

Lambton Federation of Agriculture

Annual General Meeting

January 20, 2023





**Lambton Federation of Agriculture
Annual General Meeting
Friday, January 20, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
Location: Plympton-Wyoming Fairgrounds**

Agenda

<p>6:00 p.m. Doors Open – Social Time</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Welcome and Introduction of Honored Guests – Gary Martin, LFA President O Canada Video: Let’s Break the Silence Together – OFA Farmer Wellness Initiative</p> <p><u>Business:</u> Approval of Agenda Approval of Minutes from 2022</p> <p><u>Approval of Reports</u> Financial Statements presentation by Mitchell Geerts, Accountant, Melo LLP Appointment of Accountant Approval 2023 Budget Committee Reports: a. Environmental Committee PAC – Brian Eves b. Farm Safety – George & Agnes Dickenson c. Scholarship – Gary Martin</p> <p><u>Director Elections</u> Nominating committee report Motion to appoint scrutineer(s) Declare all offices held in 2022 vacant Review of Nominations received: List Nominations from the floor Motion to destroy the ballots: if any</p> <p><u>New Business/Resolutions</u> Open to the Floor</p>	<p>7:00 p.m. Grace – George Dickenson Dinner – Plympton-Wyoming Agricultural Society</p> <p>7:45 p.m. <u>Continuance of Business</u> Video: From Our Hands to Your Table – Call the Chef & Bluewater Beef</p> <p>President’s Message Gary Martin</p> <p>Message from OFA Crispin Colvin, Vice President; Karen McLean, MSR; Paul Nairn, Western Region Mgr</p> <p>Hall of Fame / OSCIA programs Joanne Sanderson</p> <p>Other outside organizations</p> <p>8:10 p.m. Guest Speaker Dan Taylor, CEO Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership</p> <p>8:45 p.m. Thanks to Speaker – Gary Martin Door Prizes – Gary Martin Adjournment</p>
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**Lambton Federation of Agriculture
Annual General Meeting
Friday, January 21, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
Location: Zoom Video Conference**

Minutes

Welcome from LFA President – Gary Martin	Gary called the meeting order at 7:03pm. Gary welcomed everyone to the meeting. Gary introduced Kevin Marriott. Other guests had the opportunity to speak to the group before the meeting started.
O Canada	Brooke played O Canada in the Zoom meeting.
Local Helping Local Video	Local Helping Local – Career Pathways video played
Hall of Fame	Joanne Sanderson presented what has been happening with the Hall of Fame over the past year. Joanne provided contact information for the Hall of Fame. There was a chance for questions at the end of the presentation.
Laura Greaves, SLWDB	Laura Greaves discussed the EmployerOne survey that is open until January 31, 2022. Laura provided information on how to complete the survey, highlighted the expectations of the survey and noted that the survey could be saved and completed in multiple sessions. The link was provided to the OFA members at the meeting. Laura invited anyone that had questions to reach out to her.
Approval of Agenda & Minutes	Attendees had access to the minutes and agenda in the shared drive distributed before the meeting. Brooke shared her screen to participants could review the Agenda and then the minutes. Brian Eves MOTIONED to approve the agenda for the 2022 LFA Annual General Meeting. George Dickenson <i>seconded</i> . Carried . Burt McKinlay MOTIONED to approve the minutes from the 2021 LFA Annual General meeting. Joanne Sanderson <i>seconded</i> . Carried .
Approval of Reports	Mike Belan MOTIONED to receive the reports. Dave Ferguson <i>seconded</i> . Carried . Brooke shared her screen to show the financial reports that were presented by Mitchell Geerts, Accountant for MPW. Dave Ferguson MOTIONED to accept the reports. Brian Eves <i>seconded</i> . Carried . Concern raised by Debbie Coke regarding the donation made by LFA to the London Children’s Museum, which is outside of Lambton County. Gary Martin did an in-depth discussion on all donations that LFA made this year and how they were staying in Lambton county, with an exception being made for the Children’s Museum in London. Joanne Fuller expanded on the unique circumstance of 8 federations that feed into the London catchment, challenging each other to donate to the cause, and how overall \$53,000 was donated by

