



# Member Testimonial

## VEAL FARMERS OF ONTARIO

BY: PASCAL BOUILLY, VEAL FARMERS OF ONTARIO

Veal Farmers of Ontario (VFO) board and staff believe that we are all 'stronger together' and this is especially true when it comes to our partnership with Farm & Food Care Ontario (FFCO). VFO is a farmer-run organization that represents the interests of Ontario's veal farmers. We work on a variety of projects and address the issues directly impacting male dairy calf and veal farmers, to create a proactive and engaged dairy calf and veal industry in Ontario. As a smaller organization, we know we cannot do everything ourselves and we need to use our limited resources wisely. That is why VFO works with our industry partners like FFCO to strategically address the needs of our sector and lay important foundation blocks that will serve our industry now and into the future.



Together, VFO and FFCO use our combined strengths and expertise and share a common vision on the importance of clear, concise, and transparent communications that best represent our industry. We truly appreciate the work that FFCO does, especially behind the scenes, to create ways for the broader agriculture sector to work together on behalf of our respective organizations on common goals that benefit all our farmers and engage with the consumer and general public.

This past year, the level of collaboration, helping each other, and sharing among our industry colleagues has been unprecedented and something we hope will be sustained well past this pandemic. We are stronger together and VFO looks forward to continuing these partnerships into 2021.

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## OTTAWA VALLEY SEED GROWERS ASSOCIATION

BY: ROBERT DESSAINT, PRESIDENT, OTTAWA VALLEY SEED GROWERS ASSOCIATION

The Ottawa Valley Seed Growers Association traces back to 1927, after the first World War, when a group of Ottawa Valley Farmers banded together with the aim to help each other merchandise their crops. 94 years later, OVSGA thrives as a not-for-profit group of farmer and agribusiness volunteers dedicated to engaging and supporting the agricultural community. Through agricultural research initiatives, seed shows, training and leadership programs, ag education, 4-H and youth scholarships, we connect with our community.

Our Ottawa Valley Championship Seed, Feed and Forage Show showcases exhibitors and entries from the Eastern 12 Counties and our auction enables annual donations to the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario. We also host the Ottawa Valley Farm Show, Ontario's longest-running agricultural trade show, where 360+ exhibitors and 12,000 visitors come together annually in March.

Joining Farm and Food Care was a natural fit for us. With common objectives and a shared vision, we are excited to partner and host projects such as Breakfast on the Farm, Speak Up for Agriculture and more. Farm & Food Care shares to the general public so very well on behalf of our entire agricultural community. We look forward to continuing to share, grow and work together!

