



JANUARY 8, 2014

Dear ,

Happy New Year everyone, I hope you weathered the ice storm and all this cold and snow safely and warmly. At the OBA we took a pause to celebrate the holidays with our families, but now that it's 2014 we're back in full force. Of course, we are continuing our relentless push to get neonicotinoid pesticides banned, but we are also working on our other goals related to research, training and honey promotion.

In the meantime, if you haven't renewed your membership, please do so, we need everyone on board this year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan Davidson".

Dan Davidson, President



Update on Bee Health Working Group

On December 12th, nearly 40 beekeepers from across the Province braved the cold and snow to attend the Working Group meeting in Guelph to hear Tracey Baute's report on her recent research on neonicotinoid residue and to observe the Working Group meeting. Tracey's report will provide us with valuable information when we receive the data we requested for analysis and people were glad to hear the overview of her results. Unfortunately, however, beekeepers were not allowed to stay for the rest of the meeting. "We were surprised to find out the night before that beekeepers were not going to be allowed to stay past Tracey's presentation." said Dan Davidson,

OBA President. "I know some people were very disappointed."

Working Group members were later provided with the draft report of the Working Group for comment and input. We cannot provide that draft to members at this time as it is still in its early stages, but we are working to get our response in by mid-January. As it stands now, the report does not adequately reflect either the experience or the input from OBA's delegates. We can say, however, that the temporary ban is still one of the recommendations. We will provide you with the final report and our reaction as soon as it is available.