	<p>agriculture federations. Joanne explained the feedback that OFA is able to give to the museum and that the farming exhibit even goes into aspects of Farm Safety.</p> <p>Dave Ferguson MOTIONED to approve the appointment of Mitchell Geerts as the accountant. Ray Bygrove <i>seconded</i>. Carried.</p>
Committee Reports	<p>PAC – Darcy Fuller presented what the PAC had been doing in the year. Darcy summarized what happened with PAC in March 2021, August 2021, and January 2022.</p> <p>Farm Safety – George & Agnes Dickenson presented on what Farm Safety has been doing this year. George highlighted the Mental Health and Coping Skills presentation that Lauren Van Ewyk did. Enbridge and WSPS sponsored the session. Farm Safety “Day” was from July 1 to July 8. Participants were able to submit their posters were submitted digitally. George and Agnes arranged to have participation bags delivered to all kids that participated. The Farm Safety Annual Meeting was held on Feb 3rd via a Zoom session. Gord Marsh, paramedic, spoke about what to do to make your farm and home more accessible in case of an emergency.</p> <p>Scholarship winners were presented by Burt McKinlay. Burt discussed the application and review process that LFA follows. Burt noted all scholarships that LFA presented for 2021-2022 and named the winner of each.</p> <p>Brooke shared her screen and Gary Martin presented the reports from the Financial Committee. Gary opened the floor for questions. Burt McKinlay MOTIONED to receive the financial statements; George Dickenson <i>seconded</i>. Carried.</p>
Elections (Directors)	<p>Dave Ferguson MOTIONED to have Joanne Fuller oversee the process, Julie Maw <i>seconded</i>. Carried.</p> <p>Joanne thanked current directors for their dedication and help this year.</p> <p>George Dickenson MOTIONED to appoint Joanne Fuller and Andrew Fuller as scrutineers. Brian Eves <i>seconded</i>. Carried.</p> <p>Joanne listed the names of the Directors that would let their names stand for the 2022 Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gary Martin 2. Mike Belan 3. George Dickenson 4. Burt McKinlay 5. Darcy Fuller 6. Ray Bygrove 7. Brian Eves 8. James Grant 9. Doug Krall <p>Joanne asked if there were any Motions from the Floor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harry Van Wieren, nominated by George <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Harry will let his name stand • Brad Langstaff nominated by George <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Brad will let his name stand

	<p>All director positions acclaimed.</p> <p>Dave Ferguson MOTIONED to accept the motions noted above; Julie Mawseconded. Carried.</p> <p>George MOTIONED that they Board can fill any positions throughout the year. Darcy Fuller seconded. Carried</p> <p>Joanne thanked those who will be joining the 2022 Lambton Federation of Agriculture Board.</p> <p>Discussion on resolution on Loading and Lane Areas. George mentioned that this has been a concern that has been brought up in multiple meetings. Discussion on county updating infrastructure. Discussion on the issue of not being always able to load in the fields and having to be on the road to load.</p> <p>George MOTIONED to have OFA lobby provincial federal governments to specify the importance of allowing a load area for farmers loading on the roads, Darcy seconded. Carried. This motion will be sent directly to OFA.</p> <p>Joanne Sanderson discussed an issue brought up at the Cattleman's meeting for paying farmers a living wage, and the issues without housing. Discussion followed.</p>
New Business	Open to the floor – No new business
Presidents Message	Gary Martin, LFA President addressed the group. Gary discussed LFA's expansion in social media. Gary highlighted the collaborations LFA has had with LFSA this year, co-hosting a special meeting. Gary also talked about the archives that have been created on the website – 80 years worth of content is scanned. The donations that LFA made this year were also presented.
OFA Presentation	Crispin Colvin, Zone Director and Joanne Fuller, MSR Crispin discussed the Home Grown Campaign that is starting. Crispin mentioned the Feeding Your Future webinars and other opportunities that became available the last year. Crispin noted the Mental Initiatives that OFA has available for the farming community.
Guest Speaker	The Honourable Rob Black, Senator for Ontario and Chair of the Canadian Senators Group. Senator Black shared a presentation about the initiatives that he is working on. Senator Black provided contact information, telling everyone they were welcome to contact with concerns.
Local Helping Local	Brooke played the Local Helping Local on Environmental Stewardship
Closing Remarks	Gary highlighted some upcoming events. Gary thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Ray Bygrove motioned to adjourn at 9:39pm.

