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February 2017- eActivity Report

Rapport d'activité électronique– février 2017

*To promote a sustainable and prosperous
agriculture industry
Favoriser une industrie de l'agriculture
durable et rentable*

February 2017 eActivity Report

1) Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA) Annual General Meeting

Andrew Lovell, Alliance Director and Alliance's CFA representative, Lisa Ashworth, Alliance's 2nd Vice President and Josée Albert, Alliance's CEO attended the Annual General Meeting of the CFA in Ottawa on February 22nd and 23rd. This year's AGM theme was: "Canada's 150: Our Farms, Our Food, Our Future."

Representatives gathered to examine policy options to better position our industry for growth. Among the highlights were discussions surrounding the next policy framework, international trade concerns, and farm leaders focus on growth strategies to advance Canadian agriculture.

Ron Bonnett was re-elected President, Norm Hall, a grain producer from Saskatchewan as First-Vice President and Marcel Groleau, a dairy producer from Quebec was acclaimed as Second-Vice President.

During his opening keynote, Agriculture and Agri-Food Minister Lawrence MacAulay emphasized the importance of farm organizations and governments working in partnership, especially in the evolving context of the international trade. He also spoke about the Agriculture Policy Framework, which is now being developed and will be finalized by federal and provincial agriculture ministers this July.

Attendees discussed international trade concerns with Pamela Goldsmith Jones, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of International Trade, who talked about progress with the Canada-EU trade agreement (CETA) as well as other trade negotiations.

Dominic Barton, Chair of the Finance Minister's Advisory Council on Economic Growth, presented highlights from the council's report released last month, which recommended ways to help create the conditions for strong and sustained long-term economic growth. Farm groups are pleased to see that agriculture has been showcased in the report as a sector that has immense growth potential.

CFA members passed 40 resolutions that will guide its advocacy efforts in the coming year. This year's resolutions cover a range of issues, including: program funding, trade, rural infrastructure, risk management, transportation, tax policy, climate change, food safety, crop protection, labour, data and digital technology, and other topics.

Among the other speakers at the annual meeting were David Anderson, the Conservative party agriculture critic; Tracey Ramsey the NDP's international trade critic; and Mike Hoffort, President and CEO of Farm Credit Canada. A panel on carbon pricing featured presentations from Dr. Susan Wood-Baum of Alberta Innovates; Dale Beugin of the Ecofiscal Commission; and Dean Hubbard, a producer from Alberta.

"Over the next few months, we will focus on the goals and objectives of the new CFA strategic plan," said Bonnett. The plan, approved in principle by CFA's board following the AGM, has been developed around a vision of CFA as the national voice of Canadian producers; committed to enabling their success, which will create benefits for all Canadians.

Click [here](#) to access the AGM's press release.

2) Atlantic Federation of Agriculture Meeting with Hon. Lawrence McAulay, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

The Atlantic Federation of Agriculture representatives took advantage of being in Ottawa for CFA's AGM to meet with Minister McAulay. Andrew Lovell attended on behalf of the Alliance. The main topics discussed with the Minister were;

- Increased assistance for risk management under the next policy framework, particularly the addressing the issues relating to the existing AgriStability program and the need to restore it to its Growing Forward 85% reference margins, address low participation rates and provide flexibility to diversified farms and reevaluating the approach utilized to calculate yield loss under to the AgriInsurance program;
- The need for the federal government to take a leadership role in addressing interprovincial trade barriers;
- The need to re-establish specific funding for regional research and innovation funding, through a similar mechanism as the previous provincial agriculture councils; and
- The need to invest in Atlantic infrastructure to help with export market access

3) Canadian Agriculture Safety Week

The Agricultural Alliance of New Brunswick (AANB), WorkSafeNB and the New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries invite you to recognize Canadian Agricultural Safety Week (CASW) 2017 by committing to providing healthy and safe environments for everyone who lives on, works on or visits farms.

