

For Immediate Release

Crispin Colvin re-elected as chair of FFCO

Farm & Food Care Ontario elects 2024-2025 Board of Directors

(Guelph) April 29, 2024 – Farm & Food Care Ontario's (FFCO) 2024-2025 board executive was chosen yesterday. Re-elected to the Farm & Food Care Ontario board executive are the following:

- **Crispin Colvin**, nominated by the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (Chair)
- **Janelle Cardiff**, nominated by Egg Farmers of Ontario (Vice Chair)
- **Jennifer Mitchell**, nominated by Ontario Canola Growers (Second Vice Chair)
- **John Taylor**, nominated by Ontario Mutual Insurance Association (Treasurer)

This meeting follows the board elections at the organization's annual conference held on April 11. Joining the executive are:

- **Kelly Gubesch**, nominated by Wallenstein Feed & Supply Ltd. and Maple Leaf Foods
- **Joe Hickson**, nominated by Ontario Seed Growers' Association
- **Steve Lake**, nominated by Grain Farmers of Ontario
- **Quintin McEwen**, nominated by Ontario Sheep Farmers
- **Pete Overdevest**, nominated by Dairy Farmers of Ontario (Ex-Officio)
- **Nadine Schwandt**, nominated by New-Life Mills, a division of Parrish & Heimbecker, Ltd. (Newly elected)
- **Nicki Scott**, Ontario nominated by the Ontario Fruit & Vegetable Growers' Association, and Ontario Potato Board
- **Joost van der Heiden**, nominated by Beef Farmers of Ontario (Newly elected)
- **Andrea Veldhuizen**, nominated by Chicken Farmers of Ontario

Retiring directors **Mark Hamel**, who joined the board in 2022 representing Dairy Farmers of Ontario, and **Jason Leblond**, from Beef Farmers of Ontario, who joined the board in an ex-officio role in 2020, were thanked for their years of service and commitment to the organization.

Also recognized was retiring director **Bonnie den Haan**. Bonnie joined the FFCO board in 2018, first nominated by Dairy Farmers of Ontario and then by Sheldon Creek Dairy. Bonnie started as a director and then served as chair from 2021-2023, helping steer the organization through the complicated days of the pandemic.

Chair Crispin Colvin said, "I am honoured to serve as chair for a second term with Farm & Food Care Ontario. In collaboration with thousands of farmers and related businesses, this organization has a vital role in Ontario's agricultural industry. I look forward to continuing to build on the critical work being done to earn public trust in food and farming."

Vice Chair Janelle Cardiff added, "I look forward to a second year in the role of vice chair, working with the board and our members across agriculture to build on the incredible success we have had with in-person outreach events, on-farm tours, and the hundreds of thousands of people we are reaching with our virtual reality farm tours and *The Real Dirt on Farming* publication."

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Farm & Food Care Ontario is a coalition of farmers and food partners proactively working together to build public trust and consumer confidence in our food and farming systems. For more information visit: www.FarmFoodCareON.org.

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