



# The Messenger

OSMA and the Industry

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with any questions.

## Out and About: July Recap

Wonder what OSMA gets up to in a month? Here are the highlights of where we were representing you!

July 4 – Ontario Agricultural Sustainability Coalition leaders meeting

July 5 – Parasite Project meeting

July 6-7 – OSMA Board meeting

July 8 – Euthanasia project meeting

July 11 – Health Strategies Working Group meeting

July 12 – Ag Sector Working Group meeting

## July Board Notes

The Board continued its work on the Strategic Plan, spending time the evening before the meeting to walk through the Industry and Organizational Capacity performance indicators. The majority of the changes focused on keeping the document as a high level strategy document. Key areas of focus under industry capacity are the development and dissemination of educational resources to address production related issues, outreach to abattoirs, research and, the support the genetic improvement of commercially important traits. From an organizational capacity perspective, OSMA will focus on its commitment to its strategic plan, governance, ensuring staff and board members have the opportunity to receive training and continue to work on ensuring OSMA has an up-to-date database.

There was discussion around the role of the Directors at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). There was agreement that given that an AGM is meeting of the members, and not a Board meeting, that Board members would not have the ability to vote at the AGM.

The Board had extensive discussion about OSMA's membership in the Canadian Sheep Federation with the conclusion being that financial and human resources could be better utilized. This resulted in the decision to withdraw from the organization.

OSMA has agreed to have six new lamb recipes developed, along with the nutritional analysis for publication into an e-recipe book.

Nathaniel Erksine-Smith, MP from the Beaches joined the meeting via teleconference call. Mr. Erksine-Smith is the MP that is championing the Private Members Bill C-246 the Modernizing Animal Protections Act. He is reaching out to organizations that have concerns about the proposed Act, to better understand their concerns and address them. Livestock agricultural groups have expressed some concerns around the new language that was included such as “brutal and vicious” when speaking of it being a crime to “brutally or viciously kill an animal even if the animal dies immediately.”

A request was made to include language in the Bill that provides exemptions to farmers, anglers and hunters and indicate, in the case of livestock agriculture specifically, that there are Codes of Practice that have been developed. The request was also made to put animals back under the property section. At the end of September, the Bill will have its second reading, in its current draft, in the House of Commons. If it passes then it will go to Committee. It is while the Bill is with the Committee that changes can be made.

Vince Stutzki, Christoph Wand and Jillian Craig came into the Board meeting to discuss some of the ideas that the Large Flock Operators (LFO) have been working on. The underlying goal of the discussions that the LFO is having is to create a common language within the industry, so that when producers talk to each other there is a common understanding about what is being discussed.

They are discussing aspects of ewe profitability, efficiency and production (Ewe PEP) where profitability is management of cash flow to maximize return on investment (know if you're in the black), efficiency is output per unit of input (at what cost) and productivity (total amount produced per year).

OSMA has submitted comments to Minister Leal on Growing Forward 3 (or next agricultural policy framework), in advance of the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Agricultural Minister's meeting in July. Comments have also been provided to the province in relation to Northern Expansion.

The next OSMA Board meeting is their summer meeting in Districts 2 and 5.

## Advancing Women Conference 2016

In 2014 a group of women leaders in agriculture in Canada were brought together to discuss some of the opportunities and challenges that women face in this industry and the skills and tools needed to hone their leadership skills. It became very apparent through this group of women leaders that there was a strong need for women in every sector of agriculture and food, to hear and learn from the experiences of successful women. With this as our guiding principle, the Advancing Women Conference was created and in April 2014 and we some 400 women from 6 provinces and 5 US states representing over 130 organizations came to Calgary for the inaugural event.

In the years since, attendance has increased such that to date over 2000 women have participated and AWC has expanded to include both the Calgary conference in March and a second conference in Toronto in October each year. Today the delegates represent every sector of the industry from primary production (farmers and ranchers), corporate agribusiness, entrepreneurs, small and medium size business owners, and government and academia.

The program emphasizes key leadership skills and developmental opportunities that include communication and covers mentorship, coaching, and networking; financial management and financial independence, health and balance of life strategies, career planning and setting goals in all areas. Speakers from both inside and out of the agriculture industry are chosen on the basis of their expertise and experience.

Women make a significant contribution to Canadian agriculture, but it requires special skills to lead and make a difference in our industry. Opportunities for women in agriculture have never been better! AWC has proven itself in its ability to connect successful women to other like-minded individuals and help women capitalize on these opportunities and grow in this industry.

