

Serving Nova Scotia farmers since 1895.

124th Annual General Meeting & Tradeshow

Best Western Glengarry, Truro, NS
November 28 & 29, 2019



Thank You!

A sincere thank you is extended to the following organizations and businesses who have contributed to various events of our 124th Annual Meeting.

- Chicken Farmers of Nova Scotia (Chicken for Banquet)
- Egg Farmers of NS (Eggs for Nutrition Break & Door Prize)
- Nova Scotia Fruit Growers Association of NS (Apples)
- Farm Credit Canada (Keynote Sponsor)
- TD Agriculture (President's Reception Sponsor)
- Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance, Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board, Nova Scotia Programs and Business Risk Management (Nutrition Break Day 1)
- Patterson Law (Morning Coffee Day 1)
- Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board (Morning Coffee Day 2, Door Prize)
- Green Diamond Equipment (Sponsor, Door Prize)
- Scotiabank (Sponsor)
- Morneau Shepell (Sponsor, Door Prize)
- VanOostrum /Blueline (Door Prize)
- Atlantic Grains Council (Door Prize)
- Employer Advisor Society of Nova Scotia (Door Prize)
- MCT Insurance (Door Prize)
- Safety Branch, Nova Scotia Department of Labour and Advanced Education (Door Prize)
- Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture (Door Prize)
- G&G Computers (Door Prize)
- Cavendish Agri Services (Door Prize)
- Sid Sells Signs Inc. (Door Prize)
- Colchester Print (Door Prize)
- Truro Agromart (Door Prize)
- Best Western Glengarry (Door Prize)
- Denis Office Supplies (Door Prize)
- Trappers Association of Nova Scotia (Door Prize)
- Egg Farmers of Nova Scotia (Door Prize)
- Agri-Commodity Management Association (Door Prize)
- Lemken (Door Prize)
- Enterprise Rent-A-Car (Door Prize)
- Farm Safety Nova Scotia (Door Prize)
- Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture (Door Prize)
- Dairy Farmers of Nova Scotia (Door Prize)
- Royal LePage (Door Prize)

Welcome to the 124th NSFA Annual General Meeting

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Annual General Meeting Agenda

Thursday, November 28, 2019

- 9:00 a.m. Registration & sale of banquet tickets (\$30 per person)
- 10:00 Call to Order – President, Victor Oulton
- Invocation
- Declaration of Quorum
- President’s Address – Victor Oulton
- Business meeting commences
- Approval of Agenda
- Minutes of the last meeting (for adoption)
- Business arising from the minutes
- Auditors Report – Maxime Lessard, PricewaterhouseCoopers,
- Appointment of Auditor
- Presentation of 2019/20 Budget, Chris van den Heuvel, Corporate Treasurer
- Adoption of Budget
- Resolutions Committee report, Chris van den Heuvel, Resolutions Committee Chair
- Presentation of Bylaw Amendments, Victor Oulton
- 12:00 Recess for lunch
- Agri-Futures Annual Meeting in MacLeod Room for Council of Leaders
- Opportunity to visit trade show booths
- Light lunch provided in trade room (Salon DEG) and hallway
- 1:30 Meeting resumes
- Nominating Committee report and first call for nominations, Chris van den Heuvel, Nominating Committee Chair
- 2019/20 Policy presentation, Maxine MacLean, Policy and Research Coordinator
- 2019/20 Resolutions, Chris van den Heuvel, Resolutions Committee Chair



Annual General Meeting Agenda

- Nova Scotia Farm Technician Apprenticeship, Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency
- Second call for nominations
- 3:00 Nutrition break
- 3:30 Greetings and Comment Nova Scotia NDP Party – Lisa Roberts, Agriculture Critic
Greetings and Comment Nova Scotia PC Party – Tim Houston, Party Leader
- 3:50 Presentation from Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board – Jen Thompson, CEO
- 4:00 Q&A with Nova Scotia Minister of Agriculture – Honourable Keith Colwell
- 4:30 Recess
- 5:00 – 6:00 Nova Scotia Young Farmers Annual Meeting (MacLeod Room)
- 7:00 p.m. Cash bar open in Banquet Room (Salon DEG)
- Winner of the Nova Scotia Young Speakers for Agriculture Competition
Morgan Hussey – Food Fraud: Do you know what you're eating?
- Lloyd Evans Memorial Award, Carolyn Van Den Heuvel on behalf of Farm Safety Nova Scotia
- Presentation of the Environmental Farm Stewardship Showcase, Carolyn Van Den Heuvel, Director of Outreach and Member Relations
- Recognition Awards
- Door prizes
- President's reception to follow



Annual General Meeting Agenda

Friday, November 29, 2019

- 8:30 a.m. NSFA Meeting resumes. Early bird door prizes (must be in the room to win)
Update from Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, Frank Dunn, Deputy Minister
- 9:00 Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA) Update –Chris van den Heuvel, 2nd Vice President
Policy and / or Resolutions continued
- 10:00 Nutrition Break
- 10:30 Strategic Plan Implementation Update, Carolyn Van Den Heuvel, Director of Outreach and Member Relations and Wanda Hamilton, Director of Operations and Government Relations
Third and final call for nominations
Completion of the Election Process
- 11:30 Farm Safety Annual Meeting
- 12:00 Lunch
Farm Credit Canada, Faith Matchett, VP National Customer Service Centers and Atlantic Operations
- 1:00 Keynote Speaker, Lesley Kelly, High Heels and Canola Fields
Meeting evaluation
- 2:30 Adjournment
In Camera - Members Closed Session immediately following meeting adjournment

NSFA Presidents Report 2019

This past year has seen significant changes to the NSFA. Last December we purchased our own building, had it renovated to our needs and moved in by April 1. If anyone hasn't seen it yet please go and visit as I am sure you will be impressed. This will serve our needs long into the future and is a great investment for the NSFA.

This spring we began implementing our new strategic plan. A few months ago, NSFA staff were restructured into two teams, Operations and Outreach, both teams work together for the benefit of the industry but do so by focusing on different aspects. We have added Public Trust and AgSector Programs to our Outreach division to go along with Farm Safety and Environmental Farm Plan. I believe all of these changes are positive for the NSFA and its membership.

We look forward to working more closely with commodities and counties as part of our Member Engagement Strategy is implemented. We need to hear from you as members as to what the issues are and how we can help.

Weather continues to be a topic as a cold wet spring and a fall Hurricane made quite an impact on NS agriculture. With this climate change issue, we may not know what the norm is for weather anymore. I am sure we will continue to be surprised and pushed to our limits. We have to be optimistic and hope that next year will be better.

The NSFA continues to meet with various government departments to advocate on your behalf. We continue to meet with the Honourable Keith Colwell, Minister of Agriculture and his staff on a regular basis and are working through the issues that continue to face us in the agriculture industry.

As you can see this past year has been busy. I would like to say a huge thank you to the staff of the NSFA. They have also been through a lot and have kept the ship moving in the right direction. Henry and his team are very dedicated to the industry and they don't always get the credit they deserve. I know they go above and beyond with their commitment to agriculture and the NSFA. Also, in closing another huge thank you to the family at home who have to step up and fill in when I am away. I couldn't do it without you.

It has been an enjoyable year and I look forward to 2020. It is a true honour to serve on your behalf as President of this great organization.



Victor Oulton
NSFA President

Thank you to our Annual Meeting Sponsors

Platinum



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Gold



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Silver

Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission
novascotia.ca/agri

Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board
novascotia.ca/farmloan

Nova Scotia Programs and Business Risk Management
novascotia.ca/agri

Bronze

Patterson Law
pattersonlaw.ca

Scotiabank
scotiabank.com

Green Diamond Equipment
green-diamond.ca

Morneau Shepell
morneaushepell.com

Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board
novascotia.ca/farmloan

Thank you to our Corporate Partners



Farm Credit Canada
Financement agricole Canada



Thank you to our Member Benefit Partners

Choice Hotels Canada

Significant Organization Savings rate program is designed to reward NSFA members with discounted room rates at participating Choice locations worldwide.

Chrysler Canada

Chrysler Canada offers fleet discount pricing to NSFA Members – this can be a significant savings to you on the purchase of your next vehicle

Enterprise Rent-A-Car

Enterprise Rent-A-Car is now offering NSFA members corporate class rental pricing.

Fair Grant Writing

NSFA Members have access to free Government Funding Eligibility Check and 5% Discount on Service Fee.

GBS Mobility

Through GBS Mobility, NSFA members receive preferred business rates on mobile phones and service on the Telus network plus a Free Procure kit with every new phone activated.

Kent Building Supplies

NSFA members receive a discount on any of Kent's store front items and special pricing on lumber and building materials.

Marks Work Warehouse

Mark's Work Warehouse is now offering NSFA members an exclusive 15% discount on selected items and brand names.

MCT Insurance

Offering NSFA members exclusive access to Farm Advantage. The program offers unique and enhanced farm insurance coverage.

Medavie Blue Cross

Please contact Morneau Shepell, 1-800-667-6328 for an enrollment package. This coverage includes health, dental, disability, life and more.

Turner Drake & Partners Ltd.

Real Estate experts Turner Drake now offer NSFA members a 15% discount on valuation and property tax advisory services on farm properties throughout the province.

Call to Order

After a brief delay on a stormy morning with widespread power outages, the 123rd annual meeting of the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture was called to order at 10:20 a.m. by the 1st Vice-President, Tim Marsh.

Invocation

President, Victor Oulton welcomed members to the meeting and provided an invocation of thankfulness, reflection and a moment of silence.

Declaration of Quorum and Business Meeting Commences

The Chair declared quorum for the meeting. Meeting participants were reminded to approach the floor microphones prior to addressing the group and to ensure their cell phones were on silent. The meeting will be conducted based on one farm one vote with the use of the voting cards provided. Members were also informed that there is an audio recording being compiled of the meeting for internal use at the NSFA office.

Approval of Agenda

On a motion by Dennis Boudreau/Danny Bruce the agenda was approved. M/C

President's Address

President, Victor Oulton presented his report as printed in the annual meeting book.

Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting, November 30 & December 1, 2017 were printed in AGM booklet on pages 6-11. Motion by Peter Morine/ Chris deWaal to approved the minutes. M/C.

Business Arising from the Minutes - There was no business arising from the minutes.

Auditors Report

Maxime Lessard, PricewaterhouseCoopers presented the auditor's report. Motion by Josh Oulton/ Peter Morine to adopt the auditor's report as presented. M/C

Appointment of the Auditor

At the 2016 Annual General Meeting, PricewaterhouseCoopers was accepted to provide financial services for three years. Noted for the record is that 2018 marks year 2 of 3 complete for auditing services.

Presentation of 2018/19 Budget

Henry Vissers, Executive Director presented the proposed budget from page 22 of the annual meeting book for 2018/19 fiscal year. Following presentation there were questions around a second budget contingent on not increasing farm registration fees as well as enquiries on the details with office rent and increased wage expense. A contingency budget was not prepared given that farm registration fee changes will affect the next full fiscal year. The increased wage expense includes an additional staff position. **It was moved and seconded to have a breakdown of the accounting on proposed building purchase and build out and how it fits in the proposed budget. (Greg Webster / Charles Keddy) M/C**

Farm Registration Report

Victor presented the Farm Registration Report with the committee recommendation for an increase in fees to meet the five (5) year financial objectives including continued support for Farm Safety NS, office space,

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member services, advocacy, inflation and increased support to county delegate travel. There was discussion on synchronizing categories with Statistics Canada as well as the how the current strategic planning process will impact the revenue that the Federation will require. **On a motion, the recommendation and fee increase was accepted as presented. (Geneve Newcombe/ Chris deWaal) M/C**

Adoption of 2017/18 Budget was deferred to later in the meeting.

Nomination Report

Chris van den Heuvel presented the nominating report as printed in the book on page 23. The first call for further nominations was made with no response.

Introduction to Policy Paper

Henry Vissers highlighted the process for development of the policies and introduced the 2019 policy paper as printed in the Annual Meeting book on pages 24-31.

Resolution Committee Report

Amanda Eisses presented the Resolution Committee report as printed in the AGM Book on page 32.

Presentation from Perennia

Viliam Zvalo, CEO and Sonny Murray, Field Crop Specialist provided a presentation on re-introducing Perennia. The services of Perennia were highlighted that included agriculture services, quality and food service, new product development and commercialization as well as cannabis testing. An update was also provided on the various projects and applied research as field crop initiatives for 2018/19.

2018 Resolutions

Resolution #1 Limestone Transportation Program Year Round Accessibility

Motion by Amanda Eisses and seconded by Danny Bruce to adopt the resolution. Motion was carried and resolution passed.

Resolution #2 Inclusion of Gypsum under Provincial Subsidy Program

Motion by Amanda Eisses and seconded by Danny Bruce to adopt the resolution. Motion was carried and resolution passed.

Resolution #3 Add Wildlife Controls to the CAP Program

Motion by Amanda Eisses and seconded by Andy Parker to adopt the resolution. Motion was carried and resolution passed.

Following the third resolution, there was clarification regarding the process for deletion of resolutions. It was noted that the lack of high speed internet / cell service needs to become an active lobby effort. A floor resolution is expected for presentation later in the meeting.

Recess for lunch – NSFA Council of Leaders members attended the Agri-Futures Nova Scotia Annual Meeting Meeting resumed at 1:30 p.m.

Adoption of 2017/18 Budget – Henry Vissers provided a chart showing the office cost breakdown at 7 Atlantic Central Drive. It was explained that current office space as compared to the new space is mainly operating costs for power, insurance, maintenance, etc. that are not additional costs in Perennia Park. Also outlined

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was the building purchase, HST, necessary upgrades and renovations less the NSFA investment totalling \$977,750 in financing. Motion to approve the budget as presented (Kimberly Stokdijk / Allan Melvin) M/C

Update on Strategic Plan – Yvonne Thyssen-Post provided an overview of the process that the Federation has been following, including consultation and overview of the key issues that were prominent. The participants of the AGM were given an evaluation form to prioritize the issues.

