

*Find your creative Mind*



JUNIOR FARMER'S ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

# 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

MARCH CONFERENCE ♦ BELLEVILLE, ON ♦ MARCH 23-25, 2018

# JFAO March Conference 2018

March 23-25, 2018

Travelodge Belleville ~ Belleville, Ontario

## Conference Schedule

### Friday March 23, 2018

8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	JFAO Board of Directors Meeting	Saganoska Room
1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.	JFAO Annual General Meeting	Park Ballroom
5:00 p.m.	Dinner (AGM continues if necessary)	Park Ballroom
7:00 p.m. -11:00 p.m.	Get Your Craft On! Social	Park Ballroom
11:00 p.m. -3:00 a.m.	Hospitality Suite	TBA

### Saturday March 24, 2018

8:00 a.m. -9:00 a.m.	Breakfast	
9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.	Jay Garlough	Park Ballroom
10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.	Endowment Fund presentation – 2018 JFAO Charity	Park Ballroom
10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.	Mackinnon Brothers	Park Ballroom
11:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Group Photo	
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch	Park Ballroom
1:30pm-4:00 p.m.	<b>Breakout Sessions</b> Breakout A Breakout B Breakout C	Belleville Room Moir Saganoska Room
5:30pm-7:00 p.m.	President's Reception (invited guests)	Belleville Room
6:00pm-1:00 p.m.	Banquet/Dance/Silent Auction	Park Ballroom

### Sunday March 25, 2018

8:00 a.m. -9:00 a.m.	Breakfast	
9:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m.	Speakers TBA	Park Ballroom
11:00 a.m. -11:30 a.m.	Exchange Presentations	Park Ballroom
11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Wrap-up (slideshow and surveys)	Park Ballroom

## DIAMOND PARTNERS



## PLATINUM PARTNERS



## GOLD PARTNERS



## SILVER PARTNERS



## BRONZE PARTNERS



We are helping to build leaders between the ages of 15-29 in our communities!

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**JFAO's Mission Statement:** To Build Future Rural Leaders  
through Self-Help & Community Betterment

## PURPOSE AND PRINCIPLES

JFAO provides opportunities for young people of all backgrounds, but especially those in rural Ontario, to take on the challenge of exploring their individual talents and potential to develop personally while being involved in improving their communities, networking, and having fun.

Members are guided by the motto "Self Help and Community Betterment " and the mission "To Build Future Rural Leaders Through Self Help and Community Betterment" as they conduct positive social and educational activities which satisfy their personal needs and interests while conducting service projects which support the needs of their community.

Programs and opportunities provided by JFAO and its affiliated clubs help to develop in members a sense of

social and environmental responsibility, the ability to provide effective leadership, and an awareness of good citizenship within the community and world around them.

JFAO serves as the means through which the mission and principles may be developed and maintained throughout Ontario.

JFAO provides co-ordination and leadership to clubs and provides opportunities to network through a variety of interclub competitions, activities, and exchanges. JFAO gives future leaders a voice in related organizations and the chance to become leaders of today and tomorrow while maintaining a connection with our roots

## AFFILIATION REQUIREMENTS

Any group of individuals may show their desire to become affiliated with JFAO by paying membership fees for each member (age 15-29 as of the first of January) and presenting a list of officers to JFAO.

Clubs must conduct a continuing program of activity throughout the year to meet the following minimum requirements:

- a) Submit a current club photo, labeled with members' names and executive positions to be used for archiving purposes.
- b) complete at least one (1) community betterment project.
- c) complete at least two (2) of:
  - i. a joint JF/Youth activity
  - ii. a conservation project, or
  - iii. an agricultural education activity,

- d) have at least one (1) event reported on by television, radio or print media.
- e) submit a minimum of five (5) photos of club activities
- f) (Optional) Submit one article (newspaper clipping, photo, or facts) related to the history of JF in the area
- g) have a meeting or part of a meeting on:
  - i. the structure and purpose of JFAO
  - ii. effective meeting procedures.
- h) submit a copy of the official minutes for two (2) club meetings.

See [www.jfao.on.ca](http://www.jfao.on.ca) for update, forms & more information



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Starting a new chapter always opens the door for the unknown, this unknown needs to be met with optimism and enthusiasm.

The enthusiasm for this organization continues to amaze me! Whether it be from members of the executive, or from members at the local level, enthusiasm is very much contagious. This is evident by going to events and talking to new members, returning members, and alumni to hear about what they have gained, experienced, and contributed to Junior Farmers Association of Ontario. As I have travelled across Ontario, attending events from Essex-Kent to Renfrew my enthusiasm for JFAO has only increased throughout the year. At every event I try and spread this enthusiasm by going outside of my comfort zone and encouraging others to do the same, as this is how we grow ourselves as future leaders.

This year marks the 50th year from the conception of the Century Farm Sign Project. Starting as a centennial project, and progressing over the next 50 years to include the 125, 150, 175, and 200 year add-on signs, the project continues to show its success. This year I had the opportunity to personally deliver several century farm signs and add-ons. One delivery stood out to me, it was to a 90 year old alumni, him and his family ordered a replacement century farm sign as well as the 125, 150 and 175 year add-ons. He was so enthused to be eligible to receive the

175 year add-on, and have it hanging with the century farm sign, that he bought 2 sets. Talking with this gentleman, he explained how Junior Farmers was the organization that held the mortgage allowing him to purchase the property from his father. Travelling across the province this year I have noticed the Century Farm Signs and add-on signs, and heard many similar stories from the Provincial Directors.

Since joining JFAO, highlights for me have always been going to locally run as well as provincial Events, with this year being no exception. My congratulations to those clubs that have taken on the organization of any of these events, all the events I attended were very well run!

I would like to take this time to personally thank all of you that have helped make this year such a success, for without you JFAO would not be the organization it is today. From my local club, to the board of directors and executive, to all the clubs who have organized or attended events, and the alumni who have given guidance and insight, Thank you.

**In JFAO Spirit  
Matt Smith  
74th President of JFAO**



## PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It has certainly been a changing year for the operations of the Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario.

After a very quick year with Kendell Keech at helm of the JFAO office as our Office Administrator, we were sad to receive her resignation, which has allowed Kendell to work in her field of education. However, we are pleased that Kendell will still be around JFAO as she has joined the University of Guelph club. In October, we were happy to welcome William Carson to the role of Office Administrator. William is on top of the day-to-day tasks in support of all executives and committees.

Crystal Bartlett returned as the March Conference Coordinator for 2017, after her successful runs as Coordinator in the previous year(s). In the summer of 2017, alumna Mary Feldskov was contracted as the 2018 March Conference Coordinator.

The Ontario Young Farmers' Forum (OYFF) has a returning face and dual coordinator with Mary Feldskov filling the role as coordinator for this event as well. With Mary taking on the positions for March Conference (2018) and OYFF (2017) it has allowed for continuity for the executives and committees.

Alumna, Kimberly Snyder has filled the contract for Bullhorn & Annual Report Editor/Designer bringing a new look to our quarterly newsletters and annual report.

JFAO continued our contract with Doug van Wolde of We.Go.ca Website Developers Inc. for website and email services. Several upgrades and changes have been made to our website this year to allow ease of use.

Susan Elliot continues to do an excellent job as bookkeeper for JFAO. Her exceptional attention to detail with the recording of day-to-day financial transactions, and vast experience with not-for-profit regulations continues to make her an asset.

A few coordinator positions were left vacant this year as we were fortunate to have strong leadership in the committees for Leadership Camp and the 11th Annual Charity Golf Tournament.

**Kurtis Smith  
2017 JFAO Past President**





## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

There was fun and adventure to be had this year in Junior Farmers' and our members took full advantage. This past year JFAO was kicked off with the JF Amazing Race during our annual March Conference weekend, including many great speakers and engaging activities in London, Ontario. We then moved the adventure to Orillia, Ontario, where we had a fantastic Leadership camp weekend at the Youth Leadership Camps of Canada. We were provided some of the best weather of the summer, soaking up the sun and swimming in Lake Simcoe, among a full schedule of team building and leadership activities. The adventure and fun continued across the province to the East, as we were happy to see a great group of young leaders hit the ground running, with a newly formed club of Stormont-Glengarry. This club brought together 16 area youth, and they made a big splash in their community in their first year.

Over the year, we have also had the opportunity to partner with our 2018 Provincial Charity, Second Harvest. This charity has allowed us to bring awareness about rescuing food waste to help feed those in need within our province. We have also had the opportunity to partake in one of their annual raffle draws, by helping in ticket sales.

Lastly, our adventure continued into the office, seeing the transition to a new online database and registration capabilities. This has been a smooth transition, allowing easier access for our members.

This past year has been a great experience, as the Director of Membership and as a first time Executive Member. I have had great support from the rest of the Executive Team, the Board of Directors, and the Members Programs Committee, making a successful year for all of our members. I thank you all for your support and enthusiasm throughout the year, and we now look ahead to a new year. From our year of adventure, to a year of creative ideas, may the Junior Farmers be your starting point!

**Total membership for 2017** = 370 members

**Total Clubs** = 22

**Newly affiliated club for 2017** was Stormont-Glengarry

All the clubs combined donated about \$78,000 back into their communities and reported just over 1300 hours of volunteer service.

