

MERRY CHRISTMAS



**From the Board and Staff of the
PEI Federation of Agriculture**

Have Your Say!

We are interested in hearing from our biggest asset: Our Members.

The PEIFA Annual General Meeting will be held on
Friday, January 27th, 2017, Confederation Centre of the Arts

Following the AGM, the PEIFA will host it's Annual Banquet which will feature
entertainment, industry awards
and a dedication to Past Presidents of the Federation.

AGM Costs - No Charge for members - Non-Members: \$25.00

Banquet Costs - Members \$ 40.00 - Non-Members \$ 45.00

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President's Message



They say time passes quickly. The past two years have been no exception. Since taking on the role of President in January of 2015, it seems there have not been many dull moments. I have been most fortunate to have valuable support from the Executive Committee, the Board and Federation staff. Not only has this made my job as President easier but also it has made it enjoyable. As we prepare for our 76th Annual General Meeting, I have begun to reflect on this past year and the work that has completed for the betterment of PEI Agriculture.

One of the highlights of our achievements in 2016 is the work we did to convey to the Provincial Government the perspectives and concerns of our membership on the Water Act, Municipal Act and pending Land Use Review. These three provincial pieces will most likely have a strong impact on how we farm - potentially some impacts viewed as unwelcome and some recognized as protecting the right to farm. We have been loud and clear to government that the sustainability and interests of Island Agriculture must be in the forefront of all decision-making.

The PEIFA has had opportunity this year to present before and take part in a handful of national committees – Finance Committee, International Trade Committee, Senate Committee of Agriculture and Forestry, Agriculture Human Resource Council, National Program Advisory Committee and more. I find it very useful to see and learn from what other regions are experiencing and to have a clear voice on our national stage. Now is an exciting time for Canadian food production and agriculture as a whole.

Closer to home, a few of our accomplishments include: our sold out PD Day on the Farm (one hundred grade 4 to 6 students, who might normally never have the opportunity to be on a farm, spent a day on a farm); hosting an immigrant agriculture awareness and employment tour (resulting in 8 of 44 participants becoming employed on-farm); changes in regulations to allow graduated license drivers to obtain their Class 3 license at 18 years of age; the delivery of an Off-Highway-Vehicle Handbook after extensive collaboration with various stakeholders.

In 2016 we said good-bye to two long-term PEIFA office staff members: Cliff Thompson and Charlotte Campbell. It is always tough to see good people leave but for every door that closes another opens and I'm very pleased to welcome Jennifer Murphy as Executive Assistant and Matt Hughes in the role of Program Officer.

Four of our PEIFA board members are moving on: Alvin Keenan, Fred Dollar, Paul Gallant, and Don Godfrey. A special thank you to these dedicated volunteers who have offered solid input and have been highly engaged in their task of working for the betterment of PEI Agriculture. I wish them all the very best.

We have much to be thankful for here in Prince Edward Island. To each of you, on behalf of the PEIFA Board of Directors, I wish you a Merry Christmas and all the very best in 2017.

We hope to see you at the AGM on January 27th at the Confederation Centre of the Arts.

Merry Christmas!

Mary Robinson

President

Call for Resolutions

PEIFA members are encouraged to submit suggestions for resolutions for the Annual General Meeting. Suggestions should be sent to Jennifer Murphy and she will forward them to the PEIFA Resolutions Committee at the PEIFA office or by e-mail to jmurphy@peifa.ca. The members of the Resolutions Committee are Mary Robinson, David Mol, and Ron Maynard. Robert Godfrey is an ex-officio member.

The Federation staff will translate your recommendation into proper resolution format and forward it to the resolutions committee.

