



**Erin Wallich**

Erin Wallich is the Intellectual Property Manager for Summerland Varieties Corp. (SVC), a Canadian-based Intellectual Property company that tests, commercializes, and manages apple and sweet cherry varieties on behalf of Canadian tree fruit breeders.

After graduating from the University of Victoria with a M.Sc. in Plant Physiology in 1995, Erin was a research scientist in Weyerhaeuser Company's Douglas-fir breeding program in Washington State until she moved back to Canada in 2003. She worked for Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) in Summerland, and subsequently joined SVC in 2013 to manage their research program, which included AAFC's apple and sweet cherry breeding program, and intellectual property portfolio. Today, Erin has first-hand experience enforcing Plant Breeders' Rights (PBR) in Canada and other jurisdictions as well as enforcing plant patents in the US. She is a member of the Advisory Committee for Canada's PBR office and vice-chair of CIOPORA's Fruit Section.