

2016  
ANNUAL  
REPORT



Canadian Foundation for  
Food and Agricultural Education

# Contents

President's Message	p. 01
Canadian Foundation for Food and Agricultural Education 2016-2017	p. 02
Douglas McRorie Memorial Scholarship	p. 03
Dr. Karl C. Ivarson Scholarship for Students in Soil Science and Related Studies	p. 04
Dr. Karl C. Ivarson Agricultural Scholarship	p. 05
The Canadian Foundation for Food and Agricultural Education's Purposes	p. 06
Your Donation to the CFFAE Supports a Strong Future for Canadian Agriculture	p. 06
CFFAE Honorary Patrons	p. 07
CFFAE Donors	p. 07
Annual General Meeting	p. 08
Newsletter	p. 08

# President's Message



In 2016, the Board of Directors made the decision to change our legal name from the Agricultural Institute of Canada Foundation to the Canadian Foundation for Food and Agricultural Education / Fondation canadienne pour l'éducation alimentaire et agricole (CFFAE/FCEAA).

This decision was not taken lightly. The Foundation has a proud history and is widely respected across Canada for our agricultural scholarship programs. But we believed the time was right, marking our 30th anniversary in 2017, to look to the future and what we want to accomplish in the next 30 years. Our new name more clearly reflects our mission and objectives.

Our mission remains the same – to inspire knowledge and understanding of the importance of sustainable agriculture to society. We will be working to expand our important scholarship programs that support a strong future for Canadian agriculture, as demonstrated by the outstanding students we profile in this Annual Report.

In 2016 we also began discussions with the Association of Canadian Faculties of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine towards establishing a formal working relationship. Those discussions concluded successfully in early 2017. CFFAE will be consulting with the Deans of Canada's agricultural colleges on new scholarship programs in areas such as experiential learning, international study, sustainable agriculture, as well as entrance scholarships.

We are grateful to all of our supporters, donors and sponsors for making our programs possible. Thank you for sharing in our mission. Special thanks to our Patrons for their important efforts on our behalf and to the Chairs of our working committees. I especially want to thank my fellow Board members for their exceptional dedication to the Foundation in the past year. I am grateful for their vision and commitment.

I am excited about our renewal and hope you will choose to be part of our success story in the next 30 years.

**Janice Elmhirst, PhD**

President 2016-2017

# Canadian Foundation for Food and Agricultural Education 2016-2017

## **President**

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# Douglas McRorie Memorial Scholarship

This Scholarship is made available through the generous support of the RBC Foundation. It was established by the AIC Foundation in 1990 to honour past-president and agri-finance innovator Douglas McRorie, PAg, FAIC. In 2016, two graduate students in agricultural business, finance and/or trade were honoured for their achievements.



**Kate Pankowska** is a student at the University of British Columbia (UBC), where she is a PhD candidate in Integrated Studies in Land and Food Systems (ISLFS) with a specialization in Wine Economics. She is researching British Columbia (BC) wine economics in cooperation with

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's (AAFC) research station in Summerland as well as Okanagan valley wineries.

Kate's wine research concerns relationships between BC terroir defined as natural vineyards endowments like soil, climate, elevation, aspect etc. and wine pricing for BC Vintners Quality Alliance (VQA) wines. It aims to help understand the value of terroir in a bottle of BC VQA wine, the importance of the location of the estate winery matter while pricing wine, and the role of individual and collective (regional) brand reputation for marketing success.

Ms. Pankowska has been a tutor in agricultural economics since 2009 and a teaching assistant in the Faculty of Land and Food Systems since 2011, helping prepare courses in food and resource economics and statistics. She also is a student member of the UBC Behavioural Research Ethics Board, which helps review proposals from various faculties to comply with research ethics.

Kate has been a team member in various assignments in value chain analysis for the Ethiopian agricultural sector. This work helped her develop many important technical skills associated with cost-benefit analysis, financial analysis, development of market based agricultural value chains, agro-marketing, field data collection and cooperation with various stakeholders.