Those attending this October can expect to kick off the conference with their choice of complimentary pre-conference workshops; a speed-networking event and a discussion on working with your banker geared towards producers and presented by BMO. Following that the conference officially begins and speakers such as CTV's Dr. Marla Shapiro, CEO of Farm Credit Canada Sophie Perreault, #1 New York Times Best Selling Author Marci Shimoff and Chair of the Ontario Pork Board of Directors Amy Cronin will share their wisdom and their stories. The event includes a formal banquet dinner and ample opportunity for the delegates to talk, network and learn from one another.

Join more than 500 participants as we hear from powerful speakers who discuss leadership development, finances, career building, mentorship and communication. Invest in yourself at agriculture's premiere women's conference in Toronto on October 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>!

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

*If it weren't for the messages from some of the leaders I connected with, I wouldn't have this clear vision nor the motivation to go after it. I can't thank you enough for that.*  
– Jen C., Ontario, AWC Delegate

# Advancing Women

{ Life Skills for Leadership ~ Women in Ag Conference }

**Open your mind to the endless possibilities. Prepare to be inspired.**

**LISTEN:** to women from Ag and related businesses as they reveal the secrets to their success and share what they've learned along the way.

**LEARN:** how to set and reach your goals and capitalize on your opportunities.

**NETWORK:** make the connections to women who know the way to success.

**GROW:** into the person you have the potential to be! Group rates are available.

Register today! Visit [advancingwomenconference.ca](http://advancingwomenconference.ca) or phone 403-686-8407.

**FAIRMONT ROYAL YORK, TORONTO, OCTOBER 3 & 4, 2016**

Register today!  
Seating is limited.

## Canada and Mexico Reach Agreement on a Sanitary Protocol for Small Ruminants

Canada and Mexico have finalized a bilateral export certificate for the trade of small ruminants. Senior government officials from both countries will collaborate in enhanced efforts to advocate for an expeditious removal of the United States' bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE)-related ban on the transit of live sheep and goats by land through the United States (U.S.), so that trade between Canada and Mexico can flow freely. Canada has raised this issue with the U.S. at all levels and on numerous occasions in the past, and will continue to do so.

In terms of the status of the United States' anticipated publication of its small ruminant import rule, it is expected to be published in the near term, followed by a 60-day public comment period. Any required revisions to the rule will be made once the comments have been received and reviewed by the United States Department of Agriculture.

## Organic Sector Consultation Funded by Growing Forward 2

The Organic Council of Ontario (OCO) received funding this April through *Growing Forward 2 (GF2)* to implement a sector-wide assessment of barriers to growth for the organic sector in Ontario. The Council signed the agreement with the Agricultural Adaptation Council (AAC) in late April, 2016 and is launching the project this week.

The \$35718 project seeks to understand the barriers to growth for different organic value chains and to develop specific and measurable goals for overcoming those barriers for the sector. The Organic Council has contracted Carolyn Young, former Director of Sustain Ontario, to conduct an environmental scan, key informant interviews, commodity-specific focus groups and a survey of both organic businesses and conventional businesses wishing to transition to certified organic.

“This funding comes at a critical time,” says Tom Manley, chair of the OCO board. “With over \$1 billion in sales in Ontario alone, roughly 30% of all Canadian organic sales, the Ontario organic sector’s demand far outstrips supply and organic businesses are facing intense pressure from the US and Quebec to increase their market share in both Ontario and international markets.” In Canada, organic foods now make up 4 percent of total retail sales, but only 1.3 percent of total production area.

“Supply is the bottleneck in organic value chains,” states Simon Jacques, organic grain grower and OCO board member, “and if we can help producers overcome barriers to scaling up and scaling out production, the whole sector will benefit.”

The project also aims to develop a sector-wide funding strategy for accomplishing the goals identified in the consultation process. “I’m really hopeful that, through this project, organic businesses will see the value of playing a greater role in determining the future of the sector,” states former OCO chair Jennifer Pfenning. Pfenning’s Organic Vegetables were instrumental in making the grant happen by providing \$10,000 in matching funds.

The work will be overseen by a working group representing all commodity groups and value chains. “We are very fortunate to have such dedicated sector leaders to lead this work,” states Carolyn Young.

“The Canadian organic food sector is a growing industry. The Government of Canada is pleased to support the Ontario organic sector in growing its market share and expanding sales.” – Lawrence MacAulay, Federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food

“Today there is an increasing demand from consumers to know more about the food they consume and a growing desire for organic options. Our government is pleased to support the Organic Council of Ontario in this project, looking at ways we can help the organic food industry and in turn strengthen Ontario’s broader agri-food sector.” – Jeff Leal, Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

“This project demonstrates excellent collaborative partnerships across the value chain. By conducting sector-wide consultation, the entire organic sector, from producers to retailers, will be in a better position to support the growing demand for organic products.” – Judy Dirksen, AAC Chair

The project is a year-long project and will wrap up in March 2017 with a report on the findings of the consultation.