Comments following the presentation included a need to look at the whole core basis of the Federation, not be limited as well as broad enough to evaluate the structure. It was suggested that two (2) potential structures be brought to the Council of Leaders in February for consideration. Consideration should be given to a jurisdictional review of other organizational structure. A final note was on the member driven process and thought should be given to get membership feedback on any organizational structural change or the strategic plan document, e.g. special spring meeting, regional meetings

2019 Policy Presentation – Maxine MacLean, Policy and Communications Coordinator presented the policies as follows:

Policy #1 Agriculture Land

The policy on Agriculture Land was adopted (Dean Manning / John Vissers) M/C

Policy #2 Labour

The policy on Labour was adopted (Jim Crocker / Kimberly Stokdijk) M/C

Policy #3 Regulatory Burden

The policy on Regulatory Burden was adopted (Chris van den Heuvel / Chris deWaal) M/C

Policy #4 Climate Change

The policy on Climate Change was adopted (Levi Friesen / Amanda Eisses) M/C

Policy #5 Transportation

The policy on Transportation was adopted (Lauren Park / John Vissers) M/C

Resolution #4 School Food Programming

Motion by Amanda Eisses and seconded by Paul Taylor to adopt the resolution.

There was discussion on taxing imported products and the efforts of Grow NS support. Chair deferred discussion on this resolution for day 2

Resolution # 5 Cell Phone and High Speed Internet

Motion by Amanda Eisses and seconded by Andy Parker to adopt the resolution. Motion was carried and resolution passed.

Resolution #6 Local Food Procurement

Motion by Amanda Eisses and seconded by Philip Keddy to adopt the resolution.

There was discussion on definition of local, should it be changed to Nova Scotia. There was further discussion on an advocacy versus lobby effort. Chair deferred discussion on this resolution for day 2

Second call for nominations was made with no response.

Nutrition Break

Greetings and Comments by NDP Agriculture Critic - Lenore Zann, MLA Truro-Bible Hill-Millbrook-Salmon River brought greetings from the Nova Scotia NDP Party. Ms. Zann noted that she strongly believes in growing the green economy, green jobs, supporting small farmers and abattoir owners, protecting farm lands and dairy farmers as they are vital for Nova Scotia farmers and economy.

Greetings and Comments by PC Party of Nova Scotia – Tim Houston, newly elected leader of the PC Party and Alana Poan, MLA Cape Breton-Richmond and PC Agriculture Critic provided greetings and appreciation for the agriculture industry. There was recognition for the need for government policies and support for agriculture growth and profitability; support for supply management and acknowledgement of stressors like climate change.

Both parties addressed questions following the presentation:

- Concern and frustration for current signing of USMCA, loss to the dairy industry and support for supply management to be strong enough to stand firm as Canadians. There was willingness to have strong voices and speak up for the things that are important to Nova Scotia.
- Ensure that agriculture has a Minister for agriculture and someone who is committed to the industry.
- Need for better sharing of infrastructure for cell phone and internet service.

Presentation by Nova Scotia Minister of Agriculture - Honourable Keith Colwell, Minister of Agriculture was welcomed to the group and highlighted the work and support of the provincial government. Minister Colwell announced that the NS Farm Loan Board is now authorized to approve a \$5 million loan. It is expected that this change will streamline process, reduce the time for loan turnaround, updated lending options, flexibility in interest rates and improving operations. A Q&A was held which provided an opportunity for members to address Minister Colwell directly with the following notes:

- Minister Colwell addressed the NSFA office move due to Dalhousie requirements to have the space currently occupied by NSDA staff and labs.
- In light of Canadian Agriculture Partnership (CAP) changes not being a fit for on-farm programming in innovation, Minister Colwell indicated there is a program forthcoming to address it.
- With regards to funding for health and safety under CAP programs, Minister Colwell indicated there is conversations ongoing.
- Vision on carbon tax and how it will affect agriculture. Minister Colwell indicated that Nova Scotia has positively met all the goals of carbon reduction. Premier has indicated that there will be no carbon tax on farms in Nova Scotia.
- A request to increase local sales not only export growth was responded with efforts of Select Nova Scotia and recognition of food security.
- Minister Colwell is willing to make investment and commitment in mobile abattoir that is CFIA approved.
- Changes to programs including land protection and main outlet drainage programs that are not available to Marsh Bodies will be investigated.
- Improving the genetic enhancement of beef industry is imported, Minister Colwell indicated that there will be a program of some type being worked on in consultation with the beef industry.
- Minister Colwell is committed to the sheep industry to help with growth and expansion and willing to meet with the industry and discuss programs needed.

Meeting recessed (5:30 p.m.)

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NSFA Dinner and Banquet

The evening program began at 6:30 pm with a reception, followed by a dinner sponsored by Pork Nova Scotia. Due to the weather, Sam MacInnis, Musquie Maple Leafs 4-H Club and winner of the Nova Scotia Young Speakers for Agriculture Competition was unable to present her speech. Jay Woodworth, Environmental Farm Plan Coordinator gave a presentation of the three finalists named in the 2018 Environmental Farm Stewardship Award; being Bidalosy Farm, D&M Lightfoot/Lightfoot & Wolfville, and Keddy Family Farm. The winner was Michael and Jocelyn Lightfoot. They received a painting of their farm and cash prize of \$2000. During the evening special recognition was given to Kimberly Stokdijk as outgoing member of the Executive Committee for NSFA. Carolyn Van Den Heuvel, Farm Safety Manager and Wanda Hamilton, Associate Director also received recognition for their years of service with NSFA.

Friday, November 30, 2018

Call to Order

The meeting was re-convened at 8.30 a.m. by 1st Vice-President, Tim Marsh. The early bird draw for door prizes took place.

Update from Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture – Frank Dunn, Deputy Minister provided an update on activities of the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture. The update included economic update, strategic priorities, program opportunities and departmental initiatives. The following notes were captured during a brief question period.

- Building Tomorrow Fund will include a cost of production model, product development, processing efficiencies and leveraging federal programming; there is opportunity to bring forth some ideas.
- Government has a strategy or outlook, but there isn't a written document. Minister has committed to developing a comprehensive strategy for the industry.
- On a challenge you to have an efficient day with intermittent cell phone service, it was noted that it is a recognized issue however agriculture is not lead on the file. Government established a trust fund (in excess of \$100 million) for cell service as a priority for government.
- Local food in schools, hospitals and correctional facilities; examples given Minister Colwell has met with Minister Churchill regarding local food in schools, Perennia has done some work in packaging, Grow Nova Scotia has received funding from Invest NS with a salad bar pilot project in some Nova Scotia high schools.
- With regard to cell phone service and rural infrastructure, the Board of Development Corporative (Old Waterfront Commission) is made up of representation from HRM and on a request to add rural Nova Scotians, the Deputy Minister committed to bring that forward.

CFA update - Norm Hall, Vice President of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture provided an overview of key issues, programs and projects. Along with activity review and CFA in action, the following topics were highlighted;

- Building public trust in agriculture
- National engagement in climate change and carbon pricing
- Improving efficiency and trust with Temporary Foreign Worker program
- Re-evaluating Pest Management Regulatory Agency
- International trade

Completion of Election Process – The third call for nominations was made with no response. **On a motion of Chris van den Heuvel seconded by Lauren Park the Nominating Committee Report was accepted as printed on page 23 of the Annual Meeting Book and the election process was compete. (M/C)**

Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture 123rd Annual General Meeting Minutes

Nutrition Break

NSFA AGM recessed for the Farm Safety Nova Scotia Annual Meeting which included a special presentation in collaboration with Farm Safety Nova Scotia, 'The Human Side of Farming: Mental Health in Canadian Agriculture', Dr. Andria Jones-Bitton.

Meeting recessed for lunch and resumed at 1:00 p.m.

Late Resolutions from previous day were re-introduced by the Chair for further discussion.

Resolution #4 Local School Programming

Resolution defeated

Resolution #6 Local Food Procurement

The resolution passed as corrected, 'Therefore be it resolved, that the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture lobby the provincial government to primarily procure locally available Nova Scotia products and ensure minimum procurement from their third party providers in all government institutions by 2025.' Motion Carried

Update from Farm Credit Canada – Faith Matchett, VP Operations for Eastern and Atlantic Canada provided a presentation on mental health awareness included results on stigma from a national survey and triggers for mental health challenges. FCC in collaboration with industry partners on various initiatives is helping to remove the stigma around mental health. These initiatives are aimed at promoting general awareness of mental health, encouraging dialogue and enabling people throughout the agriculture industry to seek support if they need it. One initiative is 'Rooted in Strength' and is available on the FCC website.

Farm Credit Canada provided the funding support for the Annual Meeting keynote speaker and Faith provided an introduction and welcome for Andrew Campbell.

Keynote Speaker Presentation – Andrew Campbell, Fresh Air Farmer provided an upbeat presentation on "Stand up for your Industry". Examples were provided for how Andrew has taken to social media to promote agriculture in a positive light to those who are not connected to farming. Encouragement was given to pledge to 'One Act a Week' such as tweet a picture, email a you tube video, share a facebook post, letter to the editor, call a school, start a conversation with a stranger.

New Business – No new business to report.

Meeting Evaluation – A meeting evaluation was circulated and with responses received a draw was made for a 32" TV. Danny Bruce was the winner.

Adjournment – On a motion of Greg Webster, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m. An in-camera, members only meeting was held following the adjournment.

Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture

**Financial Statements
August 31, 2019**



Independent auditor's report

To the Members of Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture

Our opinion

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture (the Federation) as at August 31, 2019 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

What we have audited

The Federation's financial statements comprise:

- the statement of financial position as at August 31, 2019;
 - the statement of changes in net assets for the year then ended;
 - the statement of revenue and expenses for the year then ended;
 - the statement of cash flows for the year then ended; and
 - the notes to the financial statements, which include a summary of significant accounting policies.
-

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Independence

We are independent of the Federation in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

Responsibilities of management and those charged with governance for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Cogswell Tower, 2000 Barrington Street, Suite 1101, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3J 3K1
T: +1 902 491 7400, F: +1 902 422 1166

PwC refers to PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an Ontario limited liability partnership



In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Federation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Federation or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Federation's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Federation's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Federation's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Federation to cease to continue as a going concern.



- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants, Licensed Public Accountants

Halifax, Nova Scotia
November 20, 2019

Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture
Statement of Financial Position
As at August 31, 2019

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash	2,712	34,906
Cash – internally restricted	241,745	139,699
Accounts receivable	64,068	49,038
Prepaid expenses	3,072	7,198
	311,597	230,841
Property and equipment (note 4)	1,081,925	50,405
Investments (note 5)	655,807	725,243
	2,049,329	1,006,489
Liabilities		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 6)	57,383	31,912
Deferred contributions – project funds in trust (note 7)	241,745	139,699
Deferred income	448,754	370,494
Current portion of mortgage debt (note 8)	15,512	-
	763,394	542,105
Mortgage debt (note 8)	916,016	-
	1,679,410	542,105
Net assets		
Investment in property and equipment	150,397	50,405
Unrestricted net assets	219,522	413,979
	369,919	464,384
	2,049,329	1,006,489

Approved by the Board of Directors



Director



Director

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture

Statement of Changes in Net Assets

For the year ended August 31, 2019

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Investment in property and equipment		
Balance – Beginning of year	50,405	57,617
Transfer from (to) unrestricted net assets	99,992	(7,212)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance – End of year	150,397	50,405
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Unrestricted net assets		
Balance – Beginning of year	413,979	402,190
Excess of revenue over expenses (expenses over revenue) for the year	(94,465)	4,577
Transfer from (to) investment in property and equipment	(99,992)	7,212
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance – End of year	219,522	413,979
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total net assets	369,919	464,384

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture

Statement of Revenue and Expenses

For the year ended August 31, 2019

	(Unaudited) Budget 2019 \$	Actual 2019 \$	Actual 2018 \$
Revenue			
Annual meeting	20,500	16,790	20,687
Corporate memberships	18,000	16,500	18,000
Farm registration dues	750,000	732,137	686,315
Interest and miscellaneous	14,105	11,913	8,659
Office rental	40,000	35,020	29,970
Secretarial and office services	40,000	83,282	34,726
Farm Safety Coordinator	30,000	-	30,000
Project funds in trust (note 7)	-	675,720	1,279,683
	<u>912,605</u>	<u>1,571,362</u>	<u>2,108,040</u>
Expenses			
Amortization	14,000	30,937	14,000
Annual meeting	22,500	20,350	22,652
Bank charges	2,000	1,929	1,898
Building maintenance	3,500	2,283	2,957
C.F.A. delegates expense	8,000	8,295	8,074
C.F.A. directors expense	8,000	7,243	10,373
C.F.A. membership dues	18,260	18,149	17,728
Committee expenses	13,000	13,205	12,794
Communications	24,000	21,479	22,371
Computer	12,500	12,363	9,480
Council meetings	17,500	12,215	17,407
County membership share	35,565	35,895	33,825
Development – staff	2,500	4,726	1,464
Executive	70,000	60,379	72,227
Honorariums	4,000	4,000	4,000
HST expense (non-recoverable portion)	20,000	25,969	23,992
Insurance	7,000	8,250	6,869
Interest on mortgage debt	-	32,312	-
Miscellaneous	500	114	36
News and Views newsletter	30,000	33,550	34,566
Office equipment rental	2,084	2,084	2,084
Office rent	90,000	71,006	43,805
Postage	5,000	1,564	4,007
Printing, stationery and office supplies	8,500	10,629	7,483
Professional fees	6,500	7,221	5,824
Project funds in trust (note 7)	-	675,720	1,279,683
Promotion and advertising	12,000	12,336	9,174
Salaries and benefits	464,158	484,951	415,366
Scholarships	3,000	3,000	3,000
Staff expenses	15,000	21,637	11,454
Telephone	5,000	5,245	4,870
	<u>924,067</u>	<u>1,649,036</u>	<u>2,103,463</u>
Excess of revenue over expenses (expenses over revenue) for the year before the following:	(11,462)	(77,674)	4,577
Write-down of leasehold improvements	-	(16,791)	-
Excess of revenue over expenses (expenses over revenue) for the year	<u>(11,462)</u>	<u>(94,465)</u>	<u>4,577</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended August 31, 2019

	2019 \$	2018 \$
Cash provided by (used in)		
Operating activities		
Excess of revenue over expenses (expenses over revenue) for the year	(94,465)	4,577
Amortization of property and equipment	30,937	14,000
Write-down of leasehold improvements	16,791	-
	<u>(46,737)</u>	<u>18,577</u>
Net change in non-cash working items related to operations		
Increase in accounts receivable	(15,030)	(13,741)
Decrease (increase) in prepaid expenses	4,126	(4,126)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	25,471	(40,539)
Increase (decrease) in deferred contributions - project funds in trust	102,046	(395,057)
Increase (decrease) in deferred income	78,260	(6,425)
	<u>148,136</u>	<u>(441,311)</u>
Investing activities		
Purchase of property and equipment	(1,079,248)	(6,788)
Decrease in investments	69,436	75,166
	<u>(1,009,812)</u>	<u>68,378</u>
Financing activities		
Proceeds from mortgage debt	939,978	-
Repayment of mortgage debt	(8,450)	-
	<u>931,528</u>	<u>-</u>
Net change in cash during the year	69,852	(372,933)
Cash – Beginning of year	174,605	547,538
Cash – End of year	244,457	174,605
Cash consists of:		
Cash	2,712	34,906
Cash – internally restricted	241,745	139,699
	<u>244,457</u>	<u>174,605</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture

Notes to Financial Statements

For the year ended August 31, 2019

1 Status and nature of activities

The Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture (the "Federation"), formed under the Agriculture and Marketing Act, represents agricultural commodity groups working together to develop solutions and strategies that are communicated to government, the general public and stakeholders in agriculture. The Federation is not subject to income taxes pursuant to Section 149 (1)(l) of the Income Tax Act.

