

# Canadian Sheep Breeders' Association

## La Société Canadienne des Éleveurs de Moutons

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### Canadian Sheep Breeders' Association Holds 137th Annual General Meeting

**March 30, 2026** – The Canadian Sheep Breeders' Association (CSBA) held its 137th Annual General Meeting on Saturday, March 28, 2026, via Zoom. The meeting minutes, along with the President's and General Manager's Reports, Provincial Reports, and an overview of the organization's activities over the past year, will be available on the CSBA website. Thank you to the over 45 members who attended.

The CSBA Board of Directors voted Craig Emke (ON) in as the new Chair and Johanne Cameron (QC) as Vice Chair following a special election meeting held after the AGM. David Mastine (QC), and Laura Mosley (ON), and Sarah Lewis (MB) were also elected to the Executive.

The Board recognized departing director and chair Bernadette Nikkel (AB). Bernadette has represented Alberta on the CSBA board since 2020 and has served as chair since 2024. Her leadership, passion and dedication for the Canadian purebred sheep industry will be missed.

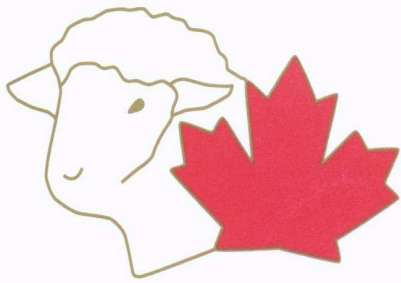
CSBA welcomes incoming directors Stephanie Arndt (AB), as well as Pam Bartlett (SK), who has now officially begun her role on the board.

Despite decline in memberships, registrations, and transfers, CSBA ended 2025 with a profit, thanks in part to a successful Classic and well-timed investments. Due to this profit, the board has chosen to absorb a cost increase implemented by the Canadian Livestock Records Corporation (CLRC), ensuring that registration and transfer fees will remain unchanged for 2026. The board remains dedicated to keeping the costs of registrations affordable, noting that over two years, there has been 10% increase in costs from CLRC, which have not resulted in raised prices of timely registrations or transfers to producers.

While the commitment to keep costs as low as possible is being made, there are changes coming to various alternative fees for breeders including increased Rush Fees on registrations as well as the introduction of modified late registration fees. Late registration fees will be reintroduced to members who are registering animals over 24 months old. A fee of \$5 will be applied to animals registered electronically, while a \$20 fee will be added to animals registered using the paper method.

In 2025, member's also saw the launch of a fully paperless registration option. Members who opt for paperless registration are choosing to no longer receive a hardcopy certificate but will retain the ability to transfer and manage their herd through the CLRC's "Manage My Account" function. Physical copies will still be available upon request for a potential administrative fee. To support this transition, printable PDF digital certificates are available under the "Manage My Account" function as well. Paperless registrations will be available at a cost of \$8 (plus provincial levy) and are expected to launch in the coming months. The current fee structure can be found on both the CSBA and CLRC websites.

Members are encouraged to reach out to CSBA directors or CLRC staff for more information on these services. Sheep registrars Melanie Overduin and Mohamed Ismail can be contacted at 1-877-833-



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7110 (ext. 306 for Melanie, ext. 305 for Mohamed). To stay informed, members should ensure a valid email address is on file with CLRC, as CSBA continues to transition away from costly postage mailings.

In collaboration with the Purebred Sheep Breeder Association of Nova Scotia (PSBANS), CSBA invites all members to participate in the All Canada Sheep Classic, taking place in Pictou Nova Scotia, from July 9-11, 2026. Details on attending, sponsoring, consigning, or purchasing can be found at [www.sheepbreeders.ca](http://www.sheepbreeders.ca) or on the All Canada Sheep Classic Facebook page. For inquiries, contact CSBA office at [office@sheepbreeders.ca](mailto:office@sheepbreeders.ca).

To continue to build on the success of online sheep sales in recent years, CSBA encourages online participation in the Classic. To provide buyers with a clear view of sale animals, all Classic entries—except Leicester, Lincoln, Romney, Cotswold, Rambouillet, Columbia, Corriedale, and Targhee—are to be slick-shorn, with no longer than ½ inch of wool, uniform across the body in both online pictures, as well as at the show. Wool breed exhibitors are encouraged to submit additional photos or videos showcasing parted fleece and full-body shots. These images will be included in the DLMS online catalog.

The CSBA is also pleased to announce that the 2027 All Canada Sheep Classic will be held in Vermillion, Alberta, and looks forward to welcoming participants to this event.

Congratulations to the winners of the 10th Annual Photo Contest: first place went to "Wisdom, Strength, Beauty" by Audry Buisman of Rafter 3B, second place to "Resiliency" by Gracey Wilkinson, and third place to "Sheep Under a Prairie Sky" by Jo Walker. The winning photos can be viewed on the CSBA website and Facebook page.

The CSBA Board of Directors remains committed to promoting the value of purebred sheep and encourages members to register animals before selling, include registration papers in sales, and remind buyers to request registration papers when purchasing livestock.

The board appreciates the ongoing support of its members and industry partners as we continue to strengthen and grow the purebred sheep sector in Canada. We look forward to another year of progress and collaboration and encourage all members to stay engaged, informed, and involved.

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*Canadian Sheep Breeders' Association is a non-profit organization that is responsible for maintaining the integrity of the national purebred sheep flock. The CSBA is governed by a provincially elected board of directors and represents over 800 members and over 50 breeds of sheep.*

For more information, please contact Sarah Brien, General Manager, Canadian Sheep Breeders' Association, 1-866-956-1116