### Retiring Members:

Mike Sproxton – Durham West  
Jordan Eastman – Carleton  
Rachel Stillman – Peterborough  
Dale Sutton – Wentworth-Niagara  
Sarah Judd – Haldimand-Norfolk  
Greg Johnson – Kawartha  
Krista Kruis – Kawartha  
Aimee Dadd – Wellington  
Ben Arnott- Perth  
Mason Dart – Kawartha  
Nick Bartlett – Haldimand-Norfolk  
Thomas Judd – Haldimand-Norfolk  
Jonathon Clyne – Wellington  
Michael Bruce – Kawartha

### 5 Year Members:

Cameron Alton  
Adam Baird  
Kelsey Banks  
Katelynn Berger  
Dawn Coulton  
Tim Danard  
Karen Debruyne  
Becky Hoogeveen  
Brad Jacobs  
Mark Johnson  
Andy Louwagie  
Frederick Mahon  
Hansford Mahon  
MacKenzie Mahon  
Karyn Marshall  
Thomas Mayes  
Eric McLagan  
Justin McNally  
Katelyn O'Neil  
Gina Posthumus  
James Rutherford  
Paulien Spruit  
Courtney Steven  
Annemarie Struhar  
Jason Van Moorsel

### 10 year Members:

Philip English  
Neil Ferguson  
Yvonne Scheurman  
Kurtis Smith  
Nikki Sproxton  
Justin Williams  
Jason O'Neil

### 15 year members:

Nick Bartlett

**Sarah Teefy**  
**Director of Membership**

## FUND DEVELOPMENT REPORT

A new year, means a new set of challenges and opportunities for fundraising. Those challenges and opportunities were met with results. JFAO members are very thankful for the support of our annual partners, newly developed partnerships, and past partners with which we have connected with. Support through partner funds, in-kind contributions, and member and alumni donations allow JFAO to provide leadership opportunities for all members. JFAO is committed to continuing to develop positive relationships between JFAO and partners as well as Alumni. Throughout the year, steps have been taken to improve fundraising operations and continue to strengthen our partner

relationships. The partnership package has been further updated to ensure partners can see all the opportunities where JFAO benefits from their support, as well JFAO has rolled out New "Partnership Signs". A special thank you to our Diamond Partners of 2017: Ontario Federation of Agriculture and Heartland Farm Mutual. Without the generosity of our partners JFAO would not be able to provide opportunities that build self-confidence and leadership roles for members. We look forward to continuing relationships and developing new ones throughout the years ahead.

## JFAO EXECUTIVE 2017-2018

### Front Row L-R

Executive Director of Finance-Erich Weber  
 President-Matt Smith  
 Past President-Kurtis Smith

### Back Row L-R

Executive Director of Membership-Sarah Teefy  
 Executive Director of Fund-Kristy-Anne Wytenburg  
 Executive Director of Community and International Programs-  
 Meaghan Weber  
 Executive Director of Agricultural Programs-Kelsey Banks  
 Executive Director of Marketing-Crystal Blake



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2017-2018



Allyson Condon, Brant  
 Quintina Cuddihy, Carleton  
 Ashley Johnson, Dundas  
 Mike Sproxton, Durham West  
 Doug Skinner, Durham East  
 Matthew Clark, Essex-Kent  
 Charlie Walsh, Grey  
 Hannah Ross, Haldimand-Norfolk  
 Becky Aikens, Huron  
 Ab Carroll, Kawartha  
 Kylie O'Neil, Middlesex

Adrianna McGinnis, North Simcoe  
 Gayle Topham, Oxford  
 Nicole Sproxton, Perth  
 Justin Kidd, Peterborough  
 Danielle Teefy, Prince Edward  
 Alex Wytenburg, Renfrew  
 Justin Brooks, Stormont-Glengarry  
 Celie Diebold, U of G  
 Nic Weber, Waterloo  
 Elbert Bouwman, Wellington  
 Jakob Arth, Wentworth-Niagara

## 2017 REPRESENTATIVES

**Kylie O'Neil**  
4-H Representative



**Nicholas Weber OFA**  
Representative

**Christinia Straathof**  
Social Media Representative

## PROVINCIAL CHARITY – AGSCAPE



is the Recipient of the 2017 Provincial Donation. AgScape creates agriculture; food literacy and career engagement through supporting student learning.

In 1991, Ontario Agri-Food Education was founded to promote agriculture and food learning in the classroom.



AgScape (registered incorporation name Ontario Agri-Food Education Inc.) is a registered charity incorporated under the Agricultural and Horticultural Organizations Act of Ontario. The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs provides partial funding in support of AgScape programs and services.

### WHY THEY DO IT:

- Lack of consumer knowledge about food and farming systems is a contributing factor to the economic challenges facing Ontario's agri-food industry.

- Myths about food and farming constantly challenge the growth and progress of the agri-food industry
- Educating students about food and farming can help dispel myths, create a deeper interest and connection to food, and promote local (Canadian) food.
- There is a disconnect between the agri-food industry and consumers
- Agriculture is currently not recognized as a separate subject within the Ontario curriculum

### HOW THEY DO IT:

- Creative programming connects food, farming, and health, expanding the profile of Ontario's agri-food sector.
- We collaborate with partners to deliver education programming that excites students and teachers and encompasses all food production systems in Ontario.
- We connect classrooms with agri-food perspectives that increase understanding, encourage critical thinking, and stimulate dialogue.



## WINTER GAMES 2017

Huron County Junior Farmers hosted the province in the municipalities of Central Huron, Bluewater and South Huron for another great JF weekend, February 3-5, 2017.



Approximately 145 Junior Farmer members attended Winter Games, coming from numerous counties from across the province. The weather cooperated so it made travelling to the west side of the province unchallenging. The theme for Winter Games 2017, was Keep 'er Klasy on Ontario's West Coast with Tight n' Bright. There were 18 clubs, composed of 15 teams, who showed their competitive sides while demonstrating good sportsmanship.

The events that teams took part in were: Curling at the Vanastra Curling Club, Basketball at the Clinton Public School and Volleyball, Soccer, and Floor Hockey at the Central Huron Secondary School. Each team partook in two games of each of the sports. There were two mystery events, one that tested everyone's trivia skills and Soccer Baseball, which was a multi club effort. Both mystery activities were held at Central Huron Secondary School. Teams were given points for number of wins and of course, team spirit.



After the games, clubs had a chance to return to the hotel, the Oakwood Resort in Grand Bend, to regroup and prepare for the dance. The dance that evening was held at the Dashwood Community Centre, a short bus ride away from the hotel. To go along with the theme, JF members were encouraged to dress up in their Tight n' Bright. We saw lots of neon colours, and some very questionably tight clothing, that stood out even when the lights were dimmed! There was no shortage of good music, dancing, pizza and fun! During the evening, Becky Aikens, our Chair of Winter Games 2017, announced the winners from the day's events.



Finally, many took advantage of the services Oakwood Resort offers (like massages for those muscles that might have been forgotten about, until after giving 100% effort, during the events) on the Sunday or visited Lake Huron before heading home. I think it's safe to say, there was no shortage of memories brought home from Ontario's West Coast!

**Samantha Klaver, Huron JF**

## OFFICE ADMIN

It has been a productive and rewarding year here in the office. As the year comes to an end we look forward to the new year, while reflecting on all that has taken place over the last year. Taking over as the Office Administrator in September I have set out to continue the goals set out for this position. With executive support we have been able to transition smoothly, maintain the office efficiency, and continue provide communication between the clubs and the public on a provincial level. In the coming year we continue to encourage member involvement at



the provincial level and together we can accomplish great things! I am extremely thankful for the opportunity to grow and develop my skills here at JFAO. I look forward to applying these skills both in my community and at my club at the University of Guelph. In closing, thank you to all of our members, the executive, and alumni. We look forward to another great year with JFAO.

**Will Carson  
Office Administrator**



## MARCH CONFERENCE 2017

This year March Conference was held on March 24-26 at the Best Western Plus Stoneridge Inn and Conference Centre in London. The theme, *Adventure Begins with JF*, was tied into the whole weekend as we took delegates on an Amazing Race and listened to our speakers' journey from their beginnings to where they are now. We had a total of 52 members attending the entire weekend with an additional 44 members, alumni, sponsors and family attending our annual banquet.

The weekend started off with the final Board of Directors meeting of the year which lead into our Annual General Meeting and the 2017-2018 executive elections. To get everyone pumped up, Elan Dance Arts performed a mixture of group dance routines. What a way to kick off the conference seeing what such talented youth could do!

This year's executive elections were filled with excitement with multiple candidates running and many close votes. Kurtis Smith moved into the role of Past President with Matt Smith of Wentworth being voted in as the 74th President in



a tight race. Erich Weber continued in his role of Director Finance. Kristy-Ann Wytenburg remained an Executive Director transitioning into her new role of Fund Development, while Crystal Blake moved from the Social Media Representative position to Director of Marketing. New faces on the executive included Meaghan Weber as Director of Community and International Programs, Sarah Teefy as Director of Membership and Kelsey Banks as Director of Agricultural Programs. Nic Weber moved to OFA Representative, Kylie O'Neil was selected as our 4-H Representative, and Tina Straathof was selected to be our Social Media Representative.

Despite a late night of discussion, debating and electing, delegates were up bright and early to listen to our first speaker of the weekend: Dusty Zamecnik. Dusty is the production manager at EZ Grow Farms Ltd. where he grows



top quality blueberry and strawberry nursery plants. He is also Vice President of Farm Operations and a founding partner of Hometown Brew Co., which is his blueberry beer operation. Dusty shared with us his journey and some of the life lessons he learned along the way through laughter and storytelling. He was very open with the group in making sure not to sugar coat his story

and told us all of the failures that he faced along the way. It was a morning session enjoyed by all.

After an exciting morning with Dusty, delegates listened to each of our options for the 2017 Provincial Charity. The options included Second Harvest, Make-A-Wish Canada, and Right to Play. Each of these three charities made great presentations, followed by an informative question period, where delegates had the opportunity to ask about anything, they were still questioning about each organization. The charity our members selected for the 2017 Provincial Charity was AgScapes. AgScapes is an organization dedicated to rescuing and delivering fresh, surplus food to feed people experiencing hunger. This organization connects with its partners who have excess fresh food and deliver it to food banks and shelters.

