

2018  
ANNUAL  
REPORT



Canadian Foundation for  
Food and Agricultural Education



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## President's Message



The Foundation's core objective is to deliver scholarship programs for Canadian university and college students in the agricultural and food sciences and to encourage their continued learning. In 2018 we provided scholarships to the five exceptional students who are profiled in the following pages.

In 2018 the Foundation established separate Governance and Fundraising Committees, in addition to our Education and Scholarship Committee which is responsible for selection of the students who receive our scholarships. Our Scholarship Advisory Committee is our liaison with the Association of Canadian Faculties of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine with whom we are consulting on potential new scholarship programs.

I want to thank my fellow Board members for their service: it is truly a privilege to serve with such wonderful people in such a good cause. I want to pay special tribute to Larry Spratt and Yvan Jacques who are retiring from the Board in 2019. Larry served as President of the Foundation in 2016-16 and brought a valuable perspective and insight to the board. Yvan was an active member of the Fundraising Committee and his many friends and connections to influential people in the Canadian agricultural industry have been a great benefit to the Foundation.

We welcomed new Board members Iris Meck, Ron Bolton and Mary Leggett in 2018. Their diverse expertise and experience will be invaluable to the Board. Iris is owner of Iris Meck Communications and hosts the annual Advancing Women Conferences in eastern and western Canada. Ron is retired from CIBC, where he worked in agricultural financial services. Mary is recently retired from Novozymes, where she led a research group in the BioAg division.

The CFFAE Board of Directors is encouraged by the support we continue to receive from our Patrons and the general public. In the coming year, we look forward to expanding our education and scholarship programs with new board members and a new information package to support our corporate fundraising campaign.

**Janice Elmhirst, PhD**  
President 2018-2019

# Canadian Foundation for Food and Agricultural Education 2018-2019

## **President**

Janice Elmhirst, PhD, British Columbia

## **Directors**

Ron Bolton, BSc, MSc, Ontario

Yvan Jacques, BSA, MBA, agr, Ontario

Mary Leggett, BSc, PhD, Saskatchewan

Iris Meck, BSc, Alberta

Larry Spratt, BSc, Saskatchewan

Yvonne Thyssen-Post, BSc, MEd, PAg, Nova Scotia

## **Manager**

Frances Rodenburg, BA

## **Accountant**

Patti Proulx, CPA, CMA

# Douglas McRorie Memorial Scholarship

This Scholarship is made available through the generous support of the RBC Foundation. It was established in 1990 to honour past-president and agri-finance innovator Douglas McRorie, PAg, FAIC. In 2018, two graduate students in agricultural business, finance and/or trade were awarded scholarships.



**Travis Jansen** is a candidate for Master of Science in Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics at the University of Guelph. His research relates to evaluating the economic impacts of antibiotics on pig farms.

In addition to his thesis, Travis is working for Dr. Larry Martin as a farm business consultant across Canada. In the past, he has worked as a research assistant with Ontario's Ministry of Agriculture, for the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, and as a service coordinator in the agri-food industry.

Travis wants to improve public understanding of Canadian farming. Last summer, he and his family launched a food company at their farm called EngagedAg. This company uses technology to improve consumer engagement with food products and uses videos to increase their knowledge of farming practices.

Travis grew up on a farm in southwestern Ontario and believes strongly in the strength of rural communities. He has served as a volunteer coach for his local house league hockey program and more recently volunteered as a minor soccer coach and worked as a hockey referee.

After he graduates, Travis hopes to continue to work as a farm business consultant and further develop his understanding of farming at an international level. Eventually, he hopes to own and manage his own farm and work with others to improve the agri-food industry.



**Mario Roy** is a candidate for Master of Science with Thesis – Agricultural Economics at McGill University. His thesis focuses on the public's willingness to pay for antibiotic free meat, with the objective of providing advice to industry on whether or not to adopt the practice.

Mario has volunteered in a variety of roles at McGill including the Macdonald Council Student Society, Farm Management and Technology Program Representative, and representative on behalf of students of the Agriculture and Environmental Science Campus to the Board of Governors. He has also served as a Board representative for the Association of McGill University Support Employees and as Treasurer of the Agricultural Economics Club at McGill. He is also a member of the Mac Volunteer Program on the Macdonald Campus Graduate Student Society.

Mario is a member of the Union des Producteurs Agricole du Quebec, the Federation de la Relève Agricole and school member of the Ordre des Agronome du Quebec. He has done two internships at the Macdonald Campus Research Dairy Farm and at a private firm. He has also done a professional internship with an agronomic consulting firm.

Mario grew up on a family farm with dairy and pig operations and a sugar bush. He is now co-owner of the farm with his brother. In addition to managing the farm he hopes to become involved in leadership roles in Canadian agricultural institutions in the future.

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.



**Lewis Fausak** is pursuing a Master of Science in Soil Science degree at the University of British Columbia. His research is focused on the effects of 2- and 3-year grassland set-asides (GLSAs), or grassland arable leys, on nitrogen cycling and soil quality indicators in

Delta, British Columbia. The goal of his research is to enhance understanding of the potential for short-term GLSAs to improve soil properties, determine the implications to crop management in the growing seasons following incorporation, and ultimately to deliver useful insights to farmers and policy makers in the lower Fraser River valley that can help inform future management decisions and policy development.