2 Significant accounting policies

Basis of presentation

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with the Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations ("ASNPO") as issued by the Canadian Accounting Standards Board.

Investments

The Federation initially recorded its investments at fair value. Subsequently, these investments are measured at amortized cost, net of transaction costs, using the effective interest method.

Management estimates

The presentation of financial statements in conformity with ASNPO requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the reported period. Actual results could differ from those reported.

Property and equipment

Amortization of property and equipment is provided using the following methods and rates:

Office building	Straight-line, 30 years
Computer equipment	Declining-balance, 30%
Office equipment	Declining-balance, 20%

In the year of acquisition, additions to property and equipment are amortized at one-half the stated annual rate.

Revenue recognition

The Federation follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture

Notes to Financial Statements

For the year ended August 31, 2019

2 Significant accounting policies (continued)

Revenue recognition (continued)

Farm registration dues are collected by the Farm Registrar on a yearly basis from April 1 to March 31, coinciding with the Provincial Government year-end. Farm registration dues are recognized as revenue in the period in which they are earned.

Deferred income represents the portion of farm registration dues received at August 31, 2019, for the period from September 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020.

3 Financial instruments and risk management

Senior management and the Board of the Federation are responsible for setting acceptable levels of risk and reviewing risk management activities as necessary.

a) Concentration of credit risk

Management believes the Federation has no significant credit risk.

b) Interest rate risk

Management believes the Federation has no significant interest rate risk as the mortgage debt carries a fixed interest rate.

c) Liquidity and cash flow risk

Management believes the Federation has no significant risk from liquidity or cash flow due to the Federation having significant cash and investments available.

4 Property and equipment

	2019		2018	
	Cost \$	Accumulated depreciation \$	Net \$	Net \$
Land	55,000	-	55,000	-
Office building	1,016,255	(16,938)	999,317	-
Computer equipment	134,767	(129,718)	5,049	9,702
Office equipment	61,477	(38,918)	22,559	17,525
Leasehold improvements	-	-	-	23,178
	<u>1,267,499</u>	<u>(185,574)</u>	<u>1,081,925</u>	<u>50,405</u>

During the year ended August 31, 2019, the Federation acquired land and an office building for \$625,000. The Federation then incurred \$391,225 in capital expenditures to upgrade and renovate the office building.

Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture

Notes to Financial Statements

For the year ended August 31, 2019

5 Investments

	2019 \$	2018 \$
2.00% term deposit certificate, maturing January 2020	296,126	283,534
0.95% redeemable deposit, maturing April 2020	601,426	380,000
Investment cash balance	-	201,408
	<u>897,552</u>	<u>864,942</u>
Less: Project funds	<u>(241,745)</u>	<u>(139,699)</u>
	<u>655,807</u>	<u>725,243</u>

6 Government remittances

Government remittances consist of amounts required to be paid to government authorities and are recognized when amounts become due. In respect to government remittances, \$271 (2018 - \$1,377) relates to payroll taxes and are included within accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

7 Project funds in trust

The Federation receives funding for specific projects. Funds received related to projects which have not been expended are recorded as deferred contributions on the statement of financial position. Project funds in trust as of August 31, 2019 consist of:

	Balance – Beginning of year \$	Project funds received \$	Project funds expended \$	Balance – End of year \$
County AGM delegate pool	11,565	20,000	24,881	6,684
Meet Your Farmer	5,453	2,500	7,953	-
Environmental farm planning	(41,648)	337,168	292,999	2,521
ILT Poultry fund	511	500	550	461
Industry planning	32,197	28,018	19,849	40,366
Major office equipment	13,333	5,000	-	18,333
Open farm day	3,368	8,175	11,543	-
Species at risk	18,615	47,226	65,865	(24)
Water metering	72,918	1,112	5,391	68,639
Workplace education	9,334	-	9,334	-
In Trust: Food Policy Alliance project	1,551	3,000	829	3,722
AgSector / Labour	-	152,936	61,044	91,892
Summer student	(1,965)	5,627	3,662	-
Public Trust project	-	90,900	81,749	9,151
Labour Act Review	-	50,000	50,000	-
In Trust-Agri Risk project	5,233	25,604	30,837	-
WIPSI courses	9,234	-	9,234	-
	<u>139,699</u>	<u>777,766</u>	<u>675,720</u>	<u>241,745</u>

Included in the project funds received is government funding in the amount of \$556,992 (2018 - \$368,955).

Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture

Notes to Financial Statements

For the year ended August 31, 2019

8 Mortgage debt

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Mortgage with the Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board ("NSFLB"), repayable in monthly instalments of \$5,713, with an interest rate of 5.8% per annum, maturing on December 1, 2048	931,528	-
Less: Current portion	<u>(15,512)</u>	-
	<u>916,016</u>	-

The loan is secured by the following:

- First position, continuing collateral mortgage, registered for \$1,200,000 over PID 20331468, located at 7 Atlantic Central Drive, East Mountain, Nova Scotia;
- General security agreement with NSFLB over all present and future acquired assets; and
- Property insurance, loss payee to NSFLB, for a minimum of \$1,000,000.

The aggregate amount of principal payments required in each of the next five years is as follows:

	\$
Year ending August 31, 2020	15,512
2021	16,271
2022	17,462
2023	18,489
2024	19,519

Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture

Budget 2019-20

	Budget 2018-19	Projected 31-Aug	Proposed 2019-20
<u>INCOME</u>			
Annual Meeting Income	\$20,500	\$16,790	\$20,000
Corporate Membership	\$18,000	\$16,500	\$18,000
Farm Registration	\$750,000	\$732,137	\$832,175
Interest on Investments	\$14,105	\$11,913	\$9,304
Rental Income	\$40,000	\$35,020	\$47,758
Service Contract Fees	\$70,000	\$83,282	\$60,000
TOTAL INCOME	\$912,605	\$895,642	\$987,237
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
Accounting & Legal	\$6,500	\$7,221	\$8,000
Amortization - Building/equipment/parking lot	\$0	\$30,937	\$48,000
Amortization - office equipment	\$14,000	\$0	\$0
Annual Meeting	\$22,500	\$20,350	\$23,500
Bank Charges	\$2,000	\$1,928	\$2,000
CFA Delegates	\$8,000	\$8,295	\$8,000
CFA Director	\$8,000	\$7,243	\$6,000
CFA Dues	\$18,260	\$18,148	\$18,600
Committee	\$13,000	\$13,205	\$13,000
Communications and Member Relations	\$66,000	\$67,365	\$61,000
Computer and IT	\$12,500	\$12,363	\$12,500
Council	\$17,500	\$12,215	\$17,500
County Membership Share	\$35,565	\$35,895	\$35,000
Executive	\$70,000	\$60,379	\$60,000
Honorariums	\$4,000	\$4,000	\$4,000
HST Expense	\$20,000	\$25,969	\$20,000
Insurance	\$7,000	\$8,250	\$8,000
Leased Equipment	\$2,084	\$2,084	\$0
Miscellaneous	\$500	\$114	\$0
Mortgage Interest	\$0	\$32,312	\$51,600
Office Costs and Telephone	\$8,500	\$10,629	\$15,000
Postage	\$5,000	\$1,564	\$0
Property Maintenance	\$90,000	\$71,006	\$27,425
Property Taxes	\$0	\$0	\$0
Property Upkeep	\$0	\$0	\$0
Repairs and Maintenance	\$3,500	\$2,283	\$0
Scholarships/Endowment	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
Staff Development	\$2,500	\$4,726	\$5,000
Staff Expenses	\$15,000	\$21,637	\$18,000
Telephone	\$5,000	\$5,245	\$0
Utilities	\$0	\$0	\$10,500
Wages and benefits	\$464,158	\$484,951	\$509,978
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$924,067	\$973,314	\$985,603
Net Income/Loss	-\$11,462	-\$77,672	\$1,634

Annual Resolutions Report

The Resolutions Committee held three meetings this past year; one in February to review resolutions that were adopted at the 2018 annual meeting and prepare a report to the Council of Leaders; a second meeting in September was held for further progress updates and recommendations to the Council of Leaders. The final meeting of the year in November prepared resolutions for presentation to the 2019 annual meeting.

The committee dealt with the following items:

- Terms of reference for this committee is reviewed on an annual basis.
- Each resolution passed at the previous year's annual meeting is reviewed and a decision made on how the NSFA will pursue the resolution.
- The consolidated resolutions are reviewed with recommendations in regard to which ones should be deleted and which require further action.

During the past year the Federation's Executive Committee, and other NSFA committee's as appropriate, acted as the conduit to move the resolutions along to the appropriate government department or other agency affected. In September, as instructed by Council of Leaders, recommendations and any action for deletion of these resolutions should take place by membership at the Annual Meeting.

With regards to the resolutions being presented at the 2019 Annual Meeting, the committee has reviewed resolutions received as per the resolutions policy. Any major changes suggested by the Resolutions Committee have been referred to the sponsoring bodies so that they can respond accordingly. The resolutions are found on page 42 in the Annual Meeting book.

The following is the activity of resolutions that have been moved into a 'continued action' file known as **Consolidated Resolutions**.

Resolution A-16-03, Visibility on Roadways

Therefore, be it resolved that, the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture lobby the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal to have roadsides cleared of such vegetation on a timely annual basis.

2017 Activity

- Ongoing conversations with Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal to improve rural road conditions.
- Effort continues through the NSFA Transportation Committee to hold government accountable to the Liberal platform promises of road repairs (community infrastructure), implementing a gravel road plan.
- Process for maintenance to K Class roads.

AGM: The intent of the resolution to improve visibility on roadways is being addressed through process with TIR and ongoing through Transportation policy. This resolution will reach three (3) years at the 2019 Annual Meeting and will be deleted by process.

Resolution A-16-06, Increase in the Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board's Lending Limit

Therefore, be it resolved that, the NSFA lobby the NS government and or the NS Farm Loan Board to have its lending limit increased to \$5 million before needing approval from council.

2017 Activity

- Resolution was amended at March 2017 Council of Leaders to increase to the funding limit request from 5 to 7 million dollars before needing approval from Order in Council
- Request made in the form of a letter (April 2017) to Minister Colwell for consideration of this regulatory change.

2018 Activity

- Farm Loan Board has received approval for lending limit of \$5 million. This was announced at the NSFA AGM in November.

AGM: This resolution was complete with Order in Council (OIC) to increase lending limit for the board to \$5 million. This resolution is complete and recommended for deletion.

Resolution A-16-10, Abattoir Development in Eastern NS and Cape Breton

Therefore, be it resolved that, the NSFA consult with NSDA and the Minister on the feasibility of abattoir development to service these areas.

2017 Activity

- Action from Council was for more information on abattoirs and the NSDA study a few years ago on abattoir development.
- NSDA is reviewing the current state of abattoir and meat processing capacity.
- NSDA met with NSFA, Agri-Commodity Management, Sheep Producers and Cattle Producers in July
 - Pretty much every region is underserved in terms of inspected meat processing.
 - Custom slaughter and Direct to Market sales were identified as the markets not being met. The seasonality of wildlife slaughter indicates a need for seasonal processors.
 - Reasons for abattoir shortage: seasonality of processing; Labour/skill set due to rural location of abattoirs; and storage for carcass hanging.
 - Clarifying regulations on what can and can't happen was suggested

2018 Activity

- Report on Feasibility Study received (June 18, 2018) – Report confirmed lack of abattoirs in this area.
- Meat Inspection and processing capacity is also part of 2019 proposed policy direction for NSFA
- Re-activation of the provincial Meat Inspection Board, call for board nominations in the spring and fall 2019

AGM: The resolution requested consultation on the feasibility of abattoirs which has been completed. This resolution will reach three (3) years at the 2019 Annual Meeting and will be deleted by process.

Resolution A-16-12. Removal of Accredited Food Safety Plans as a Requirement for Food Safety Equipment Funding

Therefore, be it resolved that, the NSFA lobby the NS Department of Agriculture to remove the requirement for farms to have accredited food safety plans to access funding for food safety equipment relevant to their operations and improving food safety for consumers.

2017 Activity

- NSDA programs adjusted the open period from programs which provided better timing for farm applications and leaving less time for discussion of program changes and these resolutions. In addition to a provincial election, and the negotiations for Next Policy Framework, 2017/18 programs were very much status quo.
- Participation in the consultation process, promotion of sessions and survey participation including a separate Council of Leaders survey for Next Policy Framework.
- All program resolutions have been submitted to NSDA for consideration in the Canadian Agriculture Partnership (CAP).

2018 Activity

- In general, NSDA Programs are not offering Food Safety Equipment through programing. It is possible that within Technologies for Value Added Agriculture (TVA) an applicant may request something related to food safety. There is no requirement in the program for a food safety plan.

2019 Activity

- Confirmed from NSDA programs that there isn't program funding for food safety equipment.
- Technologies for Value Added is 'designed to assist with increasing the competitiveness and profitability of Nova Scotia's agriculture sector by supporting the production efficiency of value-added agri-products.' (e.g. plant modernization that enhance productivity, energy efficient systems)

AGM: This resolution will reach three (3) years at the 2019 Annual Meeting and will be deleted by process.

Resolution A-16-15, Funding for Windbreak Solutions

Therefore, be it resolved that, the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture lobby Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture to reintroduce measures of funding for windbreak design, implementation, and purchase of appropriate natural windbreak and buffer zone solutions for agricultural lands.

2017 Activity

- NSDA programs adjusted the open period from programs which provided better timing for farm applications and leaving less time for discussion of program changes and these resolutions. In addition to a provincial election, and the negotiations for Next Policy Framework, 2017/18 programs were very much status quo.
- Participation in the consultation process, promotion of sessions and survey participation including a separate Council of Leaders survey for Next Policy Framework.
- All program resolutions have been submitted to NSDA for consideration in the Canadian Agriculture Partnership (CAP).