The **ADVANCE PAYMENT PROGRAM** may be for you

The Advance Payment Program provides financial loans to assist farmers in planting, harvesting and marketing their crops

0% Interest up to \$100,000

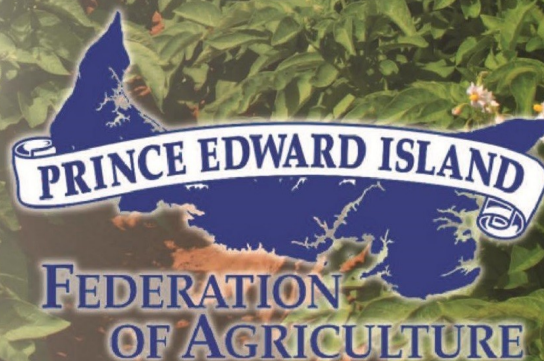
Loans under \$25,000 have reduced fees
\$100,000 - \$400,000 rate is prime - 0.5%

Loan limit is \$400,000



Agriculture and
Agri-Food Canada

Agriculture et
Agroalimentaire Canada



For more information please contact PEIFA at (902) 368-7289

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Please contact **Andrew Wood** or **Tim Seeber** for more
information on the **Advance Payment Program**.
Federation Members received preferred administration fees

Environmental Farm Plans

Do You Need Your EFP Updated?

With a new suite of programs now in place under Growing Forward 2 it is important to have an up-to-date Environmental Farm Plan. The PEI Federation of Agriculture continues to offer Island producers the opportunity to participate in the Enhanced Environmental Farm Plan program.

In order to ensure your farm remains eligible for provincial programs linked with Enhanced EFP's, such as the Agriculture Stewardship Program, Farmland Finance Program and the Future Farmer Program, please contact the PEIFA to check the status of your last plan. Plans are valid for 5 years and any EFP from 2011 or older will be expired at the end of 2016. Plans can be updated at the office or in the convenience of your farm and are no cost to the producer. We encourage all Island farms to participate in the program.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the program, please feel free to contact Matthew Hughes or JoAnn Pineau with the Enhanced Environmental Farm Plan Program at 902-368-7289 or visit our web-site www.peifa.ca

Farm Safety

Safe Animal Handling Day

On September 21st the PEI Federation of Agriculture's Farm Safety Program held a Safe Animal Handling Day at Orwell Corner Historic Village for the grade 10 Agriculture Academy Diploma Program students (formally known as the Agriculture Certificate Program).



The Federation of Agriculture held this event for the group as one of the activities of their two day Eastern PEI Agricultural Tour. Grade 10's from both Kensington and Kinkora High School's attended.



In addition to the Safe Animal Handling Day the students also visited: Belfast Mini Mills, Bens Lake, Buffaloland Park, R.A. Rose and Sons, East Point Potato and Golden Bay Dairy.

We would like to thank those who helped make the Animal Handling Day a success: Dr. Luke Heider (AVC), Laurie Loane (PEI AgSC), Carolyn Wood (Dept of Ag and Fisheries), Robert Godfrey and JoAnn Pineau (PEIFA) and the staff at Orwell Corner.

Progressive Agriculture Safety Day

On Saturday, September 10th the PEI Federation of Agriculture's Farm Safety Program hosted its 5th Progressive Agriculture Safety Day. The event was held in Kensington at the Fire Hall and was open to all Island youth ages 7-14 who had an interest in agriculture.

Safety Day events are held throughout Canada and the US to teach safety in a fun educational environment. We would like to extend our gratitude to the community of Kensington and our volunteers for their efforts in making this event a success.

Kensington Fire Hall- Venue

Kensington Agricultural Services- Lawn mower

Island First Aid (Larry Oliver)- CPR

PEI Fire School (Bob and Rick)- Fire safety

Michael Larsen (4-H) - Livestock handling

WCB (Tara Huestis) - Helmet Safety

Emma Huestis (4-H) - Disability awareness

JoAnn Pineau (PEIFA) - Lawn mower safety



Thank you to the Progressive Agriculture Foundation, the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association and Farm Credit Canada for making this event possible.