Lewis is an executive member of the Pacific Regional Soil Science Society, acting as the Website and Social Media Coordinator and aiding in event organization. This past winter he volunteered as a mentor to two high school students through the Science Mentorship Program of the Prince of Wales Mini School in Vancouver. During his undergraduate studies, he was an executive member of the Environmental and Conservation Science Students Association at the University of Alberta, acting as the Environmental and Conservation Science Week coordinator.

He has worked as a junior environmental scientist, assisting in reclamation of power generation and other facilities across Alberta. He also worked at the University of Alberta in the Sustainable Land Ecosystems research group as an agricultural research assistant. At UBC, he has worked as a teaching assistant for two undergraduate courses.

After graduation, Lewis's goal is to intern at the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations and to develop skills that will allow him to work towards a career achieving agricultural and environmental security through effective policy development and implementation.

# 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.



**Cameron Olson** is a PhD student in the Faculty of Agricultural Food and Nutritional Science, University of Alberta. His research focuses on genetic and environmental effects on feed intake, feed efficiency, female fertility, and cow lifetime productivity of beef cattle raised under two environments. He completed his BSc in Animal Science and

MSc on feeding behavior and feed efficiency in beef cattle at Texas A&M University.

Cameron is a native of Alberta and was raised on a farm with a beef cattle operation. He is a member of several industry-related organizations including the American Society of Animal Science, the Canadian Society of Animal Science and the Foothills Forage and Grazing Association. He serves on the executive board as Vice President – Finance for the Agricultural, Food & Nutritional Science Graduate Student Association and as a Director-at-Large of the Alberta Limousin Association. He is also an instructor with the Classroom Agriculture Program, presenting to grade school students about beef cattle and production.

Cameron has completed three internships in the agricultural industry, one with JBS Foods as a summer intern, and two with Feedlot Health Management Services as a Feeds and Feeding Summer Student and later a Fall Research Student.

He hopes to pursue a career consulting on nutrition and management that would allow him to be closely involved in communicating novel research directly to producers. He also plans to continue his own beef cattle operation, developing a standout herd of cattle that are selected for production efficiency.



**Nicole Briggs** is a Masters student in the Faculty of Agricultural Food and Nutritional Science, University of Alberta. Her research focuses on trace mineral dairy cow nutrition.

A native of Alberta, Nicole grew up on a dairy farm and was an active member of 4-H and continues as a leader, volunteering time as a public speaker and presentation coach, teaching riding lessons to equine clubs, and assisting 4-H clubs where needed.

She has been a member of the Board of Directors for the Canadian Intercollegiate Rodeo Association and as Vice-President for her local community Triple R Riding Club. She is currently a member of the Board of Directors of Miss Rodeo Canada, helping young women in Canada promote and be an ambassador for the sport of rodeo and the agriculture industry.

She has worked as a ranch hand, operating farm machinery, handling and care of cattle and horses and assisting with running equine sporting events at the facility. Following that, she then worked as a veterinary assistant at an equine veterinary practice through the University of Alberta Internship Program. She then won the title of Miss Rodeo Canada and for a year, traveled to over 600 appearances through Canada, the United States and Australia promoting the sport of rodeo and being an ambassador for agriculture in Canada.

She currently works for Cowtown, a division of Masterfeeds in retail sales of equine and pet feed, and western apparel. She hopes to pursue a career as a dairy nutritionist, working directly with producers.

# 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 [cffae.ca](http://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 (Bob) Church, PhD**

Professor Emeritus, Faculty of Medicine, University of Calgary; Member of the Order of Canada

## **Garth Coffin, PhD**

Principal (retired), Nova Scotia Agricultural College

## **Arthur Froehlich, BSc**

Owner, President and CEO, Agriview Inc.

## **Robert Gordon, PhD**

Provost and Vice President Academic, Wilfred Laurier University

## **Kim McConnell, BSc**

Founder and former CEO, Adfarm; Member of the Order of Canada

## **Edward Tyrchniewicz, PhD**

Senior Scholar, Department of Agribusiness, University of Manitoba

## **Hon. Lyle Vanclief, BSc**

Minister of Agriculture, Canada, 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 2018. Your donations provide vital assistance to our scholarship programs and operations.

Our sincere thanks 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 June 13, 2018.**

The Foundation's Fundraising Committee, chaired by Corrina Dawe, continued development and implementation of a corporate fundraising campaign for our proposed new scholarship programs. The Committee is being assisted by our 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. We are extremely grateful to the members of the Committee for the tremendous amount of time they volunteer to the Foundation for review of the scholarship applications. Their work allows us to fulfil our charitable objectives.

In 2018, we established a Governance Committee, which is responsible for providing oversight of the Board's governance practices with the objective of ensuring good governance, accountability and transparency.

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 enrollment in agricultural studies by indigenous students)



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