2018 Activity

- Buffer establishment is an eligible expense under Soil and Water sustainability for riparian areas only.
- Discussion on this resolution led to level of impact wind has on soil erosion.

2019 Activity

- Investigated activity or studies on impact of wind on soil erosion. Document from shelterbelt training in 2005, (Perennia) and News article (Feb 11, 2019) - PEI Federation of Agriculture doing extensive research into soil protection.

AGM: Activity continues on soil erosion and soil health through NSFA policy. This resolution will reach three (3) years at the 2019 Annual Meeting and will be deleted by process.

Resolution A-17-03, Organic Certification Fees

Therefore be it resolved that, the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture will lobby the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture for continued support at 70% funding of organic inspection fees incurred during the first five years of operation.

2018 Activity

- Previously Home Grown Success program offered 70% funding for these organic fees for 2 years
- It has been reported that no one applied in 2017-18 and in the prior year 9 applied and only 3 claimed
- From programs, No program to support Organic Certification Fees is expected (there was no uptake in GF2, with very few enquiries and no claims)
- Small Farm Accelerator program, if part of the approved business plan, would support these costs for cost share.

2019 Activity

- A program specific to support organic certification is not expected under CAP
- There have been no requests under Small Farm Acceleration

AGM: This resolution is recommended for deletion as there has not been interest and uptake in current programs.

Resolution A-17-08, Support to Cash Flow Program Funding

Therefore be it resolved that, the NSFA request that Programs either pay the supplier(s) directly for goods and/or services provided to complete the project or request that the Farm Loan Board approve a microloan to the amount of assistance, the Farm Loan Board pay the supplier and get reimbursed from Programs.

2018 Activity

- Preliminary discussion on whether the new microloan from farm loan board would be suitable to meet the needs of this resolution
- Small Farm Accelerator program may be an option for small farms
- Credit Union credit lines may be a viable option to cash flow projects.

2019 Activity

- New grants management system will improve claim payments that might help support cash flow challenges. Once the payment is approved, the information is transferred nightly and if the client is on direct deposit, the money is in their account by 3 pm the next day. Clients are encouraged to submit a claim as soon as their project is complete (or multiple claims) opposed to waiting until the claim deadline as this causes backlog / delays

AGM: There have been improvements on the payment process for claims, providing program funding in as short as 24 hour period. This resolution is recommended for deletion as solutions have been investigated.

Resolution A-17-02, Blueberry Pricing

Therefore be it resolved that, the NSFA request an investigation into the pricing practices of the major wild blueberry processors/buyers.

2018 Activity

- Meeting with NSFA officers and WBPANS was held on May 7th
- Competition Bureau is investigating pricing.

2019 Activity

- A follow-up or investigation into the completion and availability of the report from the Competition Bureau. "We can confirm that the Competition Bureau is investigating allegations of anti-competitive conduct contrary to the conspiracy provision of the Competition Act in the wild blueberry industry. As part of this investigation, the Bureau is currently gathering evidence to determine the facts. There is no conclusion of wrongdoing at this time and no charges have been laid."

AGM: This resolution is beyond scope of NSFA, the investigation was supported and the resolution is recommended for deletion.

Resolution A-17-06, Premises Identification

Therefore be it resolved that, the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture work with commodity groups and the Department to explore the possibility of incorporating the Premises Identification Application with the Farm Registration Application.

2018 Activity

- Met with NSDA Traceability and ACMA regarding the proposed regulations and voluntary Premise identification (PID)
- Currently 681 total PID's issued in Nova Scotia
- There was a check box on NSDA Program Funding Application 2018 asking if applicant has a Premise Identification #

- NSDA Registrar willing to consider incorporating changes to the Farm Registration Form for April 2019 as this would require regulatory change.
 - Efforts underway to remove the form from the regulations

2019 Activity

- The regulations will be delayed for the 14th consecutive sitting of parliament so it will only be a major challenge for industry once they go to Gazette. Voluntary collection continues with NSDA
- There has been a little more uptake in PID collection since CCIA started requiring for tag purchases

AGM: It is recommended that this resolution remain in consolidated resolutions as there is Property ID on Farm Registration form, not Premise ID.

Resolution A-17-07, Field Crop Specialists

Therefore be it resolved that, the NSFA lobby the Department of Agriculture to maintain the positions of two Field Crop Specialists in the province.

2018 Activity

- At Joint Executives meeting it was reported that there is some planning within production and education extension services between Perennia and NSDA
- Recommendation to support extension was part of the recommendation through the Small Farm Acceleration Working Group
- Included in the Ministerial briefing at the March breakfast meeting
- Presentation from Perennia at the 2018 NSFA AGM

AGM: Discussion required from membership on availability of extension service related to field crop specialists.

Resolution A-17-05, Review of Description of Farm Vehicle

Therefore be it resolved that, the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture lobby the Nova Scotia government to allow for an application process for non-traditional farm vehicles to be registered as farm vehicles.

2018 Activity

- Discussed at TIR meeting (February 1st)
- Current FM Plate regulations indicate;
 - 5 (1) An FM number plate may be issued only to a farmer or fisherman.
 - 5 (2) An FM number plate may be displayed only on (a) a commercial truck that is owned or leased by the farmer or fisherman who was issued the plate; or (b) a passenger van with a minimum seating capacity of 7 that is owned or leased by the farmer or fisherman who was issued the plate
- Information requested from Service NS on the process regarding body type codes
 - Vehicle must be a Class 20 to get an FM plate.
 - Eligibility is determined if the client indicates he meets the requirements as being a bona fide farmer and if the vehicle that is being registered also meets the regulation requirements, commercial truck or Van with seating of 7+
 - Possible system changes and training required
- Requested change in TSA and regulatory re-write (May 2018)

AGM: This resolution is ongoing in conjunction with Traffic Safety Act and is recommended to be maintained in consolidated resolutions.

Resolution A-17-04, Provincial Support for Spanish and Translation Services for Agricultural Workers

Therefore be it resolved that, the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture, in partnership with Horticulture Nova Scotia and any other applicable commodity groups, lobby the Province of Nova Scotia to provide translation

and adaptation support services for Spanish speaking Agricultural Workers that can be accessed by farmers to assist with health care, provincial services, and occupational health and safety support and training.

2018 Activity

- Early dialogue with Farm Safety NS regarding Spanish translation of OHS and safety training; needs have been identified as general office signage and forklift training.
- Spanish First aid with a translator held in May 2018
- Discussion at the Labour Committee meeting around partnerships, promotion of the translation service that exists (distribution of language cards), and recognition that training in various areas needs improvement for all workers
 - Language Cards have been made available and circulated to committee
 - Nova Scotia Health Authority (NSHA) policy is to provide Interpretation and Language Services for patients who speak little or no English.
 - There is a broad and on-going communication plan within the entire Nova Scotia Health Authority.
 - The patient, ideally when registering will identify their language (and this is captured at registration).
 - When the patient enters any of NSHA facilities and is in need of language service, staff members are aware of how to contact Interpretation and Language Services for the patient.
 - Patients will be looked after in our facilities with our tools that we have in place (telephone 24 hours/day 7 days/week) in all of our NSHA premises.
- From the transportation committee, any person who is able to translate (spouse, friend, acquaintance, etc.) is permitted for the written test portion. During the driving portion of the test the examiner uses hand signals to inform the driver where they want them to go, so no translation is actually needed. This is done almost daily at the Halifax Access office where they see a lot of people who don't speak English.
- Request for driver's handbook translation into Spanish, handbook is expected to be established online with google translate.

AGM: This resolution is ongoing in conjunction with NSFA labour committee, AgSector Program and Farm Safety NS. It is recommended to be maintained in consolidated resolutions.

The following activity is related to **resolutions adopted at the 2018 AGM**. As per resolutions process, if a resolution has not been enacted or otherwise satisfactorily dealt with during the year after its adoption, the resolution can either be: 1) deleted by a motion making it null and void, or 2) moved into a continued action resolution file for continued activity for a period of 3 years.

Resolution A-18-01, Limestone Transportation Program Year Round Accessibility

Therefore be it resolved, that the Federation lobby the Department of Agriculture to modify the Limestone Transportation Program so producers can access it at any time of the year without the existing rigid application and claiming deadlines.

2019 Activity

- NSDA programs have opened and the Limestone Trucking Assistance program is available with 2 intake periods, Feb –April with an August claim deadline and July – Oct 15th intake with a January claim deadline.
- The intake periods for applications and purchase periods do not match up. For example, if you purchase in May, June, November or December there is not intake period for the application.

AGM: It is recommended that NSFA continue to push for year round access and that this resolution be moved to consolidated resolutions for continued action.

Resolution A-18-02, Inclusion of Gypsum under Provincial Subsidy Program

Therefore be it resolved, that the NSFA lobby the Minister of Agriculture and NSDA Programs to include assistance for trucking Gypsum under the Provincial subsidy program similar to that of trucking assistance of lime.

2019 Activity

- Letter sent to Minister Colwell along with discussion at the Joint Executives Meeting.
- Gypsum was an agenda topic at the NSDA / NSFA Executives meeting. Further information was requested in support of the resolution, which consisted of the benefits of gypsum on Nova Scotia agriculture soils and potential uptake/cost of a program.
- For the most part, it was indicated the use of gypsum in agriculture was for a nutrient source and not for soil structure
- The resolution called for a trucking subsidy similar to limestone trucking assistance, however the lime program is specific to support neutralizing pH. Gypsum does not meet the criteria required for government programs.

AGM: With regard to this resolution, rules against the support for inputs exist under the WTO Agriculture Agreement. Limestone is primarily used to increase pH and not as a nutrient source contrary to the use of gypsum which is primarily used for Calcium. It is recommended that this resolution be deleted.

Resolution A-18-03, Add Wildlife Controls to the CAP Program

Therefore be it resolved, that wildlife controls be added to the CAP program.

2019 Activity

- NSDA programs launched a Wildlife Mitigation program under CAP in 2019
- NSFA Wildlife Committee reconvened for discussion and activities related to wildlife challenges

AGM: This resolution is considered complete and is recommended for deletion.

Resolution A-18-05, Cell Phone and High Speed Internet

Therefore be it resolved that, the NSFA lobby the Minister of Agriculture, the Premier of Nova Scotia and the appropriate federal, provincial, municipal departments involved in business development and communications along with the CRTC to request their involvement in resolving this lack of services that are essential to businesses in this province.

2019 Activity

- Survey was conducted, with only 44 responses. Of those that responded, the issues were across the province and demonstrated a cross section of commodity and farm size
- Develop NS is working on addressing the internet gap across the province and EMO is working on cellular service across Nova Scotia
- Canadian Federation of Agriculture has a policy on cellular service/high speed internet and incorporated this into the election campaign
- NSFA and NSDA are working jointly to provide a report to Develop NS on the gaps for agriculture

AGM: It is recommended that this resolution be maintained in consolidated resolutions for continued action.

Resolution A-18-06, Local Food Procurement

Therefore be it resolved, that the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture lobby the provincial government to primarily procure locally available Nova Scotia products and ensure minimum procurement from their third party providers in all government institutions by 2025.

2019 Activity

- There are activities supporting local food procurement, e.g. Grow Nova Scotia
- NSDA will soon launch a new buy local program
- Data is not readily available to calculate local purchasing at a household level. Private sector is challenging to calculate as well, though many organizations have local first policies.
- NSFA and commodities are reviewing a local food procurement policy for our use

AGM: It is recommended that this resolution be maintained in consolidated resolutions for continued action.

Summary of Resolution Report

In summary, the following resolutions are recommended to be maintained in **consolidated resolutions**:

Resolution A-17-06, Premises Identification

Resolution A-17-07, Field Crop Specialists

Resolution A-17-05, Review of Description of Farm Vehicle

Resolution A-17-04, Provincial Support for Spanish and Translation Services for Agricultural Workers

Resolution A-18-01, Limestone Transportation Program Year Round Accessibility

Resolution A-18-05, Cell Phone and High Speed Internet

Resolution A-18-06, Local Food Procurement

In summary, the following resolutions are recommended for **deletion**:

Resolution A-16-03, Visibility on Roadways

Resolution A-16-06, Increase in the Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board's Lending Limit

Resolution A-16-10, Abattoir Development in Eastern NS and Cape Breton

Resolution A-16-12. Removal of Accredited Food Safety Plans as a Requirement for Food Safety Equipment Funding

Resolution A-16-15, Funding for Windbreak Solutions

Resolution A-17-08, Support to Cash Flow Program Funding

Resolution A-17-03, Organic Certification Fees

Resolution A-17-02, Blueberry Pricing

Resolution A-18-02, Inclusion of Gypsum under Provincial Subsidy Program

Resolution A-18-03, Add Wildlife Controls to the CAP Program

Respectfully submitted,

Chris van den Heuvel, Chair

Peter Morine

Chris deWaal

Victor Oulton, ex-officio

Henry Vissers, ex-officio

Nominating Committee Report for Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture
2019 Annual General Meeting

The Nominating Committee of the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture is made up of one executive committee member and the two past Presidents of the NSFA. If one or both of the past Presidents are not able to participate, the preceding past President will be asked to serve on the Nominating Committee. The President and Executive Director shall be ex-officio members of the Nominating Committee.

Currently, under bylaws, members of the Nominating Committee are responsible to recommend up to ten (10) Executive Committee members to the annual meeting including the slate of officers; President, 1st Vice-President, 2nd Vice-President, Treasurer and Corporate Secretary, CFA Director.

The 2019 Nominating Committee is proposing the following members and slate of officers for 2020:

Name	Positions if operating under current bylaws	Year(s) remaining in term	Term
Victor Oulton	President	3	3 rd
Tim Marsh	1 st Vice President CFA Director	3	2 nd
Chris deWaal	2 nd Vice President	2	1 st
Allan Melvin	Corporate Secretary / Treasurer	2	1 st
Chris van den Heuvel	Member at large / Past President	1	3 rd
Lauren Park	Member at large	1	1 st
Amanda Eisses	Member at large	1	2 nd

The NSFA Executive Committee will also include the immediate Past President as ex-officio.

For 2019, if the amended NSFA bylaws are adopted, the above noted members would represent recommendation from NSFA Nominating Committee for Council and an election will be held to determine three (3) additional members for Council.