This project was funded in part through *Growing Forward 2 (GF2)*, a federal-provincial-territorial initiative. The Agricultural Adaptation Council assists in the delivery of *GF2* in Ontario.

For more information, contact:

Carolyn Young: [carolyn.cay@gmail.com](mailto:carolyn.cay@gmail.com), 647-839-4030

Tom Manley: [tom@homesteadorganics.ca](mailto:tom@homesteadorganics.ca), 613-543-0480

## Ontario Wildlife Damage Compensation Program Information

*This resource is for information purposes only, is subject to change from time to time and is **valid through until December 31, 2016**. Consult the website [www.ontario.ca/predation](http://www.ontario.ca/predation) for the most up-to-date information. For fulsome program information, please refer to complete Program Guidelines available at: [www.ontario.ca/predation](http://www.ontario.ca/predation).*

Eligibility: In order to be eligible for the program the livestock/poultry owner must:

- take reasonable measures to prevent predation
- provide a valid Farm Business Registration (FBR) number (or alternate) in your own name (6-7 digits, issued by Agricorp), Premises ID for the property on which the injury or death occurred (normally ON + 7 digits, issued by Provincial Premises Registry)

Timeline	Actions Required
Within <b>forty-eight (48) hours</b> of discovering the Injury or death	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact the municipality as soon as possible:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Fresh evidence is always makes better evidence to substantiate an application</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Preserve site               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Do not move, destroy or dispose of the carcass until the Municipal-Valuer has seen the carcass and agrees it can be destroyed or disposed of.</li> <li>○ Suggested methods of preserving the site include: avoid walking in or around the area, placing a tarp over the carcass, and taking photos of the scene yourself (the valuer may choose to add your photos to their report; they must also take their own colour photos)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Within <b>three (3) days</b> of [the valuer] receiving the notification from the clerk of the municipality or the Administrator (as the case may be).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Municipal-Valuer will visit the site, record evidence, take photographs and complete a full investigation               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A value of \$0 will be assigned if the livestock/poultry injury or death is determined by the Municipal-Valuer to be ineligible for compensation</li> <li>○ If eligible, the valuation will be based on market values and will not exceed program maximums</li> <li>○ You must sign the Program Application certifying the information you have provided is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge</li> <li>○ Provide relevant information to the Municipal-Valuer regarding reasonable care provided to your livestock/poultry (e.g. predation prevention practices employed, investments made, services retained)</li> <li>○ Please note that compensation payment is considered taxable income by Canada Revenue Agency and therefore a social insurance number (SIN) or business number (BN) will be recorded on the program application</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Within <b>ten (10) Business Days</b> of [the valuer] receiving notification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Municipal-Valuer (often through the municipality) will send you a copy of the Program Application</li> </ul>
Within <b>twenty (20) Business Days</b> of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If you are not satisfied with the Program Application, you may request a secondary review within <b>20 business days</b> of receiving the Program</li> </ul>

[OMAFRA] receiving the original Valuers' report	<p>Application</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ To request a secondary review, please send a letter explaining your reason(s) to the Program Administrator, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Rural Programs Branch, 1 Stone Road West, 4th floor NW, Guelph, ON N1G 4Y2. Include a copy of the Program Application and a fee of twentyfive dollars (\$25.00) payable to Minister of Finance (cheque or money order)</li> <li>○ The Second Valuer will conduct a comprehensive <b>re-valuation</b> of the claim. The Second Valuer may adjust compensation awarded by the First Valuer, either higher or lower, or even deny the claim</li> <li>○ A secondary review may also be requested by the municipality or the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA)</li> </ul>
After <b>twenty (20) Business Days</b> of [OMAFRA] receiving the original Valuers' report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Should compensation be awarded, the municipality will be responsible for processing your payment. Please contact your municipality if you have questions about a payment.</li> </ul>

Contact Us: Agricultural Information Contact Centre: 1-877-424-1300

[www.ontario.ca/predation](http://www.ontario.ca/predation)

## Upcoming Events

For more information on any upcoming events please visit the OSMA website at: [www.ontariosheep.org/Events.aspx](http://www.ontariosheep.org/Events.aspx) or contact the OSMA Office at 519-836-0043.

