 months beginning no earlier than March 15, 2026, and ending no later than November 15, 2026.

To apply for this position, e-mail resume (English only) with subject line 'Work in Canada 2026' to **dionebacon13@sasktel.net**

Help Wanted: Langenburg and Esterhazy (SK)

Job Openings For Glory Bee Honey Farms (101034244 SK LTD) – 2026 Located in Langenburg and Esterhazy, SK Glory Bee Honey has job openings for Apiary Technicians, Apiary Technician Assistants These positions are available for fulltime (35+hrs/week) from April-October for the 2026 season. Also available is Honey Harvest labourer/General farm worker positions which is 2-3 months starting June-Sept for 2026.

10 Apiary Technicians (6-8 month position)

2-3 yrs experience necessary to apply.

Jobs include:

- Help with spring check, do hive assessment and manipulation, Help with pest and disease control
- Help with grafting, building and looking after nucs, Help queens raise
- Help with harvest, Help to apply medication and treatments, *Lifting is required.

Wages- \$20.00-\$27.00/hr depending on experience

15 Apiary Technician Assistants (6 month position)

Jobs Include:

- Help apiary technicians, Assemble equipment, Help super

hives, Help harvest honey, Help keep field production records

- Help maintain bee yards, Help with fall feeding, assessment and treatments., Help to wrap bees, *Lifting is required. Wages \$15.50-\$20.00 depending on experience

10 Honey Harvest Labourers (2-3 month position)

To help with harvest and extraction of honey. Work in the bee yards pulling honey. Work in the extraction plant. Clean honey harvest equipment. No experience necessary will train on the job. *Lifting is required

Wages starting at \$15.50-19.00/hr depending on experience
Positions available from April 1, 2026 to October 31st 2026.

Applicants must be physically and mentally fit to work outdoors and with bees. To apply please email resume and references to: **glorybeehoneyfarms@gmail.com** for more information.

Help Wanted: Spiritwood (SK)

Jewitt Honey Farm

Apiary Labourers

2 Full-Time Seasonal Positions for 2026, May 1st – September 30th

Responsibilities will include but not limited to; assemble equipment, unwrapping hives, bee yard maintenance, moving hives, cleaning deadouts, cleaning extracting facility, painting, making nucs, supering hives, harvesting honey, extracting honey, feeding bees.

Will be required to work some evenings and weekends, work is physically demanding with heavy lifting, cannot be allergic to bees, a valid SK driver's license would be an asset.

\$15.00-\$16.50/hr. depending on experience, willing to train, potential to earn bonuses

Apiary Labourers

2 Full-Time Seasonal Positions for 2025, May 15th – September 15th

Responsibilities will include but not limited to; assemble equipment, unwrapping hives, bee yard maintenance, moving hives, cleaning deadouts, cleaning extracting facility, painting, making nucs, supering hives, harvesting honey, extracting honey, feeding bees.

Will be required to work some evenings and weekends, work is physically demanding with heavy lifting, cannot be allergic to bees, a valid SK driver's license would be an asset
\$15.00-\$16.00/hr. depending on experience, willing to train, potential to earn bonuses

To apply email resume to **jewitthoneyfarm@gmail.com** or mail resume to PO Box 969 Spiritwood, SK S0J 2M0

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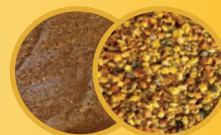
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The Canadian Honey Council is the national association of beekeepers representing apiculturists across Canada. The CHC provides a forum where producers, packers, professionals, provincial associations and officials from different levels of government can talk and recommend action in the best interests of the Canadian honey bee industry. Currently, the CHC membership consists of representatives of provincial associations with the total number of beekeepers at approximately 13,000 managing over 810,000 colonies.

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