As a committee we decided that instead of doing the traditional breakout sessions we would get delegates up, moving and interacting. So, after lunch the delegates changed into more relaxed attire, to prepare themselves for an afternoon of adventure, in the Amazing Race. Without knowing exactly what to expect, delegates were seated and asked to remove their shoes and hand over their personal cell phones and electronic devices to begin. The committee had divided delegates into teams of four prior to their arrival at the conference and when the word "GO!" was uttered teams had to assemble and complete a variety of challenges together to make it to the finish mat. Challenges included tying a formal tie, JF trivia, spelling, eating enough M&Ms to make you sick, brain teasers and building marshmallow catapults to name a few. In the end it wasn't about who made it to the mat first, but about all the fun that was had along the way and the opportunity to make new friends in the JF community.



Saturday concluded with the JFAO Annual Banquet. The banquet was well attended by members, partners, alumni, and Past Presidents. The silent auction was filled with items submitted by each club to raise funds for the 2017 Provincial Charity donation. Partners and donors were thanked at the banquet, without them the entire weekend would not be possible. The President's pin was passed from Kurtis Smith onto the JFAO 74th president Matt Smith and several awards were given out to both individual members and whole clubs. This year the Club of the Year award went to Huron and the Agricultural Club of the Year award went to Oxford. The remainder of this year's President's rose awards were also announced and awarded along with the travel exchanges.

Our 2016 Provincial Charity, Agscape formerly Ontario Agri-Food Education (OAFE), was awarded with a cheque for \$4,500. The remainder of the night was spent dancing the night away!

To conclude the conference on Sunday morning, we had one final speaker Christina Crowley-Arklie. Christina is a communications strategist, speaker, and blogger behind 'The Passionate Voice.' Her talk was titled "Feeding the Goldfish: Getting social in Ag and Food" and focused on how members

of the agriculture community, need to adjust their communication techniques, to adapt to declining attention spans, while using multiple platforms for communication to keep our audiences interested and engaged. She challenged JFAO members to think outside the box as agricultural leaders to better understand communication in the 21st century. This left members with food for thought as they embarked on their journeys home.

March Conference was a great success and the committee would like to thank not only the members and alumni that attended but also all of our partners who contributed to a wonderful weekend.



**Brittany McLaren,  
March Conference 2017 Committee Member**

## 2016 AWARD WINNERS



**15 Year Member  
Heather Donkers**



**Ag Club of the Year  
Oxford**



**Club of the Year  
Huron**



**Member of the Year  
Katherine Clyne**



**Retiring Member of the Year  
Trish Staples**



**2016 Retiring Members**

**Kurtis McNichol  
Novice Member of the Year**



## MARCH CONFERENCE 2018

On March 23-25, Junior Farmer members from across the province are invited to 'find their creative mind' in Belleville, Ontario for the 2018 March Conference and AGM. Members are reminded that the time of the AGM has been changed to earlier in the day compared to the recent past AGMs. The AGM commences at 1pm on Friday, March 23. This means that there is a social activity that evening following dinner. Speakers,

scheduling, and activities are fast coming together, and we look forward to seeing all members tapping into their creative side this March!

**Christina Straathof**  
**2018 March Conference Committee Chair**

## LEADERSHIP CAMP – ESCAPE TO ADVENTURE

  
**JFAO LEADERSHIP CAMP**  
Youth - Agriculture - Leadership - Adventure

On June 9th, a group of Junior Farmer members escaped from their work week, to have an adventurous weekend at this year's Leadership Camp.

This year's camp was held at Youth Leadership Camps Canada (YLCC), on the shores of Lake Simcoe in Orillia, where we were greeted with hot sunny weather that stuck with us all weekend long.

Campers started the weekend with board games in the rec hall, followed by roasting a few marshmallows under the stars, at the evening campfire.

This was also when most people got their first chance to meet our exchange delegates for the summer. Bright and early on the Saturday morning, a few brave souls were up for a quick dip in the cool waters down at the lake, before heading back for breakfast. The day brought activities galore, from archery and canoeing to a blinded team walk through the forest.



Campers worked in teams throughout the day, all representing different continents. We had team Africa, team Asia, team Americas, and team Europe, each working to tackle the challenges of the day including a Pictionary amazing race game that had teams on the run.

Sunday was a highlight for all, bringing the escape room challenge. Each team entered into a dark room with only a small light

to start. They worked their way through a series of clues and puzzles, with an end result of finding light and escaping the darkness. Teams did exceptionally well working together and no one was left in the dark, literally.

By the end of the weekend, we had a few sunburns, a hundred mosquito bites, and tonne of fun!

**Sarah Teefy,**  
**Executive Director of Membership**



*Junior Farmer members gathered for a weekend of team building and fun reaching new heights, overcoming obstacle, and boosting confidence.*





## 2018 LOOK AHEAD

Annual Conference – March 23-25, Belleville, Ontario

PD & Club Exec Training – To Be Announced

International Delegates Arrive – May 27

Leadership Camp – June 8-10, YLCC, Orillia

Charity Golf Tournament – July, Guelph Lakes

Ambassadors' Reunion – To Be Announced

Autumn Profile – October, Wentworth/Niagara

Ontario Young Farmers' Forum – November

Sing Swing – November, Zone 5

## AMBASSADOR BANQUET



This past summer Ambassador's Banquet was hosted by Oxford County Junior Farmers and was held at Leaping Deere Adventure Farm, just south of Woodstock on August 26th. This year's hall was unlike any

other, as Leaping Deere's banquet hall is a renovated pig barn, perfect for a Junior Farmer get-together! The weather was perfect for the evening and over 70 alumni and members plus 8 international exchangees attended the dinner and dance. This year there were two presentations from past outgoing JFAO exchange members, Nic Weber showed off his travels in Tasmania and Sarah Teefy showed off her trip around Northern Ireland.

The 2016 International Summer Delegates also had a little slideshow where they showed everyone some of the highlights



of their three months here in Ontario. They showed us everything from sightseeing, to farm tours to just relaxing and enjoying the warm Canadian summer. Overall the night was perfect for reminiscing about travel adventures and inspiring others to take the chance, go

for an exchange and take the trip of a lifetime.

If you are interested in learning more about JFAO's exchange opportunities, would like to keep in touch for next year's banquet, or would like to reconnect with past delegates please feel free to contact [cip@jfao.on.ca](mailto:cip@jfao.on.ca)

**Meaghan Weber,**  
**Director of Community and International Programs**

## COMMUNITY AND INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

One of my favourite perks of belonging to JFAO, is the countless travel opportunities available to our members. From trips to counties within our province as well as international exchanges, there is something for everyone! I may be biased since I have had the opportunity to travel through Junior Farmers, but I have to say it's definitely the experience of a lifetime. This past year I have had the pleasure of being the Director of Community and International Programs and it has been a fantastic experience organizing all the details for our incoming and outgoing delegates. In March 2017 our panel of Judges selected and awarded four international exchanges to JFAO members. Sarah Teefy from Prince Edward County who participated in the North Ireland Exchange, Matt English from Kawartha County who participated in the Republic of Ireland Exchange, Kristy-Anne



Wytenberg from Carleton County who participated in the Austrian Exchange and Murray Dale from Huron County who participated in the Germany Exchange. Also this year Nicholas Weber, who was awarded an exchange in 2016, travelled to the Island of Tasmania in Australia. From the looks of the photos in each of our delegates' exchange slideshows, everyone learned lots about their host countries and made many new friends! If you are interested in learning more about each delegates' experiences while they were on exchange, you can check out each of their blogs on our website.

This summer we also had the pleasure of hosting a fantastic group of international delegates, who travelled from county to county, from May to August. We hosted 8 delegates over the summer, although some were only able to stay for part of the

time. Our delegates were; Emily Warin from England, Johanna Prodingner for Austria, Rieka JanBen from Germany, Celine Fahrini from Switzerland, Christina McCollam from North Ireland, JR Blair from North Ireland, Heather Murray from Scotland and Michael Lerchner from Austria. The delegates started their summer around the Guelph area then travelled to central and eastern Ontario before heading out on break week, after the break they returned and toured around Southern and South Western Ontario before heading home at the end of August. Over the summer many of our members had the opportunity to meet each of the delegates and learn about the countries where they each came from. For those who haven't had the chance to travel or are just curious to learn more about another countries' agriculture, the summer exchange is a fantastic opportunity to meet other young farmers from around the world. This summer had many highlights for the delegates, from checking out all the tourist attractions to swimming in Ontario's lakes and touring many family farms.

Each summer the delegates also get to attend a couple provincial events while they are here. First is Leadership Camp held in June, followed by the Ambassador's Banquet held in August. The Ambassador's Banquet is a celebration both for the ending of the summer exchange as well as for past JFAO exchangees to reminisce. Even though the end of the summer is always bitter sweet, many international delegates and JFAO members make lifelong memories, after just these few short months here in Ontario.

After the summer exchange JFAO also hosts a fall exchange for two delegates from Wales. This year we had the pleasure of hosting Katie Evans from Glamorgan and Aled Davies from Ceredigion, both arrived just in time for the Royal Winter Fair and spent a jam packed two weeks seeing all that they could in Ontario. While staying in Ontario the Welsh delegates also got to take part in JFAO's Sing Swing as well as the Ontario Young Farmer's Forum where they got to meet several members of our organization.

