



November 21

2014

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Annual Meeting and Dinner

Lambton federation of agriculture Annual Banquet & Meeting  
Friday November 21<sup>th</sup>, 2014

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6:00pm	Social Time	
6:30	Welcome	Brooke Leystra
	O Canada	Nicholas Veroude
	Introduction of Honoured Guests & Greetings	Dave Ferguson
	Approval of Minutes of the Last meeting as printed	Brooke Leystra
	Motion to Approve Reports	
	-Treasurer's Report	
	-Appointment of Reviewer for 2014-2015 year	
	-Committee Reports	
	Report of Nominating Committee & Election of Officers	Karl Soetemans
	-Appoint Scrutineers	
	-Declare all offices vacant – nominations from floor	
	-Election of Directors	
	-Election of President	
	-Election of 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice	
	-Election of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice	
	-Motion to destroy the Ballots	
	Resolutions	
	New Business	
7:00	Grace	Harry Buurma
	Dinner	
	Thanking of the Fair Board	Ron MacDougall
	Presidents Report	Brooke Leystra
	Presentation to Lambton County Children's Village	Deb Gilliard
	Lambton County Hall of Fame Display & Inductees	Laurie Webb and Kyle Maw
	Presentation of LFA Scholarships	Doug Krall/Sarah Jackson
	Presentation of Scholarships by the Women's Institute	Ann McGugan
	Presentation of Pins to New Directors and Executive	Brooke Leystra
	Door Prizes	Jim McLachlin and Karl Soetemans
	Announcements and Adjournment	Brooke Leystra

## Lambton Federation of Agriculture Annual General Meeting

Friday November 15, 2013

6:30pm @ Wyoming Fair Buildings

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6:00pm           Appetizers served by Uplands Pheasantry, Sarah Jackson Couch.

Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Dave Ferguson

"O Canada" was played.

### Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Doug Krall and seconded by Herman Kremer to accept the Minutes of the 2012. Carried

### Agenda

It was moved by Blair Williamson and seconded by Brooke Leystra to approve the Agenda. Carried.

### Financial Reports

It was moved by Brooke Leystra and seconded by Bill Milliken to accept the financial reports as presented. Carried.

It was moved by Doug Krall and seconded by Herman Kremer that World Data Centre be appointed as auditor for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. Carried.

### Board of Directors and Elections

Don Burgess, OFA MSR thanked the Board for their service in 2012-2013 and declared all positions open.

St Clair – Steve Murphy

Sarnia – Melissa Forbes

Enniskillen - Doug Krall

Lambton Shores –Debbie Gilliard

Warwick- Herman Kremer

Dawn Euphemia – Vacant

Brooke Alvinston – Jim McLachlin

Plympton – Vacant

Youth Farmer Director – Blair Williamson

PAC – Sarah Jackson, Dave Ferguson, Harry Buurma

Nominated for Directors at Large:

Sarah Jackson - Accepted

Roger Buurma – Accepted (with letter of intent)

Ron MacDougall – Accepted (with letter of intent)

Dave Ferguson- Accepted

Brooke Leystra - Accepted

For the Position of 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Dave Ferguson was nominated and accepted (acclaimed)

For the Position of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice president

Sarah Jackson was nominated and accepted (acclaimed)

For the Position of President

Brooke Leystra was nominated and accepted (acclaimed)

It was moved by Brooke Leystra and seconded by Doug Krall that the elected board of directors be given authority to fill any of the vacant Director positions on the board. Carried

#### New Business

Harry Buurma spoke briefly of Shale Gas. Currently this is not a large issue in Lambton, but this is something the agriculture community should familiarize themselves with, as it will likely become something of importance in the near future.

Grace (Harry Buurma)

Introduction of Head Table & Honoured Guests (Dave Ferguson)

Pat Davidson

Bob Bailey

Monte McNaughton

Louis and Clara Roesch from Kent

Thanking of the Fair Board (Brooke Leystra)

Presidents Report (Ron MacDougall)

Lambton Agricultural County Hall of Fame Inductee (Joanne Sanderson, Chair)

Ralph Ferguson and the family of Lorne Henderson

Presentation of Scholarships (Doug Krall/ Sarah Jackson)

Joyce Anderson Memorial Scholarship Laura Langstaff, Oil Springs

Bill & Dorothy Abraham Scholarship Connor Cook, Oil Springs

Donna Stewardson Scholarship Carly VanDaele, Dresden

Bell Federation Scholarship (\$1000) Kristen Wight, Plympton-Wyoming

Bell Federation Scholarship (\$500) Jasmine Jennings, Wilkesport

Lois Wakefield Scholarship Luke Stephens, Brigden

The Patrick & Timothy Kerrigan Scholarship Jenna Johnston, Port Lambton

Presentation of Scholarships by the Women's Institute (Ann McGugan)

Nicole Soetemans

OFA Executive Pins were presented to Brooke Leystra, Dave Ferguson, and Sarah Jackson.

