



Canadian Sheep Breeders' Association

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www.sheepbreeders.ca

La Société Canadienne des Éleveurs de Moutons

Press Release April 4, 2024 – CSBA AGM and Board of Directors Update

The Canadian Sheep Breeders' Association just held their 135th Annual General Meeting on Saturday March 23, 2024 by Zoom. This encouraged producers from across Canada to join and we thank all those in attendance. The minutes from the meeting will be available on the website as well as all the provincial reports, president's report and GM Report.

The CSBA board of directors announced the appointment of Bernadette Nikkel of Alberta as president, and Johanne Cameron of Quebec as Vice President. The CSBA Executive includes Bev Greenwell of British Columbia and Craig Emke of Ontario. The board also included the role of Treasurer which will be filled by David Mastine. Keith Todd's term on the board is complete and we thank him for his dedication to the Association. Craig Emke joined the board as a new representative from Ontario. All of these directors bring extensive industry experience and knowledge to move the sheep industry forward. Thank you to the remaining board of directors as they continue to represent CSBA at their provincial level.

The CSBA would also like to thank Delaney Hopkins for her role as Junior Director over the past two years and appreciates her input and perspective. We welcome Iain Anderson of New Brunswick as he begins his term of Junior Director.

The 136th AGM location will be determined at a later date.

This past year, we continued our support in a collaborative project for improving and integrating genetic improvement services in Canada. This project is funded in part by the Government of Canada under Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Canadian Agricultural Strategic Priorities Program. AAFC will contribute \$495,000 over three years to match co-funding provided by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), the Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation du Québec (MAPAQ) and the project partners.

We continued our move towards our transition to online services as we rely more on electronic communications. One aspect of making the registration system more efficient and economical is the ability to complete these options online. Please don't hesitate to reach out to our directors or the staff at CLRC for more information on these services.

Your sheep registrars at CLRC are Melanie Overduin and Mohamed Ismail. They can be reached at 1.877.833.7110 ext 306 - Melanie and 305 - Mohamed.

We encourage you to have a valid email address on file with CLRC so that you remain up to date with CSBA circulations as we move away from costly postage mailings.

The SEMRPQ and CSBA look forward to seeing you at the All Canada Classic this year in Richmond, Quebec July 11-13th. More information can be found on the website at www.sheepbreeders.ca or contact the SEMRPQ representatives: David Mastine: (P) 819.470.8070 (E) fermemaplestar@gmail.com, Sylvain Blanchette: (P) 418.714.0372 (E) ferme.ovimax@gmail.com or Cathy Michaud: (P) 581.307.4659 (E) semrpq@cepoq.com



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We look forward to continuing to extend the buying to online producers. Due to the enormous success of the online sales in the sheep industry over the last few years, the CSBA recommends that all Classic entries with the exception of Leicester, Lincoln, Romney, Cotswold, Ramboulliet, Columbia, Corriedale, and Targhee, be slick sheared for pictures, videos and for the Classic Sale. This process allows the buyers to see exactly what they are buying without varying fleece lengths. Wool breeds are encouraged to send pictures or videos of parted fleece along with complete animal shots. Photo and video clips will be included in the DLMS online catalogue.

The 2025 All Canada Classic is set to take place in Manitoba. The host association is reviewing different locations.

Congratulations to the 2024 Photo Contest Winners. First place went to Kelsey Schuddemat for Schuddemat Farms with the photo "Best Friends". Second place tie went to Jo Walker for Furze Farm with the photo "King of the Snow Hill" and Hamza Jawad for Polson Family Ranch with the photo "Shadows and Sunlit Sheep". The winners can be found on our website.

Although our financials showed a loss this year, the CSBA board of directors voted to keep the pricing structure the same for our members. There was a change in the pricing structure last year to encourage the use of online registrations that lowered the cost by \$2 for each electronic registration. Should members choose to send in paper registrations, the cost had increased by \$2. These prices will remain in effect for this year.

Last year, the board also removed the increased fee amounts for over 18 months and 24 months of age. We had recognized the time frame was a challenge for some producers and we hoped this would encourage the overall registration process. Starting April of 2025, the increase in fee for animals registered over 18 and 24 months of age will be reinstated. We encourage members to keep their records current to avoid the increase in fees.

The current fee structure is available on both the CSBA and CLRC website.

The board of directors of CSBA continue to promote the purebred sheep industry through marketing, research, and genomics. The board has committed to working with Consultants and Industry partners to update our current marketing materials with translations, investigate the potential for a semen (DNA) bank project, as well as seeking funding opportunities for a Genomics project at Laval University to benefit breeders across Canada.

The CSBA's board of directors announce that Linda Brandes will be resigning from the position of the CSBA's general manager. The board of directors will find a replacement during the upcoming month. Linda will support the new general manager to ensure a smooth and productive transition. For anyone interested in filling the role of CSBA general manager, please see the information on our website at www.sheepbreeders.ca under "news".

CSBA wishes another successful year to all members and welcomes any comments or inquiries you may have.