In closing thank you so much to all the members and families who took the time to show the delegates around, made them feel at home and took the time to help give them a summer to remember. Without the support of our members and their families we would not be able to offer such a fantastic opportunity to our incoming delegates. Exchange is what you make it, but hosts make a huge impact on each delegates' experience, we cannot thank you enough for all your help!

For those who are interested in learning more about the exchange opportunities that JFAO offers or how you can get involved in helping out please contact myself at [cip@jfao.on.ca](mailto:cip@jfao.on.ca) or feel free to get in contact with one of our past outgoing delegates, to ask them about their trip.

If you are looking to travel, but are not sure an exchange is for you, keep an eye on the JFAO social media pages, as well as our

website, as we do also offer group agriculture trips where we tour farms, as well as tourist attractions. In past years we have travelled to places like China and in 2018 we will be travelling to Belize and Guatemala to check out tropical agriculture.

For more information about the travel and exchange opportunities please feel free to check out JFAO's website and social media!

**Meaghan Weber**  
**Director, Community and International Programs**

## Our International Delegates

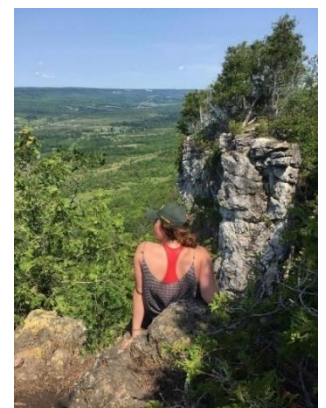
After a rocky start with two of the delegates flights being cancelled and a lost suitcase, our first week flew in. We were hosted by the University of Guelph club. Where we experienced our first (of many) Tim Horton experiences with Celie and Sophie, as well as trying some barrel racing.



We finally all met as a group and headed to Orillia for a few days to stay with Sarah And Mike. We did some hiking where we saw some amazing scenery around Lake Simcoe and the bright lights of Casino Rama, where the Luck of the Irish seem to work with JR winning \$113. We also headed into the big city of Toronto for a Blue Jays game and of course a visit to the CN Tower. A visit to the Flying Monkey Brewery

in Barrie, attending our First baseball game, visiting an asparagus farm, The Ranch, a couple dairy farms, sheep farms and a lot of bbqs, we had a packed first week.

The second week we were hosted by Wellington JF. This week started off with a tour of the beautiful town of Elora. Following that we had two brewery tours and a night at the race way. The night at the races included a guided tour round the stable block, which was a great hospitality, a sponsored race and a picture with the winning horse. With glass blowing, a compost plant, slaughter house, and dairy goat tours, it was a very varied week indeed. The week ended with a great farewell night at The Ranch. After going for wings (for the first time for some of us) we headed off to Leadership Camp in Orillia.





This weekend was a great opportunity for us all to catch up with past hosts and meet with hosts that we will be staying with further on in the trip. We also did some team building activities, lake swimming, canoeing, giant scrabble, and debating as well we fit in time for campfires and sunbathing. The weekend was a great success we all had a great time despite the questionable tan/burn lines and plenty of mosquito bites.



With Durham West we loved seeing the mushroom farm, which is something we had never seen before and a lavender farm which was also a bit different. A very relaxing and picturesque farm with all sorts of lavender products

from hand cream to lavender maple syrup and shortbread! We also went live in our very first radio interview which was a bit nerve racking, but we seemed to get through it without any slip ups. On the Friday night we had an "International Pot Luck" where each delegate made a dish from their country. We had everything from haggis to rhubarb soup, spice pancakes and a birthday cake for JR's birthday! This night was a great idea. We ate a lot that night, but worked it off with a lesson in two stepping and line dancing after. The week with Durham West ended with an afternoon canoeing, and getting off the water just before the storm!

Peterborough were our next hosts. This week was a quieter one with time to get caught up with sleep, diaries and organizing break week. We did also get to tour the Lift Locks and even in the control room talking over the loud speaker. Another favourite from this week was the hand pistol shooting range. We didn't get very many bulls eyes, because for a few of us it was our first time shooting a gun. We got a behind the scenes tour of the Three Roads farm, where they house 90,000 broilers, at a time and run an on site shop. It was a very impressive set up.

The tasting at the Maple Leaf farm was also a good tour. On Thursday we went to a Pow Wow at Curve lake and got to be guest judges at the dancing.



This was great to see and the outfits were very impressive! We also went to a Lakers game which was great to watch, much faster pace than baseball.

We then had a full on week with Renfrew, starting with a Barn Dance after Redneck games, and a tour of a dairy farm with a robotic milker, bedder, feeder and an anaerobic digester. As well as tours of impressive beef herds from Black, Wytenburg and Stewarts. At Stewarts we arrived just 20 minutes after one of there Belgium Mares had foaled. We had a great afternoon in Algonquin park in the

canoes while the rain held off and managed to find some Kawartha dairy ice cream to top off the day! The international delegates also made another debut on the "Barn Yard Breakdown" on Heritage FM. Where this time we were all interviewed individually to talk a bit about what we did at home and how farming differs to the Canadian system. The week was topped off with a day in Ottawa celebrating Canada's 150th birthday. We went all out with red and white head to toe, with hats, flags and a lot of temporary tattoos. Overall we had a great day and the fire works were amazing!

The Monday after Canada day we had our first work day. An early start for Christina, Emily, Rieka and Heather at Whitmore's to help at morning milking, with Curtis. We headed back for a hearty breakfast at the Schultz's house. Celine and Michael helped the Bromley's at an EastGen show in Spencerville. Jr had a stressful morning "bedding cattle" and checking cows that were actually in the shed... Good job buddy!! At night they played games at the Austin's, with some "minute to win it" games, which were a hit, and some great ideas to take home.



The next day we had a tour of Reuben Stone's Hemp Farm and the Millar's feed store. We had a small taste of a Sale Barn in Canada, which is very different from the ones at home for them, more of a personal feel with a smaller set up.

Followed by a day of sunbathing, zip lining and paddle boating at Logosland followed of course with ice-cream after. On, Wednesday we visited around Ottawa in the daylight seeing all the main sights; Parliament Hill, the locks and a trip to the market to try their first ever Beaver Tails and a night out Crazy Horse! The next day farm tours in Quebec of Glad Crest Farms, which had an interesting use of a washing out system.

After a rest day to get ready for break week they headed for the Wilderness Tours, for a white water rafting experience. 5 out of 5 delegates that went rafting returned and only one raft flipped. An unforgettable experience it certainly was.



After little to no sleep, Sharon Rutter kindly drove Johanna, Heather, Emily and Jr to Ottawa for our flight to Alberta. We spent a night in Calgary experiencing the Stampede, which was amazing. We would highly recommend it! We then hired a car and spent two nights in Banff visiting Lake Louise and the Hot Springs. From there we then headed North to Hinton and saw the Colombian Ice Fields, Sky Tram and swimming at Lake

Annette. The last leg of our trip they had a night in Red Deer and another half night in Calgary before their flight back to Ontario. Alberta was absolutely stunning and we urge anyone who has the chance to buy the ticket and go to do so!

#### **Micheal's break week:**

He spent his break week at his host family. There was still a lot to do, so he helped out doing the concrete for their uncle's new barn, as well as feeding the calves and milking. His host family took him to the local dairy farmer's charity golf tournament. It was the first time he had played golf on a real course. On the same evening he tried water skiing on the Ottawa river. That was his first time water skiing too. He spent his weekend in Ottawa. Craig, his host family's son took him around to see the most important sights and the best Canadian food spots. The great finale of his break week was having breakfast at the Fairmont Chateau Laurier hotel in Ottawa. At midday he started his 11 hour trip to the next host family in Tilbury. He would like to say thank you to the Hadden Family for their awesome hospitality!



#### **Rieka and Celine's break week:**

The courageous delegates (Rieka Janssen & Céline Fahrni) decided to go skydiving during break week and travel to New York City after that.

Phil English and Matt Smith were so nice to drive them from Renfrew county near to Niagara Falls. They spent one night there and on Monday they went skydiving at the Niagara skydive center. They both jumped in a tandem with a tandem master at the back. It was a huge surge of Adrenalin but they loved it! In the afternoon they still had enough free time, so Taylor Campbell and Sara Brian showed them Niagara falls. In the evening they took a bus and traveled through the night to New York City. On Tuesday morning they arrived there and went straight to their new home, which they had booked on the Air BNB website. Their first impression of New York City was amazing. They felt so tiny beside the huge buildings and skyscrapers. Over the next few days they visited the Empire State building, the Rocker Feller center, the Statue of Liberty, the 9/11 Memorial, the Brooklyn Bridge, Central Park, they watched the musical "cats" in a Broadway show and did a lot of



shopping at Times Square. On Sunday evening their bus left New York City and 19 hours later they arrived at their new host family in Essex-Kent county. It was a busy, but an amazing week which they will never forget!

In Middlesex county we took a trip to the pioneer village which was extra special, as it was based on an Irish settlement. We thoroughly enjoyed their tour round the Ice factory and a sunny day at Grand Bend, where Heather and Jr got Canadian tattoos. We then treated ourselves to some more Kawartha Ice Cream. Our next hosts were in Huron. We were blown away at their tour of Hensall District Co-op, by the 300,000 tonne of storage and \$700 million in exports. One of the highlights of our trip was their sightseeing tour in Oliver's plane. The skies were so clear. It was an amazing experience.

Our next hosts were Perth County, where we ate a lot of chocolate at Rheo Thompson and saw every process at Greens Meats. We were lucky enough to watch an emergency kill while we were there. We then had some steaks that same night! We also got to see a herd of Canadian Galloways and blew up a washing machine – something very different. Grey county took the delegates to Tobermory and out to flowerpot island and we enjoyed plenty of hiking. We ended the week at the golf tournament. What we lacked in Golfing enthusiasm, we made up in drinking.