- July 16 **District 3 Summer BBQ:** Come join us for a catered event coupled with a great speaker. Jason Emke will be joining us to share his personal and professional experience with Farm Expansion. Graciously hosted by Follings Farm, 2348 Line 37 RR#1, Stratford, ON N5A 6S2. **Please RSVP by July 1<sup>st</sup> to one of our board members: Ian VanBlyderveen 519-424-3894, Susan Tyler 519-868-4908, Sandi Brock 519-319-1914, or Ron or Lorraine Follings 519-274-5155 or 519-274-5156**
- July 17 **Western ON Lamb Producers Summer Meeting:** Beginning at 3pm, potluck supper at Jamie Heffer's cabin - 42258 Howick Turnberry Road, (turn onto Keiffer Lane) Wingham, ON. **RSVP by July 8, 2016 to [westernontariolambproducers@gmail.com](mailto:westernontariolambproducers@gmail.com) or call 519-392-8624**
- July 30 **Parasite Workshop:** District 9 is hosting a course led by Laurie Maus on how to do fecal testing and scoring to determine parasite load. This is a free session and a great learning opportunity! Saturday July 30<sup>th</sup>, 1 pm. Pinnacle Haven Farm – 865 Garden of Eden Rd. Renfrew, ON. RSVP to [pinnaclehaven@gmail.com](mailto:pinnaclehaven@gmail.com) or 613-433-8255.
- Aug 10-14 **Canadian National Sheepdog Championships:** to be held in Woodville, ON. For more information visit <http://www.ontariobordercolliclub.com/obcc-home>
- Aug 13 **Rideau Focus 2016:** Hosted at Breezy Ridge Farm, Georgina, ON. <http://goo.gl/Hwt7gx>

## Other Organizations and Reference Information

### Victoria County Sheep Producers

Third Wednesday every month starting at 7:30 Oakwood Elevators (Taylor Road, Oakwood)

Membership is \$20 per farm per year. Contact: Peter Craig at [pdrcraig@outlook.com](mailto:pdrcraig@outlook.com)

### Western Ontario Lamb Producers

District 2 and 3, for more information email [westernontariolambproducers@gmail.com](mailto:westernontariolambproducers@gmail.com)

### Southwestern Ontario Sheep Farmers

Meetings 4th Thursday of the month: January to April

Coldstream Community Centre; 10227 Ilderton Road, 519-666-2423

Chair – Wendy McGowan, 519- 657-5197, Secretary – Geraldine Pennings, 519-764-2455

DISTRICT	CONTACT	INFORMATION
Dist 1	Dave DeKay at 519-666-0626 or <a href="mailto:dmdekay@isp.ca">dmdekay@isp.ca</a>	<a href="http://osma_district_1.tripod.com/">http://osma_district_1.tripod.com/</a>
Dist 2	Matt Zehr at 519-363-2029 <a href="mailto:zehr.matt@gmail.com">zehr.matt@gmail.com</a>	
Dist 3	Sandi Brock at 519-263-2325 <a href="mailto:brocksandi@hotmail.com">brocksandi@hotmail.com</a>	<a href="#">District 3 Facebook Page</a>
Dist 4	Jay Mycroft at 905-957-1114 or <a href="mailto:jay.mycroft@xplornet.com">jay.mycroft@xplornet.com</a>	Meetings tentatively to be held the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed. of the month at 7:30 at Ancaster Fairgrounds (630 Trinity Rd, Ancaster)
Dist 5	Dianne Orr at 519-928-5302 or <a href="mailto:orr7@sympatico.ca">orr7@sympatico.ca</a>	<a href="#">Check out the District 5 Facebook Page!</a>
Dist 6	Karen Harvey at 905-729-3196 or <a href="mailto:pkharvey@zing-net.ca">pkharvey@zing-net.ca</a>	
Dist 7	Judy Dening at 705-324-3453 or <a href="mailto:theshepherdsgate@xplornet.com">theshepherdsgate@xplornet.com</a>	
Dist 8	Michelle Voskamp at 613-848-8972 or <a href="mailto:secretary@osmadistrict8.ca">secretary@osmadistrict8.ca</a>	Meetings are normally held on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs of every month at 7 pm at Napanee High School. <a href="#">District 8 Facebook Page</a>
Dist 9	Tyler Armstrong at 613-433-8255 or <a href="mailto:pinnaclehaven@gmail.com">pinnaclehaven@gmail.com</a>	
Dist 10	Christine Power at 613-686-1892 or <a href="mailto:christine.power@ic.gc.ca">christine.power@ic.gc.ca</a>	<a href="#">Check out our Facebook page!</a>
Dist 11	Debra Garner at 705-563-2761 or <a href="mailto:bill.debgarner@gmail.com">bill.debgarner@gmail.com</a>	