Respectfully submitted by the Nominating Committee,

Chris van den Heuvel, Char
Chris deWaal
Dennis Boudreau
Victor Oulton (ex-officio)
Henry Vissers (ex-officio)

Draft Policy Paper

2019 – 2020



NOVA SCOTIA

NSFA

FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Land

Agricultural land is land that is managed for farm use and land with agricultural potential. These uses include pasture, crop, and horticultural land, maple groves, Christmas trees, orchards and class 2, 3, and 4 soils as defined by the Canadian Land Inventory. Ensuring the availability of agricultural land allows for the future generations to farm.

There are many issue areas that impact agricultural land use. According to the “Preservation of Agricultural Land” report by the Agriculture Land Review Committee, Nova Scotia has a little over 29% (1.57 million hectares) of its land classed as Agriculture. The report indicated that agriculture land abandonment, urban sprawl/development, soil fertility and impact of rising water on dykeland are all issues of concern that must be addressed. Beyond ensuring availability of agricultural land for present and future generations, increasing land values, property migration when sold and trespassing are all significant concerns among land owners. Multiple levels of governments are working to protect lands from excessive losses. Lands covered under these protections include wildlife habitat, wetlands and more, but do not include agricultural land.

In 2017, NSFA assembled an Agricultural Land Policy Committee to continue work on addressing the issues mentioned above, as well as other recommendations. The committee’s goal is to examine and work toward implementation of the recommendations in the Preservation of Agriculture Land Report. The committee has representation from varying organizations who are impacted by work directly with agricultural land including: NSFA Executive and Members, Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, Department of Natural Resources, Annapolis Valley Farmland Trust Society, Department of Municipal Affairs, Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities, and Perennia.

Policy Statement

It shall be the policy of the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture to address land issues through a joint committee and collaborative effort. The Federation will lobby for a comprehensive land use strategy that will include an agricultural land bank, 0% taxation on land owned by a registered farm or land actively maintained as farmland by a registered farmer, access to Crown Land for agriculture use, and support for those who bring land into agriculture production. The Federation will also use the appropriate avenues to request at minimum that 5,000 acres of agriculture land be placed under easement within the five-year review of EGSPA.

Soil Health

According to the Canadian Land Inventory, Nova Scotia has over 1.57 million hectares of soil suitable for agricultural use. Based on the classification system, soil types 1-4 are considered suitable for agricultural production. Nova Scotia soils range from classes 2 to 4, with class 3 representing 60% of NS soils.

Nova Scotia soils tend to have silt/clay content which causes them to imperfectly drain of water – this leads to pooling, rill erosion and the accompanying challenges. Nova Scotia soils also tend to be acidic. Limestone is often necessary as a soil amendment to increase the soil pH and encourage the availability of soil nutrients to plants while gypsum can be used to improve soil structure. Gypsum is also known to not increase soil pH, thus being an important nutrient source for crops requiring lower pH values.

Topsoil removal is governed at the municipal level. In a survey of Municipal Plans and By-Laws conducted by the Department of Municipal Affairs regarding topsoil removal provisions, only a handful directly referenced topsoil. These references referred to erosion, flooding and environmental contamination in the context of construction and property development; not in the context of agriculture. The few by-laws that did reference agriculture were for counties that tended to have more class 2 and 3 soils.

In addition to the human removal of topsoil, the changing climate has the potential to put soils at risk of loss. Fluctuating weather events which will bring more erratic precipitation and more frequent freeze-thaw events threaten the existing soil structure and will likely lead to erosion of Nova Scotia's best quality soil (top organic layer). Much like other risks in agriculture, they cannot be eliminated, but managed with proper supports and planning.

Policy Statement

It shall be the policy of the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture to convene the appropriate bodies to ensure healthy and productive soils remain throughout Nova Scotia.

Labour

Skilled labour is critical to any farm operation. Trained employees increase farm productivity and efficiency. Additionally, with sufficient labour, farms are able to add value to their products, bring product to market and run effective businesses – this creates an opportunity to increase revenues and grow markets.

The Canadian Agriculture Human Resource Council (CAHRC) conducted studies across Canadian farms and the agriculture industry to identify the labour gaps and associated costs. The reports analyzed the needs, barriers and opportunities for each of the provinces. The Nova Scotia report discovered in 2017, (6585) people were employed in agriculture and 29% of those were made up of foreign workforce. With that, there were 251 jobs left unfilled which lead to an estimated \$33 million in lost sales due to labour shortages. The report projected that in 2027 there will be 7,190 workers required in the agriculture industry. Between 2017 and 2027, CAHRC anticipated 43% of the workforce will be lost to retirement, creating a labour gap of more than 2,600 people.

Foreign labour is an avenue that many farms access to meet labour requirements. Programs like the Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program (SAWP) and the Temporary Foreign Worker (both Agriculture and Low-Wage Stream) are examples of two federal programs that farms can access to recruit foreign labour on the farm. Farms employing both foreign and domestic workers face a significant amount of regulatory burden. Different legislation applying to two groups of employees may lead to one group being treated unfairly compared to the other, and farmers requiring multiple systems to track employee time (breaks, days off, etc.). Clear understanding of legislation and contracts, and improvements to the federal programs will help farmers address the labour gap on the farm.

Policy Statement

It shall be the policy of the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture to work with necessary organizations and government departments at both the Federal and Provincial levels to address the labour and skills gaps with domestic and foreign labour and legislative burdens in Nova Scotia's Agriculture Industry. In doing this, NSFA, with funding under the Agriculture Sector Council Program, will address HR, recruitment/retention and skills training to benefit Nova Scotia farms and farmers.

Transportation

Farmers require the use of roads for many different aspects of farming. Not only are goods for sale transported on roadways; farm trucks, tractors and machinery move from field to farm via roadways.

Current legislation is not up to date with the changing industry needs. For example, self-propelled implements of husbandry are not written in legislation. Other challenges with current legislation are around officers' unfamiliarity of farmer exemptions under the Motor Vehicle Act. Much like other elements of regulatory burden and red tape, service delivery of provincial programs, such as farm plating, is inconsistent across the province.

In Fall 2018, the government passed the Traffic Safety Act. Areas addressed under this Act include vehicles and farm equipment, use of the road, licensing and permitting processes and administration. New regulations will be developed as part of the Act creation. These regulations provide an opportunity to improve the red tape as it relates to farm transportation.

Aside from regulations, the physical transportation of products and farm equipment is often troublesome. Roads, roadsides and related infrastructure across Nova Scotia are in disrepair causing safety concerns for both farm equipment operators and general public, damaged produce and equipment damage creating costly repairs. There is also concern around the deferral of maintenance to roadways and the future cost implications. In other aspects, policies on taking roads out of the regular maintenance schedule do not exist thus decisions appear to be made arbitrarily.

Policy Statement

It shall be a standing policy of the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture to be actively engaged in the development of new legislation regarding transportation as it pertains to agriculture. NSFA will also lobby Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal to ensure that agriculture is a lens that is applied when considering the reclassification of roads.

Regulatory Alignment

Regulatory burden is imposed when regulation and policies are implemented and increase the amount of paperwork, cost and time for businesses to operate. In agriculture, regulatory burden can be imposed by varying levels of government: municipal, provincial and federal. Some issues can be multi-jurisdictional which further complicates the matter.

The reasons that regulations can be a burden to those in agriculture vary. Outdated regulations can limit growth and often don't reflect the current direction of the industry. Inspection has proven to be a challenge across many aspects of the agriculture industry. Access to abattoirs is a barrier for many livestock farmers in Nova Scotia and pending changes under the provincial inspection system have the potential to further limit inspection times and booking deadlines. While legislation is often challenging, there are elements that are promising. For example, The Meat Inspection Act has a provision allowing the Minister to assemble an advisory committee on topics related to abattoirs and meat inspection. Many of the challenges that processors face would be able to be addressed through this committee.

Labour and worksite inspection are becoming challenges as well. While the labour gap and the process to apply for foreign labour are addressed in the Labour Gap standing policy, labour and records inspections and provincial regulations differing from federal program contracts have caused conflict for farms accessing federal foreign labour programs.

New regulations and changes to existing regulations are inevitable; however, should be implemented in such a way that minimally impacts farmers, farm families and farm operations. NSFA regularly collaborates with industry stakeholders – Canadian Federation of Agriculture, commodity organizations and others – to ensure that impact is minimal and that changes are warranted.

Policy Statement

It shall be the policy of the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture to continue to lobby for regulatory alignment and then monitor, participate, and communicate changes to regulations at the provincial and federal levels that will impact agriculture. NSFA will also work with industry stakeholders to ensure compliance requirements are well communicated throughout the industry.

Resolutions for the 2019 NSFA Annual Meeting

Resolution #1

Assistance for Biology Testing of Soils

Whereas the Department of Agriculture presently assists farmers with the cost of soil testing to determine chemical makeup; and

Whereas soil biology is a very important part of soil health;

Therefore be it resolved, that the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture lobby the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture to assist farmers in the biology testing of soils in the same manner as it assists with the cost of soil testing for chemical makeup.

- Adopted at an Annual Meeting of the Annapolis County Federation on November 6, 2019

Resolution #2

Improve Conditions in Rural Nova Scotia

Whereas infrastructural support is a necessity for economic growth in any industry; and

Whereas access to services such as equipment dealers, financial professionals, adequate high-speed internet, reliable electricity, a trained workforce, agricultural specialists, markets, and so much more is getting harder to find in Rural Nova Scotia;

Therefore be it resolved, that the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture lobby the Provincial Government to improve conditions in rural Nova Scotia to attract and keep Agricultural Infrastructure spread throughout the province.

- Adopted at an Annual Meeting of the Inverness/Victoria County Federation on October 23, 2019

Resolution #3

Reinstate Funding for Nutrient Management Plans

Whereas the number of farms completing a nutrient management plan dropped as a direct result of the lack of funding through the Department of Agriculture's Programs; and

Whereas there is new soil information coming from the analysis labs and new fertilizer technology being developed which may not be utilized to its full capacity without nutrient management plans; and

Whereas the profit margins on farms today are tighter than ever before in Nova Scotia; and

Whereas the cost of soil amendments seems to keep going up; and

Whereas a nutrient management plan shows the most efficient use of soil amendments;

Therefore be it resolved, that the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture lobby the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture to reinstate funding for the Nutrient Management Plans.

- Adopted at an Annual Meeting of the Inverness/Victoria County Federation on October 23, 2019

Resolution #4

Investigate Allocation of Agricultural Extension Services

Whereas the Province of Nova Scotia is geographically spread out; and

Whereas many forms of agriculture are happening throughout the entire province; and

Whereas provincial funding should be used for all farmers in Nova Scotia; and

Whereas most of the Department of Agriculture offices and Perennia are located in Truro or the Valley;

Therefore be it resolved, that the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture look into the allocation of Agricultural Extension Services from the Provincial Government and private sources as they relate to farmgate sales throughout the province.

- Adopted at an Annual Meeting of the Inverness/Victoria County Federation on October 23, 2019

Resolution #5

Organic Certification Fees

Whereas, organic agriculture is the fastest growing of all agricultural sectors; and

Whereas, despite the growth of Canadian organic acreage in recent years, demand for organic products is significantly outpacing supply. Organic retail sales in Canada was worth CAD\$4.7 billion in 2018, equivalent to 13.6% growth per year since 2007; and

Whereas, in 2017, 66% of Canadian shoppers were purchasing organic products weekly, 83% of millennials and 78% university graduates make up a significant share of this consumer segment. Given the age group and earnings potential of the consumers demanding organic crop, sales for organic products are anticipated to continue to grow at double-digit rates for the foreseeable future; and

Whereas, the discrepancy of Canada's organic agricultural production to domestic demand is resulting in an increased reliance on imported organic products. In 2017, domestic demand for organic products was 50% greater than production of domestic organic products; and

Whereas, The New Brunswick Organic Agriculture Development Program responds to the needs of an ever-growing organic sector in the province, helping to support established operations involved in organic production and value-added activities, facilitating the transition of new entrants into organic production and increasing the capacity of the organic certification system in the province; and

Whereas, The Prince Edward Island Organic Industry Development Program provides strategic assistance with projects which will increase the province's competitiveness, productivity, profitability and certified land conversion; and

Whereas, there were 5,053 certified organic operations in Canada in 2016, over half of which were in Quebec, Saskatchewan and Ontario; and

Whereas, Nova Scotia has no specific agricultural programs in place to nurture, assist or develop its under-performing organic sector and is missing out on the greatest opportunity in agriculture in North America today;

Therefore be it resolved, that the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture will request and lobby the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture to implement support at 70% funding for organic certification fees (to a maximum of \$750 annually) for organic farms or farms converting to organic certification.

- Adopted at a meeting of the Organic Nova Scotia Group on October 29, 2019

Resolution #6

Road and Ditch Maintenance

Whereas, the condition of road ditches is at an unacceptable level of regular maintenance in terms of grass, weed, brush control and ditching; and

Whereas, this lack of maintenance leads to safety hazards for all motorists and in particular operators of agricultural equipment due to sight lines being blocked and road shoulders being deteriorated at an increasingly rapid rate; and

Whereas, lack of regular ditch maintenance leads to accelerated road bed deterioration due to lack of adequate drainage and frost heave;

Therefore be it resolved, that Kings County Federation of Agriculture requests that Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture raise the issue of road and ditch maintenance with upper management and Minister of the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal and request access to existing road maintenance protocols and what the future plans are for regular maintenance of rural roads in Nova Scotia; and

Be it further resolved, that Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture assess with assistance of 3rd party experts if the existing maintenance plans and protocols are acceptable to ensure roads are kept in good repair and furthermore, that these plans and protocols are being followed.

- Adopted by Kings County Federation of Agriculture; at the Annual General Meeting on November 7th, 2019.

Resolution #7

Generators

Whereas, with climate warming it is expected that power outages of longer duration will become more prevalent; and

Whereas, power interruptions can cause significant losses to farms in terms of inability to ensure adequate environment for livestock, running of cold storages and other farm related operations;

Therefore be it resolved, that Kings County Federation of Agriculture request the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture to lobby for 50 percent cost sharing for on farm generators to be included in the CAP program.

- Adopted by Kings County Federation of Agriculture; at the Annual General Meeting on November 7th, 2019.