We then headed to Wentworth-Niagara and Haldimand Norfolk, where we spent the day at Niagara Falls, which we had been waiting to see all summer and it did not disappoint. We also learned about Community Supported Agriculture with Sarah Judd. We all agreed this was a great idea and hope to see more of it.

Saturday was the day of our Banquet. A great night in a great venue and a nice opportunity to say a final thank you and farewell to everyone.

The last week was a chilled week with a movie day, farmers market and a day at African Lion Safari with Waterloo. With sad farewells to end the week we all parted ways to start our new adventures. This summer has been truly unforgettable. Meeting both young males and females in the agriculture industry in Canada has been inspiring and I'm sure we have all taken some new ideas home. All the JF families have been so welcoming to us and they can't thank everyone enough. We promise we will be back!





## 11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL JFAO CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT



The 11th Annual JFAO Charity Golf Tournament was held Friday August 11th, 2017 at Guelph Lakes Golf and Country Club. The golf tournament is a way JFAO brings together current members, past members,

partners, exchangee delegates and the community, in order to raise funds for the operations of the organization. It began with a sausage BBQ lunch as teams registered and picked out their "poker run" hand. A game we played called poker run consists of individuals selecting cards at registration and then having the opportunity to exchange them twice throughout the day. The individual with the best poker hand at the end of the golf day, wins a prize!



The shot-gun start commenced with the sun shining. We spread our international delegates throughout different teams to

minge with partners, alumni and members. Steve McCabe from the Grain Farmers of Ontario joined a team of members and a delegate for the day. The day ended with a steak dinner and banquet to celebrate the day's victories.



A special thank you to our 2017 Golf Tournament sponsors including:

Grain Farmers of Ontario, Richardson International Limited, Linamar Corporation, Growmark, Ontario Holsteins, Eggs Farmers of Ontario, and Woodrill. Stayed tuned details of our 2018 Charity Golf Tournament!

**Kristy-Anne Wytenburg,**  
Director of Fund Development

## MARKETING REPORT

This past year has been one of excitement, with the new Strat Plan in the works, and this year's executive's goals to move this organization in a forward direction.

With help of a few people, the website has gone through a complete overhaul of updates, over this past year. A few new features to the website include a club contact list, a publication page, an online store for SWAG and Signs, and much, much more. Looking for something, or have suggestions? We are always looking for feedback.

The Bull Horn has been amazing this past year, thanks to all the submissions from across the province, and due to the hard work from both of our editors. Thank you to Shannon Kelly and Kim Snyder for your time and efforts to get our quarterly newsletter put together.

One of the tasks, assigned to the public relations committee, was to develop a description of JFAO to be used to promote Junior Farmers to new members and members of the public. The provincial board of directors passed the following description: Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario - an organization that is run by youth for youth. We connect people between the ages of 15-29 locally, provincially, and globally through volunteer engagement activities, travel opportunities,

and social events. Although our organization is proud to have roots in rural communities across the province, all are welcome!

Next was the IPM, which was held in Huron County. We once again set up in the focus on youth tent to connect with the public. The volunteers this year stood out in their one of a kind "Keep Calm and Join Junior Farmers" shirts. Overall the week was a success, connecting with potential new members, as well as alumni.



The public relations committee is also working on new banners, a new display and tents for promotional purposes. Stay tuned for updates as they new items appear in the near future.

Overall it was a busy year, but an exciting year. I can't wait to see what Junior Farmers' can accomplish in the years ahead.

**Crystal Blake**  
Executive Director of Marketing

*Public Relations Committee: Becky Mattice (Huron), Kurtis McNichol (Huron), Leslie Reid (Waterloo), and Christina Straathof.*

## INTERNATIONAL PLOWING MATCH

Junior Farmers Association of Ontario hosted a booth, in the Focus on Youth tent, at this year's International Plowing Match, held in Huron County Sept 19-23. The week long event started off very wet and ended as a scorcher, but our members' enthusiasm all week was very noticeable.



One new item added this year was our volunteer shirts, that said Keep Calm and Join Junior Farmers. These shirts definitely attracted a lot of attention.

Our members who volunteered at the booth, loved the chance to meet new people, and hear stories from our Alumni/Members who stopped by the booth to say Hi. During the event they also enjoyed the chance to promote our organization, our century farm sign program, along with our gate sign initiative. Plans for attending the 2018 IPM are already underway.

**Crystal Blake,  
Director of Marketing**

## AUTUMN PROFILE

This year Autumn Profile headed east and was hosted by Renfrew County Junior Farmers on October 21, 2017 at the DACA Center in Dacre. In keeping with the lumber industry roots that Renfrew County was built on, this year's theme was "Channel the Flannel" with everyone breaking out their best plaid during the day and at the dance.



After a few wrong turns and an unplanned road trip or two, all of the teams arrived and registered to start the day's events. The games of the day ranged from The Whisper Challenge, Tilt-a-Cup, Magic

as see how, thanks to their outpouring of support, we were able to host the best Autumn Profile we could have imagined. As the day's event started to come to a close it was easy to see that everyone's competitive nature was coming out. This was no more obvious than during the mystery event. The mystery event, fittingly named "Stomp the Yard," saw teams compete against each other by trying to pop each other's balloons that were tied to their ankle. What started out as a fun game of laughs, quickly turned into a game of strategy that saw teams ganging up on each other, friend turning on friend, and some very impressive evasive maneuvers.

After cleaning up and a quick rest it was soon time to return to the DACA Center for the dance,



### Autumn Profile 2017 Sponsors

Renfrew Federation of Agriculture	Dr. Olsen Chiropractic
Cobden Civitan Club	G&S Farm Equipment
Douglas Lions Club	Oaks of Cobden
L-A Concrete Finishing	RJ Selle & Son Sand & Gravel
Renfrew County Beef	SeCan
Beach-West Pharmacy	Smiley Brothers Agri-Services
New McLarens Systems	Stewart's Auctions
Beachburg Lions Club	United Steelworkers - Renfrew County
Cobden Agricultural Society	Valley Bio
Cobden Auto Supply	Walsh's Livestock
D.A. Bielaskie & Son	Whitewater Brewery

Carpet Ride, sheep showing and judging to Scrabble Roulette, identification quizzes, and a blindfolded maze. Throughout the day it was obvious that a few games came out as favourites, mainly the Bubble Gum Challenge, where participants were tested on their ability to hold their breath in cool whip, and It's All in the Hips, where members were tested on how well they could swing a slinky without using their hands.

Teams made their way through 8 stations in the morning before stopping for lunch prepared by our club member Miranda Mulligan and her committee of 3 of our amazing club moms. Lunchtime also saw some of our event sponsors arrive to learn more about what Junior Farmers and Autumn Profile are, as well

where everyone broke out their finest plaid before breaking out their best dance moves. With the dance also came the announcement of the day's results and awarding the winners their prizes. All too soon it was time to call it a night and shutdown the dance floor, marking the end of another Junior Farmer provincial event.

### Team Results

Club Team Placing	Score
1 Haldimand-Norfolk 1	65
2 Wentworth-Niagara	65
3 Haldimand-Norfolk 2	55
4 Carleton 1	54
5 Perth 1	53
5 Brant/Waterloo	53
7 Brant 3	50
7 Middlesex 2	50
9 Middlesex 1	49
9 UofG	49
11 Carleton 2	47
11 Perth 2	47
13 Brant 1	45
13 Wellington	45
15 Brant 2	44
16 Kawartha/Oxford	36





We could not have hosted the event we did without all of the community and family support we received throughout the year. While we should not be surprised by this support, as it is

continuously and unwaveringly given to us time and time again, we continue to marvel and be thankful for it. It is this support and the enjoyment we had while hosting the province that makes us hope we don't wait quite so long to host everyone again.

**Meredith Mulligan**  
Renfrew County Club President

## SING SWING

This year, our club, the Wellington Junior Farmers were very excited to host Sing Swing 2017. For many of our members, it was the first time being involved in planning a provincial event, which was exciting and daunting at the same time. The event was held in Clifford, ON and had over 40 individuals and 6 teams (min 10 people) in attendance.



Clubs came dressed in their red and white ready to perform according to the theme of the day, which was in celebration of Canada's 150th celebration, the "Ultimate Canadian Adventure". Every event tied back into the theme, with having maple desserts, Canadian songs to lip sync to and even a Canadian memorabilia category.

We were also fortunate enough to have some fantastic judges that consisted of alumni and community members. They kept the day moving and we were very grateful for their dedication of time and efforts in making this event a success. The day events consisted of a variety of activities for everyone to enjoy, such as; baked good, artistic aspects, dancing, singing, euchre, lip syncing and many more. We had two mystery events for

clubs to participate in, which were well received, one being a photo scavenger hunt and the other being minute to win it games. After everyone freshened up and gathered at the Community hall for the banquet, decorated in white, red and gold, everyone enjoyed a delicious dinner served by the Clifford Lutheran Women.



Next the Clubs received awards for their efforts, during the day (which are listed below) and finished by dancing the night away. We would like to thank all of our sponsors and community businesses that assisted in any way to make the event possible, along with the Town of Minto who was fantastic to coordinate the event with. Also, a big thank you to all of the clubs for coming out and supporting our event, as it would not have been a success without you all!

