Ontario Goat









"PARTNERS FOR SUCCESS"

2014 Annual Report

President's Message- Anton Slingerland



First off, I would like to extend a hearty wish for a Happy New Year. As we look ahead to 2015 one can only get excited, not because of another year going by extremely quickly, but because 2015 holds promises of a year to move ahead in a growing goat industry.

2014 marked the first year of our collective funding agreement between

OG, Hewitt's Dairy Ltd., and the Ontario Dairy Goat Cooperative. The agreement, in place for a two-year period until December 2015, provides OG the opportunity to continue working on research and industry development projects, while at the same time, developing a strategic business plan focused on measurable outcomes and objectives. OG focused on three key priorities 1) industry communications; 2) consumer promotions; and 3) a dairy goat cost of production study. Looking back to what has been done in 2014, it must be acknowledged that we have received industry-wide support. I would like to thank all fellow producers and industry partners for that success. Highlights of OG's many activities and events are included in this report.

For 2015, OG is looking forward to the challenges that lie before us. As our focus has been "Together, we can accomplish much", now "Partners for Success" is a very appropriate theme for this Annual General Meeting and Producer Education Day.

We look forward to being able to present our farmers and industry partners with the first ever Cost of Production (COP) model in the coming months from data collected in the pilot study in 2014. This is a tool that has been much sought after by the industry for many years. We are excited that we have also received funding through the Growing Forward 2 program to continue this work for three more years. Data collected from this project will not only generate a COP value; it will also help our industry out tremendously. It will help producers with their expansion questions, find production efficiencies or help with accessing financing.

It is an exciting time to be part of the goat industry. This industry is growing exponentially and is transitioning from that of a niche market to a mainstream commodity market which impacts pricing and margins. With a growing sector, it is important that there are tools and resources in place to help producers.

As an industry, we need to start thinking about things that will impact us at the farm level but help us in the long run to make the industry that much stronger. Traceability is getting a lot of attention right now. OG is looking at how the upcoming CFIA regulations will impact us on our farms and how we will implement these new protocols. We need to learn from the scrapie cases over the past year and work towards eradicating this disease. As we look to increase production in the province we need to continue looking at production limiting diseases like CAE including eradication protocols and certification programs. There are so many things to work on that are important to us as farmers.

We need to work with both levels of government to ensure that the Ontario goat industry's voice is heard. Premier Wynne launched a challenge to the Ontario agriculture industry in 2013 to double its growth rate and create more than 120,000 new jobs by 2020. The Ontario goat industry is poised to help meet that challenge with all of the opportunities within the industry.

Once again, remember that by working together there is no insurmountable obstacle but an ever greater joy in achieving the goals we set out for our farms and industry.

Wishing you all an exciting 2015. I'm looking forward to all that it will bring.

Kind regards,



Representing Ontario's milk, meat and fibre goat farmers with a united voice

History and Milestones

Founded in 1951, our original name was "The Ontario Dairy Goat Society". In 1986, the name was changed to the "Ontario Goat Breeders Association (OGBA)" to better reflect the ever-changing Ontario goat population and the various goat products being produced. In 1989, the OGBA was incorporated under the Agricultural and Horticultural Organizations Act for the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF).

The main objectives at that time were to develop, provide and circulate sound and objective information about goats and to assist goat owners in the improvement and development of goat breeds. The OGBA strived to encourage and promote the advancement of the goat industry and new technologies, such as artificial insemination and embryo transfer. The OGBA assisted in the development of the meat, milk and fibre markets for goats in Ontario, while continuing to promote the sale and export of agricultural products relevant to the goat industry.

In 2009, the OGBA joined with the Ontario Veal Association (OVA) and Ontario Rabbit (OR) to create the Ontario Livestock Alliance (OLA), a partnership that allowed the three organizations to share organizational infrastructure and staff resources (OR left the partnership at the end of 2014). This provides a greater level of efficiency to members and is an opportunity to address important industry development projects in each of the sectors. Upon entering the partnership, the OGBA became known by its short form of Ontario Goat (OG). The organization maintains its official registered business name but for communication purposes OG is used.