LAMBTON FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE

Financial Information

Year Ended September 30, 2022

LAMBTON FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE
Index to Financial Information
Year Ended September 30, 2022

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COMPILATION ENGAGEMENT REPORT

To the Members of Lambton Federation of Agriculture

On the basis of information provided by management, we have compiled the statement of financial position of Lambton Federation of Agriculture as at September 30, 2022, and the statements of changes in net assets, revenues and expenditures and cash flows for the year then ended, and Note 1, which describes the basis of accounting applied in the preparation of the compiled financial information ("financial information").

Management is responsible for the accompanying financial information, including the accuracy and completeness of the underlying information used to compile it and the selection of the basis of accounting.

We performed this engagement in accordance with Canadian Standard on Related Services (CSRS) 4200, *Compilation Engagements*, which requires us to comply with relevant ethical requirements. Our responsibility is to assist management in the preparation of the financial information.

We have not performed an audit engagement or a review engagement, nor were we required to perform procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by management. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or a review conclusion, or provide any form of assurance on the financial information.

Readers are cautioned that the financial information may not be appropriate for their purposes.

Strathroy, Ontario
January 11, 2023

Melo LLP
Chartered Professional Accountants
Licensed Public Accountants

LAMBTON FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE
Statement of Financial Position
September 30, 2022

	2022	2021
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash	\$ 112,605	\$ 100,962
Temporary investments	55,793	61,550
Accounts receivable	250	50
	168,648	162,562
ASSETS HELD IN TRUST <i>(Note 4)</i>	20,600	14,100
	\$ 189,248	\$ 176,662
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	\$ 7,854	\$ 2,764
NET ASSETS	181,394	173,898
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 189,248	\$ 176,662

LAMBTON FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE
Statement of Changes in Net Assets
Year Ended September 30, 2022

	2022	2021
NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 173,898	\$ 160,864
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	7,496	13,034
NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR	\$ 181,394	\$ 173,898

LAMBTON FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
Year Ended September 30, 2022

	2022	2021
REVENUES		
OFA rebate	\$ 67,970	\$ 67,445
Scholarship income	7,500	56
Map income	1,300	1,250
Sponsorship income	3,500	6,000
	80,270	74,751
EXPENSES		
Advertising and promotion	600	998
Donations	19,700	21,250
Insurance	1,397	1,175
Interest and bank charges	2	167
Meetings and conventions	1,758	280
Memberships	1,214	1,214
Mileage	3,314	2,138
Office	3,195	1,786
Per diems - directors/delegates	8,135	7,385
Political awareness	1,324	418
Professional fees	2,656	2,910
Scholarships	6,000	9,000
Sub-contracts	9,568	6,589
Telephone	350	571
Training and consumer relations	13,649	5,854
Web site	1,017	1,017
	73,879	62,752
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES FROM OPERATIONS	6,391	11,999
OTHER INCOME	1,105	1,035
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	\$ 7,496	\$ 13,034

LAMBTON FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE
Statement of Cash Flows
Year Ended September 30, 2022