**Katherine Clyne Wellington**  
County President



## SING SWING FINAL WINNERS

<b>Square Dance:</b> <i>Brant</i> <b>Calling Competitor:</b> <i>Brant</i> <b>Jive:</b> <i>Kawartha</i> <b>Waltz:</b> <i>Kawartha</i> <b>Polka:</b> <i>Kawartha</i> <b>2-step:</b> <i>Kawartha</i> <b>Line Dance:</b> <i>University of Guelph</i> <b>Alternative Dance:</b> <i>Renfrew</i> <b>Cultural Dance:</b> <i>Renfrew</i> <b>Painting Art:</b> <i>Dundas</i> <b>Best Maple Dessert:</b> <i>Waterloo</i> <b>Homemade Salsa:</b> <i>Prince Edward</i> <b>JF in Community:</b> <i>Perth</i>	<b>Dessert of any kind:</b> <i>University of Guelph</i> <b>Sewn article of clothing:</b> <i>Dundas</i> <b>Barn Board Art:</b> <i>Wellington (alumni – Jen van der Meulen)</i> <b>Canadian Memorabilia:</b> <i>Wentworth- Niagara</i> <b>Canadian Pride:</b> <i>Wentworth- Niagara</i> <b>Ag Photo:</b> <i>Haldimand-Norfolk</i> <b>Candid Animal:</b> <i>Haldimand-Norfolk</i> <b>Vocal Group:</b> <i>Kawartha</i> <b>Vocal Duet:</b> <i>Middlesex</i> <b>Quilting (any project):</b> <i>University of Guelph</i>	<b>Vocal Solo Male:</b> <i>University of Guelph (Logan Emiry)</i> <b>Vocal Solo Female:</b> <i>Middlesex (Valerie Johnson)</i> <b>Instrumental solo:</b> <i>Renfrew</i> <b>Gong Show:</b> <i>University of Guelph</i> <b>Lip Sync Battle:</b> <i>Essex Kent</i> <b>Impromptu public speaking:</b> <i>Prince Edward</i> <b>Photographer's Choice Photo:</b> <i>Essex – Kent</i> <b>Most Patriotic Photo:</b> <i>Perth</i> <b>Drawing Art:</b> <i>Wentworth- Niagara</i> <b>Homemade Card:</b> <i>Kawartha</i> <b>Computer Art:</b> <i>Middlesex</i>	<b>Quilting (farming or JF):</b> <i>Prince Edward</i> <b>Best Needlework:</b> <i>Kawartha</i> <b>Metal work:</b> <i>Essex – Kent</i> <b>Woodworking:</b> <i>University of Guelph</i> <b>Spelling Bee:</b> <i>Kawartha</i> <b>Scavenger Hunt:</b> <i>Wentworth- Niagara</i> <b>Minute to Win it:</b> <i>Kawartha</i> <b>Best Cookies:</b> <i>Renfrew</i> <b>Homemade Squares:</b> <i>Kawartha</i> <b>Euchre:</b> <i>University of Guelph</i> <b>Homemade Pie:</b> <i>Middlesex</i> <b>Overall Club:</b> <i>Kawartha</i>
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## TRAVEL AND HOSPITALITY



### AUSTRIA - Kristy-Anne Wytenburg, Carleton Member

Every summer has a story. Mine included an agricultural exchange through the Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario. I chose Austria for a few reasons: amazing reviews from past exchangees, being able to connect with individuals who have come to Canada from Austria and most importantly August was the only time I could take off work! Leading up to my departure date was an interesting week; I had client deadlines to meet before jumping on a plane, requiring a few all-nighters, I ran the JFAO Golf Tournament and had my flight canceled! By the time I finally got on a plane, a day later than anticipated, I slept like a baby!

My first host was Stephanie Gunacker living about an hour west of Vienna. The Gunacker family of four live on a crop farm with an apple orchard. Stephanie herself works full-time as an accountant, which was very interesting for both of us to discuss differences between Canada and Austria. The Gunacker family sell their apples and homemade juices from a store on their property. It is very typical for a farmer to sell their products directly to the consumer from their home. Since apples were not ready to harvest the week I was visiting, I spent majority of the week exploring the area. I hiked two mountains, visited a castle, attended a music festival and spent a day in Vienna. Stephanie took me to visit her boyfriend's pig farm and her cousin's dairy farm. I also got to help label the apple juices, that the family produces. Since Stephanie worked a few of the days while I was visiting, I took a day trip about an hour North to visit with a past Canadian exchangee Doris, spending the day visiting her family and on a beach!

My second host was Isabel Metzker living about 45 minutes south of Vienna. The Metzker family has a cash crop farm and Isabel has a vegetable operation on her own. As it was harvest season with the Metzker family, I spent most of the week in the

fields. I harvested potatoes, tomatoes, peppers and did general field maintenance, such as weeding. Isabel also works at a horse stable, training young fous. I got assigned three horses for the week and got a chance to work one on one with them doing basic training and long-distance trekking. It was truly a dream come true! As a thank you for all the hard work throughout the week on my last day Isabel took me to a winery and for a spa day!

Going to Austria with little knowledge of my host families, turned out with me being perfectly paired! I couldn't have imagined a better way to spend a holiday and learn about agriculture in another country. I look forward to revisiting these families and can't wait to do another exchange in my JF life!

### GERMANY - Murray Dale, Huron Member



I just want to highlight how amazing of an experience it was to travel Germany on a JFAO exchange. In the beginning I never imagined just the experience I was in for, as I spent 32 days in Germany. I stayed in Neidersaxony, the North-

West Region, bordering the Netherlands, with major cities such as Osnabruck, Bremen, and Hanover. During my time I was able stay with 6 families within that area.

The first family I stayed with was the Meyer Family, who lived in Warrenholtz. I stayed there for 4 days and I had an amazing time. Some of the highlights were visiting the Volkswagen museum, factory in Wolfsburg and partying with the fire brigade youth group. I was also able to visit a few farmers in the area, as this host family did not live on a farm themselves. The farm tours included two dairy barns and a potato farm. One



thing that stood out for me with these farms, is that all the farmers were in cooperation with each other, sharing equipment and man power in order to save costs.

One farmer also had an bio gas plant that was installed nearly a decade ago on his farm, and the other farmers contributed to a community owned one. Both are relatively new technologies and the cooperation's surprised me. It was neat to see how these farmers have adapted to diversifying their businesses to save costs. There were great ideas to take away with me.

After my stay, here I hopped on a train to the city of Osnabruck where I stayed another four days with four university students that are studying agriculture. It would be the equivalent of living with University of Guelph students. Here I found some strange coincidences, two out of the four students had been to Huron County before. One of them had even worked in the town of Zurich in 2013, for a whole year on a dairy farm. And in the student residence next door lived a former Junior Farmer Exchange delegate by the name of Carolyn Westerkamp, who had been to Ontario in 2014. It really makes the world feel small hearing these stories. I spent my time here visiting a classmate's home farm, that had a bio gas plant. They would collect rotten food from grocery stores to feed the plant. A specialty was rotten strawberries, as they have quick releasing sugars that dramatically reduce the methane maturation process. The university was also doing an experiment, where they were measuring the amount of nitrate seepage in the ground, using fertilizers at this farm. It was also in Osnabruck, where I'd seen my first unpasteurized milk vending machine pipe, directly from the milk tank. Other farm tours included a state of the art beef farm and a class mate's horse breeding farm. Here I was able to meet many people through going to parties, and other activities.



After my stay there, I traveled to Neinburg by train where Simone Ruhno picked me up. I would spend the next week with her son and her, where I would visit farms, see soccer games, Spargel festivals, and even a marathon.

One thing to note from this part of my exchange is that I learnt that Spargel, is a type of asparagus. They harvest the root of the asparagus, which is white in colour. The Germans love to eat this with their potatoes and ham chunks covered with hollandaise sauce. I had a chance to try this meal at least ten time during my stay.

Some of the farm tours included milking cows on a farm, where the owner had milked cows, in Mitchell Ontario for six months. He was in partnership, with two other farmers that owned a large bio gas plant. The plant was 750 KW and could power the

local village and provide domestic hot water for all the homes in the area. This operation was very appealing to me. However, these operations are only made possible with the German governments generous subsidies for renewable energy.

After my time here, I would travel back west to Nuebokel to a small hobby farm. Here I was able to visit a large farmer of potatoes and spargel. This farm had their own processing plant and distribution services. I was also able to visit a pig barn, open air agriculture museum, and concentration camp while I spent my time here.



My next host was back in the North of Neinburg to a young couple with a cash crop farm, specializing in carrots and soon to be garlic. I was able to see a 1000KW bio gas plant, working in an organic broiler chicken barn, and toured a factory providing ISObus UI's for Ag equipment such as Amazone, Krone, and Limken. I also was able to visit the city of Bremerhaven to visit a Climathaus Museum. I really admired this farmer of only 30 odd years old. He desperately tried new techniques and to grow different products that challenged the norm. With his inspiration, I felt a greater need for change in my own farming community, back on the home front. Another progressive program Lutz was taking part in was a land amalgamation program where the government would try to rearrange land ownership's, so that farmers had land in one area and were not spread out. Of course all properties are graded in soil quality and others factors, so that all trades are equal. This concept was really interesting to me.



After this I headed to north of Oldenburg to my last hosts who resided on a dairy farm. Here I was able to milk cows, attend some agriculture classes, and go to an old-timer festival market.

Not only did I gain great knowledge about agricultural practices, but I was able to experience a lot of great festivals such as Shutzenfest. I was able to attend 4 different festivals. I also got a chance to experience some small town and village target competitions, where everyone in the village competes to shoot a 50 yard shot. Along with these competitions surrounds partying, fairs, and parades. It was at these events where I was able to meet the most people and have the best times.