Resolution #8

Land Use Planning

Whereas, the Municipality of the County of Kings is in the process of implementing a new Municipal Planning Strategy and Land Use Bylaws which include a Development Agreement option requiring consultation with the Kings County Federation of Agriculture (KCFA) on specific planning issues on Agricultural Zoned lands; and

Whereas, expertise may be required that is not available on the KCFA board; and

Whereas, KCFA is concerned about perceptions of conflict of interest; and

Whereas, the Provincial government is instituting mandatory land use planning in all municipalities in NS; and

Whereas, other municipalities and county federations may be dealing with similar agricultural advisory situations on land use matters;

Therefore be it resolved, that the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture formulate a process or create a committee that provides necessary expertise to County Federations to assist with land use planning issues arising between Municipalities and local Federations.

- Adopted by Kings County Federation of Agriculture; at the Annual General Meeting on November 7th, 2019.

Resolution #9

Lime Subsidy

Whereas, soils in Nova Scotia tend to be naturally acidic; and

Whereas, Limestone is a reliable means of increasing soil pH which increases available nutrients for plants; and

Whereas, the Limestone Transportation Assistance Program is under subscribed; and

Whereas, the cost of Limestone is significant and cannot often be afforded due to other high, important costs such as seeding, harvesting and sprays;

Therefore be it Resolved, that Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture lobby for a subsidy on the purchase of lime.

- Adopted by Pictou North Colchester Federation of Agriculture at a general meeting on October 8, 2019.

Resolution #10

Spring Bear Hunt

Whereas bears are increasingly causing damage to crops on agricultural land; and

Whereas other provinces in Canada have a Spring bear hunt; and

Whereas the Nova Scotia Federation of Hunters and Anglers are interested in working with farmers to mitigate damage caused by wildlife;

Therefore be it Resolved, that Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture lobby Nova Scotia Department of Lands and Forestry for a Spring Bear Hunt.

- Adopted by the Pictou North Colchester Federation of Agriculture at an Annual General Meeting on October 8, 2019.



Canadian Federation of Agriculture Activity Report, November 2019

CFA's Activity Report brings you the latest news on how CFA is working for farmers. This year CFA developed an election campaign "Producing Prosperity in Canada", which will be the focus of this report.

Producing Prosperity in Canada Campaign



During the 2019 election year CFA has been conducting the Producing Prosperity in Canada (PPiC) campaign. The campaign has been ongoing throughout the year, with the main objectives of increasing agriculture's prominence in all party platforms for the 2019 election.

The campaign focuses on informing politicians and decision makers of how Canadian agriculture is a sector that provides benefits to all Canadians, specifically economic growth, food security and environmental stewardship. It also builds on the work of the Barton Report and the Agri-Food Economic Strategy Table, which both recognized agriculture as one of the key growth sectors in Canada.

Campaign Launch and CFA Lobby Day



CFA President Mary Robinson with the Conservative Rural Caucus who have signed the Producing Prosperity pledge

CFA held a press conference on the morning of April 9th to launch the Producing Prosperity campaign. CFA President Mary Robinson, 1st Vice-President Keith Curry, 2nd Vice-President Chris van den Heuvel and CFA Director Marcel Groleau gave their remarks and held a question and answer sessions afterwards.

That same day, CFA delegates headed to Parliament Hill to have over 45 productive meetings with MPs, Senators and policy makers for the launch *Producing Prosperity in Canada* campaign.

Some of the most prominent meetings included:

- Minister of Finance Bill Morneau
- Minister of Environment and Climate Change Catherine McKenna
- Minister of Rural Economic Development Bernadette Jordan
- Green Party Leader Elizabeth May
- Deputy Leader of the Opposition Lisa Raitt

During these meetings, CFA delegates brought a pledge for MPs and Senators to sign, showing their support for the *Producing Prosperity in Canada* campaign. From these meeting, almost 80% signed the pledge.

Mary Robinson and Keith Curry also appeared on Primetime Politics that evening to discuss agriculture and agri-food ahead of the federal election.

Throughout the year, the CFA executive team met with each major party and delivered a set of recommendations on how to support Canadian agriculture informed by the CFA membership.

CFA Federal-Provincial-Territorial Roundtable



As part of the July Board Meeting, CFA hosted the FPT roundtable which brought all the agriculture ministers from each province and territory together to hear from Canadian farm leaders from across the country.

The roundtable initially focused on the Producing Prosperity in Canada campaign, but also looked at recent trade disruptions in Canola, pork and beef and how they were putting a large burden on Canadian farmers. CFA members gave a passionate message of the stress they felt from the uncertainty that these issues had created in their businesses, and the kinds of support they needed to see to weather these challenging times.

The Agricultural Leaders' Debate



NATIONAL AGRICULTURE LEADERS' DEBATE



CFA hosted the Agriculture Leaders' debate on September 24th at the Rogers Studio in Ottawa, ON. The debate was sponsored by Food and Consumer Products of Canada. The debate participants included:

- Hon. Marie-Claude Bibeau (Liberal Party)
- Luc Berthold (Conservative Party)
- Alistair MacGregor (NDP)
- Kate Storey (Green Party)

The debates theme was linked to the PPiC campaign, focusing on the three main benefits of: Economic growth, environmental stewardship and food security. Keeping this in mind, the CFA finalized the eight main questions asked to the participants.

The key themes of the debate questions were as follows:

- Prioritizing Agriculture & Agri-Food
- Challenges Farmers Face
- Emerging Markets
- Supply Management
- International Trade
- Carbon Sequestration
- Labour Shortages.

There was also a "rapid fire round" in the debate that asked the candidates to respond to their positions on:

- GMO's

- Activists having the right to enter Canadian farms without permission
- Support of front-of-package labelling
- Support of Canada’s Food Guide.

Pledge Signing Campaign



Throughout the year CFA’s membership continued the pledge signing campaign, with over **75 MPs/Senators** signing onto the pledge throughout the year.

Campaign Metrics

While the PPiC campaign will continue with its message into the new year, the election aspect of the campaign has now concluded. In order to gauge the effectiveness of the campaign, CFA used the following metrics:

- Prominence of agriculture in each major party’s platform.
- How many of CFA’s recommendations were represented in each party’s platform.
- Comparison of viewers between the 2015 and 2019 debates.

Prominence of agriculture in party platforms

CFA analyzed the Liberal, Conservative, Green and NDP 2015 and 2019 platforms to determine whether more emphasis was placed on agriculture in the 2019 election.

CFA found that the amount of words and space devoted to agriculture was doubled or tripled depending on the party, with a large increase in prominence across the board. While some parties did not have a section devoted to agriculture in 2015, all had one in 2019.

It should be noted that while the Green Party had the largest increase in prominence, much of its focus is negative and not in-line with CFA's recommendations on agriculture.

Comparison between 2015 and 2019 debate viewership

The 2019 Agriculture Leaders' Debate was a huge success, with a 616% increase in viewers compared to the 2015 debate. While the 2015 debate had 558 viewers, the 2019 debate had 3993.

The debate was also much more cost-effective compared to the 2015 debate, costing \$10,000 less to produce.

CFA recommendations represented in party's platform

The recommendations that received wide-spread support from all parties include the expansion of rural broadband, protection for supply managed sectors and general references to increased protection for farmers from trade disputes, although for the last point the methods of protection differ for each party and are vague in nature.

Other than the Green Party, all federal parties also outlined ways in which they would attempt to alleviate the chronic labour issues in agriculture through streamlining the Temporary Foreign Worker Program, increasing targeted immigration to rural areas and agriculture operations and providing pathways to permanent residency.

Post-Election Activities

The PPIc campaign will continue on past the election, and CFA has identified the following short and long-term priorities while working with the new Liberal minority government:

Short-term priorities:

- **Educate** members of parliament on importance of agriculture to the environment, economy, and food security.
- **Develop** a clear CFA position on trade relief to accompany our long-term ask on BRM, bringing this forward immediately to the new Minister once Cabinet is formed.

For budget 2020:

- **Seek** dedicated rural infrastructure funding
- **Advocate** for support to all Supply Managed industries affected by trade agreements, while supporting aquaculture and horticulture in seeing their respective policy objectives met.

- **Continue** advocating for ecological goods and services programming and additional funding for climate change-related agricultural research

Longer-term priorities:

- **Clarify** rural broadband deployment timelines and determine whether additional steps are needed.
- **Monitor** agri-food immigration pilot and ensure it works for year-round farm needs, while supporting additional employer/community-sponsored streams for all skill levels.
- **Re-assess** political landscape in April to determine next steps.



Egg Farmers of Nova Scotia (EFNS) Update to the NSFA AGM, 2019

Supporting local is important to Nova Scotians and all Canadians. That's why Egg Farmers of Nova Scotia (EFNS) is committed to educating the public about their food and the farmers who provide it. In 2019, EFNS reached out to consumers in various ways, answering their questions and providing them with accurate information about eggs and egg farming.

OUTREACH

Consumer Events

Based on consumer feedback, meeting an egg farmer in person is important to consumers. Nova Scotia is fortunate to have egg farmers that recognize the importance of interacting with consumers and are willing to help 'put a face on egg farming'. In 2019, egg farmer volunteers participated in:

- Saltscapes East Coast Expo, Halifax – April
- Bluenose Marathon, Halifax – June
- World Egg Day, Halifax – October
- Saltscapes Harvest Geets the Holidays, Bible Hill – November

Egg Farmers Give Back

For the fourth year, EFNS, in partnership with Egg Farmers of Canada (EFC), offered the Egg Farmers Give Back program to registered producers. The program invites our licensed farmers to identify community minded projects that could use a helping hand. As in the past, our farmers stepped up to help out their communities. Farmer led projects, in 2019, included support of a community basketball team, a ski team, a school breakfast bar and provided financial support to the Valley Regional Hospital Foundation. EFNS contributed to a number of projects including egg donations to the 4-H Club of Nova Scotia and Feed Nova Scotia. EFNS is also proud to support Brigadoon Village with a donation of eggs and a financial contribution, and we are also looking forward to adopting the kitchen at Ronald McDonald house in late 2019.

EDUCATION

Primary & Secondary Students

- ❖ EFNS' popular program, **Eggs in the Classroom**, is once again being delivered to Grade 8 students in the Halifax Regional Municipality. The program was executed in 12 HRM schools, reaching approximately 52 classes in 2019.
- ❖ EFNS is thrilled to continue to partner with **Rocks & Rings programs presented by Curling Canada**, a school program that introduces the Olympic sport of curling to school children in their own gymnasiums. Egg boards across Canada are working with Rocks and Rings to showcase physical activities and a healthy lifestyle to kids throughout the country. For 2019, EFNS has provided a Rocks and Rings floor curling workshop to one lucky elementary school in Nova Scotia.

Post –Secondary Students

- ❖ EFNS is proud to once again award **two \$1,500 scholarships to students at Dalhousie University Faculty of Agriculture** whose course and project work show an interest in poultry.

Community

- ❖ EFNS continued its partnership with **Devour! Food and Film Festival Golden Tines Brunch** for a third consecutive year.
- ❖ EFNS partnered with **CTV's Fields to Forks television campaign** once again for 2019. The campaign ran from August to October and put a spotlight on farmers, manufacturers, and distributors who are responsible for the food we feed our families.

NEW in 2019

- ❖ **Egg Quality Assurance Program-** The new national Egg Quality Assurance program launched in February 2019. Retailers, food service providers, grading stations, egg processors and Egg Boards are all eligible to become licensed to use the EQA logo. McDonald's was one of the first food service to be licensed to use the EQA symbol and they promoted it in a campaign for their breakfast egg sandwich during the summer of 2019. Consumers will soon begin to see the EQA symbol on egg cartons in retail stores. This provides the assurance that the eggs are being produced under the requirements of the program.



EQA Symbol

ON-GOING PROGRAMS

- ❖ **National On-Farm Programs** - All licensed egg farmers in Nova Scotia and Canada are required to participate in the EFC on-farm programs.
- ❖ **Animal Care Program-** The National Animal Care Program (ACP) for laying hens ensures that hens are cared for and handled in accordance with the Code of Practice. Licensed egg farmers are required to achieve a minimum rating of 90% on this program. NS egg farmers again exceeded expectations with a provincial average score in 2018 of 99.57%
 - **Start Clean-Stay Clean (SCSC)- Layers**
As a condition of licensing, registered egg farmers are required to achieve a minimum 90% rating on this on-farm food safety program. We are proud to confirm the Nova Scotia average in 2018 was 98.6% with 17 producers achieving a perfect 100%.
 - **Start Clean- Stay Clean (SCSC)- Pullets**
Licensed pullet farmers are also required to achieve a minimum 90% rating in the SCSC on-farm food safety program for pullets. The Nova Scotia average in 2018 for this program was 98.3% with 10 producers achieving perfect ratings of 100%.
- ❖ **Traceability-** The egg industry has a robust traceability system in place that is designed to track and trace laying hens by flock, as far back as the grandparent flock. This is a joint effort which includes EFNS, pullet growers and the hatcheries that supply the day-old chicks.

❖ **Risk Management-**

- EFNS supports the ILT Insurance program for registered pullets and laying hens in Nova Scotia and requires all licensed producers to have this coverage.
- Licensed egg farmers are also required to carry S.e. Insurance which provides the registered egg supply chain with compensation linked to farmer ratings in the on-farm programs. In late 2018, this coverage was expanded to include Avian Influenza (AI).

2019 Board of Directors:

Chair: Jeff Clarke; **Vice Chair:** Tim Cox; **EFC Director:** Glen Jennings;

Directors: Ralph DeLong, Theodore Eyking, Geneve Newcombe, Paul Overmars, Ian Thomas

Submitted by

Patti Wyllie

General Manager

Egg Farmers of Nova Scotia

nsegg.ca



Inverness/Victoria Federation of Agriculture

Report to NSFA

Inverness and Victoria Counties continue to support and benefit from our Federation. We are fortunate to have volunteers who sit on our Board of Directors and our Machinery Committee. Certainly without them, our Federation would not continue to thrive or be able to assist members in our communities.

This past year, our Federation has continued to donate to the Gerard Chiasson Memorial Bursary given out at the Agricultural Campus of Dalhousie University. It was won by Riley van den Heuvel . Our Federation made a donation to 4-H and also donated the use of our Agriculture Awareness Tent for the 4-H County Days in the summer. We contributed to the breakfast programs at a school in each county (Inverness and Boularderie schools). We supported Sarah Wilson who attended the Royal last fall and Hayley Cox who recently went to the Royal. Our Machinery Rental Program continues to thrive with several new pieces of equipment added this year. We have appointed a liaison with the Municipality for the ongoing work with Land Use. We hosted a “Before the Plate” screening to highlight the process of bringing food from the land to the table. We finished off our year with the AGM in October.

Thanks to our retiring president, Chris van den Heuvel. Welcome to our new and returning Directors as we start a new year.



