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# C C ACHATTER

CERTIFIED CROP ADVISOR ASSOCIATION® • 195 St. David Street S., 3rd Floor, Fergus, ON N1M 2L4 519-787-4322 • www.ccaontario.com

# IMPORTANT! CCA Office Address

he CCA office has moved! We are now located in Fergus, ON.

If you will be mailing a cheque to our office for payments, make sure it goes to our new mailing address:

195 St. David Street S., 3rd Floor Fergus, ON N1M 2L4

Our phone number has also changed. Update your contacts to 519-787-4322.

Another important note is our fax machine is no longer in operation. If you recently submitted any CCA Conference registrations, CCA renewals, or any other information to our old fax number at 519-669-3826, call Laura at the CCA office or send her an email at laura.tfio@bell.net to make sure this is resolved.

# 2023 Conference – New format!

he CCA office is very excited to announce we will be having an in-person Conference this year! It will be taking place January 10th (evening) and 11th (full day) at the Best Western Lamplighter Inn in London, ON.

An agenda has been posted to the CCA website. Note the new format – the Conference is one day! You can register for the CCA Conference under the payments tab on the CCA website. In the evening of January 10th, the CCA Board Mentees will give their presentations and then the CCA Conference, with the AGM and Award of Excellence presentation will take place on January 11th.

Details can be found on the CCA website. If you have questions about the new one-day format, contact the CCA Office: 519-787-4322 or laura.tfio@bell.net, http://ccaontario.com/registrations-payments

You must make your own hotel reservations by calling 519-681-7151. A block of bedrooms has been set aside ranging in price from \$144.00 - \$154.00, subject to availability. Rooms not reserved prior to December 20, 2022, will be released.

Please be sure to ask for the Certified Crop Advisors Room Block as we receive a reduction on conference costs based on number of rooms booked. Map and directions to the hotel are available at http://www.lamplighterinn.ca/

# CCA Office Staffing Changes

By Susan Fitzgerald, Executive Director, Ontario CCA Association

as the Executive Director of the Ontario CCA Association. Laura Shantz who has been the CCA Program Coordinator since October 2019 will be taking on that role. Laura already looks after all day-to-day CCA activities in conjunction with Krista Bates who is the financial administrator. I expect this will be a seamless transition with most of you not even noticing the change!

Since launching my own company in 2001, the office has grown from just me to three full-time positions. Our client base has expanded from three clients to providing full association management for 14 agricultural associations and project management and other contract services to nine additional groups. After working 35+ years in Ontario agriculture, I am beginning the transition to retirement over the next two years. Laura and Krista are committed to assuming the management of the office and are looking forward to continuing to grow the business. I am very pleased to have two, enthusiastic and skilled individuals interested in continuing to provide services to our clients.

Return undeliverable Canadian Address to: CCA Association, 39 William St., Elmira, ON, N3B 1P3

# 2022 Award of Excellence

his year we received four nominations for the CCA Award of Excellence. The Award of Excellence Review Committee has been speaking with the nominators and nominees and, as always, they have a difficult task selecting a winner.

The nominees for the 2022 CCA Award of Excellence are:

Paul Hermans Meagan Ioi
Don McLean Wayne Wheeler

The winner will be announced on January 11th during the

CCA Conference. 🐇

# **Welcome New CCAs**

e are pleased to announce that in the past eight months there were 19 newly certified Ontario CCAs. Congratulations to:

Allison Bailey James Heaslip
Michael Buttar Anna Hirtle
Mark Boekee Colin Jansen
Dennis Coffey Josh Kelly

Carly Davis Tuesday Kristiansen
Julia Downey Liam McCarthy
Lauren Good Laura Shaw
Eric Goossens Katrina Storms

Edward Grant Christian Willemse 🐇

Christopher Haines

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# **2022 CCA Board of Directors Nominations**

s of December 31, 2022, there will be three seats up for the election on the CCA Ontario Board. Leigh Hudson-Templeton agreed to let her name stand for re-election. You have the option to vote for the following individuals:

Lauren Benoit Stephanie Berlett
Wayne Black Leigh Hudson-Templeton

Aaron Stevanus Greg Stopps

Jennifer Thompson

Voting notices have been sent to CCAs with the deadline of Friday, December 16 by 5:00 p.m. The polls will promptly close. No late votes will be accepted.

