



## Message from the President Allan Carruthers

Harvest will be starting soon. Combines, tractors, trucks and seed drills will be slowing up traffic on township and county roads so be mindful and safe when driving in those pieces of equipment or behind them. This summer has been a busy one for Northumberland Federation of Agriculture. We have participated by sponsoring another migrant workers barbecue in September that was well attended. Our Poli-Ag bus tour in August with our municipal, provincial and federal politicians who represent Northumberland County had three hosts. Rutherford's market in Colborne talked about their operation with labour, local food production and everyday pressures of running a business. Then onto Laver's egg farm in Norham to tour their on farm egg

grading and a talk about their production barns and farm operation. The last stop was a tour of hoard's sales barn east of Campbellford. We experienced the facility's rich history and movement of livestock through the channels, ending with a mock auction. All were treated to a delicious lunch put on by the Northumberland beef producers; a job well done. We will be planning another tour next year and our county politicians really look forward to this event. Good job committee. Our annual meeting is coming up October 13th at the Alderville community centre get your tickets from your county directors. Any concerns or topics that you have please pass them on to us and we will gladly address them. Thanks.

*Allan*

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## Notes from OFA The Art of Influence

Ontario  
Federation of  
Agriculture

In response to the recent Auditor General and Integrity Commissioner's reports, there was a flurry media on the subject.

It may seem like we were quiet. That was intentional. Interviews would have dragged us into a political hotspot, one that would have likely pushed us to speak against one party or the premier, or the minister. Doing such things gives you one shot, one bang, and then you pay for a long time... OFA is better to think about the long game and stick to the issue - use excellent long term land use planning and protect farmland inside and outside of the Greenbelt. OFA is seeking a meeting with the new Minister, Paul Calandra. A new minister gives us a new chance to speak up at MMAH. He has already been vocal that he still wants to build houses. We are

not against housing, but want it to be located in the right places. We know that we have been quiet so far, we want to give him a chance - in a sense, lay our cards on the table. Do we know that this will be successful? No. But it is a first step.

We understand the needs of our membership -by being quiet, it could be suggested that we are bending to government. This was evident by PAC concerns. We need to remind our membership of our strong stance to protect farmland.

It may feel frustrating to sit back, but it does help us with political conversations. (It is a tightrope that we walk...)

If you have questions feel free to reach out.

**Bruce Buttar, OFA director Zone 12**



## NFA Directors 2023

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### Northumberland County Rep

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905-372-3329 ext. 6492



Miss any newsletters or want to find an old one? Try out this QR Code to take you right to the

## Resi's Report OFA Member Service Rep

### Hastings County Plowing Match & Trade Show

The annual tradition of the Hastings County Plowing Match & Trade Show carried on with a busy couple of days in Marysville. OFA was pleased to share a booth with the Hastings and Lennox



and Addington Federations of Agriculture. Fortunately, the rain held off and there was plenty to see and do with horse and tractor plowing, children's activities, demonstrations, vendors, and the always popular 4-H milkshake booth. Visitors to the OFA booth were treated to **Hawkins Cheezies**, generously donated by the local company. A big

thanks to show organizers and volunteers for a wonderful community event.

### Breakfast on the Farm at Ripplebrook Farm, Napanee

Farm & Food Care served breakfast to a crowd of **1,500 people** on the morning of August 26. The event was generously hosted by the Maclean Family and there was a fantastic array of displays to help educate the non-farming population about dairy farming. OFA was proud to be a part of the educational event. It was great to see lots of smiling faces and everyone in attendance appreciated the opportunity to visit a working farm.

### Zone 12 OFA Director Election

Hats off to the two gentlemen who put their names forward in the race for zone director, a three-year term. The candidates, Brian Crews and Bruce Buttar, are both Directors on the Northumberland Federation of Agriculture and are strong advocates for agriculture. The two came together for an all-candidates meeting on August 30 at the National Air Force Museum. There was lots of healthy discussion and ideas shared, and all in attendance appreciated their passion for agriculture. Thank you Bruce and Brian, for your dedication to the grassroots. Voting was open from August 21 to end of day September 8, 2023 to elect a director to the OFA provincial board for the Zone. Out of a total eligible **1965 ballots, 348 valid ballots** were cast by mail, online or phone with a unique PIN. OFA is pleased to welcome Brian Crews to the board. Brian is a welcome addition to the OFA board. Brian and his family raise dairy cattle, grow crops and Brian is a career firefighter with the City of Toronto.