ANNUAL REPORT 2019

“BEFORE THE PLATE” SCREENING & PANEL DISCUSSION

On February 12th, in celebration of “Canada’s Agriculture Day”, we hosted a screening of “Before the Plate” where we enjoyed good food, drink and an excellent film! It was a true celebration of food and a wonderful evening strengthening connections between our industry and its consumers. The panel discussion that followed was also an excellent conversation; thank you to all those who participated.

Donations were accepted at the door supporting the 'Farm to School Snack' program in Kings County. Between the generosity of the audience and in lieu of panellist gifts, a total of \$600 was contributed to assist in its programming.

We were pleased to be able to partner with ‘Agriculture More Than Ever’ to make this event possible!



KCFA BURSARY RECIPIENT



Congratulations to this year’s KCFA bursary recipient, Rachel Sheffield ! Rachel is attending the Agricultural Campus at Dalhousie University where she is studying for a Bachelors degree in Agricultural Business. She decided early on that this program would be beneficial to her as it focuses on giving students a balanced education in agricultural business and science.

Growing up on her family poultry and produce farm, Wilmar Acres Ltd, she feels that she gained a strong background in agriculture. Her family always stressed the importance of education in continuing to improve both agricultural and business practices on their farm. Her passion for agriculture only grew when she began working at a local dairy farm, Patterson Farms, milking cows every morning before school this past year.

She is excited to expand her knowledge and passion for agriculture and take it home to apply it on her family farm to improve their agricultural practices.

SUMMER SOCIAL WITH NUFFIELD SCHOLARS

We were pleased to have the opportunity on July 2nd to host ten Nuffield Scholars at a Summer Social. It was a great opportunity to network with fellow farmers, meet the Nuffield members (from both near and far), and of course enjoy a delicious local meal. We had the opportunity to learn about the scholar’s backgrounds and what they were researching.

We served Meadowbrook Roast Beef with spinach salad and strawberry shortcake for dessert prepared for us by the *Jean Rushton Auxiliary of the Billtown Baptist Church*.



ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES AGRICULTURE TOUR

The agriculture tour was a great opportunity for the local elected representatives (County of Kings Mayor and Councilors) to see firsthand the diversity of agriculture in Kings County. It also allowed them to see the contributions that the agriculture industry provides to the surrounding communities. It was great to be able to showcase agriculture producers and processors in the Eastern region of Kings County. Operations that were visited were Gaspereau Valley Fibres, Stirling Fruit Farm Market and Warehouse, Wood ’n’ Hive Honey and Barrelling Tide Distillery.



GUIDELINES FOR ANNUAL MEETING AND VOTING PROCEDURE

1. Seating arrangements for the meeting room is set up theatre style with chairs.
2. No literature may be distributed to the meeting other than that which is authorized by the Chair.
3. News media representatives will be provided space and tables.
4. All matters of business will be placed before the meeting through the Chair.
5. Alternates, visitors and guests will have the privilege of addressing the meeting with permission of the Chair.
6. Votes – Only NSFA members with a voting card are eligible to vote. A request for a secret ballot may be made through the Chair.
7. Parliamentary procedure according to Robert's Rules of Order will be followed.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE

In 1995 the Policy Process Committee of NSFA made revisions to the process for policy paper development. The following procedure has been established:

1. In the June to August time period the Executive of NSFA should meet to prepare the first draft of the Policy Statement. Each year should be started with a clean slate.
2. The Executive should review the contents of the previous years Policy Statement and decide what should be brought forward into the current year's statement.
3. Current concerns, issues, and policies being addressed should be added to the statement.
4. The Policy Statement should be fashioned with an index which is appropriately broken down into various sections.
5. The proposed Policy Statement should be presented to the September Council of Leaders meeting.
6. The proposed Statement should be printed in an October issue of the NSFA Newsletter.
7. Copies of the proposed Statement should be made available to county federations for their discussion.

8. The proposed Statement will be presented and discussed at the annual meeting of NSFA.
9. Following are the rules of debate:
 - a) Any voting member may introduce policy statements, and if substantial, these may be printed for circulation.
 - b) Any delegates may intervene during the reading of the policy statement.
 - c) If there appears to be a constructive rebutting of opposing views, and it appears that a consensus can be reached among those involved, the chair may let the matter proceed.
 - d) Alternatively, the chair may suggest that the parties to the debate on an issue attempt to work out an accommodation, and return to the floor later in the process with a compromise or agreement.
 - e) A further alternative available to the chair is that the final text describes the different views, leaving the Council discretion to act on the matter as and if required.
 - f) Failing the options above, the chair, or a proponent, may opt to have the matter dealt with by a vote on a resolution, during the resolution session toward the end of the meeting. A written resolution must be submitted for circulation.
 - g) A delegate may interject on any issue, at any point, but an effort should be made to follow the flow of the draft text. The chair may recognize speakers other than delegates for participation in policy discussion.
10. A vote will be held on each section of the Policy Paper.
11. The resolutions will continue to be handled similar to previous years. The meeting will first be asked for agreement to include a resolution in the Policy Statement. If there is no agreement then the resolution will be voted on separately. The Resolutions Committee will be asked to keep track of which resolutions are included in the Policy Statement and be in touch with the various commodity groups and county federations to see if they are supportive of the resolutions being handled in this manner.
12. The Executive and Council are responsible for the final production of the Policy Paper, and where appropriate, will include matters dealt with by vote, resolution, and/or consensus.
13. A master file will be maintained with each years Policy Statement appropriately recorded.
14. The Executive will present a report at each annual meeting on the results obtained in response to the previous year's Policy Paper.

Guidelines for 4-H Representation At the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture Annual Meeting

4-H Representation at the NSFA Annual Meeting

The Council of Leaders of the NSFA believe that the voice of youth must be heard if the Federation is to be successful in designing policies and programs that will encourage rural youth to remain active in the agricultural industry in the future. For this reason each County/Regional Federation of Agriculture has been asked to appoint a local 4-H member to attend the annual meeting of the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture.

Nomination of Representatives

The local Federation of Agriculture and the local 4-H Council will be jointly responsible for the selection of the 4-H representative to attend the Federation's annual meeting in Truro to represent rural youth from that area.

Expenses for 4-H Delegate

The County/Regional Federation and the local 4-H Council will be responsible for reimbursing the 4-H representative for their expenses, at rates as determined by these groups.

Voting Privileges

The 4-H member will have non-voting, observer status, unless the member is from a registered farm which is a member of the NSFA and is given voting status by that farm.

Chaperone Arrangements

It is the responsibility of the local 4-H Council to ensure that adequate chaperone arrangements are in place.

RESOLUTIONS PROCESS

Guidelines for a Resolutions Process

The Federation's resolution process should adhere to the following guidelines.

1. **Content**
 - (a) All resolutions must be relevant to the objectives adopted at the 1996 Annual General Meeting (Appendix I).
 - (b) Resolutions should be worded such that they include:
 - (i) a clear background statement or addendum explaining the circumstances or problem addressed by the resolution (i.e. whereas clause) and;
 - (ii) a motion stating in clear and concise terms the expected or desired outcomes (i.e. therefore be it resolved that):
 - (c) Each organization submitting resolution(s) shall complete a form indicating that each resolution was adopted at either a Board of Directors meeting or an annual general meeting of their organization. It is clarified that this procedure does not prevent delegates from putting forward resolutions from the floor of the annual meeting.

2. **Categorization of Resolutions**
 - (a) Resolutions should be categorized by the Resolutions Committee into one of two categories A or B depending on the nature of the content with:
 - (i) resolutions of a universal nature, that is having implications for the entire industry or a major sector of the industry, being placed in a category A, and becoming, once passed by the Annual General Meeting, part of the policy of the Federation, and;
 - (ii) resolutions of a local or indigenous nature being placed in a category B, and, once passed by the Annual General Meeting, to be dealt with by the Resolutions Committee in the manner as directed by the resolution.

3. **Critical Path**
 - (a) Resolutions must be submitted to the chair of the Resolutions Committee by the second Monday in November, or at least two weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting which may be expected to deal with the resolution.
 - (b) All resolutions received by the second Monday in November or two weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting which may be expected to deal with them will be published and circulated in the Report of the Resolutions Committee prior to an Annual General Meeting.

- (c) Late resolutions will be accepted at the pleasure of the Resolutions Committee and may not appear in the Report of the Resolutions Committee.
- (d) Resolutions will be accepted from the floor at an Annual General Meeting at the pleasure of the AGM chair and shall be presented to the Secretary of meeting prior to being forwarded to the Resolutions Committee members for presentation as a resolution.

4. Resolutions Procedure

Every Annual General Meeting will have time allocated on the agenda to facilitate the processing of new resolutions.

- (a) The Resolutions Report should be tabled the first morning with debate to start at a later time in the meeting to allow for informal review and discussion of the resolutions. The Resolutions session will be co-chaired by the AGM Chair and the Chair of the Resolutions Committee who shall:
 - (i) apply generally accepted procedural rules to the debate on resolutions and in general to the resolutions session;
 - (ii) Resolutions Committee Chair shall present and move to adopt each category A and B resolution, as published in the Report of the Resolutions Committee;
 - (iii) The AGM chairperson will then take over and ask a representative of the sponsoring body to second the motion and then handle the debate and vote on the resolution. If the seconder of the resolution speaks twice, subject to the discretion of the chair, this will close debate on the resolution.
- (b) Additional resolutions which adhere to the criteria set out in 3 (d) above or with the unanimous support of the meeting will be accepted for debate during the resolutions session.

5. Responsibilities of Resolutions Committee

- (a) To provide leadership in the area of implementation of the requests contained within resolutions adopted at the preceding year's annual general meeting. To be specific the committee will:
 - (i) Request the NSFA Executive and staff to adequately prepare background documents supporting the intent of the resolutions passed at an annual meeting, and
 - (ii) Arrange for the formal presentation of these properly prepared resolutions to the appropriate agencies and departments for their careful consideration in a timely manner, and
 - (iii) Request that each agency or department charged with addressing a resolution issue be required to make a serious attempt to resolve the issue brought forward, offer/negotiate an alternate solution to the issue at hand, or adequately explain why the request cannot be accomplished.

- (b) To attend Committee meetings and participate in Committee activities whenever possible.
- (c) To assist with the direction and wording of resolutions presented by the county federations and commodity groups for presentation and adoption at the current year's annual general meeting.

6. Accountability

- (a) The oversight of all activity relating to the resolutions passed by the Annual General Meeting will be dealt with by the Executive Committee and/or the Council of Leaders.
- (b) The Report of the Resolutions Committee will include a summary of the actions taken on the resolutions passed by the previous Annual General Meeting.

7. Archive of Resolutions

- (a) All resolutions adopted at an annual meeting will be actively pursued during the year following their adoption.
- (b) If a resolution has not been enacted or otherwise satisfactorily dealt with during the year after its adoption, the resolution can either be: 1) deleted by a motion making it null and void, or 2) moved into a continued action resolution file for continued activity for a period of 3 years. These recommendations are presented to the Council of Leaders for verification.
- (c) The resolutions committee will make a recommendation to the annual meeting as to how the previously approved resolutions will be dealt with.

Resolutions Committee

8. Appointment

- (a) The Resolutions Committee shall be chaired by a member of the Executive of the Federation and also include two other members (one being a commodity group representative and the other a county federation representative) appointed by the Council of Leaders each year at the first Council meeting in the New Year.

9. Responsibility

- (a) The Resolutions Committee will direct the preparation and circulation of an annual report containing:
 - (i) resolutions approved for presentation to the Annual General Meeting;
 - (ii) notes on any changes or consolidations made by the Resolutions Committee, and;
 - (iii) a report on the actions taken with respect to the previous years' resolutions.

- (b) The Resolutions Committee may:
- (i) consolidate resolutions of similar nature, providing that submitters of the resolutions agree, and;
 - (ii) make changes to the wording, but not the intent, of any resolution proposed.
 - (iii) provide additional comments for clarification purposes, if additional information is available.

APPENDIX I

The policies and subsequent actions taken by the NSFA on behalf of its membership will be consistent with the following objectives:

- to work toward a competitive and sustainable agri-food industry;
- to insure that all public policy that touches the agricultural community recognizes the uniqueness of that community and is consistent with the goal of a competitive and sustainable agri-food industry;
- to insure all public policy maintains a sensible link between the sustainability and economic viability of the agricultural community;
- to develop and promote sound environmental management practices;
- to develop and promote strategies that ensure stable farm incomes, and;
- to promote rural development and the family farm as the basic building blocks of a stable and sustainable agri-food industry.

Original adopted at September 2012 Council of Leaders meeting

Amended version adopted at the April, 2013 Council of Leaders meeting

Nominating Policy

The Nominating Committee, at the Annual Meeting following its appointment shall recommend to the meeting a slate of officers including a President, a 1st Vice-President, a 2nd Vice-President, Treasurer and Corporate Secretary, CFA Director (when there is a vacancy in this position) and up to four other Executive Committee members. Where the Nominating Committee recommends the CFA Director for the position of President, 1st Vice-President, or 2nd Vice-President, they shall recommend up to six other Executive Committee members. The Nominating Committee will be enacted at the April Council of Leaders meeting immediately prior to the AGM. Additional nominations may be made from the floor during the Annual General Meeting, as per the bullets below, and final approval shall be given by the voting delegates.

- Persons nominated from the floor must be present at AGM
- Any person nominated from the floor must be a recognized voting member of the Federation
- Persons nominated from the floor must present to the membership their qualifications and rationale for becoming an Executive Committee member
- Each nomination from the floor will be voted on individually by the voting members and delegates.

The Nominating Committee is made up of one executive committee member and the two past Presidents of the NSFA. If one or both of the past Presidents are not able to participate, the preceding President will be asked to serve on the Nominating Committee. The President and Executive Director shall be ex-officio members of the Nominating Committee. The Committee shall select a chair from among its members.

Members of the nominating committee are responsible to find qualified nominees for the NSFA Executive Committee, the Board of Directors for Agri-Futures Nova Scotia and the Board of Directors for Farm Safety Nova Scotia. A quorum of three committee members (excluding ex officio members) is required to convene a meeting of the nominating committee.