Ms. Pankowska hopes to have a career as an educator in a university or college or work in public service to help improve Canadian agricultural policy.



**Joel Bokenfohr** is completing his Masters degree in the Department of Food and Resource Economics at the University of British Columbia.

Prior to returning to university for his Masters, Joel was employed by Alberta Agriculture

and Forestry. He first worked in the areas of farm safety and agriculture education, where he created a marketing plan to increase awareness of farm safety, targeting 16-25 year olds. He then worked as a Business Development and Extension Specialist, coaching new venture startups and developing training programs to assist departmental staff. Following that, he became the farm financial specialist, focusing on the economics and business of agriculture. In this position he assisted farm families in developing succession plans and providing support to agricultural businesses on taxation and financial matters. During this time, he was involved in a number of policy files and led the organization and extension of a seminar for agricultural advisors across Western Canada.

Joel served as Alberta representative to Farm Management Canada, a national organization devoted to the development and delivery of business management resources and information to Canada's farmers. He was a member of the Institute of Public Administration of Canada's Public Servants Committee and served two years as the Program Chair with the goal of creating networks across the public service in Edmonton and Canada. He also has extensive volunteer experience at the community level.

He works in his family's grain farm operation in Alberta and hopes to continue expanding the operation and to stay involved in agricultural policy and economic issues by working in the industry with primary producer's and agriculture organizations.

# Dr. Karl C. Ivarson Scholarship for Students in Soil Science and Related Studies

The Karl C. Ivarson Soils Scholarship provides financial support to a student entering their second or subsequent year of graduate studies in soil science in the areas of agriculture, agroecology, resource management, environment, geology or other related disciplines.



**Alison Murata** is a PhD candidate in the Department of Renewable Resources at the University of Alberta. Her research is focused on assessing the magnitude, extent, and risk of soil and groundwater contamination

at a former University of Alberta waste management facility located within Edmonton city limits, and developing appropriate remediation strategies.

Her work experience has included studies ranging from wetland hydrology to stream sediment sourcing to soil amendment mineralization. She has been a teaching assistant since 2010, helped lead soil survey field trips, and assisted with a land reclamation project in the Northwest Territories by setting up plots for a soil development experiment at a northern mine.

Ms. Murata is a volunteer with several outreach groups which strive to increase community knowledge and interest in science and the environment. She is a General Director on the Executive Committee of the Renewable Resources Graduate Students' Association and has been Secretary of the Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences Graduate

Students' Association and Renewable Resources Councillor of the University of Alberta Graduate Student' Association. She also served as a member of the Canadian Society of Soil Science International Year of Soils Committee.

Through a position in the public or private sector, Ms. Murata hopes to carry out applied environmental research. She is especially interested in land remediation and reclamation, reflecting her belief in the importance of protecting soil resources.

# Dr. Karl C. Ivarson Agricultural Scholarship

This scholarship was created by Dr. Karl C. Ivarson through a bequest to the Agricultural Institute of Canada Foundation. In keeping with Dr. Ivarson's wishes, the scholarship supports students from his home province of Alberta in their pursuit of studies in agricultural sciences.



**Christine Rosser** is a PhD candidate in Animal Science in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Sciences at the University of Alberta. Her research is focused on development of a novel method to provide feed enzymes to livestock to improve feed

digestibility and thereby improve animal performance, production efficiency and reduce methane emissions.

While pursuing her undergraduate degree Christine was active in the University of Saskatchewan Agriculture Student Association and was a member of the university's Stockmen's Club. She also served as Co-Chair and Chair of the University of Saskatchewan Range Team, whose focus was on learning about rangeland management including ecology, grazing management and multiple-use relationships. While working on her Master's degree, she served as secretary for the Animal and Poultry Science Graduate Student Council, where she represented graduate students at the University of Saskatchewan's Graduate Student Association.

Christine is interested in educating the general public on agricultural practices to reduce help misinformation and mistrust in the general public with regards to food production. She led tours of the University of Saskatchewan Research Barns, including a group of high performing high school students, with the objective of showing them the wide variety of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) opportunities that are available in the agriculture industry.