## A CCA Since 1997

anny Lee Ellis, age 75, a crop fertility expert and resident of Wallaceburg, ON, passed away unexpectedly on March 29, 2022 at Chatham-Kent Health Alliance after a brief illness.

Danny was proud to be a Certified Crop Advisor and maintaining his designation was always a priority. He obtained his CCA certification in 1997.

Danny's career was always tied to agriculture, having first worked for his dad at Pat's Feed Mill in Dover Centre, eventually taking over the family business and adding Ellis Fertilizers, which he ran for many years. After that, he worked for W.G. Thompsons, Southwest Ag. For the past 10 years, Danny had worked his dream job at Nutri Ag. - a job he enjoyed so much that he said that he would work until he died, and not surprisingly, that's what he did. In the three weeks before he passed, in hospital, he calculated crop fertility inputs for 14 000 acres of farmland in Dover township.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his family during this time.  $\clubsuit$ 

# Exams are now On-demand!

ave you heard! All the CCA exams are now offered ondemand! You can write the exams whenever you want throughout the year. Once you pay and register, you have 60 days to complete your exam. You are provided with your test results immediately after you complete the exam. If you do not pass the exam, you must wait 14 days' before you can register and write again.

To register for the exam, visit the ICCA website at: https://www.certifiedcropadviser.org/exams/registration

The cost to write the International exam is \$180 US + \$55 proctor fee = \$235 US. The cost for the Ontario exam is \$100 US + \$45 proctor fee = \$145

Specialty exams (4R NMS and RMS) are \$95.00 USD + \$55 proctor fee = \$150.00 USD

Individuals with disabilities need to notify the Certification Department at (866)-359-9161 or certification@sciencesocieties. org minimum three weeks prior when you expect to take your exam, and must provide documentation of your disability and notify us of your needs.

# **CCA Mentorship Program**

n its sixth year now, the Mentorship Program encourages newer CCAs to consider taking on a leadership role in the Association, to support CCA members in understanding the organization, and to share in the skills and knowledge of experienced Board members.

It was brought to the attention of the CCA Board that some individuals are hesitant to join the Mentorship Program because of the requirement to present at the CCA conference and AGM. It has now been discussed and decided that you can choose one of the following:

- A short presentation at the CCA Conference
- A poster display and/or booth at the CCA Conference
- Create a short video that will be shown at the CCA Conference
- Other communications method to be used at the CCA Conference (must be approved by the Committee)
- \*\*In addition to choosing any one of the above, the mentee must write a short article summarizing their work for the Spring issue of the CCA Chatter.

To apply, you must be a CCA in good standing with preference given to CCAs who have been certified within the last five years. If you are interested in applying, you will be asked to complete a short application along with a telephone interview.

Each year, two CCAs will be selected to participate in the program, and they are expected to attend the CCA Board meetings along with any other important related meetings;

participate actively in Board and Committee work; and identify a CCA program-related project to work on and complete during the term of your mentorship.

If interested, please contact the CCA office for an application or visit the Ontario CCA website for further details.

# 2023 Renewals

on't forget to renew you CCA membership!

Renewal notices were sent out in September to the mailing address that you have on your CCA profile. If you did not receive your hard copy of the renewal, check to make sure that your address is correct in the system. You can also pay your

You must pay the Ontario and International renewal. The cost combined is \$155 + HST (\$20.15) = \$175.15

renewal online: http://ccaontario.com/registrations-payments

If you have one specialty designation (either 4R NMS or RMS) your renewal fee is \$205.00 + HST (\$26.65) = \$231.65

If you have two specialty designations, your renewal fee is \$255.00 + HST (\$33.15) = \$288.15

To pay online go to the CCA website and under the Registrations and Payments tab click "CCA Annual Renewal Online Payment".

Your renewal fee is due January 31, 2023. A \$25 late fee will be automatically applied on renewals that are received on or after February 1st. Failure to pay your renewal will result in an automatic drop from the program.



