

Report to the
RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE
To the 88th Annual General Meeting of the
CANADIAN HORTICULTURAL COUNCIL
Fairmont Le Château Frontenac, Québec City, Québec
March 4, 2010

**To the President and Members of the
Canadian Horticultural Council**

The Research and Technology Committee met last year at the Annual General Meeting in Calgary, Alberta, March 3-6, 2009 to discuss and deal with the business before the Committee.

At the Calgary meeting, the Research & Technology Committee had a presentation from Bill Ingratta, Director, External Relations & Outreach, Vineland Research and Innovation Centre, Ontario. Bill reported that Vineland is a place of research which is industry driven, market focused science and discovery, a business providing a convergence centre and commercialization and a destination for showcasing horticulture. Vineland is partnering with Governments (Federal & Provincial), Universities (Guelph, Brock, McMaster & Niagara College) and industry to develop research programs.

George Clayton, Program Director, Science Partnerships, Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada, Lethbridge Research Centre, briefed the Committee on the Growing Forward Program with particular reference to the Canadian Agri-Innovations Program.

Alain Rabeau, Facilitator, Intersol Consultants, provided a summary from the CHC Innovation and Science Symposium and reported on the next steps for moving forward with a National Horticulture Research Strategy.

Further to the resolution passed at the 2009 Annual General meeting (LR2009-27: Innovation in Horticulture) the CHC has formed a Science Advisory Committee (SAC) and has moved forward with an application for funding under the Agri-Science Clusters Program, an initiative of the Canadian Growing Agri-Innovations.

During the past year, CHC in partnership with the Research & Technology Committee has undertaken a number of activities to gather input from members, including a member survey; Innovation and Research Symposium at the Annual General Meeting; the formation of a Science Advisory Committee (SAC); numerous SAC conference calls; and face-to-face SAC meetings in Ottawa, June 3-4 and December 8-9.

On behalf of the Research & Technology Committee, I would like to thank the CHC staff for their valuable assistance and the excellent work they do on behalf of the horticultural industry in Canada. I would also like to thank the Research & Technology Committee for the opportunity to serve as your Chair over the last seven years.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Sangster
Chair, Research & Technology Committee
March 4, 2010