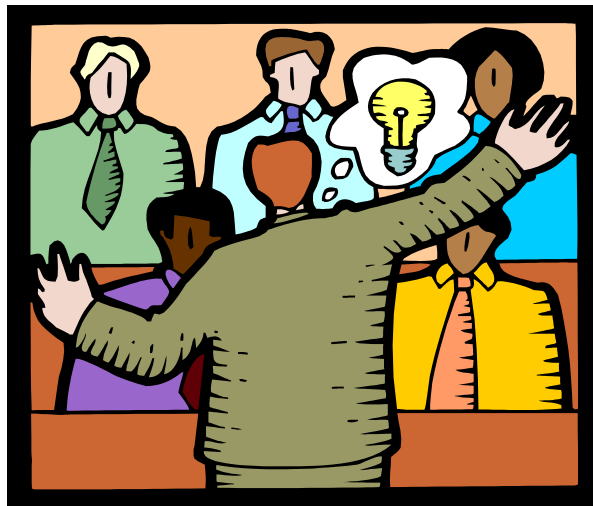


PEI FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE

75th ANNUAL MEETING
FRIDAY, JANUARY 27 2017
Location : Confederation Centre

The PEI Federation of Agriculture's Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday, January 27, 2017.

The meeting is an excellent opportunity for producers to have input into the Federation's activities in 2016.



Registration is FREE for members and \$ 25.00 for non-members. Contact the office (368-7289) to book a space.

Registration begins at 9:00am with the meeting beginning at 10:00. The agenda will feature a business meeting, presentations, speakers and a noon banquet.

Also join us for our Annual President's Reception and Banquet, where we honour past-presidents of the PEIFA. Tickets to the banquet are \$40.00 for members and \$45.00 for non-members.

Nominations to PEIFA Board of Directors

The PEIFA Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday, January 27, 2017. Each year the Federation looks to its membership to fill positions on our Board and Executive Committee. The Executive Committee would like to remind members that board diversity is important to the Federation, and that having a diverse board allows for a number of different perspectives, which in turn leads to overall better decisions.

For the Federation of Agriculture this means having board representation from all sizes and types of farms. In addition to having farm variety at the board table, it is also important to have male and female representatives participating on our board. Farming is a family business and we recognize the important role women play on the farm. We encourage any farm women who are interested in being a part of the Federation board to come forward. Over the years the Federation has benefited greatly from strong leadership from both male and female board members.

Nominations are being accepted by the PEIFA Nominations Committee for members of the PEIFA Board of Directors for 2016. If you are interested in sitting on the board or would like to nominate someone please contact Alvin Keenan, Nominations Committee Chair at alvinkeen@pei.aibn.com or at (902) 628-7921.

Call for Nominations for Gilbert R. Clements Award for Environmental Farm Planning

“Promoting Sustainable Agriculture in Prince Edward Island”

The PEI Department of Agriculture & Forestry is once again partnering with the PEI Enhanced Environmental Farm Plan Program to recognize producers or commodity groups committed to practicing and raising awareness of environmental farm planning and implementation. This award was established to recognize excellence in sustainable agriculture based on recommendation from the Round Table on Land Use and Stewardship. It is named in recognition of the Honorable Gilbert R. Clements’s commitment to the environment.

Each year this award is given to an enterprise that is environmentally and socially responsible in the production and/or marketing of agricultural products from a sustainable system. Island agricultural producers and commodity groups are eligible for nomination. Nominations should detail the nominee’s overall approach to environmental stewardship, community involvement and role in increasing public awareness about sustainable agricultural practices.

Nomination forms are available on the PEI Federation of Agriculture website.

Deadline for nominations is **Friday, January 13, 2017**

The award, a cash sum of \$2500 along with an appropriate keepsake, will be presented at the PEI Federation of Agriculture AGM held on Friday, January 27, 2017. Previous winners include Brookfield Gardens, Barry Cudmore and MoDhaicdh Farms.

Nominations should be submitted to:

JoAnn Pineau
PEI Enhanced Environmental Farm Plan Program
420 University Avenue, Suite 110,
Charlottetown, PE, C1A 7Z5
Fax: 902-368-7204
Email: joann@peifa.ca



New PEIFA Staff

The PEIFA said goodbye to valued employees Cliff Thompson and Charlotte Crooks this past fall. Cliff has moved on to be with family in Nova Scotia and Charlotte has moved on to work for the Provincial Department of Agriculture and Fisheries. The PEIFA certainly thanks them for all of their efforts and they will be missed.

