



Message from the President Sid Atkinson

Greetings all. No doubt you are in the same situation that we are in our little part of Northumberland, hoping and praying for a good soaking rain. This has been an abnormally dry spring with next to no rain in May and a strangely warm April. The upside is that when the weather warmed up in May the planters got busy and there is the potential for some good crops to capitalize on the strong crop prices. Your NFA traditionally does not meet in May to give our farmer board members a chance to get the crops planted, still the committee work goes on with our ag advisory work on many county files. Much appreciation have been cancelled. With the shut down and shut in and the fear that comes from constant media reports on the virus we at NFA are concerned for the mental wellbeing of our farm community, if you or someone that you know is feeling down and stressed there is help available with a professional counsellor at no cost to our members for 4 sessions. I would like to close with a quote. My favourite thought provokers are Mark Twain, Dr Suess and King Solomon's book of Proverbs ...

"Promote what you love instead of bashing what you hate"

Sid

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Supporting a Grocery Supply Code

At a recent Board meeting the Directors of OFA supported a resolution to support a Grocery Code of conduct. Specifically:

OFA welcomes FHCP and Empire's proposed Grocery Supply Code of Practice for Canada and firmly supports urgent action to ensure fairness and accountability in commercial dealings between large grocery retailers and their suppliers. OFA shares the values and principles laid out in the Code and looks forward to consulting with federal and provincial governments, as well as all stakeholders, to advance practical solutions that prioritize innovation, choice, and value for Canadians.

A potential code will be beneficial to our members who sell directly to the "Big 5" retailers and indirectly to those who sell to agents or wholesalers. In some ways this is a national issue, with national and international players. On the other

hand, retail has some different rules in different provinces. And there was a provincial round table on this. At it, OMAFRA expressed that they were staying neutral on the issue. Several different commodities, in particular OFVGA, spoke to the need for mandatory rules and contracts, to stop arbitrary additional fees, etc. So the issue matters to Ontario farmers.

As a national issue, OFA reached out to hear what CFA's position was. They have decided to support neither group directly but support the need for a code. At this time, OFA would appear to support the FHCP position, because our logo is on their mini website, and we are part of their advisory group.

There is much work still to be done on this issue as it evolves, I will keep you informed.

Bruce Buttar, OFA Director Zone 12

Resi's Report OFA Member Service Rep

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Since the onset of the pandemic, NFA has met virtually on a regular basis and we've still been able to continue to represent the membership to local government and advocate on your behalf. It's a pleasure working with the Board of Directors of NFA and I just want to thank them all for volunteering for this great organization.

Farmland that supports food production is a finite and shrinking resource. Once it's paved over, it's gone forever. That's the message behind *Home Grown*, a new advocacy campaign launched by OFA. *Home Grown* focuses on protecting and preserving farmland and domestic food production. The campaign, which launched earlier this month, aims to increase awareness on the issue and enhance consumer knowledge about the negative impacts of urban development on Ontario's agri-food system. homegrown.ofa.on.ca

OFA student bursary – children, grandchildren or employees of OFA members can apply to win one of three \$2000 bursaries. Applicants should be able to demonstrate volunteer and industry-related accomplishments, an interest in agriculture and rural issues, and satisfactory academic performance. Applications due August 31st ofa.on.ca/apply-today-for-ofas-2021-bursary-program/

Feeding Your Future – streamlining the process of connecting job seekers with agri-food employers. Through webinars, agri-training opportunities, and virtual career fairs, Feeding Your Future allows candidates to learn more about agriculture, enter the workforce feeling prepared and confident and bridges the gap to new employers and job opportunities. feedingyourfuture.ca

Resi Walt



Great to hear the following Northumberland business' participate in the CleanFarms program.

Campbellford Farm Supply

TCO Agromart - Brighton & Cobourg

cleanfarms.ca/programs-at-a-glance



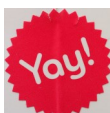
Containers up to 23L

Did you know.....
farmers/producers
returned more than
5.5 million
pesticide and

fertilizer jugs 23 litres
and smaller in 2020.



Totes & drums



Well done farmers!

Be Social

Like us on Facebook:
@OFAzone12



Follow on
Twitter:
@ResiWalt

www.FARM911.ca

POWER OF MEAT

COVID-19 drives meat purchases to record high

Americans are choosing meat more than ever before

Meat
sales up
19%

43%
buy more meat than
before the pandemic

More than
98%
of American
households
buy meat

Younger generations changed the most!

43% of Gen Z shoppers are buying more meat
53% of Millennial shoppers are buying more meat

Cooking more at home, shopping more online



84% of meals at home in Dec
Online grocery shopping up 40%
59% will continue shopping online at the same level

Choosing meat for healthy, balanced diets

94%
of Americans choose meat for
HIGH-QUALITY PROTEIN

3 out of 4 agree
meat belongs
in healthy,
balanced diets
(up nearly 20% since 2020)

Protein Industries Canada invests in new plant-based products

Taken from Food in Canada site May 27, 2021 foodincanada.com

[Protein Industries Canada](#) announces co-investment into a project that will utilize some of Canada's most widely grown crops in the development of new plant-based foods and ingredients.

[Merit Functional Foods](#), [TWC Nutrition](#), [Daiya Foods](#) and Grand River Foods are partnering to utilize Merit Functional Foods' pea, canola and blended pea-canola protein ingredients in new plant-based products. This could include alternative meat products, alternative dairy products and other beverages, developed by TWC Nutrition, Daiya Foods and Grand River Foods.

"Canada has become a global supplier of ingredients and plant-based foods. This project, led by Merit Foods, will help producers reach new markets while meeting growing consumer demand for alternative protein products. This will help us find high-quality Canadian ingredients and strengthen the Canadian economy," said François-Philippe Champagne, innovation, science and industry minister.