Another unique festival was Pfingsbalmflazen which translates to planting trees. On a Friday night a group of us would cut 150 small trees in a bush and stick them in the ground for every woman that lived in a given house in each area. And the following Saturday, we would visit each house and sing a song and ask for money and shots to fund the Landjugen group. The Landjugen group to clarify is the equivalent of our junior farmer organization in Germany. This tradition originated as an act of romance for the girl you liked or for any woman over thirty years of age who was not married yet which is quite comical if you think about it.

Some of the things I learned about farming, while in Germany, is how not only are the farmers progressive and conscious about their business, but this backed by a stringent consumer society and governing bodies. The consumers have many needs and standards to their demands in products that often pose problems for the producers. These include organic matters, animal housing standards, and illegalization of products and practices that drastically change the way the producers operate. In the end these changes, usually makes it harder to make ends meet for the farmer. An example of this is the new restrictions in spreading manure in fall. Or the amount of land you need for cows. Or the percentage of your land, that can be corn for aesthetics from the flux of bio gas plants. I can see that many of these problems will eventually come down the pipe to our society in North America. And if one were wise they would try to solve these problems now, before they really become an issue. In a sense my stay here in Germany was like taking trip to the future where they deal with all these social problems that will eventually reach us.

As I write this I have fast forwarded, and my Junior Farmer Exchange has long been over, however my trip has not. Currently I am working on a thousand-acre farm in Schleswig Holstein area, outside of the town of Oldenburg. Here I have helped with harvest of Barley, Rapes, and Wheat. Processes are done slightly differently, especially since I never seen rape seed before. Also on this farm all crops are winter crops and therefore planted in the fall which is slightly different to our practices at home, which only our Soft Red Wheat is planted in the fall. Another problem they have is since they are so close to the sea, is that they have a lot of mold problems, resulting in having to spray a given field up to ten times with fungicide. Here, no-till is not normally practiced, due not only because of loss in yield, but because the infestation of slugs that eat the seeds and sprouts need to be controlled. If the ground is tilled, then they are not so apt to go into the field. Another reason is crops like rape have old roots that tend to be volunteer crops and cause chaos in the new crop. Crops like Spargel have a seven-year program in a given field as the first two years is the maturation period and the following five can be harvested.

Overall all these methods and problems are very much different to farming in Mid Western Ontario and I am glad I was able to

learn about them, which gives me better insight when dealing with similar problems at home.

To conclude, my exchange to Germany was amazing to say the least. The knowledge, experience, and friendships I have gained here I will never forget and will surely benefit me in the future. I know when I go back home my motives will be slightly different, as this trip has ultimately changed my life. With that I have Junior Farmers and the Landjugen groups to thank for this experience.

## ULSTER (NORTHERN IRELAND) – Sarah Teefy, Prince Edward Member



On Canada day I set out for an adventure across the sea. I was chosen as this year's exchange delegate for Northern Ireland, linking up with members of the Young Farmers Club of Ulster. After a few weeks of preparing for my big trip, before I knew it I

was on an airplane bound for the U.K. I have done some travelling before, but this is my first trip to Europe, and my first trip completely on my own.

I made my first stop in London, as I had 2 nights before my exchange began. Here I met up with an old friend from back home. A familiar face was a great way to ease into my first solo trip. After a quick visit and a full day of sightseeing it was back on the plane and bound for Belfast. I was greeted at the airport by my first host, Phil, and a fellow exchangee from Finland. We would spend the next few days together before heading to the family farm of my next hosts, Stuart and Alison.



Both families were so welcoming to the two of us.

Over the first week we fit in so much it felt like it should have been two weeks. From touring Belfast and visiting the iconic Titanic museum, to walking the beautiful gardens of Mount Stewart. I was having a blast!

We closed out the week by attending one of the many, YFCU summer BBQ's where we got to meet up with a few more exchangees and many other Young Farmers.





Week 2, I have been staying with a lovely family, Joe, Lorna and 3 boys, Peter, William, and Nathan. I am hosted along with another exchange delegate from Germany. Joe was a former exchangee travelling to Canada in his days of the

Young Farmers and visited my family farm at the time of his visit. We have heard many stories of his adventures in Canada, the world is not so big after all. With this family we have toured a pottery, hiked a mountain, and celebrated the 12th of July, a national holiday here in Northern Ireland, along with many more activities.



I have one week left of this adventure and I can't wait too see what it will bring, as it has been so exciting already seeing the country and learning about the culture and the Young Farmers' clubs here in Northern Ireland.

Though I have set out on this trip on my own, I have not once felt alone, as the families have been so kind and made me feel at home. This has been an adventure of a lifetime, and it continues for another week yet!

## REPUBLIC OF IRELAND - Matt English, Kawartha Junior Farmers



After being awarded the exchange trip to the Republic of Ireland at March Conference, August could not come fast enough. As the month of August started, I was packing my bags and I could barely contain my excitement for the 3 weeks

ahead. Finally, August 3rd arrived and I was on my way to Dublin, Ireland. I was met at the airport by Tom O'Donoghue, VP of Munster and we set out for his home in the county of Waterford, in the South of Ireland. His family milked 90 cows and was uniquely located 1000 feet above sea level. My first weekend was spent at the International Miss Macra Festival. Friday night was the opening/welcome night, Saturday night was cabaret night with interviews of the participants, and Sunday was the wrap up for the weekend and the Gala Banquet where the announcement of the winner occurred.

My first full week I met up with a Scottish delegate and we would travel together for the next week. We left the Miss Macra festival and travelled by train to Mayo County. Stephen Prendergast met us at the train station and



gave us a ride to his Glamping site. Glamping is a form of camping, but has many luxuries to it as well. Stephen spent 3 years building this site all on his own, and gained many ideas from his time spent in Canada. It featured hobbit huts and



cabins to sleep in, hot tub, sauna, bathrooms, showers, outdoor kitchen area with a fireplace oven to cook with, kitchen, and movie theatre. It was an awesome experience to spend a couple days camping with Stephen, who was an

incredibly accommodating and a great host. We then made our way to the Sligo horse races and met up with members from Cavan county, who would be our next hosts. We had a 2 very jam-packed days with Cavan, including many farm visits. We were toured around dairy, sheep, beef and laying hen farms.

We then had a full day of travelling to make our way to Kerry County.



Where we met our next host Trevor Coffey, and would travel along the Ring of Kerry. It was the most beautiful and incredible scenery I have ever seen in my life! We even went on a boat tour out to the Skellig Islands. It has become a very

famous destination for tourists as the final scene from Star Wars: The Force Awakens was filmed there in 2015.

We finished our day by touring through the Gap of Dunloe, which was formed by glaciers and is located 1300 feet above sea level. Our week ended with us travelling to the Tullamore Show. This is one of the largest agricultural shows and is only one day. It consists of livestock and cultural competitions, commercial trade exhibits and farm skills competition.



Following a busy first week, I then moved to Wexford county to start the second week. My host was Emmet Kehoe, his family milked 77 cows on 190 acres. I visited Wexford town, Curracloe beach (Saving Private Ryan was filmed here), Johnstown castle, the Irish Agricultural Museum and a bird sanctuary. I moved onto Laois county and my hosts were James Barber and Micheal Holohan. I visited the local sale barn and attended an Irish concert. My week ended by attending a Macra training meeting for members from the local club's executives.



My third week and final week I moved to Cork county and Colin O'Leary met and toured us around the town of Cork. It was a very picturesque town with beautiful churches and scenery. I visited Blarney castle and gardens and

made sure to kiss the Blarney stone! I attended a renewable energy conference with Macra President James Healy and moved to my next host Gerard Griffin. I visited a local dairy farm that had the highest production throughout Ireland that I had been too. Gerard toured me around Kildalton College which is an agricultural college where he teaches. I met Cara O'Mahony and we traveled to the city of Waterford, which is the oldest city in Europe and was settled by the Vikings. We toured Waterford Crystal and Reginalds Tower. I then traveled to Kilkenny where we toured the Smithwicks brewery and I met my last host David King. We traveled to his home in Kildare County, where his family milks 150 cows. My last day was spent touring the Guinness factory, the Irish National Stud Farm and Gardens, and a local pig and beef farm. My exchange had come to an end after 3 amazing weeks in Ireland!



This exchange was the most incredible experience of my life. It allowed me to see some of the most stunning scenery, and meet so many people that I can now call friends. It allowed me the opportunity to learn about agricultural practices in Ireland, and how they differ from Canada. I was able to learn about Macra Na Feirme and how it works, in order to bring back ideas to our local club and JFAO. This was my first time travelling outside Canada by myself and it allowed me to step outside my comfort zone. The hospitality I received throughout my exchange was second to none, and I want to thank all my host families. I also want to thank JFAO and Macra Na Feim

## TASMANIA - Nicholas Weber, Waterloo Member

From the relative peace and relaxation from my first week in Tasmania, I had little idea of what I was walking into at Agfest. With less than a week before the official kickoff, there was still a lot to do. After meeting the new faces and cast of characters, I realized, we have the same people and personalities back at home. Right down to the leadership and work styles. For Agfest to run successfully there is mountains of work to be done beforehand. I was walking into a site that had already been in progress for well over a month. After the safety induction and equipment training it was right to work getting dirty with the rest of the crews.



Before we knew it, the big day was here, and on the eve of the event we were given our tasks. The job I was given was parking, Which thanks to its location and the great crew we had, parking turned out to be a great time. The event is somewhat difficult to describe as there isn't an event quite like it in Canada. The closest I can compare it to is a mix of The Outdoor Farm Show and the IPM, but with 10x the energy. The effect was even more evident when thanks to the generosity of another volunteer, the 3 of us exchangees were taken up in a helicopter tour of the site and we got to see the fruits of our labours.



