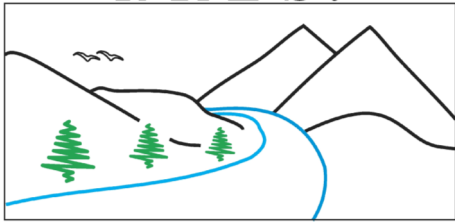


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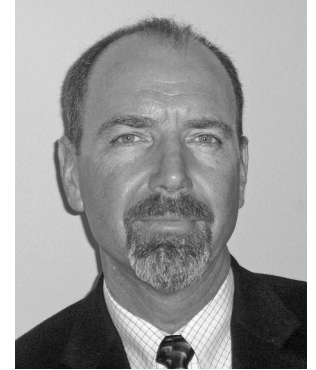


"Our environment is our future"

## RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM SERIES

# Kent Mullinix, PhD

Institute for Sustainable Horticulture  
Kwantlen Polytechnic University



**Thursday**  
**Jan. 21, 2010**

**7:00-8:30 pm**

**LECTURE THEATRE**

**7 - 238**

### Reintroducing Agri-Culture into Urban-Culture in BC

For the first time in history the majority of humans are urban dwellers. In Canada and the United States only 1.5% of the population is engaged in production agriculture. Effectively then, the vast preponderance of our populations have next to nothing to do with agriculture—production, processing or marketing. Urbanites, in particular, have no substantive, meaningful relationship with this fundamentally critical aspect of their sustenance and daily lives. In British Columbia, as elsewhere, there is a growing awareness that the combined effects of peak oil, peak water, climate change, rapid urbanization, continued population growth, loss of farms and farmers as well as the current status, configuration and dominance of conventional industrial agriculture may threaten food security and ultimately result in an agri-food system that is unsustainable. This presentation will address strategies and initiatives that can be undertaken to advance a sustainable regional agri-food system. Such an agri-food system is intended to connect urbanites, in real and meaningful ways, to their environment and to a human enterprise that is undeniably crucial to their future well-being. It is a way of reducing vulnerability and dependence on an ecologically unsound and increasingly vulnerable agri-food system while simultaneously reducing our food system ecological footprint and stimulating real regional wealth generation.