Past President's pin was presented to Ron MacDougall, by Brooke Leystra.

Door Prizes were handed out by Sarah Jackson and Dave Ferguson. Thanks to Southwest Credit union, Egg Farmer of Ontario, Debbie Gilliard and the OFA for supplying wonderful prizes.

Meeting was adjourned by Ron MacDougall at 9:35.



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## 2014 Scholarship Winners

Joyce Anderson Memorial Scholarship (\$1000)  
Presented by Brad Anderson and Jane Anema  
Ashley Cornelissen

Bill & Dorothy Abraham Scholarship (\$500.00)  
No applicants

Dona Stewardson Scholarship (\$1000.00)  
Presented by Dona Stewardson  
Rachel Loerts

Bell Federation Scholarship (\$500)  
Connor Cook

Bell Federation Scholarship (\$1000)  
Bryan Soetemans

Lois Wakefield Scholarship (\$1000.00)  
Presented by Lois Wakefield  
Jenna Elliott

The Patrick & Timothy Kerrigan Scholarship (\$500.00)  
Duncan Annett

Women's Institute of Lambton County Scholarship  
Presented by Ann McGugan  
Emily Opthof

Congratulations to all of the winners!

*WORLD DATA SERVICE LTD.*

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November 7, 2014

Directors and Members  
Lambton Federation of Agriculture.

Dear Members:

RE: 2014 Year End Review.

We have reviewed your bookkeeping records and statements as at September 30, 2014 with your secretary.

The statement and records were verified to Bank records.

We have adjusted your Equity account for the closing of the Anderson Scholarship.

Your bookkeeping records for the year ending September 30, 2014 are very inadequate.

Thank you for the opportunity to have been of service to you in this year of 2014.

Yours truly



World Data Service Ltd

*\* After the LFA received this letter we were able to meet with the Reviewer and provide him with the information he required.*

LAMBTON FEDERATION OF AGR  
BALANCE SHEET  
Prepared Without Audit

For the Period Ending 11-18-14

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ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash in Bank Chwquing	\$	-2,842.29	
Cash in Bank Savings		57,951.18	
GIC Operating		40,948.49	
GIC Scholarship		28,500.00	
Accounts Receivable		2,585.00	
Total Current Assets			\$ 127,142.38
TOTAL ASSETS .....			\$ 127,142.38
LIABILITIES			
Total Liabilities			\$ 0.00
EQUITY			
Beginning Net Worth		\$ 159,956.61	
Contributions	\$	-29,118.77	
Fiscal Year Earnings		-3,695.46	
Total Adjustments		-32,814.23	
Total Equity			127,142.38
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY .....			\$ 127,142.38
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LAMBTON FEDERATION OF AGR  
 YEAR-TO-DATE INCOME STATEMENT  
 Prepared Without Audit

For the Period Ending 11-18-14

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Operating Revenue			
Annual Meeting	\$ 1,940.00		3.03%
Interest	1,347.78		2.11%
OFA Rebate	56,190.00		87.90%
Other Income	1,192.01		1.86%
Scholarship Interest	673.64		1.05%
H S T	2,585.00		4.04%
Total Cash Sales		\$ 63,928.43	100.00%
Total Gross Operating Income		\$ 63,928.43	100.00%
Advertising & Newsletter	\$ 7,236.03		11.32%
Annual Meeting	2,256.25		3.53%
Bank Charges	32.91		0.05%
Convention	12,289.63		19.22%
Insurance	930.96		1.46%
Map Expense	32.88		0.05%
Mileage	10,277.55		16.08%
Office Expense	18,749.62		29.33%
Professional Fees	452.00		0.71%
Regional Meeting	9,329.31		14.59%
Scholarship Payments	5,500.00		8.60%
Storage	536.75		0.84%
Total General & Administrative Expenses		67,623.89	105.78%
NET OPERATING INCOME		\$ -3,695.46	-5.78%