Canada is the fifth-largest agricultural exporter in the world and Canadian farmers are world leaders in quality food production. Unfortunately, an average of 84 Canadians are killed each year in agriculture-related incidents. Last year, in our province, 130 workers were injured from agriculture-related job tasks. This must stop. We need our farmers to stay healthy and be safe so they can continue to grow quality food for a growing world.

You can make a difference on your farm. Create a plan, one that makes safety the priority of your farming operations. As world leaders, Canada's farmers deserve to have

the safest and most productive farms possible. This week, make a commitment to your farm, your family and yourself.



- Like our [Facebook page](#) and share farm safety messages during the event
- Developing and Communicating a General Policy Statement on Health and Safety for your farm is the first step in creating and implementing a farm safety plan. Access the template [here](#)
- View and share the videos found under the [Toolbox Talks](#) resources about specific topics relevant to agriculture and how to undertake these various tasks safely and properly.

4) **[Seeking Your Input- Next Policy Framework- Non-Business Risk Management Survey](#)**

Following a request from the Alliance, the Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture & Fisheries is launching a survey to receive your input on what you think should change and/or not change for the non-Business Risk Management suite of programs under the Next Policy Framework.

We invite you to take advantage of this great opportunity to assist the Department in setting priorities for program development for the next policy framework. Canada/New Brunswick Growing Forward 2 expires on March 31, 2018. Development of the next policy framework beginning April 1, 2018 is well underway. This survey can be completed in two different ways:

- Online at <https://sondage.ccnb.ca/nbisa-asinb/index.php/728197/lang-en>
- Submitting a completed survey (attached) to any Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries regional office or mailing to: Producer Survey, Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries, Industry Financial Programs, PO Box 6000, Fredericton NB, E3B 5H1
- **[The deadline to respond to the survey is March 17, 2017](#)**

5) Meeting with the Department of Environment and Local Government

Alliance's representative and staff attended a meeting requested by the Private Woodlot Owners Association to discuss the Department of Environment and Local Government recent changes with the definition of a watercourse for enforcing the watercourse and wetland alterations permits (see information enclosed).

We were informed that the exemptions for agriculture will remain, that enforcement will be based on what's on the ground vs what is on the map, that the protocol to establish whether the watercourse required a permit or not is currently being developed, that this change does not in any way change the enforcement of other Acts and Regulations such as the Fisheries Act and that the Department will include an education phase.

The Alliance will be meeting with the Department during March to develop a fact sheet for agriculture producers to include information such as: listing the exemptions for the agriculture sector (with links to the pertaining Acts and regulations), the new definition for the enforcement of the WAWA regulation (with appropriate links), links to other potentially applicable Acts and regulations and contact information for the regional offices.

In addition, the Department has agreed to work with the Alliance and Agri-Environmental Clubs to include this topic during field days to provide an opportunity for producers to answer questions and learn about the changes. We will be providing further information in our next eActivity report.

6) Business Risk Management Programs- Information Session

Registration Form Enclosed



Business Risk Management Programs Information Session



Not familiar with the AgriStability, AgriInvest and/or the AgriInsurance Programs? Would you like to know how to further take advantage of these programs? Want the opportunity to ask questions to government staff?

Then these sessions are for you!

Date	Location	Time (will be based on demand)
March 10 th	Moncton (specific location to be determined)	9 am-11 am (French)
		1 pm- 3 pm (English)
March 13 th	St-André (specific location to be determined)	9 am-11 am (French)
		1 pm- 3 pm (English)
March 15 th	Wicklow (specific location to be determined)	9 am-11 am (French)
		1 pm- 3 pm (English)
March 17 th	Fredericton (specific location to be determined)	9 am-11 am (French)
		1 pm- 3 pm (English)
March 20 th	Tracadie (specific location to be determined)	9 am-11 am (French)
		1 pm- 3 pm (English)
March 23 rd	Sussex (specific location to be determined)	9 am-11 am (French)
		1 pm- 3 pm (English)

Please register by completing the form enclosed and send to:
alliancefermenbfarm.ca or by calling our office at (506) 452-8101



