

William Orford

Nominee for OFA Steering Committee

Hello everyone,

I am William Orford, and I represent the Manitoulin-North Shore Federation of Agriculture. As a retired dairy farmer from Manitoulin Island with a passion for agriculture, I am aware of and understand the increasing challenges that face the various different sectors of agriculture today.

My objective for running for the OFA Steering Committee is to ensure that there is a strong link between the grassroots farmers and the OFA board of directors. Through my experience on local agricultural boards and as a PAC member, I have witnessed the growing need to ensure that there is an open line of communication between farmers and the OFA board. With the increased pressures that are being applied to farmers from both the public and various levels of government, there is a stronger requirement for increased support for and communication to all farmers. My ability to listen, interpret and communicate ideas, concerns and solutions from one level to another is an asset which is critical for the success of both the farmer and the OFA.

As Ontario continues to grow and develop, we, as farmers, need to unite and work as one through the challenges of the next few years. Regardless of farm size, commodity, or location, we are all stakeholders in the province's agricultural sector. With many farmers facing challenges at the local level that have been unknowingly dealt with by other federations, I will ensure that any information, policy and/or solutions are communicated to ensure that issues are resolved quickly.

As a member of the Steering Committee, my objective will be to ensure that issues are heard and addressed, and that policy and policy changes are communicated back to the local level. Presenting ourselves as a unified front through the OFA is essential for ensuring that agriculture can and will remain viable in ALL areas of the province.

I would ask for your support to represent OFA as a member of the Steering Committee. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.



Experience:

- President and committee member for Manitoulin-West Sudbury Dairy committee
- Committee member for Manitoulin Cattlemen Association
- President for Manitoulin Soil and Crop
- Delegate for Association of Community Pastures (A.C.P.)
- President of Manitoulin – Northshore Federation of Agriculture
- OFA PAC member
- Committee member for OFA Northern Caucus
- Volunteer Firefighter for Billings Township, Manitoulin for 32 years.
- Committee member of Island Wide Waste Management team representing Manitoulin Island
- President of local Veterinary Service Committee

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