Jennifer Murphy has been hired as the Federation's new Executive Assistant. Jennifer has an extensive background having recently worked for the Charlottetown Chamber of Commerce and has hit the ground running.

Matthew Hughes has been hired as a new Programs Officer looking after the Farm Safety program at the PEIFA as well as the Environmental Farm Plans. Matt is a graduate of the Dalhousie University's Agriculture program and continues to partake in his family farm located in South Melville.

Welcome Jennifer and Matthew to the PEIFA Team!

International Trade Committee Appearance

The PEIFA presented to the House of Commons Standing Committee of International Trade on September 27, 2016 in Charlottetown to speak about the Trans Pacific Partnership Agreement. The PEIFA spoke about the diversity of our Membership and how this diversity means we support the need for trade and the TPP agreement, but not at the expense of our supply managed sectors.

The PEIFA called on the Government to ratify the TPP as well as commit to a compensation package for Canadian supply managed farmers. The PEIFA also called for the need for a strong export strategy to ensure the market access that the TPP and other trade agreements offer can be filled with Canadian product. Now that TPP appears to be in jeopardy with the recent election of Donald Trump, the PEIFA will continue to monitor the developments going forward and keep the Membership informed.

CFA General Managers Meeting

CFA General Managers met in Fredericton, NB on September 22nd and 23, 2016.

The meeting included discussions around the ongoing Agriculture Policy Framework Discussions, a National Environmental Farm Plan, Nutrient Management, the CFA Government Relations strategy as well as ongoing trade negotiations.

This meeting offers value to the PEIFA as it allows for the sharing of information and the strengthening of relationships amongst CFA Members as we all tackle common issues for our own respective members.

Severe Economic Hardship Loans

The PEIFA has written the Federal Minister of Agriculture regarding the Severe Economic Hardship Loans granted to beef and pork producers in 2008.

At the request of the PEI Cattle Producers and the PEI Hog Commodity Marketing Board, the PEIFA asked for the extension of deadlines for repayment of the 2008 SEH loans under the APP program to allow time for the two associations to complete a forthcoming proposal that the PEIFA understands will provide producers with the ability to repay their outstanding debt.

Municipal Amalgamation and Annexation

The Municipal Act will be passed before Christmas Break of the legislature. This means many Municipalities will need to meet a higher set of standards and provide a greater set of services to their constituents. At the same time, it also means they will need to grow outwards and amalgamate or annex sections of rural PEI including a great deal of farmland. The legislation has granted new powers over taxation as well as land use planning. The Federation recently appeared before a Provincial Legislative Standing Committee looking at this issue and laid out the Federations four main concerns:

- Protection of Farmland and the right to farm
- A clear and transparent process for land zoning changes
- Low taxation
- Our desire to have land use planning regarding farmland reside with the Province

Municipal Affairs officials have recently held private meetings with some Members of the Federation across the province that focused on the four main concerns. The next phase of this process will involve the regulations that will enforce the Municipal Act and the Federation will be working to ensure farmers are heard. In addition, the Province will begin looking at the Planning Act and the land use planning that Municipalities must now provide. As that unfolds, the Federation will be there looking out for our Members.

New Member Benefit: Turner Drake and Partners Ltd

Mike Turner, CEO of Turner Drake approached the Federation offering a 15 percent discount on all property valuation services to PEI Federation of Agriculture Members.

Turner Drake has provided real estate consulting services, including valuation and property tax appeals, to Atlantic Canadian business for the past forty years, has offices in all four provinces and recently opened one in Ontario.

House of Commons Finance Committee Appearance

The PEIFA presented to the House of Commons Standing Committee of Finance on October 18th, 2016 in Charlottetown. Working with the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, the Federation pushed three key issues:

- Income tax revisions that enable family farm transfers
- Clean technology investment in an era of carbon pricing
- National Export Strategy to ensure Canadian product is reaching foreign markets where trade agreements have been recently signed

Senate Agriculture and Forestry Committee Appearance

The PEIFA presented to the Senate Standing Committee of Agriculture and Forestry on November 15, 2016 to talk about the acquisition of farmland in Canada and its potential impact on the farming sector. The PEIFA spoke about the rising cost of farmland both nationally and provincially and the pressures that creates on the industry. The PEIFA told the Committee we support the protection of resource land in Canada and that provincial governments could be encouraged to develop a sliding tax scale that would reward owners for keeping agriculture land in production. Taxing land that is not kept in agriculture production at a higher rate would incentivize non-farming landowners to develop a relationship with an established farm or perhaps a new entrant. The PEIFA that governments at the provincial and federal level can make clear policy statements about the importance of resource land such as farmland that will help protect it for future generations.

