



Canadian Sheep Breeders' Association

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www.sheepbreeders.ca

La Société Canadienne des Éleveurs de Moutons

Press Release April 4, 2023 – CSBA AGM and Board of Directors Update

The Canadian Sheep Breeders' Association just held their 134th Annual General Meeting on Saturday March 25, 2023 in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. The minutes from the meeting will be available on the website as well as all the provincial reports, president's report and GM Report. We were also able to host a zoom meeting along with the in-person AGM which encouraged producers from across Canada to join. We thank all those in attendance.

The CSBA board of directors announced that Keith Todd of Ontario will remain in the role of president and Bernadette Nikkel of Alberta will remain as Vice President. The CSBA Executive also stays consistent with Bruce Sinclair of Nova Scotia and Johanne Cameron of Quebec. 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 year and appreciates her input and perspective. We also want to welcome back Sarah Lewis who joined the board from Manitoba this past year.

The 135th AGM is set to take place in Ontario.

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. There are several objectives to this project and more information can be found on the website at www.sheepbreeders.ca.

One of the main objectives of last year's meeting was to examine the Constitution and move towards a smoother transition 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. The Proposed Constitutional Amendments were all passed by membership and we await the final approval by the Government. Along with these amendments was the recognition of the Valais Blacknose Sheep Breed as well as the change to the grading up process to allow from both the ram side and the ewe side. Once the final approval is met, the updated Constitution will be available on the website. As CSBA moves towards electronic communication, 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 BCPSBA and CSBA look forward to seeing you at the All Canada Classic this year in Barriere, British Columbia July 6-8th. More information can be found on the website at www.sheepbreeders.ca or contact the BCPSBA representatives: Richard Herlinveaux: (P) 250.213.3078 (E) element_656@live.ca



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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 highly recommends that all Classic entries with the exception of Leicester, Lincoln, Romney, Cotswold, Rambouillet, 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 2024 All Canada Classic is set to take place in Richmond, Quebec.

Congratulations to the 2023 Photo Contest Winners. First place went to Kelsey Schuddemat for Schuddemat Farms with the photo "Friends". Second place went to Kevin Kitchen for Edgemoor Farm with the photo "Manitoba Winters". The winners can be found on our website.

Although this year marked another increase in price for services from CLRC, the CSBA board of directors voted to change the pricing structure to encourage the use of online registrations and lowered the cost by \$2 for each electronic registration. Should members choose to send in paper registrations, the cost has increased by \$2. To help in moving towards this process, we will provide a tutorial on accessing your account on CLRC to facilitate the electronic registration process. This will be available on our website. The board also removed the penalty amounts for over 18 months and 24 months of age. We recognize the time frame was a challenge for some producers and we hope this encourages the overall registration process. By providing a discounted rate for submitting electronically at the time of registration, the bulk discount rebate has been removed.

These price changes will be effective April 10, 2023 and the new fee structure will be available on both the CSBA and CLRC website.

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