

2017
ANNUAL
REPORT



Canadian Foundation for
Food and Agricultural Education



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President's Message



The change in our legal name to the Canadian Foundation for Food and Agricultural Education / Fondation canadienne pour l'éducation alimentaire et agricole (CFFAE/FCEAA) was given formal approval by Corporations Canada on February 2, 2017. We are pleased that our new name has been well received by our communities and supporters across Canada.

Among our communities is the Association of Canadian Faculties of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine, with whom we have established a formal working relationship through a joint Scholarship Advisory Committee. The committee includes representatives from both organizations and focuses on the nature, scope and needs for future scholarships administered

by the CFFAE, ensuring they are relevant to the needs of Canadian agricultural education institutions, industry and students.

The Foundation is proud of the exceptional students we supported in 2017 through our scholarship programs. Please read about their research, academic achievements, and leadership in the following pages.

Our Priority Planning and Fundraising Committee was very busy last year and has made connections in the agricultural industry that we are optimistic will lead to support for new scholarship programs. We also were pleased that personal donations to the Foundation rose to a new level in 2017.

Thank you to everyone who has helped and supported us in so many ways through the past year. Thanks to our Patrons for their important work on our behalf and to the Chairs and members of our working committees. I would like to pay tribute to Wilfred Lamb, who served as our auditor for many years, for providing us with excellent service.

Special thanks to my fellow Board members for their dedication, professional and financial, to CFFAE in the past year. Corrina Dawe and Brian Little will retire at the 2018 AGM and I want to thank them for their truly exceptional commitment and service. Corrina has been a Board member for nine years and served as President from 2012-2015. She has also acted as Chair of the Priority Planning and Fundraising Committee (PPFC) for many years. Brian has been a Board member for six years and a very active member of the PPFC, particularly in cultivating new corporate relationships for the Foundation. Thank you Corrina and Brian, you will be greatly missed.

Janice Elmhirst, PhD
President 2017-2018

Canadian Foundation for Food and Agricultural Education 2017-2018

President

Janice Elmhirst, PhD, British Columbia

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Brian Little, MSc, PAg, Ontario

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Douglas McRorie Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship is made available through the generous support of the RBC Foundation. It was established in 1990 to honour agri-finance innovator Douglas McRorie, PAg, FAIC. In 2017, two Masters students majoring in agricultural business, finance and/or trade received the scholarships.



Claire Doll is a Masters student in the Agriculture and Resource Economics program at the University of Alberta.

Her research and career interests lie in the economics of agricultural systems, land use, and energy. Her thesis work

seeks to evaluate the financial viability of a second-generation ethanol industry in Canada; she is assessing the conditions under which energy crops might become competitive with traditional agricultural crops. She hopes to pursue a career that will further sustainable agriculture and sustainable land use objectives.

As an undergraduate student, Claire worked as a Research Assistant in the Department of Resource Economics and Environmental Sociology, where she was involved in a project on farmland conversion and fragmentation in Alberta. After graduation she found a position as a Research Assistant at the Technical University of Munich, where she co-authored a report titled "Ecosystem-Based Management and Forestry on the Central Coast of British Columbia, Canada."

Claire serves as President of her Department's student group, the Resource Economics and Environmental Sociology Students' Association (REESSA), whose goals are to promote the general welfare and mental wellness of students, while furthering intellectual, cultural, social, and recreational activities. This year she is serving as co-chair of the student planning committee for Visions, the REESSA/ Alberta Agricultural Economics Association joint conference. She also serves as a representative on the Women's Intramural Network, whose purpose is to address the needs of women on campus in intramural programming, ensuring their voices are heard in recreational athletics, and making recommendations to campus programmers.



Nathaniel Whittingham

is a Masters student in the Department of Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics (FARE) at the University of Guelph. His thesis work focuses on analysis of government communication policy surrounding genetically modified foods. His objective

is to provide data to Ontario government ministries on how consumers trade information about genetically modified foods.

Nathaniel serves as the representative for the FARE department on the Ontario Agricultural College Graduate Student Council, whose primary focus is to plan and coordinate events between all the programs of the OAC and to communicate any graduate student issues or concerns across the various departments. He is also the FARE representative for the local CUPE 3913.

Throughout and after his undergraduate degree he held positions with Pioneer, DuPont and Monsanto Canada, first as a research assistant in the canola breeding program and second in Monsanto's technology development group, helping coordinate research and further communicate that research with farmers.

Prior to undertaking his graduate degree, Nathaniel spent two years teaching abroad both for work and as a volunteer in areas including Nepal, Thailand, and Cambodia. This allowed him to learn about some of the obstacles that individuals are forced to overcome to gain an education in their respective countries.

Nathaniel's career interests are to work with major economic issues related to agriculture and specifically the adoption of genetically modified technology and agriculture trade, evaluating how they affect advanced and developing economies.

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 her/his second or subsequent year of graduate studies in soil science in the areas of agriculture, agro-ecology, resource management, environment, geology or other related disciplines.



Stephanie Chute-Ibsen is a PhD student in the Department of Renewable Resources, and a member of the Land Reclamation International Graduate School (LRIGS), at the University of Alberta. Her research is focused on land reclamation and the ability to

measure success of areas that are actively being reclaimed by assessing various ecosystem health indicators, including soil properties, soil microbial communities, and soil invertebrates. Her research will enhance reclamation practices and further understanding of the soil biological community and the associated processes and relationships.

