



Art Alblas

Candidate for OFA Director
Zone 4 – Elgin & Oxford



I am available to hear your comments or concerns for our zone and the OFA process. Please call, text or email me anytime. 519-317-9988 / art.kcf@gmail.com

Hi, my name is Art Alblas and I am a by-election candidate for the OFA Director position in Zone 4 representing Elgin and Oxford counties OFA members.

I am a farmer, in 2004 my wife Sandra & I purchased our current farm just north of St. Thomas in Elgin County with the intent of establishing our beef cow-calf operation. With all the uncertainty surrounding the BSE crisis in Canada during this time, we implemented our secondary plan to develop a sheep flock, marketing lamb along with field crops including corn, soybeans, wheat and hay. Today, I am implementing programs for high health, genetics and going forward, a branded lamb direct to consumer marketing initiative.

My roots in the farming community go back to growing up on a dairy farm in Oxford County near Embro and my early involvement in 4-H successfully completing 20 projects in dairy, crops, veterinary and tractor clubs. In many cases taking on club executive leadership roles including team leader at the 4-H Provincial Leadership Conference. I graduated John Knox Christian School and Huron Park Secondary School in Woodstock before heading off to Centralia College of Agricultural Technology earning my diploma in Agricultural Business Management.

I bring to the OFA Directors role a very broad range of experience supporting crop, livestock and poultry farmers in my 40 years in Agri-business. My career allowed me to listen carefully

to producers to identify and help them problem solve, find solutions, develop the strategy to improve and grow their operations. I have assisted producers in each province from British Columbia to Nova Scotia. I recently retired from my senior executive Agri-business management position that taught me boardroom etiquette along with leadership, organizational, financial responsibility, strategic thinking, communication and collaborative decision making skills.

Farmers, facing global economic uncertainty need support and our federation of agriculture has the mandate to provide a vigorous, collaborative advocacy for our members. If elected I will listen to the needs of our farmers, I will utilize my skills and understanding of agricultural policy to assist OFA members as they work through the issues we face together, including key issues such as:

- Bill 156, Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act
- Rural Infrastructure – roads, bridges, broadband, schools, health care, etc.
- Taxation – Farm property, Assessment issues, etc.
- Skilled Workforce – a priority for Agri-food skills development and training
- Succession Planning – future farmers should have access to programs to assist to begin operating a farm business



As farmers, we have the honour to produce safe, high quality food products that go in to the nutritious food our communities eat every day.

I would be honoured to represent you at the OFA provincial table to support what you do. I ask for your support, with your vote on the OFA ballot. – Art Alblas

Proudly involved in:

Director, Elgin Federation of Agriculture

Member of:

Ontario Federation of Agriculture

Ontario Sheep Farmers

Grain Farmers of Ontario

Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association

St. James Presbyterian Church