The OFA would like to sincerely thank out-going director Bruce Buttar who has served on the board 2002-2008 and again 2011 – Present. In addition to serving as Provincial Director, Bruce has been an active member on OFA's audit and pension governance committees over the past year and also chaired OFA's Farmer Wellness Advisory Committee.

## Hey Teachers!

Do you know any teachers looking for some inspiration this school year? How about some parents doing home schooling? AgScape provides factual, balanced, curriculum linked food literacy programs and resources for Ontario's educators and students. And if you aren't teaching any grade one to twelve kids, it is great to see what is available as a window to our agriculture food producing industry.

Check them out! <https://agscape.ca/resources>



## Northumberland Farmers Inducted to Wall of Fame

On Sept. 17th at Farmtown Park in Stirling, Northumberland farmers **Dennis McFadden & George Ryken** were inducted to the Quinte Agriculture Wall of Fame. This honour is given to individuals in the Quinte area who have made an outstanding contribution to the agriculture and food industry at the local, provincial and/or national level.

Take some time and visit the wall and see all the people in this area who have made a difference to our industry. If you can't go in person check out the digital version.

<https://agheritage.ca/quinte-agricultural-hall-of-fame/2006-2012>

## Be Social

Like us on Facebook:  
@OFAzone12

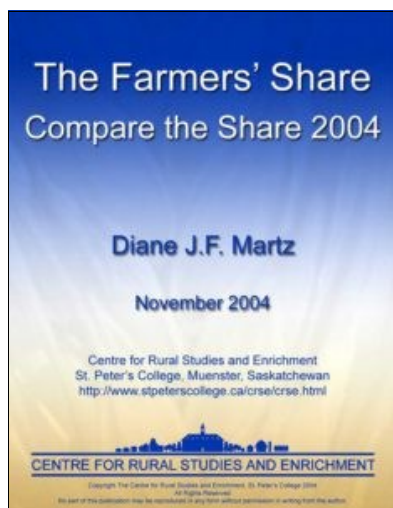


Follow on Twitter:  
@ResiWalt

[www.FARM911.ca](http://www.FARM911.ca)







## A Valuable Tool for Telling Agriculture's Economic Story.

In 1991, Hon. Ralph Ferguson (M.P.) had his staff prepare a document to illustrate the share of the consumer's dollar that farmers received. The resulting document was donated to the Centre for Rural Studies and Enrichment at St. Peter's College in Muenster, Saskatchewan.

As demand dictated, it was updated in 1999, and again in 2004 with financial support from the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA).

The latest document provides graphic illustrations of how the gap between the price consumers pay and the price farmers receive for the food they produce has widened. It also shows how prices have increased for the goods and

services farmers have to buy as inputs for their farming operations.

The complete document can be viewed online [HERE](#)

The document also provides a graph (Page 4) that illustrates the percentage of disposable income spent on food in a number of nations. On Page 16, users of the document can find a graph that shows how off-farm income has increased over the year, and on Page 17, another graph illustrates the growth of farm debt.

Compare the Share document is something that can use as an educational tool when

## Ontario Launches 2023 Excellence in Agriculture Program

The Government of Ontario is launching the [2023 Excellence in Agriculture](#) program to showcase the outstanding efforts, innovations, and achievements across the agriculture and food sector. The program recognizes individuals, businesses, and organizations that drive the industry forward, adopt new technologies and increase awareness across Ontario's Agri-Food value chain. The program is accepting applications until September 14, 2023. Winners will be announced in November at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair.