Bell Federation Scholarship (\$500 & \$1000)  
October 1, 2013 – September 30, 2014

Balance October 1, 2012		\$15,000
GIC Interest		\$293
From General Fund		\$1207
Withdraw	\$1500	
Total	\$1500	\$15,500

Laurentian Bank 2 years, 1.95%

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Kerrigan Federation Scholarship  
(LFA)  
October 1, 2013 – September 30, 2014

Balance October 1, 2012		\$2,000
GIC Interest		\$40
From General Fund		\$5
Withdraw	\$500	
Total	\$500	\$2,500

Home Trust, 2 year 2.06%

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Bill & Dorothy Abraham Bursary  
(LFA)  
October 1, 2013 – September 30, 2014

Balance October 1, 2012		\$3,500
GIC Interest		\$41
From General Fund		\$459
Withdraw	\$500	
Total	\$500	\$4,000

Home Trust, 2 year 2.06%

Anderson Scholarship  
(LFA)  
October 1, 2013 – September 30, 2014

Balance October 1, 2012		\$6,500
Balance October 1, 2012		\$1,500
GIC Interest		\$134
From General Fund		\$866
Withdraw	\$1000	
Total	\$1000	\$9,000

Home Trust, 2 year 2.06%

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Stewardson Scholarship  
(LFA)  
October 1, 2013 – September 30, 2014

Balance October 1, 2012		\$6,500
Balance October 1, 2012		\$1,500
GIC Interest		\$134
From General Fund		\$866
Withdraw	\$1000	
Total	\$1000	\$9,000

Home Trust, 2 year 2.06%

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Wakefield Scholarship  
(LFA)  
October 1, 2013 – September 30, 2014

From General Fund		\$1000
Withdraw	\$1000	
Total	\$1000	\$1000

# LFA President Report-2014

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2014 has been another great year for the Lambton Federation of Agriculture!

It has been a year of fostering relationships. As a board, we are working to be a predominant source for information about Agriculture in Lambton County. We hope that by developing these relationships with various groups and individuals in the County we can help raise awareness of our industry and its importance in Lambton. We are working to serve our members as a voice for and about agriculture, advocating on behalf of an industry that is so vital to not only our County but to our Nation and the World we live in.

We continue to represent Lambton Agriculture by attending and participating at local events and meeting with various groups including the Christian Farmers Federation, the National Farmers Union, various local commodity groups, the Lambton Children's Safety Village, the Food Coalition, Lambton Community Food Access, the Sarnia Lambton Chamber of Commerce, Sarnia Lambton Economic Partnership, Source water protection, the County of Lambton Ag Advisory Committee, Sarnia Lambton Workforce Development Board, County Councilors, local Municipalities, the Southwest Economic Alliance, Lambton-Kent Agriculture in the Classroom...just to name a few.

We started the year off with a mail out to our local members to update them on what the LFA has been working on and to gather contact information for our members so we can better serve them and get information out about what is going on in our local agricultural community. The response to this letter was overwhelming and we thank everyone who replied!

In June, we partnered with Sarnia Lambton Business Development Corporation and the Lambton County Egg Farmers to run an event called Breakfast on the Farm. This was a free breakfast for 500 guests, held at the Farm of Kevin and Melissa Forbes and Family and was an amazing opportunity to educate people about agriculture in Lambton County. We could not have done it without a long list of sponsors that were incredible. The event was so successful we hope to hold it again in June 2015.

We were also fortunate enough to be chosen to host the Ontario Federation of Agriculture's roving summer meeting this year in Lambton County. We took the OFA board on a tour of the County and introduced them to our beautiful local scenery and the many unique features of our County.

The Lambton Ag Link e-newsletter continues to be a great success with more interest in contributing to the monthly newsletter and an ever growing list of subscribers. The Lambton Federation of Agriculture encourages all local Commodity groups to participate and is happy to help other relevant not-for-profit groups communicate to the rural community.

The LFA was also very active in facilitating all candidates meetings for the provincial election and was very sure to communicate local agricultural and rural community concerns and issues to all the candidates. Also, for the first time ever, we held local municipal election meetings. Feedback from these meetings was positive and we hope to develop them further for the next municipal election.