Marked Fuel

The PEIFA is revisiting discussions of the past regarding the use of market fuel in farm trucks that burn fuel in fields during harvest. A jurisdictional scan of this policy in other Canadian provinces has shown that this is something the government could consider implementing in the future.

Renewable Energy Study

The PEIFA was fortunate enough to receive funding from the Federal Government under the Green Jobs Initiative to hire Jesse MacIntyre, a recent graduate of Environmental Sustainability from Acadia University. Jesse put together a comprehensive report for the Federation that examines the challenges and opportunities that exist in the realm of renewable energy for the agriculture sector on PEI. The study makes some recommendations that are currently being reviewed that will go forward to both the Provincial and Federal Government. A copy of this study will be available on the PEIFA website in the New Year.

UPEI Institute for Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience

UPEI is in the process of creating an Institute for Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience. This Institute is being led by Climatologist Adam Fenech and his team. Because PEI is an Island, it is seen as a place that will be susceptible to some of the effects of Climate Change – erosion of our coast line for example as sea waters rise and storms intensify.

UPEI, in conjunction with the Federal Government, is looking at creating a “living lab” in Greenwich Prince Edward Island.

The PEIFA has agreed to participate in discussions regarding this Institute to give agriculture a voice at this table and to inform them about the many things our industry is doing within the confines of sustainability as well as to learn about what else can be done to adapt and/or mitigate our environmental footprint on PEI.

Atlantic Agriculture Hall of Fame

The PEIFA extends its sincere congratulations to Eddy Dykerman who was recently inducted into the Agriculture Hall of Fame on October 20th, 2016 in Truro.

Eddy, along with his brother and father, started Brookfield Gardens in 1979 and has grown the operation into the largest mixed vegetable farm in PEI. Today Brookfield Gardens, under the management of Eddy, brother Gerald and their nephew Travis, grow more than 200 acres of vegetable including: carrots, rutabaga, cabbage, lettuce, broccoli, cauliflower, beets and beans. Eddy also worked with Gerald and his son, Matthew, establishing Red Soil Organics in 2008. Red Soil Organics currently grows and markets 80 acres of organic vegetables. Brookfield and Red Soil Organics produce can be found in supermarkets across Atlantic Canada and overseas. A staunch member of the PEI Federation of Agriculture since he began farming, he first joined the PEIFA board as a commodity representative from the PEI Horticultural Council. After serving on the PEIFA board for several years, Eddy took on the role of President (2005 and 2006), and went on to be the PEIFA representative on the Canadian Federation of Agriculture Board (2007 and 2008).

PEIFA, Island Lime and PEI Agromart Scholarship

The PEIFA recently awarded Ella Wood with the PEIFA, Island Lime and PEI Agromart Scholarship of \$2000. Ella is studying Agriculture Business at Dalhousie University's Faculty of Agriculture. Ella has been an active members of the agriculture community through programs such as 4-H and the Maritime Angus Association. She demonstrated a passion for agriculture and is very deserving of this scholarship.

The PEIFA also wants to take this opportunity to thank Island Lime and the PEI Agromart for their generosity by providing half of the funding for this scholarship.

Employee, Employer Awards



Employers and Employees should keep in mind that there are three awards to recognize well deserving farm employers and employees - **Employer of the Year, Employee of the Year, and the PEI Minister of Agriculture's Dedication to Agriculture Award.** Applications are available on line and can be mailed or faxed to the PEI Agriculture Sector Council, deadline is December 31st, 2016. The successful recipient will receive a keeper plaque, a prize, and 2 tickets to the PEI Federation of Agriculture Banquet where they will receive their award. For more information, visit the PEIAGSC website at www.peiagsc.ca. This is a great way to recognize an employee or an employer for their hard work and dedication to a farm enterprise.