Protein Industries Canada is providing half of the investment into the project, with Merit Functional Foods, TWC Nutrition, Daiya Foods and Grand River Foods together investing the remaining half for a total project investment of \$7.9 million.

The project's scaling up of Merit Functional Foods' ingredient development represents a significant step forward not only in Canada's intellectual property potential, but also the country's ability to utilize its diverse crop selection in new ways that prioritize consumer health and taste.

"Canada is known for our diverse selection of high quality crops, but we have the potential to be known for what we can do with them," said Protein industries Canada CEO Bill Greuel. "Merit Functional Foods has proven that our peas and canola make for ideal plant protein ingredients, and now TWC Nutrition, Daiya Foods and Grand River Foods will help show consumers around the world that these ingredients can be the base for healthy, delicious plant-based foods and beverages."

Share the Road

All municipalities in this county can put up share the road signs to inform travellers that farmers are working on these roads to get food to everyone's table. As the roads get busier farmers have found safety to be more of an issue. Large equipment turning on and off busy roads have a hard time seeing everything around them so we are depending on everyone to have patience and travel with caution. These share the road signs help to remind travelers that farmers need their eyes as well, for everyone to be safe. If you know of an area that could support such a sign, call your local municipality or county and they can put one up.

Let's keep everyone safe this growing season.



Golf Anyone August 19th? Save the Date!

NFA is making arrangements for a Golf Tournament at Salt Creek Golf Course in Warkworth, August 19th at 1:00 pm. A time to get away from the farm and



swing a club around for some well needed mental health therapy. We are working out the details but if you are interested email Lisa at nfa.lisam@gmail.com and reserve your spot. Keep an eye on your email for further details of cost and what is included.



We all know just producing food is not enough to be in the Ag industry. Understanding and using your financial information for informed decision making, could increase your profitability by 525% (Dollars and Sense, 2020) In recognition of the need for greater financial literacy amongst Canada's producers, Farm Management Canada and MNP (a leading national accounting, tax and business consulting firm for Canada's agriculture industry) have joined forces to offer a new Farm Financial Fluency training program for producers. Producers of all types and across all commodities will benefit from a deeper understanding of their financial situation and the different options available to remain competitive and take calculated risks for continued success.

For more info fmc-gac.com/ffftp/

If this is something you would like your local federation to organize, call your local director and let them know.



Links to get up to date COVID information and educate ourselves with maps and graphs. Great to see the progress being made.

World data: ourworldindata.org/covid-vaccinations

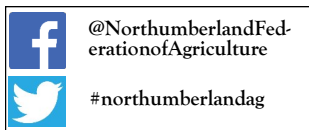
Canada: health-infobase.canada.ca/covid-19/vaccination-coverage/

Ontario: covid-19.ontario.ca/

KPRH Health Unit: app.powerbi.com/



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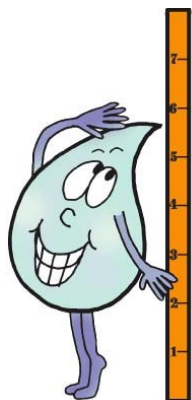


We're on the web
<https://ofa.on.ca/federations/northumberland/>

Gadgets
 Digital resource that you may find useful.

Mix My Sprayer

An app to aid in quick, accurate calculations of product mixes for spraying applications. Custom lists can be created. Check it out!



Drought

Lower Trent Conservation says that from March to May, the three-month rainfall totals recorded by Environment Canada in Trenton was 112 millimetres, which is 51 percent of normal precipitation for this time of year. The struggle is real and farmers are at the mercy of the weather to produce food. Remember if the stress is getting to you, talk to someone about it
 You are not alone.

Lisa



Don't struggle talk to someone. It's free.
Farmerwellnessprogram.ca
 705-999-7916

Northumberland Federation Scholarship



NFA is currently accepting application for the 2021 Scholarship Application Program.

Qualifications are as follows:

- The applicant must be a member or related to a member of the OFA within the boundaries of Northumberland County. An affiliation with a Northumberland OFA member may be considered based on a written description (by the member) of the applicant's involvement on the member's farm. Example: A neighbouring student that has helped on the farm and has demonstrated a passion and future interest in agriculture.
- The applicant must submit a detailed essay listing the relationship to the OFA member, his/her activities on the farm, associated memberships (4H, etc.), volunteer work, detail their course studies, and there future goals.
- The applicant must be entering the second year or greater of an accredited post-secondary diploma or degree program.
- A late application will disqualify the applicant for consideration. The applicant may reapply for consideration in the next subsequent year.
- Unsuccessful applicants may reapply
- A maximum of three scholarships will be awarded.
- A recipient may only be awarded once
- A maximum of \$3000.00 will be awarded in any one year.
- \$1000.00 will be awarded to each successful applicant.

Deadline for receipt of applications is **August 1, 2021**. The Scholarship committee will need time to read and consider all the forms and essays and make their final decision well in advance of the AGM and banquet. Please do not forget to include all the requested information and use a separate sheet to tell us about your farming connections and your community interests. Fill out an application form and include a separate sheet for additional info.

Mail to:

Lisa Meekes
 1246 Dingman Rd.
 Castleton, ON.
 K0K1M0

or

Email to:

nfa.lisam@gmail.com



Name: _____
 Phone # _____ Email: _____
 Date of Birth: _____ Township/Municipality: _____
 Name of OFA membership or Affiliate: _____
 OFA Farm Registration # _____
 Home Address: _____
 Student Address: _____
 Student ID#: _____ College or University Attended: _____
 Address of School: _____
 (Agricultural) Course Enrolled In: _____
 (Agricultural Diploma or Degree being sought: _____
 Average Mark Attained: _____ Year(s) of Study Completed: _____