

# Lanark Federation News

Volume 4, Issue 1

March 2019

## President's Message

The LFA is developing several events that sprung from our planning meeting in January.

Farmers' Breakfast on March 28<sup>th</sup> at the Lanark Civitan Hall where we will be showing the film 'Beyond the Plate'. The film was well received when shown in the Renfrew area last year.

Once again, we are organizing a farm tour for municipal councillors closer to the end of April. As it is an election year, we are inviting our local MP and MPP. An invitation will be going out to other county commodity groups members to join us.

We are in the midst of organizing a meeting with Scott Reid MP and Randy Hilliar MPP to discuss topics of concern to the LFA. The topics we feel are important are funding for agriculture, consistent and affordable broadband and cell phone coverage, infrastructure (i.e. bridges and roads), funding for municipalities, natural gas and carbon taxing.

By the time the newsletter is out the Ottawa Valley Show will be over. However, OFA Directors, staff, County Directors and volunteers will have participated in Let's Talk Agriculture. The purpose of the event is to meet and speak to as many MP's and their staff as possible while educating and promoting Agriculture as an important economic industry in Ontario and Canada.

These are the main projects for the spring but, we also have other projects for the year that include a Conservation Authority information night, all Candidates meeting for the Federal election and our Perth Fair booth.

Martin Savard, Coordinator of the new Business Ag program at the Perth campus of Algonquin College (starts this Fall) spoke at our January meeting. We are hoping to work with the College to update the 2000 Agriculture Economic Impact Study. It is the intention to once again highlight the impact and importance of agriculture in the county and its financial spinoffs from these businesses. This will work well with the BR&E (Business Retention and Expansion Study) the county is working on.

Lanark County is continuing to work on their invasive Species management program to eradicate Wild Parsnip and other noxious weeds. With their progressive strategies they are winning the battle and doing much less spraying. The LFA thanks the County for its continued fight against noxious weeds.

We will continue to update you on coming events through the LFA Facebook page, eblasts, poster and newsletters. I hope you will participate. I also want to mention, we have incorporated skype like tools to allow directors to participate in our monthly meeting if they cannot physically attend in person. We hope this will encourage more participation

Kind regards, Lillian Drummond



## Lanark County Federation Farmers' Breakfast

**Thursday, March 28, 2019**  
**Doors open at 8:45 PM**  
**A Hearty Breakfast at 9:00 am.**

**Lanark Civitan Hall**  
**2144 Pine Grove Road, Lanark**

Beyond the Plate

One Plate. Ten ingredients. Eight farms.  
Head chef, John Horne  
of [Canoe](#) restaurant in the heart of Toronto  
will be going on the journey of modern  
Canadian agriculture. Along the way, we  
speak to farmers and industry experts to  
answer the consumer's questions about  
where our food comes from.

Tickets \$10.00 per person and are  
available from any LFA director.

For more information, please contact  
Andrea McCoy-Naperstow, LFA  
Secretary at 613-257-5750 or by email at  
[andreamcnap@outlook.com](mailto:andreamcnap@outlook.com)

## **PAC Report**

PAC was given an overview of agricultural waste, focusing on plastics on the farm. The challenges in recycling plastics are in the processing options and barriers. The problem evolving is that there are less options as landfills refuse to accept some plastics due to mediocre markets and not enough innovation to make it work in Ontario.

The provincial governments Make Ontario Work Environment Plan that includes four silos of interest, including keeping land and soil clean.

OFA is in the process of joining a science research council that is researching converting plastic into biochemicals.

Dealing with waste , farmers need to adopt the 3Rs on farms.

Round table discussions:

Do you support/participate in gleaning (process of utilizing/repurposing leftover harvest)

Generally, everyone supported the concept of gleaning .

They asked how to do you dispose of farm plastics? Quite a discussion on these topics , if you would like to know more ask Brenda.

There was also round table discussion on Education with a lot of great ideas.

These was just a short part of the notes sent out to me.

I like to thank Brenda Cochran for attending in my place.