Happy  
Thanksgiving

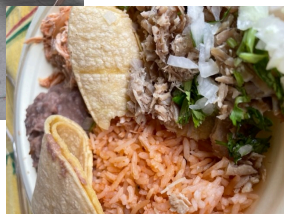
## Member Reach Out Concerning Enbridge Gas

Has anyone had billing issues with Enbridge Gas and their reassessment for natural gas process? If so please contact

MARGOT CURRELLY - C 905 376 7246 - EMAIL [margot@ganaraskagrains.com](mailto:margot@ganaraskagrains.com)

## NFA Partners with Horizons of Friendship for Migrant Workers

On September 10th the migrant workers in Northumberland enjoyed tacos in Victoria Park Cobourg. Horizons of Friendship and NFA partnered to provide a Taco truck dinner in appreciation of their hard work to produce food locally. They are a long way away from family and friends working in the elements and helping farmers fill the employee void many suffer. Smiles and laughter filled the afternoon and the chatter of other languages surrounded the pavilion on the Cobourg beach location.



**FARMER**  
wellness program

NORTHUMBERLAND

Don't struggle talk to someone. It's free!

[www.farmerwellnessprogram.ca](http://www.farmerwellnessprogram.ca)

Candice or Michael would be happy to hear from you

## Mental Health Moment

Have you heard about the two great councillors working for the Farmer Wellness Program? They are here to help you take care of your mental health. Take advantage of this members benefit of four free sessions.



**Michael**  
(705) 999-7916  
[www.mdoriscounsellingservices.com](http://www.mdoriscounsellingservices.com)



**Candice**  
(416) 655-4285  
[www.candicebeach.com/](http://www.candicebeach.com/)



NORTHUMBERLAND FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE

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#northumberlandag

We're on the web

[www.ofa.on.ca/about/](http://www.ofa.on.ca/about/)  
[county-federation-sites/](http://county-federation-sites/northumberland.aspx)  
[northumberland.aspx](http://northumberland.aspx)

### Gadgets

Digital resource that you  
may find useful.

### Trends in Agriculture Apps

Check out this article about  
the trend to simplify and  
partner apps so you don't  
need to have an app for  
every individual thing.

[www.croplife.com/editorial/best-  
agriculture-apps/#slide=88915-81611-34](http://www.croplife.com/editorial/best-agriculture-apps/#slide=88915-81611-34)

Frames by Agworld  
is proposing to be "connect  
the industry". It would be  
great to have one that does  
all app.

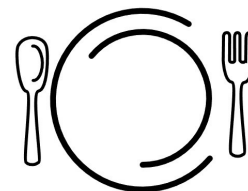
[www.agworld.com/ca/new/frames-by-  
agworld/](http://www.agworld.com/ca/new/frames-by-agworld/)

## The NFA Annual Banquet

Will be held on Friday, October 13, 2022  
7pm Dinner will be at  
Alderville Community Center,  
8913 Hwy. #45, Roseneath, ON  
Cost is \$30.00 per person.

This year's speaker is Christoph Wand,  
Livestock Sustainability  
Specialist @ OMAFRA

Please contact your local director to get your tickets.



*Lisa*

Save  
the date!  
October 13th!

## Crop Use Signs



were spread around  
Northumberland  
again this year. Did  
you see them? Nice  
to hear the dialog  
about things people  
didn't know. This  
info is worth  
spreading around.

## Poli-Ag Tour 2023 for Northumberland

In August the NFA hosted a tour for councillors and staff for all of the municipalities of Northumberland.

The day started with a stop at Rutherford's Market in Colborne. This busy spot in Northumberland county showed how migrant workers are an important part of their operation and it is not easy to get through all the paperwork.

Second stop was Laver's Egg farm in Warkworth. All were able to see how a working grading station keeps eggs safe for consumers.

Last stop was Hoard's Station Sales barn with a mock auction so all could see the process of animals being sold. The Northumberland Cattlemen provided all with an amazing lunch topped with Dooher's donuts.

This day is so important to keep communication open between the policy makers and the agriculture industry, to foster team work for the future in Northumberland.