Finally, I am happy to report the LFA is currently working on the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the Locally Lambton Map. This has been a long time project of the LFA's and continues to be valued by the participants and consumers. We have made some minor changes this year we hope will help us to stay true to our mandate to support local primary producers. We will also be updating the Locally Lambton website and have added a section for locally Lambton "supporters". Those are individuals or businesses that use or promote locally grown produced products but are not producers themselves.

As you can see, it has been another busy and productive year for the Lambton Federation of Agriculture. I would like to thank all of the Board members for their hard work and support. They are a great group of individuals who care about and are committed to Lambton County and the future of agriculture here. I also need to say thank you to our Secretary, Christina Hyatt, for keeping us all on track and organized, the LFA Board is very proud to have her represent and work with us.

Finally, I would like to thank all LFA members for allowing me to represent them this year.

Brooke Leystra

## Cost of Community Service Study: Bayham Township

OFA's Farm Policy Research Group recently completed a Cost of Community Services study in cooperation with a typical rural municipality, Bayham in Elgin County. This study was conducted referring to methods developed from hundreds of similar studies done in the US. The expenses and revenues in the municipality are portioned out to three land use categories: Commercial, Residential, and Farm. This provides a "snapshot" of the expenses and revenues of a township, and how they are allocated.

Farm Policy Researcher, Ben Lefort, found that "...In 2012 the municipality collected approximately twice as much revenue associated with the farm/forest category then it spent on servicing farm/forest land uses. Farm/forest land uses, along with commercial/industrial land uses, effectively 'subsidized' residential uses. While some claim that farm/forest uses are subsidized by a tax rate that is 25% of the residential rate, this study demonstrates that the farm/forest category has more than paid its way."

Some thoughtful discussions have been sparked by this study and, through further research, may lead to create a more equitable property tax in rural Ontario.

## OFA members showed strong support for trespassing campaign

Ontario farmers shared their voice in support of the Ontario Federation Agriculture (OFA) during OFA's latest Act Now lobby campaign recommending important updates to the *Trespass to Property Act*. The lobby campaign resulted in OFA members sending 216 electronic letters of support for tighter trespassing enforcements to MPPs.

OFA wants two amendments to the *Trespass to Property Act* including a minimum \$500 fine and increasing the ceiling on damage awards from its current rate of \$1,000 to \$25,000. The current legislation, which was enacted in 1980, falls short in deterring unwanted visitors and rewarding farmers for damages. The *Trespass to Property Act* campaign generated the most support from Ontario farmers since OFA's initial lobby effort of the Ontario Tire Stewardship Fee increase.

Thanks to everyone who voiced their support and participated in this campaign. OFA will continue to work with the provincial government and related ministries to make sure our recommendations are addressed.



## Membership Accreditation Amendment

OFA will be seeking ratification of By-law 14-1 at the OFA Annual General Meeting on November 24, 2014, the OFA Board of Directors approved this By-law to enable Farm Business Registrants to sign up for a multi-year membership. Members have clearly indicated they want continuous membership and wish to avoid having to apply for a membership every year in addition to the Farm Business Registration (FBR) process.

If the OFA Convention delegates ratify By-law 14-1, farmers who complete the 2015 FBR process by directing their FBR payment to OFA, will have the opportunity to sign up for a multi-year OFA membership. In subsequent years, providing the FBR fee is paid to OFA, membership may continue without the need to reapply.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Step membership application process was introduced after the Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Appeal Tribunal ruled in May 2012 that Farm Business Registrants were not OFA members because they have not confirmed they wanted to be members.

## Natural Gas

OFA is working extensively on extending natural gas infrastructure throughout rural Ontario in an effort to keep the industry competitive by decreasing energy costs. Natural gas is half the cost of electricity and approximately one third the cost of propane. Less than one fifth of Ontario farms have access to natural gas. Expanded gas lines in rural Ontario would give farmers access to savings for heating barns, operating grain dryers and generating electricity on an "as needed" basis, resulting in farms and small business saving more money that will be reinvested into the local rural economy to create jobs.

Rural Ontario needs a natural gas infrastructure program; OFA is supporting a program with private gas companies and provincial governments that will help bring natural gas to rural Ontario. OFA welcomes the government's investment in natural gas expansion with \$200 million in loans and \$30 million in grants over two years.