	2022	2021
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$ 7,496	\$ 13,034
Changes in non-cash working capital:		
Accounts receivable	(200)	200
Accounts payable	5,090	(2,944)
	4,890	(2,744)
Cash flow from operating activities	12,386	10,290
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Long term investments	-	26,639
Assets held In trust	(6,500)	15,907
Temporary investments	5,757	(43,457)
Cash flow used by investing activities	(743)	(911)
INCREASE IN CASH FLOW	11,643	9,379
Cash - beginning of year	100,962	91,583
CASH - END OF YEAR	\$ 112,605	\$ 100,962
CASH FLOWS SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION		
Interest received	\$ (1,105)	\$ (1,035)
Interest paid	\$ 2	\$ 167

LAMBTON FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE
Notes to Financial Information
Year Ended September 30, 2022

1. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The basis of accounting applied in the preparation of the statement of financial position of Lambton Federation of Agriculture as at September 30, 2022, and the statements of changes in net assets, revenues and expenditures and cash flows for the year then ended is the historical cost basis and reflects cash transactions with the addition of:

- accounts receivable less an allowance for doubtful accounts
- investments recorded at cost
- accounts payable and accrued liabilities
- current income taxes payable as at the reporting date

2. PURPOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION

Lambton Federation of Agriculture (the "organization") is incorporated under the Business Corporations Act of Ontario as a not-for-profit organization. The federation supports farmers and promotes activities within Lambton County that improve the welfare of farmers and the farming industry. The federation also works with the Ontario Federation of Agriculture to address common viewpoints and concerns.

As a non-profit organization, the federation is not subject to income taxes.

3. INVESTMENTS OPERATING

Short term investments	2022	2021
EQB High Interest Savings Account Series A	\$ 58,055	\$ 40,997
EQB. High Interest Savings Account 100	18,338	18,156
	\$ 76,393	\$ 59,153
Long term investments		
ETT 3 Year Non-Registered annually compounding end of term pay maturing October 11, 2021	-	16,498
	\$ 76,393	\$ 75,651

Investments are comprised of GICs and are shown at market value.

LAMBTON FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE

Notes to Financial Information

Year Ended September 30, 2022

4. ASSETS HELD IN TRUST

The federation holds the following investments to fund scholarships. Interest earned and scholarships awarded from these funds are reported on the statement of operations.

	2022	2021
Bell Scholarship	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
Abraham Scholarship	2,100	2,100
Kerrigan Scholarship	2,000	2,000
Womens Institute Scholarship	6,500	-
Total	\$ 20,600	\$ 14,100

Investments are comprised of cash in interest bearing accounts and GICs and are shown at market value.

5. DONATIONS

	2022	2021
Bluewater Health Foundation	\$ 5,000	\$ -
Food Bank	2,600	2,200
Lambton Kent Agriculture in the Classroom	2,500	-
BC Agriculture Council	2,000	-
Fairs	1,500	1,500
Lambton Farm Safety	1,500	-
Southwest Agricultural Conference	1,000	1,000
Locally Lambton United Way	1,000	1,000
Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario	500	-
Christmas for everyone	500	-
Canadian Red Cross	500	-
Kent Federation of Agriculture	500	-
Plympton-Wyoming Truck and Tractor pull	250	-
OAC Beef Science Club	150	-
4-H Clubs	100	-
Lambton Agricultural Hall of Fame	100	-
London Children's Museum	-	10,000
Beef Farmers of Ontario	-	2,000
Breakfast on the Farm	-	1,000
Kids Help Phone	-	1,000
Tim Hortons Gift Cards First Responders	-	400
Inn of the Good Shepherd	-	400
Do More Ag Donation	-	250
Lambton Cattlemen Association	-	250
St. Clair Child and Youth	-	250
Total	\$ 19,700	\$ 21,250

LAMBTON FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE
Notes to Financial Information
Year Ended September 30, 2022

6. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCE

The organization received approximately 89% (2021 - 98%) of its revenue from the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA). Should OFA substantially change its support of the Federation, management is of the opinion that continued viable operations would be doubtful.

7. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Some of the comparative figures have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation.

Lambton Federation of Agriculture 2023 Budget with comparison to 2022

		2022 Budget	2022 Actual	2022 Over (Under)	2023 Budget
REVENUES					
OFA Rebate		68,000	67,970	(30)	68,000
Scholarship Income		8,200	7,500	(700)	-
Map Income		1,300	1,300	-	1,300
<i>Sponsorship Income</i>		-	3,500	3,500	-
		\$ 77,500	\$ 80,270	\$ 2,770	\$ 69,300
EXPENSES					
Advertising and promotion (incl Gifts)	1,500				1,000
Gifts	250	1,750	600	(1,150)	250
Donations		15,000	14,700	(300)	15,000
<i>Bluewater Health (Sponsored)</i>			5,000	5,000	
Insurance		1,250	1,397	147	1,400
Interest and bank charges		200	2	(198)	100
Meetings and conventions					
General Meeting Expenses	500				500
Environment	250				250
OFA Convention	-				5,500
Annual Meeting - LFA	500				1,250
Regional Meeting	1,000	2,250	1,758	(492)	1,250
Memberships		1,200	1,214	14	1,200
Mileage		4,000	3,314	(686)	4,000
Office (incl Map + General Admin)					
Accounting Software	425				600
Office Supplies	300				200
Storage	950				900
Map Expense	1,000	2,675	3,195	520	1,000
Per diems - directors/delegates		7,500	8,135	635	7,500
Political awareness		1,000	1,324	324	250
Professional fees		3,000	2,656	(344)	3,000
Scholarships		9,000	6,000	(3,000)	8,000
Sub-contracts		12,000	9,568	(2,432)	12,000
Training and consumer relations		9,000	4,284	(4,716)	5,000
<i>Hands To Table (Sponsored)</i>			4,365	4,365	
<i>SLEP RED Project</i>			5,000	5,000	
Telephone		750	350	(400)	400
Web site		600	1,017	417	1,000
		\$ 71,175	\$ 73,879	\$ 2,704	\$ 71,550
OTHER INCOME (Interest)		700	1,105	405	1,000
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)		\$ 7,025	\$ 7,496	\$ 471	\$ (1,250)

Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) 2022 Recap

Brian Eves

March 8/2022 – Zoom

- PAC orientation session
- Presentation from Peggy Brekveld regarding provincial government topics
 - o Investment needs in infrastructure in rural Ontario – bridges, drainage, natural gas, affordable energy, schools, healthcare
- Recap of Ontario Food Summit hosted by Premier Ford
- Canadian Federation of Agriculture AGM review
 - o Several OFA directors attended CFA's in-person meeting which included meetings with Senator Rob Black, MP David Epp and MP Francis Drouin
- Review of Grassroots Concerns
- Breakout sessions focused Labour concerns – discussions on how to find, retain and motivate workforce members in the Ag sector. Secondary topics surrounded temporary foreign worker concerns highlighting the new concerns with the COVID pandemic and foreign workers.

Aug 10/2022 - Orangeville

Group discussion covered farmland loss, fertilizer tariffs, railroad crossing topics.

- Ontario Agribusiness Association speaker Russel Hurst spoke on Rural Infrastructure
- Key issues are
 - o Transportation
 - Need long-term infrastructure improvement to allow business to thrive
 - o Energy
 - Access to reliable low cost energy sources
 - o Labour
 - Need comprehensive sector strategy to address chronic labour shortages
 - Showcase benefits of living in rural Ontario to attract new skilled entrants to the agriculture sector
 - o Conductivity
 - Conductivity is now an essential infrastructure component for agri/other rural business to operate effectively
 - o Others discussion items
 - Environmental protections, pandemic preparedness, ag research, health care, government red tape reduction