The following is a description of each award:

2016 PEI Department of Agriculture and Forestry Minister's Dedication to Agriculture Award

- The ideal candidate for this award is an agricultural employee that through long serving, dedication, devotion, involvement, and thoughtfulness has contributed to the success and long-term profitability of the agriculture enterprise. The candidate will have long-term service in the agricultural industry. **Deadline for nominations is December 31st, 2016.**

2016 PEI Agriculture Employee of the Year Award - Agricultural employers are encouraged to nominate employees for the 2016 PEI Agriculture Employee of the Year Award. The ideal candidate for this award makes an invaluable contribution to any farm operation. The candidate will have demonstrated a strong work ethic and shown dedication and commitment to the agricultural industry. The award is sponsored by Kool Breeze Farms. **Deadline for Nominations is December 31, 2016**

2016 PEI Agriculture Employer of the Year Award - Do you have an agricultural employer who demonstrates a tremendous level of dedication and support to their employees? Why not nominate your employer for the 2016 PEI Agriculture Employer of the Year Award. The ideal candidate for this award is an agricultural employer that goes above and beyond to ensure that their employees have a positive work experience. The award is sponsored by T&K Fire & Safety Ltd. **The deadline for nominations is December 31, 2015.**



Visit us on the
Web:

www.peifa.ca

GROUP INSURANCE PLAN FOR PEIFA MEMBERS AND YOUR EMPLOYEES

- ✓ LIFE INSURANCE
- ✓ DEPENDENT LIFE INSURANCE
- ✓ ACCIDENTAL DEATH AND DISMEMBERMENT INSURANCE
- ✓ HEALTH CARE INSURANCE
 - ✓ PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE
 - ✓ VISION CARE
- ✓ PARAMEDICAL PRACTITIONERS SUCH AS PHYSIOTHERAPY, MASSAGE, CHIROPRACTOR
- ✓ DENTAL CARE INSURANCE
- ✓ CRITICAL ILLNESS INSURANCE
- ✓ SECOND MEDICAL OPINION INSURANCE
- ✓ TRAVEL INSURANCE

Contact: Johnston Insurance

(902) 628-3537



Young Farmers of PEI Annual General Meeting Saturday, January 17, 2017 Delta Prince Edward

Contact Ian Drake 902-394-1349 or Ashton Perry at ashton@wpgriffin.com
for more information.



Coverage for Farmers

Effective **January 1, 2017**,
all farms will be required to have WCB coverage
under the *Workers Compensation Act*.

To ensure your farm is protected and your
workers are covered, *call (902) 368-5680 or*
visit wcb.pe.ca/employer/registration
to register your farm today.



PEI Federation of Agriculture
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Staff Directory

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Matthew Hughes	mhughes@peifa.ca
EFP/Farm Safety Officer	
Jennifer Murphy	jmurphy@peifa.ca
Executive Assistant	

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Remember to support the Federation's Benefit's Partners as all have offered significant discounts for PEIFA members. In many cases, the benefits can be passed on to your employees too. Many employees like the 10% discount from **Marks Work Wearhouse** and we can provide you with cards for you employees and other family members that are part of your operation,

Contact us and we'll send them out right away.





FLEET PRICING FOR PEIFA MEMBERS ON



Examples of Discounts available for Federation Members for 2016

Ram 1500 Quad/Crew Cab	\$13,000
Ram 1500 Reg Cab	\$8,900
Ram 2500/3500 Diesel	\$14,500
Dodge Grand Caravan (Excl CVP - 29E)	\$9,600
Dodge Grand Caravan CVP - 29E	\$8,700
Chrysler Town & Country	\$10,600
Jeep Wrangler	\$5,000
Jeep Grand Cherokee (excl SRT8)	\$6,700
Chrysler 300 / 300S / 300C (excl SRT8)	\$8,300
Dodge Journey RT	\$5,600

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