Dave Campbell,  
Policy Advisory Committee Rep for LFA

## **Lanark County Business Retention & Expansion (BR&E) Project**

Lanark County's Economic Development Strategic Plan 2018-2020 includes an important first step designed to help focus economic development activities in support of local businesses. A cross section of businesses across the county are being surveyed through the Lanark County Business Retention & Expansion (BR+E) Project to identify their current status and their growth intentions in the longer term.

This information will assist the various economic development organizations and business service providers in the county to focus their support on the identified business needs in the county.

The BR+E Project is a broad-based initiative that reaches out to businesses across the County, in all eight municipalities and Smiths Falls and across all the key sectors in the County, including Agricultural and agri-food businesses. Lanark Federation of Agriculture, your directors, met with the BR&E representative to learn about the project and to assist in identifying a selection of agriculture businesses.

The survey includes over 60 questions in a variety of themes that best support the collection of key business information and data. Interviewees are asked what they think of the current business climate, what challenges are being faced re: hiring, employee retention, future and business development questions.

The survey component of the project is about one half completed. Results will be compiled and reported in the last half of 2019.

For more information, contact;

Teri Devine, BR&E Coordinator

Valley Heartland CFDC

[bre@valleycfdc.com](mailto:bre@valleycfdc.com)

613-283-7002 x 111

## **Deb Knapton - MSR report - Spring 2019**

Hello Lanark Federation members!

It's been a long winter, but spring is just around the corner and we will be on the land before we know it.

OFA offers a great selection of member benefits. Last year we welcomed Honda as a member benefit partner – if you are looking to purchase an ATV, side by side or any of their power equipment, be sure to use the discounts available to you.

<https://ofa.on.ca/benefit/>

[Again, this year, we are having a draw featuring Honda products. You can make your entry online at](https://ofa.on.ca/hondadraw)

<https://ofa.on.ca/hondadraw>

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize – 2019 Honda FOREMAN 500 with Electric Shift and Electric Power Steering
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – Ultra-Quiet EU3000i Electric Start Generator
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize – VersAttach™ Powerhead 435 with Pruner and Cultivator Attachments

Last fall we offered three very successful farm transition workshops featuring three of our member benefit partners – Scotiabank, Farm Life and the Co-operators. There are two more planned for this spring – one locally in eastern Ontario at the Lombardy Fairgrounds on March 26<sup>th</sup>. For more information or to register for this free workshop, check out the OFA website or follow this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/eastern-ontario-farm-transition-plan-workshop-tickets-57405708018>

OFA's website is updated almost daily with news, opportunities and other information relevant to our members. Have a look at [www.ofa.on.ca](http://www.ofa.on.ca)

Stay safe this spring!

I can be reached at [deb.knapton@ofa.on.ca](mailto:deb.knapton@ofa.on.ca) or by phone at 613-761-8426 (toll free 1-855-761-7617). If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

### **LFA Bursary**

The Lanark Federation of Agriculture offers two \$400 bursaries to students enrolled in a diploma or degree course in a Canadian university or Community College. The student applicant must be an immediate or family member of a current Ontario Federation of Agriculture member within the Lanark Federation of Agriculture Boundary. The applicant can apply in any of the years in which they are attending the program. The bursary can only be given once to an applicant. Applications are due Dec. 31.

The application must be written by the applicant. It must include the marks from the previous semester. The application must include information regarding their previous education, career aspirations, volunteer and workplace experience and interests and related organizational involvements (e.g. 4H, sports, theatre, community).

All information included in the application will be used to evaluate the applicant. Experience and career interests in Agriculture and related fields can be used to finalize the decision between applicants but this characteristic is not mandatory for application and may not be the basis for the final decision.

Please send have applications Andrea McCoy-Naperstkov by Dec. 31, 2019. E-mail letter to [andreamcnap@outlook.com](mailto:andreamcnap@outlook.com) or mail to 1056 Richmond Rd, Ashton ON K0A 1B0



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**Ontario farmers: take action now to be exempt from fuel charge**

The Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act (GHGPPA) established a federal standard for reducing carbon pollution for provinces and territories without carbon pollution pricing systems that meet the federal standard.

The federal carbon pollution pricing system now applies in Ontario.

Starting in April 2019, the federal carbon pollution pricing system will add a charge to everyday fuels for fuel delivered in Ontario for Air, Marine, Rail and Road use.