## A CCA Since 1999

asper VanderBas, in his 71st year, a nutrient management consultant and a Certified Crop Adviser since 1999, passed away peacefully at his home surrounded by the love of his family this past spring. Jasper was a proud CCA, and loved to take farmers on tours showcasing agriculture. He saw Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Africa, Cuba, and Holland. If you knew Jasper, he came with a larger then life personality. A co-founder of the Dutch Theatre Group, his love of performing spanned 25 years. Alongside his wife Maria, they were also hog farmers for 48 years.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his family during this time.  $\clubsuit$ 

CCA Discussion Boards
Replacing the Ontario Listserv

he ICCA recently went through a major system upgrade with their database. The listserv that we use to send out information is not compatible anymore, so the ICCA is switching from email blasts to discussion boards. The CCA office will be able to make a post on this discussion board, which will then be pushed out to all CCAs via email. In that email, you can click on the latest post that the CCA office makes, and it will take you to the Ontario discussion board, where you can view all previous posts that the CCA office has made about important information to the CCA program. This way, you will have access to all posts, and it will save you from hunting through your inbox to

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sales@cartocanada.ca 1-519-343-5454 www.cartocanada.ca find an email that the CCA office has sent out.

The CCA office will continue to send out emails to all CCAs regarding important information and deadlines that you need to be aware of in case you do not get the discussion board notifications. It is important that you add Laura's email address (laura.tfio@bell.net) to your safe sender list, otherwise emails from her might be filtered out by your security settings, or your IT department. If you have not received any emails from our office in the past month, try adding Laura's email address to your contacts and safe sender list. You should also talk to your IT department to make sure you are able to receive email communications from her email address, laura.tfio@bell.net.

# Changes to the Pre-Exam Workshop!

n previous years' the CCA office hosted two pre-exam workshops in January; one for aspiring CCAs who were currently studying to write their exams, and current CCAs who were studying to write the 4R exam.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the recent change to all exams being offered on-demand, the CCA office moved the workshops to an online format. This year, instead of a live online workshop, both pre-exam workshops have been pre-recorded, and will be available for purchase. The streaming platform is YouTube. Currently the 4R pre-exam workshop recordings are available on YouTube, and the other CCA Pre-Exam Workshop recordings will be made available in January 2023.

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### **Published by:**

Patrick J. Lynch CCA-ON

Jonathan Zettler CPA, CMA, CCA-ON 4R-NMS

You will have access to the recordings year-round and can refer to the videos as many times as needed. Contact information of the presenters will also be supplied so anyone watching can reach out to the presenters if they have questions on a certain topic or need additional clarification on an area of focus.

Registration forms for the 4R Pre-Exam Workshop can be found here: https://ccaontario.com/4r-nms

The CCA Pre-Exam Workshop has started accepting registrations for the recordings, and the recordings will be released in January. Details will be posted here: https://ccaontario.com/registrations-payments

If you have questions about the format change to the pre-exam workshop or wish to purchase recordings you can reach out to Laura at the CCA office. Laura.tfio@bell.net or 519-787-4322 and she can supply you with information

## **CEU Centre**

Please note, if your CEU cycle ends on **December 31, 2022**, you need **40 CEUs** with a minimum of five CEUs in each of the four agronomic categories.

Every two years you must accumulate 40 CEUs with a minimum of five CEUs in each of the four agronomic categories. If you have the 4R NMS designation, you are required to have 7.5 CEUs in both the NM and SW categories (up from the regular five). If you have the Resistant Management Specialty, you need 10 CEUs in IPM. With some cycles coming to an end December 31st, it is important to make sure you have the required number of CEUs.

If you do not meet the criteria, it will result in you being dropped from the program. A hardship appeal is the only option to get back in and will involve you having to convince the Ontario CCA Executive and Standards and Ethics Committee that there were extenuating circumstances preventing you from meeting this requirement.

If you are successful with your appeal, any CEUs that were lacking must be made up in addition to the required 40 during the next two-year cycle.

Need a few CEUs before December 31st?