In 2012, a "Producer Expression of Opinion" vote was held by the Ontario Farm Products Marketing Commission on OG's proposal seeking marketing board status; the vote was not successful. Since that time, OG has collaborated with producers and industry partners to develop a funding model that sees a voluntary check-off system for the dairy goat industry. The agreement provides OG the opportunity to continue working on research and industry development projects while at the same time developing a strategic business plan focused on measurable outcomes and objectives. Three key priority areas of this agreement include 1) industry communications; 2) consumer promotions; and 3) a dairy goat cost of production study.

Ontario Goat's Strategic Direction

For 2014, the guiding force behind the projects, issues and policies undertaken by Ontario Goat (OG) is based on the mandate established in the OG funding model agreement.

Representatives of a joint working committee met in 2013 to discuss the needs of the Ontario goat sector and what role Ontario Goat as a non-profit commodity organization will have in order to address the needs and priorities of the whole sector.

Together, OG, Hewitt's Diary Ltd., and the Ontario Dairy Goat Cooperative (ODGC) signed an agreement between the three organizations that will see the collection of a half cent checkoff per litre of goat milk beginning January 1, 2014.

The agreement is place for a two-year period until December 2015. OG continues to collect a membership fee from meat and fibre goat producers and represents all goat producers. It is this plan that allows us to focus our efforts towards common goals and a shared vision.

Mission

Ontario Goat, as a united producer organization proudly representing Ontario's meat, milk and fibre sectors, is dedicated to enhancing the goat industry through education, collaboration, innovation and strategic alliances.

Vision

To represent Ontario's goat producers with a recognized organization focused on sustainable growth, industry development and profitability, in order for all sectors of the Ontario goat industry to reach their full potential.

Strategic Directions

OG has three key priority areas, which for the most part, encompass the many issues and business of the organization. Each of these priority areas has specific goals which are detailed in this annual report.

- Industry Communications
- Consumer Promotions
- Dairy Goat Cost of Production Study

2014 Ontario Goat Board of Directors

The Ontario Goat (OG) Board of Directors is comprised of nine active goat producers who are elected at large by the membership of Ontario Goat each year at the Annual General Meeting. Directors are elected to a three-year term on a rotating basis so that the Board does not completely change over in any given year. The elected Directors serve on a voluntary basis at this time. Over the past year, the Board met approximately once a month either in person or on conference calls. As well, various members of the Board attended a number industry functions on behalf of the Ontario goat industry, promoting the needs of the industry and ensuring our was heard.

Anton Slingerland, President	Norwich
Eldon Bowman, Vice President	Gorrie
Ed Donkers, Vice President	Shedden
Dirk Boogerd	Embro
Greg Haskett	Bright
Cinthia Hope	Keene
Jason Lyons	Caledon
lan Mayberry	Ingersoll
Terry McNeely	Lindsay

Staff Members

The partners of the Ontario Livestock Alliance – Ontario Veal Association, and Ontario Goat – have come together to share not only office resources but human resources as well. By pooling resources and project funds, the partnership has been able to attract key staff members who provide skills and expertise in specific areas in order to benefit both organizations. Our staff is our most valued resource and their passion and dedication to the two sectors is appreciated.



Jennifer Haley, Executive Director jhaley@livestockalliance.ca



Jennifer Bullock, Project Manager jbullock@livestockallinace.ca



Patrick O'Brien, Executive Assistant pobrien@livestockalliance.ca



Kendra Keels, Industry Development Manager kkeels@livestockalliance.ca



Erin MacDuff, Policy Manager emacduff@livestockalliance.ca



Lisa Hunt, Administrative Assistant info@livestockalliance.ca

2014: A Year in Review

As part of the mandate outlined in the OG funding model, OG has been given three key priority areas to support our mission and vision statements. Each of these priorities helps to guide and direct the activities and projects of OG. Below are some of the projects, issues and initiatives undertaken by Ontario Goat in 2014.

INDUSTRY COMMUNICATIONS

Some examples of our initiatives include:

- Ontario Goat continued its partnership in the Ontario Livestock Alliance (OLA) with the Ontario Veal Association (OVA). The two partners share office space, administrative and human resources to better serve our members.
- OG, along with its partners in the OLA, continue to produce the Alliance magazine. The magazine combines the communications efforts of the two organizations and provides producers with educational articles on the goat sector.
- As part of the weekly Alliance e-update, OG continues to distribute information via email to all producers and industry partners.





