

For Immediate Release

Farm & Food Care Ontario Executive elected

May 4, 2015 – Farm & Food Care Ontario held its inaugural board meeting of the 2015-2016 year and elected its executive at a meeting in Guelph on April 30.

John Maaskant will continue to serve as the chairman of Farm & Food Care. Maaskant represents Chicken Farmers of Ontario on the board and farms near Clinton, Ontario.

Said Maaskant, “It is an honour and privilege to serve as chairman for this positive and proactive work that is so important for all farmers and stakeholders in agriculture and food.”

Brian Gilroy, an apple farmer from Meaford representing the Ontario Fruit & Vegetable Growers’ Association, has been elected as the organization’s Vice Chair. Rounding out the executive is Treasurer Joe Hickson, a grain farmer from Lindsay, representing the Ontario Seed Growers’ Association and Executive member at large Beth Clark, a hog farmer from Simcoe County representing Ontario Pork.

Newly elected and appointed directors include:

- Jim Gowland, Ontario Bean Growers
- Les Nichols, Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association
- Christine Schoonderwoerd – Wallenstein Feed and Supply Ltd.
- Peter van Sleuwen – Dairy Farmers of Ontario

Returning directors include Bruce Christie – Nutreco Canada Inc., Heather Copland, Grober Nutrition, Leo Guilbeault, Grain Farmers of Ontario, Gerald Rollins, Beef Farmers of Ontario.

At the meeting, the board focused on setting direction for the coming year, hearing updates from staff and reviewing projects that are underway. Board members will go through a strategic planning exercise in June.

Farm & Food Care Ontario is the first coalition of its type in Canada, bringing together tens of thousands of farmers and related businesses with a mandate to provide credible information on food and farming in Ontario. To learn more about Farm & Food Care Ontario or to support the organization’s efforts, visit www.farmfoodcare.org.

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