



## **NEWS RELEASE**

Ontario CCA Association and OSCIA Announce Strategic Collaboration to Elevate Agronomic Training and Promote Sustainable Farm Practices

**Guelph, August 7, 2025** — The Ontario Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) Association and the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA) are proud to announce a new partnership aimed at enhancing the effectiveness of agronomic advisors across the province. Through a formal collaboration agreement, the two organizations will jointly develop and deliver targeted training that supports the On-Farm Climate Action Fund and promotes the Farmland Health Check-Up program.

This forward-thinking initiative will equip agronomic advisors with the latest tools and knowledge in nitrogen management, cover cropping and rotational grazing—key practices for improving soil health and advancing climate-smart agriculture.

"The Ontario CCA Association is excited to work hand-in-hand with OSCIA to amplify our impact and better serve Ontario's farm advisors and growers," said Susan Fitzgerald, Executive Director, Ontario CCA Association. "Together, we're building a stronger foundation for stewardship and sustainability."

The Ontario On-Farm Climate Action Fund (OFCAF) provides cost-share funding to farmers to support the implementation of best management practices (BMPs) to tackle climate change through reducing emissions of greenhouse gases and supporting increased carbon sequestration. The Farmland Health Check-Up provides farmers with a unique opportunity to work with a CCA or Professional Agrologist (P.Ag) free of charge to assess risks to on-farm soil health and water quality.

"This partnership represents a significant step forward in delivering consistent, high-quality training and practical resources that help advisors and farmers embrace sustainable practices," added Kerry Wright, Executive Director, OSCIA.

Funding for this project has been provided by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada through the Agricultural Climate Solutions (ACS) – On-Farm Climate Action Fund (OFCAF).

Founded in 1939, the <u>Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA)</u> is a not-for-profit grassroots organization. It encompasses over 50 county and district associations across 11 regions, with a diverse membership of approximately 2,500 farmers. OSCIA is committed to responsible economic management of soil, water, air and crops by promoting innovative farming practices.

The <u>Ontario CCA Association</u> is a membership organization representing over 650 men and women across Ontario who serve farmers as crop advisors, providing information and expertise on crop production, crop protection and natural resource management. The CCA certification is conferred by

the American Society of Agronomy and is recognized for its rigorous standards and commitment to continuing education.

-30-

## For further information:

**Susan Fitzgerald,** Executive Director Certified Crop Advisor Association

Phone: (519) 787-4322 Email: susan.tfio@bell.net

Stacey McCarthy, Events and Communications Coordinator

Ontario Soil & Crop Improvement Association

Phone: 519-362-6643

Email: <a href="mailto:smccarthy@ontariosoilcrop.org">smccarthy@ontariosoilcrop.org</a>