- In 2014, OG launched a revised version of its website www.ontariogoat.ca to make more information available to the industry. More updates and additions are being planned in the coming months.
- OG completed the Best Management Practices for Commercial Goat Production Manual (BMPs). Through a comprehensive literature review and guidance from industry, producers, and government, OG developed this educational resource for current and new goat producers in the dairy, meat, and fibre sectors to improve or implement established best practices on their farms.
- As part of the launch of the BMP manuals, OG partnered with Eastgen to host the very successful "Goat Profitability" workshops in both Stratford and Peterborough in October 2014.
- OG submitted its tag trial results to CFIA for their review and approval. OG established a Traceability Committee to look at how traceability can be implemented on-farm in Ontario in order that goat producers are in compliance with the new regulations coming into effect late 2015 or early 2016. Recently, OG submitted comments to CFIA on the proposed regulations.



- OG completed a CAE producer survey. The survey results indicated that there was a wide range of on-farm priorities and goals with respect to CAE and other animal health challenges. There is a consensus from the survey that CAE eradication is important and that industry wide programs are also important. OG will be pursuing a funding application to look at the development of a CAE eradication protocol that goat farmers can implement on their own farms. The development of a certification program that will address the need for sellers to comply with CAE testing standards will give buyers more assurances when purchasing animals.
- With several cases of scrapie in Ontario in 2014, OG has established a communications channel with the CFIA as one did not previously exist. The OG Board also had a presentation from Scrapie Canada on the scrapie prevalence study completed for goats and sheep in Canada as part of a national strategy to eradicate scrapie from goat herds and sheep flocks. OG continues to provide information and resources to producers upon request.
- OG continued to collaborate with the Livestock Research and Industry Council to develop outcomes based research priorities for the goat sector that will be included in an overall livestock submission to OMAF with the goal of strategically positioning livestock research for future market needs and prioritizing funding.



- OG is a founding member of the Centre for Excellence in Goat Research and Innovation and currently chairs the Board of Directors.
- Together with the Ontario Veal Association and Ontario Rabbit, OG exhibited at Canada's Outdoor Farm Show in Woodstock. OG used this opportunity to meet with OG members and other goat producers to discuss various issues related to the goat industry and production practices.
- Staff responded to several requests via email and telephone from industry partners and government for information about the goat sector.
- OG developed a number of communication tools including news releases, factsheets, member mailings and emails aimed at providing important information to members and industry partners.
- OG staff is participating on a joint industry committee dealing with the limited number of approved pharmaceutical products available to livestock producers, especially in the goat, sheep and rabbit sectors.
- Collaborating with other livestock organizations, OG continues to address animal welfare concerns and represent the farmer's concerns with the Ontario Society for the Prevention and Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA).





- OG has been following the Comprehensive Economic & Trade Agreement (CETA) between Canada and the European Union. It is important to understand the potential impact that this agreement will have on the dairy goat sector, specifically with cheese imports. OG will continue to monitor this issue.
- OG continues to work with Farm and Food Care Ontario and OMAFRA to advance education in responsible farm animal care handing.
- Representatives from OG attended the Annual Premier's Summit of Agri-Food at Queen's Park at the end of November. It provided the opportunity to meet a number of key people within the Minister's office as well as various government staff to talk about the Ontario goat industry and the opportunities for growth.
- OG works closely with a number of industry partners and organizations in order to fulfill the mandate of the association, including:
 - ✓ Agricultural Adaptation Council
 - ✓ Canadian Livestock Genetics Association
 - ✓ Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario
 - ✓ Farm & Food Care Ontario
 - ✓ Ontario Agricultural Commodity Council
 - ✓ Ontario Agri-Food Education
 - ✓ Ontario Federation of Agriculture
 - ✓ Ontario Livestock and Poultry Council

CONSUMER PROMOTIONS

Some examples of our initiatives include:

• Ontario Goat Cheese partnered with Foodland Ontario in the Ontario Pavilion at the Delicious Food Show in

October. OG distributed over 3,000 goat cheese recipes to consumers as well as samples of several different kinds of goat cheese. Goat cheese was also featured in a segment on the Breakfast television news show.

