

ORGANIC's IN BC



COABC

- Represents 80% of organic operators certified in BC
- Programs for large & small producers
- Administers the BC Certified Organic Logo
- Accredits Certification Bodies in BC



why Organic?

- **Cuts our carbon footprint by**
 - Sequestering more carbon in soil
 - Releasing less Nitrous Oxide emissions
 - Releasing less Methane emission
 - Releasing less CO₂

thus contributes less to global warming

Look for the Logo's?

Most common Logo's seen in BC



All meet Canada Organic Standards

and what is the demand?

- ❑ Despite the Economic Downturn, still growing demand for fresh local organic.
 - ❑ Even if demand has softened slightly, 60-80% of the fresh organic produce sold in BC is imported.
 - ❑ A significant portion of that produce could be grown locally.
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Organic Ag-**Strengths**

- ❑ Helps meet provincial climate change mandate
 - ❑ Mitigates some urban/rural boundary issues
 - ❑ Attracts new farmers
 - ❑ Helps stabilize farm income
 - ❑ Keeps rural communities vibrant
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Organic Ag-**Opportunities**

- Can make healthier food choices available for all of BC
 - Can lead to a healthier population
 - Can stabilize rural economies
 - Can Increase Food Security for BC
 - Can create healthy communities
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COABC-**Opportunities**

- Develop Community Verified Organic program
 - Educate consumers about their choices
 - Build stronger partnerships to strengthen our provincial economy and our food system
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CVO – Community Verified Organic

- ❑ Option for smaller producers, urban farmers and gardeners
 - ❑ Address local needs
 - ❑ Close relationship between producers and consumers
 - ❑ Educate consumers about their choices
 - ❑ Educate farmers about consumer wants
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Organic Agriculture in BC

- ❑ Help meet provincial climate change mandate
- ❑ Look for the Logo's



- ❑ Programs for large and small producers
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Organic Agriculture

Good for you, Good for the Environment



"You may not feel any healthier right away,
but you'll definitely feel more smug."