Christine's future career goal is to work in a combination of research, research extension, and teaching. After completion of her PhD degree she would like to work in an academic position where she can share her passion for agriculture with students and share her research results with producers through extension.



**Mathew Vercaigne** is a Masters candidate in Plant Science in the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Sciences at the University of Alberta. His area of research focus is weed science, and specifically control of foxtail barley in

spring wheat and saline soil weed problems.

He is a Certified Crop Advisor and has acquired many agronomic and research skills through study and experiential learning with a major crop science company. He enjoys interacting with producers and this year has made presentations relating to his research to the Farming Smarter field days in Lethbridge and the Lakeland College field days at Vermilion, Alberta. He is also an active member of the Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists.

Mathew hopes to pursue a career that allows him to help producers find management strategies that minimize economic yield losses caused by weed competition in their crops, as well as in development of new weed control products. He also hopes to continue participating in extension events in order to provide producers with the most up-to-date research to help them make the best informed decisions they can for their operations.

# The Canadian Foundation for Food and Agricultural Education's Purposes

To advance education by developing and supporting education programs in the agricultural and food sciences for Canada's agricultural community and the general public;

To advance education by developing and supporting scholarship programs to foster continued interest in the study of agricultural and food sciences by university students;

To promote excellence and efficiency in the Canadian agriculture and food sectors by supporting research on matters of importance to the agricultural community and the general public.

Your donation to the CFFAE supports a strong future for Canadian agriculture

Donating to the Canadian Foundation for Food and Agricultural Education supports professionalism in the agricultural and food sector in Canada. For information about CFFAE's work, visit the CFFAE website [www.cffae.ca](http://www.cffae.ca). The Canadian Foundation for Food and Agricultural Education is a registered charitable organization (federal registration number 12193 4947 RR0001), all donations are tax creditable and an official tax receipt will be mailed to you.

# CFFAE Honorary Patrons

## **Mary Buhr, PhD**

Dean, College of Agriculture and Bioresources  
University of Saskatchewan

## **Robert Church, PhD**

University of Calgary (retired)  
Church Livestock Consultants

## **Garth Coffin, PhD**

Principal (retired), Nova Scotia Agricultural College

## **Arthur Froehlich**

President, Agriview

## **Robert Gordon, PhD**

Vice-President, Research  
Wilfred Laurier University

## **Kim McConnell, CM**

Founder and former CEO, Adfarm

## **Edward Tyrchniewicz, PhD**

Senior Scholar, Department of Agribusiness  
University of Manitoba

## **Hon. Lyle Vanclief**

Canada's Minister of Agriculture (1997-2003)

# CFFAE Donors

The Canadian Foundation for Food and Agricultural Education is a registered charity and all donations are tax creditable.

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of all individual and corporate donors in 2016. Your donations provide vital assistance to our scholarship programs and operations.

Special thanks to Robert and Georgina Church for their generous donation which allowed us to launch our exciting fresh brand, as exemplified by our new logo and this Annual Report.

Our sincere thanks as well to the RBC Foundation for their most valued support of the Douglas McRorie Memorial Scholarship.



# Annual General Meeting

**The Annual General Meeting was held on March 30, 2016.**

The Foundation's Priority Planning and Fundraising Committee, chaired by Corrina Dawe, continued development and implementation of a fundraising campaign for our proposed new scholarship programs. They are being assisted by an eminent group of Patrons.

The Education and Scholarship Committee is chaired by David Chanasyk, PhD, and is responsible for selection of recipients of the Foundation's scholarships.

The Foundation's financial statements are available on request to the CFFAE office.

## Newsletter

The Foundation's Connections Newsletter was published as a Fall edition in 2016. The newsletter is distributed by email or in hard copy and is available online at [cffae.ca](http://cffae.ca).

To have your name added to the mailing list to receive the newsletter, send a request to the CFFAE office ([manager@cffae.ca](mailto:manager@cffae.ca)) including your full name and email address or mailing address.

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