



BUZZ WORTHY

Financial advising isn't the only thing that keeps Lyle Konner busy as a bee

FOR LYLE KONNER, the owner of Konner & Associates Financial Services, beekeeping is a fascinating and relaxing hobby – if you don't mind the odd sting, of course.

Konner fell into beekeeping four years ago, following the lead of a South African friend who missed the hobby he left behind when he emigrated. Together they founded two hives and have since grown their colony to 30 hives, each of which can house between 50,000 and 60,000 bees at maturity.

"They're fascinating to watch," says Konner, who is a member of the BC Honey Producers Association, and the Langley and Richmond beekeeping clubs. "[The hive] is like a mini airport – they're coming and going, and some are so laden with pollen that they can't even make it to the entrance."

Those bees are also incredibly productive. Konner estimates they'll produce some 2,000 pounds of honey this year alone. That's a lot – but Konner faces no shortage of demand for his homemade goods.

"Any client interview we have, they walk away with a jar of honey," he says. "It's a little different, a little novelty."

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Number of hives Konner currently keeps

2,000

Amount of honey, in pounds, Konner expects to bottle this year

6

Life expectancy, in weeks, of the average bee during the summer