To calculate your potential savings with natural gas try our "Natural Gas Savings Calculator" on our website at:  
<http://www.ofa.on.ca/issues/overview/natural-gas-savings-calculator>

**Wishing everyone safety and joy as we wrap up this year's harvest and move into the holidays.  
Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.**

**Karl Soetemans  
Member Service Representative, Lambton-Middlesex  
Ontario Federation of Agriculture  
1-877-668-3276 or [karl.soetemans@ofa.on.ca](mailto:karl.soetemans@ofa.on.ca)**

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Environment Committee

Steve Murphy

To start this year off the environment committee continued work with the County on the Woodlot Bylaw, council eventually came to the decision that the old bylaw is best suited and discontinued trying to make a new bylaw. We also met with Clean Harbours to discuss their expansion plans. After performing environmental assessment and consulting with the community they have decided they will expand 'upward' instead of 'out', which will result in no loss of farmland in the area. Lastly we met with the Source Water Protection Committee, specifically about the Wallaceburg drinking water intake. They have recently seen increased levels of nitrogen in the water which was of some concern. It was decided that there is no action necessary at this time, and this issue will be reassessed in the future.

### Public Relations, training and Map Committee

Sarah Jackson

It has been a busy year for this committee; we have undertaken a number of new tasks as well as revamping old projects

In June, after months of planning with members of the community, The LFA led a Breakfast on the Farm at Kevin and Melissa Forbes' farm. It was a booming success with over 500 attendees, a Donation to go to 4H, and plans for another Breakfast at Forbesvue Farm in the plans for next father's day weekend!

We have also been introducing training sessions such as Speaking with Government, Farm and Food Care's "talking about your farm", and a great workshop with Brian Boyle about Board governance. All workshops had great reviews and we're a success. We look forward to hosting more workshops and look to our members for ideas for upcoming sessions.

We are also in the midst of recreating the Locally Lambton Food and Fun Map. This will be our Fifth edition of the map with focus being on farmers and processors. For more information about the map, please contact the LFA for details.

### Political Awareness Committee

Dave Ferguson

In 2014 we have had a number of interactions with politicians of all levels.

In the spring the LFA coordinated all candidate meetings in the 2 ridings that are in Lambton County, before the meetings each candidate received a package from the LFA with concerns that we have and also possible solutions. Some of the candidates did indeed read and address our issues, while others ignored our information packages.

For the fall municipal elections, several meetings were held in various townships. At that time the potential councillors were presented with concerns of the LFA. This covered topics from right of ways, to high speed internet, and the need for natural gas. Land use within the rural areas is and will be a topic for discussion. The rural infrastructure and decreased transfer payments to the townships is becoming evident.

The LFA is putting together presentations to be taken to the rest of the municipalities in the New Year. Official plans are being updated in the county, without a full understanding of the needs of the rural communities. We must be proactive and present our needs for a healthy and vibrant rural countryside.



This year our Lambton Farm Safety Day was held on July 3, 2014 at the Greenwood Arena in Petrolia. It was a fun-filled day of learning for children ages 6 to 12. The topics for demonstrations and discussions included – Chemicals, Union Gas, Safety, Red Cross, Lawn Mower Safety, Hydro One, Tractor Safety, Fire Safety and Road Safety. The safety day was from 9:00 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. with the attendance of 150 kids. This safety day provided each child with a T-shirt, lunch snacks and a take home goody bag.

### Lambton Children's Safety Village

Debbie Gilliard

This year Lambton Children's Safety Village continues to make great strides towards becoming a reality. Donations continue to come in and at the present time we have around \$200,000.00. All our Government forms have been completed and we are now incorporated. We also have a new website which is [www.lambtonchildrenssafetyvillage.com](http://www.lambtonchildrenssafetyvillage.com). Our exposure in Lambton County is being met with good reaction from the community. Right now our fundraiser we are promoting is the "Cash Calendar" selling at \$10.00 each. These calendars can be purchased through Maryann Buntrock, Debbie Gilliard and other board members of the Lambton Children's Safety Village.



Kyle Maw will be presenting the Hall of Fame plaques to:

Charles Lawes  
And  
The family of Jerry Tiffin Ferguson

As the 2014 Lambton Agricultural Hall of Fame Inductees.