



**Ontario Goat**  
449 Laird Rd. Unit 12  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4W1  
www.ontariogoat.ca

Dear Ontario Goat Farmers,

There are many partners in the Ontario goat industry but did you know that Ontario Goat (OG) is the only non-profit farmer organization in Ontario that represents all of Ontario's goat farmers and the goat sector?

As we get ready to welcome 2019, OG will be focused on speaking up for the industry with the limited resources of our volunteer Board of Directors (who are also busy running their farms). We will continue to provide communications to our members and attend important industry meetings on your behalf- speaking up for the farmer- but we can only do this with your support of OG through your membership.

**OG will be speaking up for you-** the Ontario goat farmer- on important issues like the Goat Code of Practice that is being implemented at the national level. The Goat Code of Practice will become the standard of care that all goat farmers will be expected to follow and it is critically important that we make sure that the farmer voice is part of the discussion.

**OG will be working for you-** supporting important research projects and advocating for funding that will ultimately help you lower costs of production and become more efficient on your farm. The research that OG has led or supported over the past several years has proven to be innovative and instrumental in the development of our industry to date- but more needs to be done.

**OG will be the industry voice-** ensuring we are there to respond to requests for information, liaising with the government on the needs of our industry and sharing information with our members. We will be at the table to continue collaborate with our industry partners- brokers and processors- to ensure unity.

Bottom line- we need to make sure our collective voice is heard and now is the time to come together to support OG with your annual membership. Our membership fee for 2019 is only \$50 +HST and includes one free registration for the AGM and regular communications (emails, newsletters, website and social media) and updates from OG. For those producers who chose not to vote, we respect your faith and we have provided a non-voting producer option for you to select.

Mark your calendars now as all OG members are invited to join us at our Annual General Meeting and Producer Education Day on Wednesday February 27<sup>th</sup>- please see the enclosed flyer for more information. As well, enclosed you will find a flyer outlining a number of goat animal welfare resources that OG has compiled that may be of interest to you.

I ask all my fellow goat farmers to please consider your membership with OG for 2019- now more than ever we must come together in unity to address the many challenges and opportunities our industry faces. We can do so much more together than we can do on our own. If you have any questions or concerns, comments or suggestions please contact any of the OG Board of Directors or myself. Thank you in advance for your continued and renewed support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dirk Boogerd", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dirk Boogerd,  
President