Try the Online Subscription! A subscription to the live webinar and online classroom gives you access online learning tools from the ASA, while saving time and money! The subscription costs \$100.00 USD and gets you unlimited access to numerous educational webinars and most courses for one year. https://www.certifiedcropadviser.org/education/classroom/subscribe

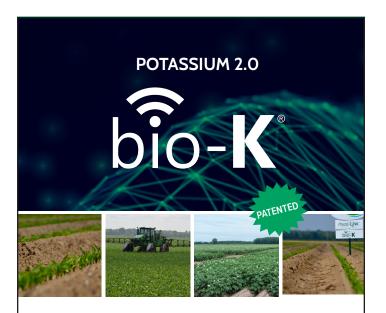
Check the Ontario CEU event calendar:

http://ccaontario.com/events

Check out the American Society of Agronomy upcoming webinars: https://www.agronomy.org/education/online-courses

As well, the Soil Science Society of America has webinars for CCAs: https://www.soils.org/education/online-courses

There is a long list of on-line CEUs as well at https://web.sciencesocieties.org/Learning-Center/Courses#category4



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# **Industry Updates**

## Ontario Soil and Crop Grain Farmers of Ontario

Submitted by Marty Vermey

## **Great Lakes YEN (Yield Enhancement Network)**

This year, the YEN project had 50 Ontario farmers participate. To start, there were 56 participants, but six had to drop out due to their wheat not surviving. Out of this 50, 10 fields were considered perfect. Some fields had data points missing. Next year, the project is going to be opened up to 75 participants in Canada. The USA had 48 final participants this year and will also be increasing their limit to 75 participants next year. The goal is to keep expanding the program each year, as there is demand for this project.

Several CCAs were involved this year helping to make this project possible with their famer clients. The YEN achievement awards for the top three highest of yield potential achieved, as well as top three highest yields will be announced on November 21, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

The in-person YEN networking event will be on January 3, 2023 in London for participants and agronomists. Registration for the YEN networking event will open December 1, 2022. Registration can be completed through the website.

## GFO - Farming 101 Video Series

These videos were developed to showcase Ontario farming to explain Ontario agriculture to new employees, students, and individuals interested in agriculture. GFO recently visited the University of Guelph where they spoke to 33 individuals ranging from undergraduate students to post-docs to faculty.

The videos are free for the public to use, and they give a perspective of grain farming in Ontario. https://gfo.ca/research/farming101/

#### **Ontario DON Working Group**

Research on DON testing has been conducted by Dr. Art Schaafsma (University of Guelph) showing that sub-sampling of a small volume of corn for griding and the sample grind of the corn for the DON test is the largest area of variability in DON testing.

The 2022 Don survey can be found at Field Crop News – https://fieldcropnews.com/2022/10/2022-ontario-grain-corn-earmould-and-deoxynivalenol-don-mycotoxin-survey/

Additional GFO funded research projects can be found online at: https://gfo.ca/research/research-project-summaries/

# **Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada**

Submitted by Pam Joosse

Many scientists have submitted proposals to clusters under the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership 2023-2028 framework. Letters of intent for internally funded projects have also been submitted this fall. Successful projects and clusters are expected to be announced Spring 2023. Two organizations, Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association and The Ontario Woodlot Association, were successful grant recipients for Phase 1 of round 2 of the Agricultural Climate Solutions – Living Lab program. The purpose of the grant phase is to support organizations in building capacity, developing networks of participants, and drafting comprehensive project proposals to be submitted for Phase 2 contribution funding and collaborative research and development support from AAFC or other federal government departments.

Agricultural Climate Solutions – Living Labs is a new 10-year \$185 million program that will establish a strong, Canadawide network of regional collaborations based on the living lab approach, bringing together farmers, scientists and other sectoral partners. Together, they will develop and share management practices that store carbon and mitigate climate change. This work will also produce important environmental co-benefits, including protecting biodiversity, improving water and soil quality, while strengthening farmers' bottom lines. Agricultural Climate Solutions – Living Labs is based on an expanded model of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's "Living Labs" network already underway in Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, and Prince Edward Island.

Dr. Dan Reynolds, Soil Physicist, retired from Harrow RDC in May 2022. Dr. Kangfu Yu, Soybean breeder, retired from Harrow RDC September 2022 and Dr. Ryan Austin left from London RDC in August of 2022.