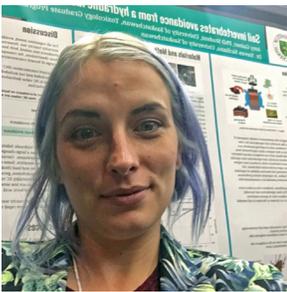
Stephanie is passionate about sharing her love of science and encouraging people to be environmental stewards of the planet. She is an active mentor to young children and teenagers through her work with USchool and Envirothon. She is a regular volunteer with WISEST (Women in Scholarship, Engineering, Science and Technology), an executive member of the ACCESS Youth Council (a program that supports Canadian youths and the ACCESS initiative by giving young people a voice in their mental health care), and a volunteer and foster parent for Zoe's Animal Rescue.

Stephanie is president of the Renewable Resources Departments Graduate Students' Association (GSA), the graduate student representative in the Faculty of Agricultural, Life, and Environmental Sciences, and a member of the GSA Labour Relations Committee.

Her work experience includes exploring the effects of atmospheric nitrogen and sulfur deposition on soil microbial and chemical properties, working at the Helmholtz Center for Environmental Research in Leipzig, Germany, assisting on a reclamation project at Suncor, and assisting on multiple reclamation research projects belonging to fellow colleagues. She was a teaching assistant in the land reclamation capstone course for undergraduate students and in the course for graduate students at the University of Alberta.

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.



Amy Gainer, Amy Gainer, a PhD candidate in Toxicology/ Soil Science at the University of Saskatchewan, received the PhD scholarship of \$16,900. She was born in Alberta and obtained her Bachelors and Masters degrees at the University of Alberta.

Both within and outside her thesis, she is researching remediation and toxicity of agricultural soils impacted by a range of products like fertilizers, salts, pesticides and petroleum products, an important and growing area of soil toxicology as global food demands continue to rise. For the past two years, she has volunteered with the Student Planning Committee for the Canadian Ecotoxicity Workshop (CEW) annual conference and in 2017 co-chaired a session on soil contamination and toxicity.

Amy has mentored young women in the scientific communities at the University of Alberta and the University of Saskatchewan and was a volunteer with the Big Brother Big Sister Boys and Girls Club of Edmonton. She leads discussion-based workshops on current issues that women face at the University of Saskatchewan's Women's Centre and received an award for her volunteer contributions in 2017.

She has worked in the private consulting industry as a soil scientist conducting soil and plant assessments on agricultural lands. She obtained her professional status as a Professional Agrologist with the Alberta Institute of Agrologists and currently holds a part time job as a Student Ambassador with the Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists and the Ministry of Agriculture.

Amy hopes to pursue employment as a professor of soil ecotoxicology conducting research and educating the next generation of scientists.



Leanne Ejack, a student at McGill University in Montreal, received the Masters scholarship of \$10,000. She grew up in a farming community in Central Alberta, where her family still farms.

Leanne attended Red Deer College before transferring to the University of Saskatchewan to finish her undergraduate degree at the University of Saskatchewan. She later attended Kwantlen Polytechnic University in B.C. to complete an applied science degree in Sustainable Agriculture. During her university years, Leanne served in a variety of volunteer positions including an executive member of the University of Saskatchewan Biology Club, as well as co-president of the Kwantlen Polytechnic Sustainable Agriculture Students Association. She also volunteered at several extension events, including most recently, the Living Soils Symposium at Concordia University in October 2017

After obtaining her first undergraduate degree, Leanne worked as a crop scout and advisor. She then spent several months in Australia and Southeast Asia volunteering on a variety of farms, most of which practiced farming methods aimed at restoring soil health and creating resilient farm ecosystems.

Leanne is currently in the Soil Ecology Research Group at McGill University. She is studying how different combinations of fall cover crops and manure applications influence soil nitrogen dynamics over the winter, and the effect this has on the growth and yield of subsequent spring crops. Leanne plans to make agricultural research her career by undertaking a PhD, then returning to her home province of Alberta to use her skills and scientific knowledge to encourage policymakers to prioritize agriculture and soil health in their decision-making.

The Canadian Foundation for Food and Agricultural Education's Purposes

To develop and support education programs in agricultural and food sciences for Canada's agricultural community and the general public;

To develop and support scholarship programs in agricultural and food sciences for university and college 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 cffae.ca. The Canadian Foundation for Food and Agricultural Education is a registered charitable organization (federal registration number 12193 4947 RR0001). Tax receipts are issued for all donations.

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

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Wilfred Laurier University

Kim McConnell

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 2017.

Your donations provide vital assistance to our scholarship programs and operations.

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



Annual General Meeting

The CFFAE Annual General Meeting was held on May 17, 2017.

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. The Committee is assisted by an eminent group of Patrons.

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

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

New Program Priorities

The CFFAE Board of Directors has identified the creation of new scholarships that support the development of careers in agriculture and related sciences as a priority goal for programming initiatives. These scholarships would support students enrolled in Canadian universities and colleges in programs that advance or benefit the agricultural and food science community in Canada including:

1. Experiential learning for undergraduates (support for studies in a different geographic location)
2. International study for graduate students (support for studies abroad)
3. Entrance scholarships (support for first year agricultural studies)
4. Sustainable agriculture, environment, and aquaculture
5. Indigenous students (encourage enrolment in agricultural studies by indigenous students)



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