- As part of the promotions for the Delicious Food Show, OG distributed an e-newsletter (via email) to over 2,500 consumers on our mailing list. Ahead of the Christmas entertaining season, OG also sent another e-newsletter to educate consumers on how to create the perfect cheese platter.
- Ontario Goat cheese continues to maintain a Twitter account and Facebook page in order to use social media outlets to gain exposure with potential consumers.
- OG continued to work with Foodland Ontario to ensure goat sector inclusion in various programs and promotions.
- OG worked on a Consumer Market Research Project that was jointly funding by the Centre of Excellence for Goat Research and Innovation as well as Growing Forward 2. OG conducted interviews with processors, brokers, distributors and retailers to determine the industry capacity and strategic point of view. As well, the project benchmarked consumer usage and attitudes toward goat milk and goat milk products to understand both the barriers to increased purchases and the opportunities for growth in order to develop a promotional strategy.
- OG is working with a consultant to determine the current use of goat milk, goat milk products and goat cheese in both the traditional foodservice sector as well as the broader public sector which includes hospitals, government cafeterias, colleges and universities.



- OG partnered with the Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency, Ontario Veal and Ontario Rabbit on a joint research project looking at the opportunities for our sector in the various ethnic meat markets.
- OG partnered with Dairy Farmers of Ontario (DFO) on a feasibility study looking at the development of a branded cheese program for Ontario cheeses. As a result of industry support received for the concept, DFO and OG are working on a project application to further develop the pilot phase of the Dairy Quality Alliance (DQA) project. This project is important from an industry sustainability point of view (new markets, sustainable growth, and need for scales of economy for both cow and goat farms). This program may also be a told to develop brand loyalty with consumers before the CETA trade deal comes into effect with European imports.
- OG hosted the Goat Education Centre at the RAWF in Toronto. OG held daily milking goat demonstrations and there was a lot of interest about goat production from consumers. OG staff fielded questions about milk production, the health benefits of goat products and more. OG distributed over 2,500 goat cheese recipe cards and 1,000 goat meat recipe cards. Approximately 1,000 Goat Facts brochures were handed out and another 3,000 Goat Activity books for kids.

DAIRY GOAT COST OF PRODUCTION STUDY

Some examples of our initiatives include:

- Data was collected from 15 dairy goat sample farms in the 2014 pilot study year. Interim results are expected in the first half of 2015 for this initial study.
- OG secured funding from the Growing Forward 2 program to continue with this important COP project. The COP project will allow for expanded data collection and enhanced analysis as well as the establishment of important industry benchmarks that can be used by the industry as well as individual farmers. The COP model has been developed by an industry advisory committee and uses the established cow model from Dairy Farmers of Ontario as a template. The cow model has been changed to be relevant to and to incorporate goats and its production systems. The study will also see an increase to 20 dairy goat farms for data collection.









Farm & Food Care Ontario

Submitted by: Kelly Daynard, Farm & Food Care, Communications Manager



Several highlights over the past year by Farm & Food Care will be of interest to goat farmers in Ontario.

Real Dirt of Farming

A major initiative of the organization in 2014 included the revision and production of The Real Dirt on Farming booklet. The booklet is designed to connect consumers with the food they eat, and introduce them to some of Canada's farm families. This 52 page publication provides basic facts on topics such as the difference between growing crops conventionally and organically, pesticide use, animal housing and animal welfare, environmental sustainability, technology used in farming as well as many other subjects that are important to consumers. The goal of the project is to distribute one million copies across Canada. The new may be accessed electronically publication at www.RealDirtonFarming.ca.

The new initiative also includes a Speakers' Bureau series of training sessions. For farmers and agribusiness people alike, the Speakers' Bureau series of workshops is designed to encourage those involved in agriculture to tell THEIR stories - what they do and why they do it - to non-farming audiences like school groups, service clubs, municipal councils and more. It's a program set up to better equip those interested in engaging more urban audiences, and help them clear up misconceptions about Canadian agriculture.

The program sessions run from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm on each scheduled day, and includes (but is not limited to) a review of Microsoft Power Point slides based on The Real Dirt on Farming; how to customize slides to include your story; speaking and presentation tips and techniques; how to answer the tough questions; and how to find speaking opportunities in your area. Participants will also be provided with copies of the latest Real Dirt on Farming booklet and other related resources. To find out about courses in your area, email info@farmfoodcare.org

Innovative Management and Practical Animal Care Training (IMPACT)

Thousands of farmers and others across Ontario care for farm animals every day. But, as demonstrated by generations who have farmed before, there are always opportunities to continually improve how we care for farm animals. Farm & Food Care's IMPACT program will deliver practical training to people who work with farm animals every day. The goal is to make an IMPACT on the lives of farm animals with know-how, practical resources and experience. Beginning in the winter of 2015, IMPACT will develop and deliver practical resources and training to help improve farm animal care. IMPACT will focus on the people who work with farm animals to provide them with new skills and confidence in handling animals and their every day chores. From the new hire to the experienced farmer, IMPACT will have something for everyone. Options will include smart phone apps, webinar presentations, interactive online e-learning, one-on-one meetings, workshops and more.