THERE IS NO COST TO ATTEND THE SESSIONS. PLEASE REGISTER BEFORE MARCH 3RD 2017

Sponsored by:



7) **Temporary Foreign Worker Program & Labour Options Information Session**

The Agricultural Alliance & Agri-Management Services
would like to invite you to participate in a bilingual
workshop being held:

Thursday March 16th, 2017

9:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Riverside Resort – 35 Mactaquac Rd., French Village

This session aims to provide you with knowledge and tools to navigate the
Temporary Foreign Worker Program as well as other labour options,
through the presentations of both farmer, government and non-
governmental perspectives and expertise

Please refer to the information enclosed and RSVP by phone at (506) 206-
2608 or by email: administration@ams-sag.ca

8) **Environmental Farm Plan**

An Environmental Farm Plan (EFP) facilitator will be in the regions below in the following
months. Please contact John Russell or Camille Coulombe at (506) 452-8101 or [efp-
pfe@fermenbfarm.ca](mailto:efp-pfe@fermenbfarm.ca) if you would like to schedule an appointment. The EFP schedule can be
found at www.fermenbfarm.ca under Environment and Schedule section.

March 2017

First two weeks - Region 4 (Center-South / Sussex)

Last two weeks - Region 2 (North-East / Bathurst)

April 2017

First two weeks – Region 3 (South-East / Moncton)

April 18th – 21st – Region 1 (North-East)

April 24th – 28th – Region 5 (Centre)

9) **Notices**

Agri-Invest and Agri-Stability programs: Please see below for the upcoming deadlines for these programs.

2016 AgriInvest:

2016 AgriInvest Application (without penalty)

- September 30, 2017: Deadline to submit the 2016 AgriInvest application without penalty.

2016 AgriInvest Application (with penalty)

- December 31, 2017: Deadline to submit the 2016 AgriInvest application with penalty.

2016 AgriInvest Deposit Deadline

- 90 days from the date of your 2016 AgriInvest Deposit Notice

2016 AgriStability Deadlines:

2016 AgriStability Interim Payment Application Deadline

- March 31, 2017: 2016 Interim Payment Application deadline.

2016 AgriStability/AgriInvest Harmonized Form without penalty

- September 30, 2017: Deadline to submit the 2016 AgriStability/AgriInvest Harmonized Form without penalty.

2016 AgriStability/AgriInvest Harmonized Form with penalty

- December 31, 2017: Deadline to submit the 2016 AgriStability/AgriInvest Harmonized Form with penalty.

Note: If a deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or statutory holiday, you have until the next business day to meet that deadline.

AgriStability is delivered in Manitoba, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Labrador and Yukon by the federal government. The information on this website refers to deadlines and other delivery details for these provinces only.

Mentorship Program: Please see the poster attached for more details.

Worksafe NB - Buyer Beware - WHMIS Training

WorkSafeNB has learned that companies are contacting New Brunswick employers telling them they must retrain all staff on Workplace Hazardous Material Information System (WHMIS). To convince employers to register for their course, the companies suggest the employers are not in compliance with provincial labour laws.

The training company implies they are affiliated with provincial occupational health and safety regulators - they are not. WorkSafeNB reminds New Brunswickers that we have no affiliation with these companies.

If you have any questions about WHMIS training or the WHMIS program in general, see WHMIS page or review the Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System regulation.

New – Exclusive Membership Benefit for Agricultural Alliance Members



What: Valuation and property tax advisory services by licensed, Accredited Appraisers specialising in farm valuation.

Where: Throughout New Brunswick.

Contact: (506) 634 1811 or 1-800-567-3033 (toll free).

Promotion: 15% discount from our regular fee scale or competitive quote from any Accredited Appraiser (Appraisal Institute of Canada).

This information may also be found on our website www.fermenbfarm.ca under Membership, Exclusive Benefits.

Export NB

Learnsphere Canada and the Collège communautaire du Nouveau-Brunswick (CCNB) are pleased to invite the business community to discover ExportNB, New Brunswick's first ever one stop web portal dedicated to helping businesses and economic developers grow the Province's exports.