Approved by Council of Leaders, September 2014

**Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture
Council of Leaders 2019**

Executive						
Victor Oulton	President	4956 Hwy 14 Martock, Windsor	B0N 2T0	798-4440 or 792-8151 cell	798-4440	oulton.farm@ns.sympatico.ca
Tim Marsh	1st Vice President	1371 Avondale Road, Newport	B0N 2A0	798-7924		timmarsh6402@gmail.com
Chris deWaal	2nd Vice President	615 Gospel Rd., Canning	B0P 1H0	582-7756		2.dewaals@gmail.com
Amanda Eisses	At Large	2760 Hwy 4 Debert	B0M 1G0	662-3811 or cell 986-3331		mike.amanda.eisses@gmail.com
Lauren Park	At Large	9925 Hwy 1, RR2 Wolfville	B4P 2R2	292-5160		laurenheatherpark@gmail.com
Allan Melvin	At Large	400 Hubbard Mountain Road, Canning	B0P 1H0	499-6968	582-3797	allan.melvin@gmail.com
Chris van den Heuvel	Past President, Corporate Secretary Treasurer & CFA Director	PO Box 29 Port Hood	B0E 2W0	631-1884		chris.vandenheuvel@fireblade.ca
County Presidents/Representatives						
Stephanie Warr	Annapolis	7809 Hwy 201, RR1 South Williamston, Lawrencetown	B0S 1M0	902-825-6077		steph.warr.13@gmail.com
Steven Eadie*	Antigonish - Guysborough	190 Beech Hill Road, Antigonish	B2G 0B4	902-318-5172		nsturkey@eastlink.ca
Keith Rudderham*	Cape Breton - Richmond	2399 Point Edward Highway, Point Edward	B2A 4R3	902-402-7843		thelaststrawfarm@gmail.com
Duncan McCurdy*	Colchester	837 Shore Road, Clifton	B6L 1T4	895-8932	895-1532 Fax	duncsuz.mccurdy@ns.sympatico.ca
David Forshner*	Cumberland	11887 Highway 6, Wallace Bay	B0K 1L0	243-2194		forshner@seasidehighspeed.com
Dennis Boudreau	Digby	4116 Second Division Road, Church Point	B0W 1M0	769-3501 or 769-7162	769-3439 Fax	dennisboudreau1@hotmail.com

David Hill*	Halifax - East Hants	15439 Hwy 224, Cooks Brook	B0N 2H0	899-5265		hilldavid1000@gmail.com
	Hants					
Chris van den Heuvel	Inverness - Victoria	PO Box 29 Port Hood	B0E 2W0			chris.vandenheuvel@fireblade.ca
Tom Cosman*	Kings	9925 Hwy 1, Wolfville	B4P 2R2	542-9443		cwhoney@ns.sympatico.ca
Peter Morine	Lunenburg - Queens	176 Curtis Hebb Rd Newcombville	B4V 7X5	543-3011 or 527-3274 cell	543-5368 Fax	petemorine@gmail.com
Derek Gladney	Pictou - North Colchester	875 Sylvester Road, Durham	B0K 2A0	759-0674		derek_gladney@hotmail.com
Alice d'Entremont	Yarmouth - Shelburne	1250 Argyle Sound Road, Yarmouth County	B0W 3M0	762-3198	762-2029	ovp@ns.aliantzinc.ca
Commodity Presidents/Representatives						
Ed Davidson*(**)	Christmas Tree Council of Nova Scotia					davidson1@seasidehighspeed.com
Alex Crouse	NS Beekeepers Association	1316 Starr's Point Road, Port Williams	B0P 1T0	679-8996		woodnhivehoney@gmail.com
Barron Blois	Wild Blueberry Producers Association of NS	2247 Hwy 202, RR#1 Kennetcook	B0N 1P0	890-0336		dbblois@ns.sympatico.ca
Dean Manning*	NS Cattle Producers	50 Oakdale Lane, Falmouth	B0P 1L0	798-4541		cd.manning@ns.sympatico.ca
David Newcombe*	Chicken Producers Association of NS	48 Sutton Road, Port Williams	B0P 1T0	670-1319		david.newcombe14@gmail.com
Hans Vermeulen*	Dairy Farmers of NS	100 - 4060 Highway 236, Lower Truro	B6L 1J9	671-2781		hans.m.vermeulen@gmail.com
Tim Cox	Egg Farmers of Nova Scotia	1835 Starr's Point Road, Port Williams	B0P 1T0	542-9522		taupo.farms@ns.aliantzinc.ca

Sylvestre Muisse	NS Fox Breeders Association	7321 Route 308, Tusket	B0W 3M0	648-2606 or 769-2114 ext 308	769-3120 Fax	muises@eastlink.ca
Andy Parker*	NS Fruit Growers Association	243 Coleman Road, Grafton	B0P 1V0	(902)538-8630		agparker@xcountry.tv
Ashley MacDonald**(*)	Goat Association of NS	1763 Hwy 2, Alton	B0N 2J0	977-2187		ashesnova@gmail.com
Bruce Wright	Grape Growers Association of NS	1144 Avondale Road, Newport	B0N 2A0	529-1535		wrightba47@gmail.com
Alice d'Entremont	Greenhouse NS	1250 Argyle Sound Road, Yarmouth County	B0W 3M0	762-3198	762-2029	ovp@ns.aliantzinc.ca
	Haskap Growers Association of NS					
Shannon Bruhm	Hatching Egg Farmers of NS	PO Box 10, Cookville	B4V 2W6			shanbruhm@icloud.com
Josh Oulton - Vegetable Rep	Horticulture Nova Scotia	1736 Church Street, Port Williams	B0P 1T0	670-4538		josh@taproofarms.ca
Philip Keddy - Berry Rep	Horticulture Nova Scotia	982 North Bishop Road, Kentville	B4N 3V7	680-2883		philipkeddynursery@xcountry.tv
Andrew Palmer*	Landscape Nova Scotia	10060 Hwy #1, RR#2 Wolfville, NS	B4P 2R2	542-3346	542-1123	apalmer@blomidonnurseries.com
Avard Bentley*	Maple Producers Association of NS	12 Valley Road, Westchester Station	B0M 2A0	548-2973		jbentley@ns.sympatico.ca
Marlowe Mullen**(*)	NS Mink Breeders Association	1097 Easton Road, Weymouth	B0W 3T0	841-1964		marlowe.39@hotmail.com
Danny Bruce*	Organic Council of NS	3144 Hwy 201, RR3 Bridgetown	B0S 1C0	665-2119		tr00per@fastmail.fm
Meghan Spares*	Sheep Producers Association of NS	282 Avondale Road, Newport	B0N 2A0	237-4294		meghan.dickinson@hotmail.com

Amanda Eisses*	Soil & Crop Improvement Association of NS	2760 Hwy 4, Debert	B0M 1G0	662-3811 or cell 986-3331		mike.amanda.eisses@gmail.com
Rebecca O'Connell	NS Young Farmers Forum					valleysideholsteins@gmail.com
Marketing Organizations						
Julie Gould*	Chicken Farmers of NS	149 Prospect Road, Berwick	B0P 1E0	538-5753		juliegould@eastlink.ca
Brian Morse	NS Potato Marketing Board	Box 674 Berwick	B0P 1E0			bemorse@ns.sympatico.ca
Joe Ebbett*	Pork Nova Scotia	767 Upper River John Road, Tatamagouche	B0K 1V0	657-3420		ebbettjoe@gmail.com
Marc Sproule*	Turkey Farmers of Nova Scotia	Round Hill, RR3 Bridgetown	B0S 1C0	532-5853		sroulefarms@outlook.com
	NS Greenhouse Vegetable Marketing Board					
	West Nova Agro Commodities Ltd.					
Corresponding Members						
Eva Cook**	4-H	516 Pine Grove Road, Pine Grove	B4V 7V5			evacook86@gmail.com
Justin Cantafio Executive Director**	FMNS	1999 Millsville Road, Scotsburn	B0K 1R0	902-293-3847		fmns@farmersmarketsnovascotia.ca
Lynne Godlien**	Perennia	32 Main Street, Kentville	B4N 1J5	902-678-7722 or 902-670-5001		lgodlien@perennia.ca
*representative rather than President						
**represents Non-Voting Member						

LIST OF COUNTY DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES TO THE
2019 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE N.S. FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>DELEGATES</u>	<u>ALTERNATES</u>	<u>4-H DELEGATES</u>
ANNAPOLIS	STEPHANIE WARR(COL) GARY COLE GORDON JACKSON LEONARD PICK		
ANTIGONISH-GUYSBOROUGH	STEVEN EADIE(COL)		
CAPE BRETON-RICHMOND	KEITH RUDDERHAM(COL) ESTELLE LEVANGIE SHANNON PETERS		
COLCHESTER	DUNCAN MCCURDY(COL)		
CUMBERLAND	DAVID FORSHNER(COL) MANDY DA COSTA DOUG BACON MARIA DUYNISVELD RON WELLS		
DIGBY	DENNIS BOUDREAU(COL) JACOB MULLEN SIEGMAR DOELLE MIKE COMO		
HALIFAX-EAST HANTS	DAVID HILL(COL)		
HANTS	(COL) BRIAN KNOWLES NICK JUURLINK	WAYNE OULTON	
INVERNESS-VICTORIA	CHRIS VANDENHEUVEL(COL)		
KINGS	TOM COSMAN(COL) AMY VANDERHEIDE STEVE ELLS TYLER JORDAN		
LUNENBURG-QUEENS	PETER MORINE(COL) KEVIN WOODWORTH VINCENT BRUNET JIM CROOKER		

PICTOU-NORTH COLCHESTER

DEREK GLADNEY(COL)
MATT LYNCH
BILL SCOTT
BETTY-LOU SCOTT

YARMOUTH-SHELBURNE

ALICE D'ENTREMONT(COL)
EVAN KLEINER
JEAN GUY D'ENTREMONT

ROBERT MUISE

LIST OF COMMODITY DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES TO THE
2019 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE N.S. FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE

<u>COMMODITY</u>	<u>DELEGATES</u>	<u>ALTERNATES</u>
BEEKEEPERS	ALEX CROUSE(COL)	
BLUEBERRY	BARRON BLOIS(COL) ALICE PUGSLEY JOE SLACK PETER SWINKELS PETER VANDYK	
CATTLEMEN	DEAN MANNING(COL) BRIAN TRUEMAN LARRY WEATHERBY DANFORD MURPHY	
CHICKEN	JULIE GOULD (COL) KARSON LEWIS DAVID NEWCOMBE(COL) CHRIS VISSERS	
CHRISTMAS TREE COUNCIL	ED DAVIDSON(COL)	
DAIRY	HANS VERMEULEN(COL) TONY VERSTEEG GREG ARCHIBALD	
EGG FARMERS OF NS	TIM COX(COL) GENEVE NEWCOMBE BLAKE JENNINGS KELLY CLARKE JEFF CLARKE	
FOX BREEDERS	SYLVESTRE MUISE(COL)	

<u>COMMODITY</u>	<u>DELEGATES</u>	<u>ALTERNATES</u>
FRUIT GROWERS	ANDY PARKER(COL) LARRY LUTZ	
GOAT	ASHLEY MACDONALD(COL)	
GRAPE	BRUCE WRIGHT(COL)	
GREENHOUSE NOVA SCOTIA	ALICE D'ENTEMONT(COL)	
HASKAP GROWERS ASSOCIATION OF NS	(COL)	
HATCHING EGGS ASSOCIATION OF NS	SHANNON BRUHM(COL) MATT HARVIE PETER SWETNAM	
HORTICULTURE NOVA SCOTIA	JOSH OULTON(COL) PHILIP KEDDY(COL)	
LANDSCAPE NOVA SCOTIA	ANDREW PALMER(COL)	
MAPLE PRODUCERS	AVARD BENTLEY(COL)	
MINK	MARLOWE MULLEN(COL)	
ORGANIC COUNCIL OF NS	DANNY BRUCE(COL)	
PORK NOVA SCOTIA	JOE EBBETT(COL) MARGIE LAMB HERMAN BERFELO ROSEMARY FRANKLIN	TERRY BECK
SHEEP	MEGHAN SPARES(COL) FRED HAMILTON JOSEPH LECK	
SOIL & CROPS	AMANDA EISSES(COL)	
TURKEY FARMERS OF NS	MARC SPROULE(COL) MARK DAVIES	
YOUNG FARMERS	REBECCA O'CONNELL(COL)	

Tradeshaw Directory

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

www.agr.gc.ca

Atlantic Grains Council

www.atlanticgrainscouncil.ca (506) 380-9663

Cavendish Agri Services Ltd.

www.cavagri.com (902) 893-6950

Central Equipment

www.centralequip.ns.ca (902) 895-2888

Dalhousie University Faculty of Agriculture

dal.ca/agalumni (902) 893-6022

Efficiency Nova Scotia

www.energycns.ca 1-877-999-6035

Employer Advisor Nova Scotia Society

www.oceans.ca (902) 442-9366

Farm Credit Canada

www.fcc-fac.ca

FBC

www.fbc.ca 1-800-265-1002

Green Diamond Equipment

www.green-diamond.ca (902) 662-2516

Kings Mutual

www.kingsmutual.ns.ca (902) 681-0680

Lemken

www.lemken.ca (506) 875-4678

LP Consulting

www.lpconsultingsolutions.ca (902) 256-2636

MCT Insurance

www.mcti.ca (902) 835-2261

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture Ag Education

www.novascotia.ca/agri

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture / Nova Scotia Crop and Livestock Insurance Commission

www.novascotia.ca/agri

www.novascotia.ca/agri/cropinsurance

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture - Laboratory Services

novascotia.ca/agri/programs-and-services/lab-services/

Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture - Premises ID

(902) 890-9840

Nova Scotia Department of Labour and Advanced Education - Safety Branch

<https://novascotia.ca/lae/healthandsafety/>
1-800-952-2687

Nova Scotia Department of Labour and Advanced Education

novascotia.ca

Nova Scotia Department of Lands and Forestry

novascotia.ca/natr

Nova Scotia Farm Loan Board

www.novascotia.ca/farmloan (902) 893-6506

Perennia Food & Agriculture Inc.

www.perennia.ca

Kentville: (902) 678-7722 Truro: (902) 896-0277

RBC Royal Bank of Canada

www.rbcroyalbank.com (902) 897-2453

Scotiabank

www.scotiabank.com (902) 293-0640

Scotian Gold

www.scotianguard.com (902) 679-6661

TD Agriculture

www.td.com (902) 497-3377

Thyagrissen Consulting Ltd.

www.thyagrissenconsulting.ca (902) 895-1414

Trappers Association of Nova Scotia

www.trappersassociationofnovascotia.ca
(902) 689-2528

Truro Agromart

www.truroagromart.ca (902) 895-2857

VanOostrums/Blueline

www.vanoostrums.com (877) 931-2583