Faces of Farming calendar

The 'Faces of Farming' calendar was produced again this year with the 2015 year released at the Ontario Harvest Gala in October. This was the tenth anniversary edition and this calendar annually highlights the diversity of Ontario's farmers and farming families, and is designed to show the public the kind of passion and hard work that goes into producing the food we all enjoy. The calendar is mailed out annually to thousands of media, politicians, grocery stores and chefs across Ontario.

Farm Animal Care Advisory Council

Farm & Food Care staff works under the direction of its Animal Care Advisory Council which provides an open forum for input, ideas, dialogue and proactive discussions of on-farm animal issues. The Advisory Council discusses current farm animal care issues in Canada and provides insight into how Farm & Food Care can develop practical solutions. The goal is to keep ahead of the curve of these issues wherever possible, and react as necessary. Recent topics discussed by the council at meetings have included animal activists tactics, Codes of Practice, results from the 2014 producer attitudes study, public trust and sustainability. At each meeting, subject area experts are invited to join the meeting to provide insight on agenda items.

Over the last year the Advisory Council has played a large role in overseeing the development of the IMPACT program. The Advisory Council participated in a consultation to help determine what is needed for practical training and resources to the people who work with farm animals every day. The Council will continue to oversee the IMPACT program as it progresses forward.

To learn more about Farm & Food Care's initiatives, visit www.farmfoodcare.org, email info@farmfoodcare.org or call 519-837-1326.

Ontario Livestock and Poultry Council

Highlights of OLPC's 2014-2015 Activities

Submitted by: Susan Fitzgerald

Our membership includes livestock and poultry groups (including the Ontario Livestock Alliance), agri-business, veterinary associations, the Animal Health Lab, University of Guelph, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care and the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The OLPC is industry funded and facilitated biosecurity and emergency management preparedness relating to foreign animal disease (FAD) and other transmissible livestock and poultry diseases.

Beef FAD Workshop

The Ontario Livestock and Poultry Council (OLPC), in conjunction with Beef Farmers of Ontario (BFO), OMAFRA and the Animal Health Laboratory at the University of Guelph, held a Beef Foreign Animal Disease Workshop on November 19, 2014 in Guelph. The 52 attendees represented a broad crosssection of industry stakeholders including producers, veterinarians, feed and service suppliers, processors, government and emergency response.

The morning program consisted of a number of speakers and presentations on emergency preparedness and response. The topics were geared toward assisting participants develop a better understanding of what CFIA, OMAFRA and the Animal Health Laboratory will do if there is a FAD in Ontario and also what is expected/needed from the beef industry. The afternoon session focused around a tabletop disease exercise. Our scenario used "Lips-and-toes-is", a fictitious disease with characteristics like Foot and Mouth Disease.

The feedback sheet ratings were all good to excellent. Key points raised during the presentations were restricting movement, movement permit requirements, and communications.

Biosecurity Workshop Project with OMAFRA

OLPC has been developing resources to be used in farmer biosecurity workshops under Growing Forward 2. The Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association delivers the workshops in conjunction with the commodity groups and technical resource people (e.g. veterinarians, veterinarian technicians, crop advisors, etc.). The sectors with national biosecurity standards have been offered commodity specific workshops. Biosecurity workshop content is now available in English and French for beef, sheep, goats, poultry, dairy, mink, bees, and a generic livestock program. We are currently working on the content for a generic crops program and e-learning modules for dairy, potatoes and grains and oilseeds.

Biosecurity Practices for Farm Visitors from Other Countries

OLPC is developing a communication piece targeting tour organizers and farm hosts for foreign visitors to farms. As a general biosecurity recommendation, farms should only admit visitors that are essential to the farming operation. People can spread pests and disease on footwear, hands, hair and clothing and some viruses can live in nasal passages. The concern is even greater with foreign visitors as they could introduce a new strain of pest or disease from their country or a known foreign animal disease not present in Canada but endemic in their country, e.g. Foot and Mouth Disease. Once the document is finalized, it will be distributed to members, breed associations, genetics companies, etc.