Update from Danielle Sharman, OFA Policy Analyst

- Review package of key agricultural issues for upcoming municipal elections

Further discussion on Rural Infrastructure items with Marcus Ryan, Zorra Township Mayor

Hydro One Transmission Line Update

- New 230 KV transmission line from Chatham to Lambton Generation Station
- 5 potential routes have been identified
 - <https://lambtonfederation.ca/hydro-one-network-st-clair-transmission-line-updated-maps/>
- Hydro to announce preferred route by March 31/2023
- Property owner listing has been developed, contact will be made with all affected once route is announced.
- Continuing collaborative approach with Kent/OFA regional staff.

Enbridge BESS Projects in St. Clair Township

- Enbridge proposing 3 battery electric storage systems in St.Clair Township, each 25-30 acres in size
 - <https://lambtonfederation.ca/enbridge-battery-storage-project-in-st-clair-township/>
- St Clair Township provided endorsement to Enbridge in December 19 meeting regardless of over 20 residents attending council meeting and expressing concerns and opposition
- Further motion on January 16 council meeting failed to gain enough support to rescind endorsement
- IESO will begin contract negotiations with contractors May 1
- Successful projects will be announced by early July 2023

Submitted by:
Brian Eves
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Lambton Farm Safety Association Report for LFA

George and Agnes Dickenson

- Display at Podolinksy's and Soil & Crop Meeting
- Radio Contest – 50 people signing up; 150 views.
 - Will try something similar again
- Mental Health Day – Talk, Ask, Listen
 - Wellsprings Counselling Services
 - Presentation by Lauren Van Ewyk
 - Materials and supports provided to the community
 - LFSA was quite happy with Lauren's presentation
- Radio contest focusing on safety went well
 - approximately 50 people signing up and about 150 views. We will try something similar again.
- Participated in Ag in the Classroom Wyoming and Brigden.
- Presentation to Lambton County Council in June
 - Emily Project | 911 signs on rural properties
- Farm Safety Day – July 7 in Thedford
 - Around 70 families, around 130 kids registered at our Farm Safety Day.
 - Pizza and milk were provided for lunch
- Movie screening event in Forest
 - Viewing of Silo
 - Presentation and Q&A period with Dean Anderson from WSPS
- LFSA Trailer was at the Lambton County Plowing Match
- Farm Safety Annual Meeting
 - Thursday, February 2
- Progressive Agriculture Safety Day
 - July 6 | Petrolia

2022-2023 Scholarship Winners

Joyce Anderson Scholarship (\$2,000)

- Administered by The Sarnia Community Foundation
- This year's recipient is **Emily Vanos** from Lambton Shores.
- Emily is currently enrolled in Brock University's Bachelor of Business Administration Co-op program with a concentration in marketing.

Patrick and Timothy Kerrigan Scholarship (\$1,000)

- The Kerrigan scholarship was started in 1988 (with funding replenished last year in 2021 upon the passing of Tim).
- This year's recipient is **Luke Soetemans** from Watford.
- Luke is enrolled in the Instrumentation and Control program at Lambton College.

Bell One Scholarship (\$1,000)

- This year's recipient is **Gracie Goodhill** from Watford; she is also a past recipient of the Bill & Dorothy Abraham scholarship.
- Gracie is enrolled in the third year of University of Guelph's Food and Agricultural Business (Co-op program).

Bell Two Scholarship (\$1,000)

- This year's recipient is **Nicholas Gerrits** from Wyoming Ontario; he is also a past recipient of the Anderson Scholarship.
- Nicholas is enrolled at the University of Manitoba, working towards a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, specializing in Plant Biotechnology.

Dona Stewardson Scholarship (\$1,000)

- This year's recipient is **Micah Van Ewyk** from outside Courtright.
- Micah is enrolled in the Bachelor of Information Technology program, which is a joint program between Carleton University and Algonquin College.

