

Second Vice President report, BCHPA Semi  
Annual Meeting, March 20, 2021

Jeff Lee,  
Creston, BC

This last season has been an active one for both myself and the rest of the executive. Dan Mawson, the First VP, and myself successfully organized the fall AGM and education day seminars. You will find a detailed explanation on this in Dan's report. This has been a good marriage of skills and energy; Dan's innovative ideas have resulted in some engaging speakers being recruited for our education programs. I have also been active on the association's efforts to launch a Tech Transfer Program. Some of you will recall that this was one of my initial aims when I was first elected as First VP in 2015, and we explored the idea beginning with a talk by Les Eccles, then the Ontario Beekeepers' Association TTP lead.

I am pleased to see that we now appear on the cusp of plans for a BC-styled tech transfer program. As an agricultural sector largely reflected by hobbyist and small-scale beekeepers, we face many challenges in keeping our bees alive. Even without COVID-19, apiculture husbandry across Canada is being challenged, and we must do everything we can to stabilize and improve the health of our bees, and our industry.

I am pleased to see growing interest by younger beekeepers in participating in the BCHPA administration, executive and committee structures. We really are no longer an association of older beekeepers! Lastly, I welcome the growth and participation of regional bee clubs and BCHPA branches.