



172 South Drive
Simcoe, ON.
N3Y 1G6

Immediate Release

Norfolk County Agricultural Society - Highlights of Annual General Meeting

January 27, 2018

The Norfolk County Agricultural Society held its annual meeting today at the Junior Farmers Building on the Fairgrounds. The main purpose of the meeting was to report on the financial activities of the organization to its members and to elect members to the Board of Directors.

Seven directors were elected to the Board, including Steven Balcomb, Mike Bollert, Sharon Judd, Brian Kenney, Walter Petheram, Patty Picard and Kyle Woolley.

Executive positions on the board are elected on an annual basis, with a one-year term limit. Brian Kenney remains as President, Aaron Culver as First Vice President and Debbie Morrison as Second Vice President. At the annual meeting President Brian Kenney stated, "The 177th Norfolk County Fair and Horse Show was arguably one of the best ever! I commend the hundreds of volunteers, sponsors and employees on an amazing job. It simply astonishes me how hundreds of individuals with a passion for agriculture, entertainment and education can band together and implement a world class event without losing any of Norfolk's charm. I am very proud of the fact that our fair continues to embrace its agricultural grass roots. I can say with confidence we ARE one of the premier Fairs in Canada." The financial statements were presented to the membership at the meeting. The Norfolk County Agricultural Society is a registered, non-profit organization.

"The Society's continues to commit to bringing the best in programming at the Fair, Eat & Drink Norfolk, Norfolk Wildlife and Adventure Show and with the support of our community it makes everything possible" stated General Manager George Araujo. "This year we added the Knights of Valour Educational program and Grandstand show to Norfolk with great success.

The Board took this opportunity to announce the initiation of the Horse Show Legacy Fund to raise funds to improve the Horse Barns, Facilities and Equipment. "The Horse Committee has created a strategic plan to improve the show for the Fair and to create grounds and facilities that will attract additional shows throughout the season" added Araujo.

The Society Board of Directors bestowed an Honorary Life Membership to Larry Dawson. Dawson has served as a long time Volunteer, Committee Chair, Director and Past President of the Norfolk County Agricultural Society. Percy McNabb was awarded a Recognition of Service Award from Festivals and Events Ontario.

Prestigious National citations highlighted presentations at the Annual General Meeting:

The Order of Merit Award from the Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions, awarded to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the success of the Fair for ten or more years **Dan Pearce, Joy Leiskau, Don White, Don Stewart, Don Daley, Dave Patterson,** and **John Lowes.**

The Distinguished Service Award from the Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions, awarded to a firm or organization that has provided outstanding service to the Fair for five or more years was presented to the following; **Aitken Motors, Blue Star Ford Lincoln,**

The Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies presented **Sharon Judd** with an Agricultural Service Diploma for her service over the years as a volunteer.

The Ontario Association of Agricultural Accomplishment Award was presented to **Judy Sheppard, Robert Lee, Scott Sowden** for their contribution to consecutive years of time and energy to an Agricultural Society.

The Norfolk County Agricultural Society continues to recognize the service of people in memoriam who dedicated themselves to the betterment of the Norfolk County Fair & Horse Show in generations past. Candidates are nominated annually by current Board Members to honour their memory and contributions to the history of the Norfolk County Fair & Horse Show. This year's Memorial Service Awards honour the life and service of; **Jack Watson, Max C. Hunter, R. E. Mann, Robert E. Mann, John "Jack" Slaght, G. Keith Yearwood, Lloyd S. Culver, Harold T. Pond, Bell Pond,** and **Ken S. McArthur.**

The Norfolk County Fair and Horse Show is the fourth largest fair in Ontario following the CNE, the Royal Winter Fair, and London. Last year over 110,000 visitors attended this seven-day event.

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George Araujo, General Manager
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Join us for the Norfolk County Fair & Horse Show
October 2nd -8th, 2018 in Simcoe, ON
www.norfolkcountyfair.com

Norfolk Wildlife Festival & Adventure Show, March 10th & 11th, 2018 at the Aud
Eat & Drink Norfolk, April 5th, 6th, 7th, 2018 at the Aud