Information on a demonstration near you:

Date: March 16th, 2017

Time: 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Location: Acadian Peninsula, Shippagan, 143 Amphitheatre UMCS

Date: March 17th, 2017

Time: 1:00 p.m. -2:30 p.m.

Location: Bathurst, CCNB campus, College St, P234 – Salle des Pères-Eudistes

Date: March 28th, 2017

Time: 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Location: Dieppe, CCNB campus, Amphitheatre

For more information, please see the attached poster.

Notice of Meeting – Changes to the Livestock Operations Act (LOA)

The Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries (DAAF) is considering changes to the Livestock Operations Act (LOA) and prior to conducting regional meetings, the department would like to get input on the proposed changes from the two general farm organizations and the livestock producer associations.

Representatives of your sector are invited to this meeting:

Date: March 23rd, 2017

Time: 9:30 a.m. – noon

Where: Charlotte Room, DAAF building, 850 Lincoln Road, Fredericton

Regional meetings will be held from March 27th to April 4th, 2017. Please see the attached meeting notice for further information.

Pesticide Applicator Certification Training Courses

There will be a pesticide training course held in Fredericton on April 28th, 2017 and one held in Sussex on May 3rd, 2017. Please see the attached posters for more information and to register.

Pesticide Applicator Courses – CCNB

Pesticide Applicator courses will be held at CCNB locations on the following dates:

March 28th, 2017 – CCNB Site de Grand-Sault

March 30th, 2017 – CCNB Campbellton

April 1st, 2017 – CCNB Dieppe

April 8th, 2017 – CCNB Péninsule acadienne (École des pêches de Caraquet)

For more information and to register, please see the attached poster.

Survey: CanadaGAP Expert Assistance

Last fall, CanadaGAP surveyed program participants on their experience with the program. We received an excellent response, and have been reviewing the survey results and listening to feedback from CanadaGAP program users.

The Board of CanAgPlus, the corporation that owns and operates the CanadaGAP program, also used program participant survey results as input to the Board strategic planning session on December 2016.

The outcome of these two activities is to prompt CanadaGAP to explore the feasibility of entering into a new service area.

CanadaGAP is considering whether to provide new services such as training, workshops, presentations, one-on-one coaching, farm visits, email or phone support, or other technical services to help producers implement the program within their operation and better understand how to meet CanadaGAP requirements. The technical support could be available on a fee-for-service basis to individuals, groups, producers, operators or their employees, consultants, growers' associations, government representatives, etc. This would be a new direction for CanadaGAP, which currently does not provide consulting or individualized technical support to program users.

This brief survey should take no more than 5 minutes. Whether you are a producer, packer, broker, grower representative, consultant, government official, or other program user (individual or group) potentially interested in any of the proposed services, please spend a few moments complete the survey so that we can determine demand for "CanadaGAP Expert Assistance".

Link to the survey at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/expertassistance>

The survey will be available until April 30, 2017. We thank you in advance for your comments.

Please contact the CanadaGAP office if you have any questions.

10) UPCOMING EVENTS

Consultation on Proposed Safe Food for Canadians Regulations

Join an information session and learn more about the proposed Safe Food for Canadians Regulations. The CFIA will be hosting in-person and web-based information sessions across the country in February and March 2017. For further information please visit the following event web site <http://inspection.sondages-surveys.ca/surveys/CFIA-ACIA/proposed-sfcr-info-session/?l=en>

Maritime Beef Conference - Best Western Glengarry, Truro, NS – March 17th & 18th, 2017

Please see the attached agenda for conference details.

Food Regulatory Workshop – The Fredericton Inn, Fredericton, NB – March 30th, 2017

To view the workshop agenda and to register please see the attached information.

Bleuets NB Blueberries AGM / Conference – Algonquin, St. Andrews, NB – March 31st & April 1st, 2017

Please see the attached agenda for conference details.

Atlantic Farm Women's Conference – Delta Halifax 1990 Barrington Street, Halifax, NS – April 28th & 29th, 2017

To view the conference agenda, please click [here](#).