Lois Wakefield Scholarship (\$1,000)

- This year's recipient is **Tecla Gerrits** from north of Petrolia.
- Tecla is enrolled at Brock University in the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BScN) program.

Lambton County Women's Institute Scholarship (\$1,000)

- Last year, the Lambton County Women's Institute entrusted the LFA with money to continue the scholarship in their name. This year is the first year we were in charge of awarding the scholarship and it is still going to Lambton County students entering their first or second year of full time studies at any college or university in Ontario that leads to their first degree or diploma.
- This year's recipient is **Emily Crowe** from Sarnia.
- Emily is enrolled in the Medical Laboratory Technologist program at Ontario Tech University.

We had a couple of scholarships left over this year, for which we didn't have applications, or an applicant won elsewhere.

- Bill and Dorothy Abraham Scholarship (\$1,000)
- Don McCabe Scholarship (\$1,000)

Presidents Report

Gary Martin

Starting my third year as President last year, we continued to navigate closures and meeting virtually.

If one good thing came of the closures, it is the ability to attend more outside meetings and collaborate with more people and organizations without the need for travel.

Regardless of that, we had to remind ourselves of how to organize and execute an in-person meeting.

Of course, now people expect to have a video of the in-person meeting posted online because they are unable to attend.

The video from last year's AGM and our guest speaker Senator Rob Black is online if you missed it.

We hope to continue posting online, on our website and YouTube account, as well as our Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn accounts regardless of if we are in in-person or not.

Beginning the year, we were invited to online Ministry of Finance Pre-Budget consultations, online participation as a delegation to Sarnia City Council, and finishing up our projects, Rural Economic Development (RED) project with the Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership called Local Helping Local and our Food Hub webinars, as well as our partnership with Middlesex and Lambton agencies called From Our Hands To Your Table (handstotable.ca).

Virtual public meetings continued for a while and we were made aware of projects with Hydro One and Enbridge.

Our first in-person meeting this past year, partnering with Lambton Farm Safety, was held at the Wyoming Fairgrounds on March 28. We had Lauren Van Ewyk in to hold a session for Do More Ag called Talk Ask Listen, for mental health. This was our first attempt at videoing our in-person meetings.

We also held in-person All-Candidates meetings for the Provincial Election, and I was asked to speak at the Sarnia-Lambton Energy and Environment Summit.

In the summer, we held a movie night with Lambton Farm Safety at the Kineto Theatre, and we went back to Sarnia City Council, in-person this time.

We also hosted the Vice-President of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture for a tour of Lambton College, Twin Creek Greenhouses, and Four Clover Dairy. We then continued on to Alton Farms Estate Winery to hold our OFA Regional/Delegate Selection Meeting.

In the fall we participated in both an online and an in-person meeting for the proposed Electoral Boundary Redistribution.

We also were blessed to return to an in-person Ontario Federation of Agriculture AGM and convention.

So here we are, our first in-person Annual Meeting and dinner, my third as President, and according to our constitution, my last.

I trust that the Lambton Federation of Agriculture will continue its great work.

I won't be going anywhere, hopefully the new LFA Executive going forward has a place for me.

I'd like continue to engage with farmers in Lambton County, and this year I'd like to organize an all-commodity association social meeting, think a barbeque, and pie.

Keep in touch, and let us know what is going on, and what you need help with organizing. We can include your message in our Lambton Ag Link Newsletter and our monthly Radio Report, and all our social media.

Thanks,

Gary Martin



We are running our tenth annual EmployerOne Survey!

This survey is designed to collect feedback from local businesses of all sizes, across all industries. The results inform local employers, managers, job seekers, and other community stakeholders on workforce and career planning.

Employers, have your voice heard on workforce issues in your community!

VISIT WWW.SLWDB.ORG



This Employment Ontario project is funded in part by the Government of Canada and the Government of Ontario.