



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 25, 2018

**Tania Toth of Sardis Secondary
Receives Outstanding Teacher Award from BC Agriculture in the Classroom**

ABBOTSFORD, BC – BC Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation (BCAITC) is pleased to announce Tania Toth as the recipient of the 2017 BCAITC Outstanding Teacher Award. The award was presented to Ms. Toth for demonstrating outstanding leadership and innovation in agriculture education.

A science teacher at Sardis Secondary, Ms. Toth and her colleagues have transformed a piece of ALR property owned by the Chilliwack School District into a working school farm where students from the high school can learn firsthand about growing food. Ms. Toth saw this as an opportunity to build practical applications into studies in science, sustainable resources 11, and teach hands-on agriculture practices.

At the Sardis Secondary School Farm, students learn to grow a variety of vegetables sustainably. They learn water conservation, integrated pest management practices, as well as the marketing of their vegetables back into the school's Culinary Arts program and into the local community through their Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) box program. More recently they have added the mentorship program where secondary school students teach elementary students to grow their own food. Under the guidance of Ms. Toth the Sardis Secondary School Farm continues to flourish and become not only a multi-faceted learning experience for students, but also a valuable addition to the community.

"Tania's hard work as an agriculture teacher has fostered a love for growing food in hundreds of students in Chilliwack." Said BCAITC President, Joe Massie. "Her commitment to excellence and willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty is truly inspirational to everyone around her."

The award was presented to Ms. Toth at this year's Agri-Food Industry Gala by BCAITC's Executive Director, Pat Tonn. Congratulations Tania Toth!

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