



**WALI**  
Western Agriculture  
Labour Initiative

# BC Blueberries Virtual Field Day and AGM

**SAWP UPDATE FOR 2021**

December 9, 2020

# Agenda - SAWP Update 2021

- New TFW Worker Protection Act (Ministry of Labour)
- LMIA Process
- IRCC and Work Permit processing in Mexico
- Provincial Quarantine for TFW
- Q&A

# New BC Temporary Foreign Worker Protection Act

The legislation establishes the framework for:

**Phase 1:** A new recruiter licensing requirement for foreign worker recruiters – Implemented 2019

**Phase 2:** A **new registration requirement** for those wishing to hire foreign nationals – Effective December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020

- No cost
- Must have a certificate before you can get an LMIA
- Employers must renew certificate before it expires

[www.gov.bc.ca/HiringTemporaryForeignWorkers](http://www.gov.bc.ca/HiringTemporaryForeignWorkers)

# SAWP LMIA – Application process

## New Online pilot project

<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/corporate/notices/labour-market-impact-assessment-apply-online.html>

- Advertise
- House Inspection
- Can apply 6 months prior of first arrival but can also include later dates
- Make sure NO spelling mistakes for nominal TFW
- LMIA SAWP valid until Dec 15, 2021

# Approved LMIA's

1. WALI will connect with employer to verify information LMIA and confirm arrival dates (this was done by Mi Tierra in previous years)
2. After the employer verifies the names and arrival dates for workers WALI will send the information to the Ministry of Labour in Mexico (STPS)  
NO CHANGES PLEASE
3. STPS takes the data sent by WALI and enters it into "SIMOL"
4. TFW can start the process to get a work permit in Mexico
5. Mi Tierra will continue to book flights for all SAWP workers from Mexico

# IRCC and Work Permits in Mexico

- **NEW** Online application – TFW must have a credit / debit card
- LMIA's with mistakes will NOT be processed after three days
- Biometrics
- Ministry Labour Mexico will NOT accept changes after receiving flight manifest from Mi Tierra
- **NEW** - All travelers arriving in Canada must register with the federal government's **ArriveCAN** digital application PRIOR to the departure

# Provincial Mandatory 14 Day Quarantine

- WALI will:
  - Arrange directly SAWP arrivals with the Province
  - Notify employers which workers have arrived, hotel and room numbers

*Employers encouraged to set up accounts with hotel to allow purchase of sundries*

- Employers are responsible for transportation to their farms
  - Must follow PHO guidelines
  - Mi Tierra will provide service if required

# Quarantine continued...

- Should any issues emerge during quarantine that impact TFW departure date, you will be notified.

## IMPORTANT

- The farm COVID inspection must be completed and passed, before the worker will be permitted to leave.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/industry/agriculture-seafood/covid-19-response/temporary-foreign-farmworkers>

- Employers are required to pay workers, at their contract rate, for a minimum of 30 hours per week while in quarantine



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**WALI-Newsletter**

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