

Canadian Sheep Breeders' Association

La Société Canadienne des Éleveurs de Moutons

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CSBA report for NB, PEI & NL 2025

Dear members,

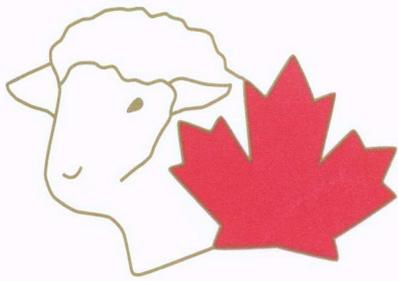
Welcome to all!

I have the pleasure of representing NB, PEI & NL! Every year when I look back at our wonderful industry, I am reminded at how hard working, dedicated and resilient our sheep producers are! ..and also all farmers! We are constantly being faced with challenges, markets fluctuating, price increases and now that new word that has become part of our vocabulary, ...Tarriff. Nevertheless this past year has shown lamb prices holding at good prices, thus interest in expansion and new producers entering our industry has meant demand was up for both the meat and breeding stock, some could not supply enough!

In NB, ...our provincial AGM was held on March 20, at the Four Points Hotel in Moncton. This year's focus is on Marketing venues available locally! Guest speakers topics including a Virtual tour of the Briggs & Little woollen Mills Ltd -Leah little, as well as Northumberland Marketing -Peter Boudreau. We are also having a round table discussion that include Northumberland and two provincial butchers being Bryce Anderson of The Country Butcher as well as Mekki Ayed! Discussions will be on what type of lambs we are looking for including breeds, size, condition, what we don't want of don't prefer, when we want lambs and how the producer is paid! Etc, ..etc, ..etc.

In PEI, the PEI Sheep Breeders association are focussing on being industry ready for the 2040 Net zero carbon initiative! They are encouraging accelerating the provinces breeding flocks' resilience to parasites found on pastures, by using permanent pastures that are critical to enhance the lands ability to absorb carbon! Many gastrointestinal parasites found in sheep are shown to be resistant to wormer, and are surviving the milder winters, Thus affecting sheep performances, Challenges include importing semen from proven parasite resilient genetics to ensure their success of carbon sequestration and best management practices of grazing sheep!

In NL, ...sheep producers have been mainly smaller flocks that focus on small-scale production as a secondary income. Many work off farm, are self employed or are semi-retired. In recent years there has been an increase in younger farmers who view sheep farming as a viable career opportunity! The Sheep producers of NL & Labrador Facebook site, admin is Matt Morry, the younger generation of the Morry family, a name that has long been associated with the sheep industry of NL! I encourage all to follow the site, There are beautiful photos, activities, info on workshops and great information sharing displayed, local icebergs are often focused also!



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In conclusion, the Atlantic provinces including NL, have faced many challenges in the sheep industry over the past several years, there are many, many resources available that collaboratively all could benefit from, strength in numbers! To name a few, there is the NSAC, Perrennia, the Atlantic Fall sheep sale hosted annually by PSBANS, the Atlantic stock yards weekly sale and annual breeding sale, Northumberland abattoir -federally inspected, Atlantic Vet college in PEI, the Maritime Beef test station that work on sheep clinics annually, the SPANS who have been instrumental on planning, organizing and hosting the annual Fall Sheep Conference! We also have in each province very involved 4-H groups, that dedicated individuals work countless hours to assist youngsters to complete projects shown at many local, & provincial fairs, and have gone on to show the Royale Winter fair! There are perhaps some I have not mentioned. Provincially we are fortunate to be represented by two national associations being CSBA & CSF, they both provide a wealth of information from research projects, national registry of purebred animals, Genovis program, breed directory, scrapie surveillance, traceability, agroledger only to name a few. As I have often stated, together we represent a great Industry that I am a proud member of! Thank-EWE all for attending! -and look forward to what the coming years bring to us all, Respectfully,

Jocelyne Mcgraw

CSBA DIRECTOR FOR NB, PEI & NL