**Ontario farmers are eligible to receive an exemption** from the fuel charge for fuels (gasoline and light fuel oil) used in tractors, trucks or other farm machinery, by completing an exemption form available through Canada’s Revenue Agency (CRA).

Eligible farming machinery is property that is primarily used for the purposes of farming and that is a farm truck or tractor, a vehicle not licensed to be operated on a public road, or an industrial machine or stationary or portable engine.

Fill out the exemption form today, available online on the CRA website, and provide a copy to your fuel distributor. Keep an additional copy for your own farm records.

Access the form here:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/forms-publications/forms/1402.html>

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Zone 8 Board Rep	Debra Pretty–Straathof	613-371-8840	<a href="mailto:debra.pretty-straathof@ofa.on.ca">debra.pretty-straathof@ofa.on.ca</a>

## Report from Zone 8 Director - Debra Pretty-Straathof

Greetings,

There's never a dull moment in the agriculture sector. Some days I'm sure we all feel that a little less turmoil would be welcome. Even with the fields buried in more snow than we've seen for years, change continues to challenge and motivate farmers and those who work on your behalf. Some change, of course, is good. New technologies, new markets, a new season with renewed hope. Spring is on its way!

You can take great pride in knowing you are part of the Agri-food sector which is not only a major driver of the Ontario economy but of the Canadian economy as well.

I've just returned from Queens Park after two days of meetings with MPPs from all parties and we delivered the message that by investing in rural Ontario in areas such as high speed Internet, access to natural gas and our transportation infrastructure, our youth will be more likely to return to farm, more people and jobs will enrich our schools and help keep health services in our communities. When all rural citizens prosper, the entire province prospers. We call this Producing Prosperity in Ontario- through diversified economic investment.

We have a new government in Ontario, and they are putting their stamp on policy and legislation which we are closely monitoring to make sure the changes are not unintentionally a detriment to the farm community.

We have submitted comments on several proposed changes, for example:

The Environment Act, Restoring Ontario's Competitiveness Act, Open for Business, changes to regulations in the Planning Act, Increasingly the Housing Supply, and changes to the Growth Plan in the GTA.

Pre-budget submissions for the upcoming Federal and Provincial budgets were presented by several directors across the province.

I hope you've taken the opportunity to read the OFA Today magazine that was delivered with the February edition of Better Farming. It contains information about OFA's lobby activities on your behalf; articles on topic like test projects to remove phosphorus from watersheds leading to the Great Lakes - starting with Lake Erie; what we did to help improve the Wildlife Damage Compensation Program; there's about 40 pages of how your OFA continues to serve and advocate on your behalf.

Special thanks to our dedicated Member Services Representative, Deb Knapton and to the executive and directors of the Lanark Federation of Agriculture. Without your work in the county an important link to our OFA members and their issues would be missing.

A special note: OFA President Keith Currie was elected as the CFA 1st VP at the annual meeting, Feb. 27/28, in Ottawa.

Kind Regards,  
Debra

## **Deb Knapton Recognized for Being Outstanding in Her Field      February 27, 2019**

Every year **Holstein Ontario** recognizes a woman outstanding in their field, **Outstanding Dairy Women Service Award**.

“Family farms serve a larger purpose than agricultural production ...they are the core foundation of community life.” Glen Elder Jr. University of North Carolina

The purpose of this award is to recognize the efforts and highlight the work and accomplishments of Ontario women who have devoted their lives to serve, promote and enhance the dairy industry.

Through their dedication they have helped to inspire others with their passion. Contributions may be through their own family farms, within the 4-H program, local breed association, provincial committees or boards, national boards or through formal work which all working together helps to promote and preserve the dairy farm and industry in Ontario.

On Wednesday February 27th family and farming friends were on hand at the Ontario Holstein Branch Annual meeting in Peterborough when this award was given to our own MSR Rep for this area and as a Dairy Farmer Deb Knapton.

***Congratulations DEB from your LFA Directors***



Left to right; Ruth Vogel, Bev Thom, Deb Knapton, Lillian Drummond and Andrea McCoy-Naperstkov