## **Conservation Ontario Industry Update**

Submitted by Michael Dick

#### **Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund**

Conservation Ontario is working directly with 15 Conservation Authorities (CAs) to deliver 51 projects with funding granted from the Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund offered by Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC). The objective of this program is to deliver on multiple nature-based solutions including protection and restoration of wetlands, grasslands, and riparian areas, as well as enhanced land management practices that will increase carbon sequestration. Three Conservation Authorities will also be offering cover crop incentive funding through this program. See attached link to story map and CO Website https://conservationontario.ca/policy-priorities/climate-change/nature-based-climate-solutions

#### **ONFarm**

ONFARM is a four-year research initiative developed by OMAFRA and delivered by OSCIA that has been focusing on soil health and water quality. Five Conservation Authorities support the program by continuation of the monitoring and modelling established in the GLASI Priority Subwatersheds. Supported activities include water quality and quantity monitoring, water quality computer modeling, and examining the cost-effectiveness of different best management practices. As many farmers a possible will be surveyed within each subwatershed to record their cropping practices. Local agronomists and CCAs will be helping with the surveys. There will be an ONFarm Forum this winter. No date has been set yet but keep your eyes out for more information! https://www.osciaresearch.org/onfarm-applied-research/

#### Soil Action Group Implementation Plan

In September the Soil Action Group (SAG), met to discuss the development and finalization of goals and activities associated with the Implementation of the Soil Health Implementation Plan. The Soil Action Group has been established to implement Ontario's Soil Health Strategy (2018) and is supported by representatives from Conservation Ontario. The SAG has developed an Implementation Plan and short list of priority actions to be advanced over the next three years. Those actions include the identification and exploration of barriers and opportunities to cover crop adoption; increased LiDAR coverage and; completing and publishing the Soil Health Assessment and Planning Tool. All were identified by the Conservation Authorities as important priority actions for advancing soil health in Ontario. Conservation Ontario's continued engagement in the SAG will help to promote and advance the work, expertise and resources required for Conservation Authorities' ongoing role in soil health and watershed management in Ontario.

#### **Additional Notes:**

Many Conservation Authorities offer a cover crop incentive funding programs to some degree, in at least a portion of their region. Check this link to find the Conservation Authority contact in your area. https://conservationontario.ca/conservationauthorities/find-a-conservation-authority

# Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

Submitted by Christine Brown

## New Member of OMAFRA Field Crops Team!

OMAFRA wanted to inform CCAs that the OMAFRAs interim Canola and Dry Bean specialist is Abigail Wiesner, based out of the Stratford OMAFRA office.

OMAFRA is excited to have Abigail join the Field Crops team. Over the next year, she is covering Meghan Moran's home position and will be working with the Ontario Canola and Edible Bean



sector to build on the good work underway. Abigail has a strong pest management background through her master's work with the Agro-Ecology Lab at the University of Guelph, and has field crop production experience from working with Agriculture Agri-Food Canada. She has a strong passion for helping growers have economical and effective solutions to production issues.

Please reach out to Abigail at Abigail.Wiesner@ontario.ca or +1 (226) 979-8250.

#### **Diagnostic Days**

Diagnostic Days were held as a hybrid event this year, part in the field, part virtual. OMAFRA buildings have currently reopened the ability to book their meeting rooms, however, an employee must be the one to make the booking. External groups are still unable to book meeting rooms.

Publication 30 Guide to Forage Production is currently available. It can be downloaded as a pdf which is free, or an individual can pay for a publication. To download, visit https://www.ontario.ca/page/guide-forage-production

The Ontario Agriculture Conference is back again for January 2023. Following the same format as last year, there will be some components that are pre-recorded and available as on-demand sessions, and other sessions will be in-person. Live sessions will take place January 4th and 5th in Ridgetown, Waterloo and Kemptville. The on-demand sessions will be available until the end of March, and CEU credits will be awarded for anybody watching it after January.

Colin Elgie and Stephanie Vickers are taking the lead on organizing a webinar series titled, "Maximizing your Nitrogen Dollar." These sessions start November 23rd and continue for four weeks ending in December. Each session is one hour, 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. and CEU credits have been approved for this event.

The AgriSuite Tools have a newly released Greenhouse Gas Emissions Calculator. This was released in September 2022. There is another component, energy, which is going to be released in early December. If an individual wishes to make comments or provide feedback, they are encouraged to contact Chris Brown at OMAFRA.

# **SWATMAPS**

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Phosphorus/Potassium	Yes	?
Liming/Soil Amendments	Yes	?
Soil Applied Herbicides	Yes	?

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# Thank you to all of our CCA Conference Sponsors

If your company is interested in sponsoring our upcoming CCA Conference in January, contact Laura Shantz at laura.tfio@bell.net, or 519-787-4322











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