Federal Disease Program Transitions

At the May meeting, OLPC members heard a presentation on four diseases for which CFIA will no longer be responding: Rabies, Anaplasmosis, Anthrax and Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs are considering response options for all four diseases.

Rabies remains a reportable disease; CFIA is still doing testing for rabies, just not conducting field calls. Currently, we have the lowest level of rabies in Ontario in decades due to the success of the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) baiting program. However, bat rabies is more difficult to control. If there has been human exposure, the Public Health Unit should be contacted. For domestic animal contact, OMAFRA would be the first point of contact. If it is a wild animal acting strangely, then the MNR should be contacted. OMAFRA is working with private veterinarians on a case by case basis for sample collection. The costs are covered by OMAFRA.

There is no effective vaccination or treatment for Anaplasmosis. It is endemic in some parts of the United States. A positive animal will be positive for life and is a production limiting concern in livestock. Anaplasmosis has been changed from a reportable to an immediately notifiable disease.



Anthrax is also endemic in certain areas; herbivores are highly susceptible due to grazing. There is a hot spot in Northern Ontario near Rainy River. It is zoonotic and poses an occupational exposure risk for veterinarians, people working with hides and in processing, and farmers. There have been five cases in the last two years in Canada all of which were in western Canada.

Ontario populations at risk from CWD include farmed cervids and wild deer, moose, caribou, and elk. OMAFRA is currently maintaining the status quo with CVO certificate/memo for transfer of animals to Quebec.

On-Farm Biosecurity Resources

OLPC continues to offer free biosecurity resources for producers to use when considering and applying biosecurity practices on farm. Copies of these items can be viewed on or downloaded from our website <u>www.ontlpc.ca</u> and hard copies may be ordered from the OLPC office.

- Generic on-farm biosecurity guides one for livestock and one for crops
- Biosecurity video
- Posters explaining biosecurity to employees and visitors
- Biosecurity signs
- Visitor log books

Goat Centre of Excellence

OLPC Membership and Board

There are currently 24 regular members, four associate members and six ex-officio members including livestock and poultry groups, farm service, feed, processing and veterinary organizations. The OLPC Board consists of seven directors representing six sector groups and a Chair elected by the membership. The Vice-Chair is elected by the Board.

Chair: Gordon Coukell, Alcoma Farms

Term Expires 2015

Major Livestock- Mike DeGroot, Ontario Pork Poultry- Albert Visser, Egg Farmers of Ontario Veterinarian Associations- Steve Wolfgram, Ontario Association of Swine Veterinarians

Term Expires 2016

Minor Livestock- Jennifer MacTavish, Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency

Agriculture and Food Associations and Coalitions- Susan Collier, Association of Ontario Chicken Processors and OLPC Vice-Chair

Individual Agri-Businesses- Marilyn White, Canadian Poultry Magazine



GOAT RESEARCH & INNOVATION

The Centre of Excellence (COE) is a partnership amongst Ontario Goat, Ontario Dairy Goat Cooperative, the University of Guelph, Trent University and the Greater Peterborough Innovation Cluster. The Centre was incorporated in 2010 with a mandate to facilitate research activity in the goat sector.

A research committee has been established and is made up of board members, industry members and academics. A list of research priority areas has been developed and include:

- Market Penetration/Development and Applied Research
- Genetics
- Production and Animal Health

The COE has been successful in attracting cash contributions from a variety of sources both during its start-up and its operations. Contributions have been received from:

- Agricultural Adaptation Council (AAC)
- OMAF
- Trent University
- University of Guelph
- Peterborough Innovation Cluster
- Peterborough Community Futures

The Centre is developed additional funding applications to:

- Rural Economic Development Program
- Fed. Dev. Ontario
- AAC- Growing Forward 2
- OMAF- Local Food Fund

COE Executive Director, Andy Mitchell was appointed as a Senior Policy Advisor to Ontario's Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, the Honourable Jeff Leal. As a result, Andy resigned his position for the COE. The COE Board met to discuss this and how best to proceed in the interim. It was agreed that OG would assume the administrative duties of the COE on behalf of the group for the interim.



THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS FOR YOUR GENEROUS FOOD DONATIONS FOR TODAY'S MEETING



















Peter & Amy Vingerhoeds

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THANK YOU TO OUR 2015 AGM SPONSORS



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