After three days of frenzy, we finally all got a chance to unwind, after all the visitors and vendors had gone. The lights went out and the celebration dance began. It was a bittersweet moment watching all those trucks leave. After the chaos of Agfest week, I was feeling excited to see more of the country side. And thanks to my next host family, the Harveys, that was about to happen.



The main attraction in Launceston was 2 zip lines and a free fall rope. Both which were set into the cliff overlooking the city. The next day I got to ride along with a water delivery business. It was amazing how much of a different

perspective and insight I got from riding with a local in a large truck through the country. When we got back the few volunteers still left at Quercus park came into the city and we all went on a guided ghost tour of the town. After a couple days of sight seeing, I got to watch my first Aussie rules football game.



I think after watching a game I just about have a grasp, but it still looks like a fair bit of chaos. As I had to say my farewells, I moved down the state to the Kinborough-Huon club.

At this point, I was going to have a chance to reconnect with a past exchangee to Canada, who I had hosted a few years ago, Owen Wolley. We were spending the first few days of the week with him on Bruny Island. While on the island we got to experience the beautiful views and even got a chance to get our hands dirty.

On the Wednesday we came back to Tasmania and the next few days were spent travelling. We saw one of the 3 biggest salmon farms in Tasmania, the Tahune air walk-where you walk



suspended 20 m above the forest floor, and then as we reached the apple production center of Tasmania, we toured a cider mill. We then went the opposite direction and headed inland to the central midlands and toured

Llanberis, a large sheep and cropping farm. They run 20,000 sheep on 12,000 acres of land. And as a bonus we got to tour the old farm stead where they had just finished filming a movie called the nightingale. To cap out first week in K-H we hiked the Snug Falls trail, toured the renown Frank's cider and went to a sheep dairy farm where they make several great sheep milk cheeses and also distill the whey (a by-product of the cheese process) into several kinds of alcohol.

My next week I started off by cooking a "Canadian" meal for my host and a few other members. After that a member's father took us on a tour of the forestry and logging side of Tasmania. We toured from the actual logging/tree falling part to the saw mill to the plywood/veneer mill. It was very striking how similar if not the exact same logging was. The only difference I noted was the scale of practice. The week was filled with touring, and to top it all off we had a chance to sit through the university revue, which was hilarious as it gave me a glimpse into Tasmanian politics and what they thought of Donald Trump. My final day in the south started off with a trip up to the lakes for some clay shooting, where not even the rain/snow stop them. We then went back to Quercus park where were reunited for a thank you and celebration banquet before making our way to my next host in the Midlands.

After a fun few weeks spent in and around the more urban areas of Tasmania, the next few weeks were going to be spent out in the more remote areas and the farm lands. My next stop was to the Bayles family farm. They run a mixed farming operation on approx. 6,000 acres of mixed pivot irrigation and standard land for crops, cattle and sheep. I wasn't even there more than an hour and already I was asked if I wanted to help with a task, in the spirit of exchanges I said yes.



The Monday started with myself and George (the Welsh delegate) hopping into a vehicle with a wool purchaser and heading off to see and help at a few Merino sheep farms and studs. We got to try our hand at most of the various tasks

associated with Merino shearing which is far different from what shearing is like on a meat sheep only farm. This week was filled with sheep tasks.

Friday dawned a great day for the Campbelltown show, we spent most of the day there watching the shearing competitions, sorting and wool handling, and the stock judging classes. It was fun watching how different the judgement criteria were when it was a wool animal verses a meat sheep. Saturday saw us returning to the show once again, but this time to help with some of the rural youth run events. The main event they were running, was a dog high jump competition and a Ute (truck) show. It was incredible to see how high some of the dogs could jump from either a standing start or running jump.

The weather the following day on Sunday wasn't very pleasant at first, but we were rewarded with some great views as we broke through the fog up the mountain track. The views were great all along the roads through the central



highlands and we got the experience a great attraction at the wall. The wall is a 100 panel (4' x 10') wood carving of incredible detail, done over the course of 7 years by one man. Sadly, pictures can't do the detail justice. It truly is something you must see it to believe.

My seventh week started in a very different way than the others. I was staying another week at the Balyes' and had the chance to help with chores. I was up at 5 am to meet up with a cattle truck driver at the large feedlot. From there we set off to the east coast where the trip took us through the spectacular road way. During this trip, I was able to get a tour of the 9,000 head Angus only yard.



I spent the afternoon touring and helping at a Kelp processor. There they collect bull Kelp that washes ashore on the West coast of Tasmania. First, they dry it in the sun and then in an oven. Next, they grind the dried kelp into a powder. From there

the kelp is either bagged as a dry product or stewed and made into a liquid feed additive for animals or a fertilizer for plants. The next stop was the Tasmanian plowing association's AGM. Little did I know I would end up chairing and running the elections, luckily my years of Junior Farmer's meetings had helped me prepare for this. Thursday was spent on the road, but with an equipment delivery company. All in all, it was another long day with some amazing countryside seen.

After picking up George, we travelled with a feed additive salesman. Our first stop was at the local Roberts (Farm Supply Store for the non-tassies) Store and from there we went on to the farmlands on the Northwest. Our first stop was to the largest milking heard of Australian red cows in Tasmania. And it was neat to see, as they are descended from several breeds that are common in Canada. From there we went to a black Angus stud farm very close to the coast, where we were treated with a spectacular view of the sea with a rainbow. Next stop on our trek was back to the south, through the massive farm complex at Woolnorth where they have grouped several dairy and beef farms under one banner and title for a total of animals in the 10s of thousands. Saturday was spent on the farm helping with several jobs.

Its finally here, my last week as an exchangee. The Sunday of the week started off at a place, I have almost started to call home, and that is Quercus park. Once again, the rural youth descended upon the park, but this time for firefighter games/trials. The day was very windy and quite cool by Tassie standards, but that didn't dampen the spirits of the participants. We competed head to head in several different team events, from a blind folded obstacle course to a hose relay and target event.

The Monday morning that followed was a holiday Monday, which meant that we got to spend a bit more time at Quercus and got to finally get the last of the site cleaned and cleared from Agfest. From someone who had never seen the site bare before, it was a very surreal experience. I kept on expecting to see tents and other things on the sight. Seeing it in its natural barren state was weird to say the least. From there we convoyed down to my final host family in the south in the town of Margate.

The next day was spent doing something I hadn't done for a while and that was charity work. Kate my current host works for a children's charity and they were currently amid preparing for a book sale. The next day for a change in

pace I spent the day helping James at the building site/project that he was working on. Thursday was spent wandering though an art gallery in Hobart called MONA (museum of old and new art) and it was well worth the day. The cool part was the ferry ride across the channel and up the river from the main docks in Hobart. Friday was once again spent sorting books for the charity sale and we managed to beat the previous days effort.

After a busy weekend, my last day dawned bittersweet for me, as the weather was beautiful and there was a stunning sunrise, but as I went to the airport I made a promise that I will be back again someday. If you ever get a chance for an exchange do it. No matter the situation it is worth it one million times over.



2017 PRESIDENT’S ROSE AWARD NOMINEES

Outstanding Novice Members (1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Year)

Becky Koeslag (Wellington)  
Rachel Nivins (Huron)

Outstanding Members

Adam Henderson (Huron)  
Becky Mattice (Huron)  
Katherine Clyne (Wellington)  
Stacey Jibb (Durham West)  
Kylie O’Neil (Middlesex)

Outstanding Retiring Member

Aimee Dadd (Wellington)  
Dale Sutton (Wentworth/Niagara)

Top 5 Clubs of the Year

Middlesex  
Carleton  
Renfrew  
Perth  
Oxford

Top 5 Agricultural Clubs of the Years

Oxford  
Huron  
Perth  
Renfrew  
Prince Edward County



Overall winners for 2017 announced at March Conference 2018



## GROWING ONTARIO: ONTARIO YOUNG FARMER'S FORUM



*New friends at Ontario Young Farmer's Forum 2017 Shawn Miller from Grenville County (eastern Ontario) and Josie Linton from Durham County (mid-western Ontario)*

It is hard to believe that we have just wrapped up yet another year of Ontario Young Farmer's Forum (OYFF). This year we had about 55 young farmers and agribusiness professionals from across the province gather in Toronto, Ontario to hear from various speakers about several topics ranging from leadership to soil health to farming in niche markets.

This year's OYFF kicked off with attendees getting to know each other through an icebreaker where the room was given a list of items with

points associated with each item. As each table scrambled to find the items and get the most points, attendees started to shift from sitting with those they came with to the new people they met. After the icebreaker, attendees heard from numerous speakers including Claire Cowan of North American Plant Genetics speaking about giving both men and women equal opportunities in agriculture. As well, there was a young leaders panel where three young leaders, Brad Proud (President of 4-H Ontario), Amanda Jeffs (EastGen Board Member), and Matt Smith (President of Junior Farmer's Association of Ontario). These two great topics set the stage for the rest of the conference and made attendees think outside of the box.



I have been on the Ontario Young Farmer's Forum planning committee for 5 years now and one aspect of Ontario Young Farmer's Forum that never ceases to amaze me is how

attendees progress from day 1 of the conference to day 2. Typically on day 1 you see attendees sitting with people they know from home or school, but by day 2 attendees are sitting with new friends. The opportunity to network and met other people from across the province has always been one of the main draws for attendees to attend OYFF. Once again, attendees came together as strangers and left as friends!



As with most years, each year at OYFF we have attendees nominate and interview each other before voting for who will represent us at Canadian Young Farmer's Forum. Congratulations to Jason Van Moorsel of Perth County! Jason is a hog and grain farmer and member of Junior Farmer's Association of Ontario. Along with Jason, Matt Smith (President of JFAO) and myself (Executive

Director of Agricultural programs) will also be in attendance among others from Ontario that may attend as well! We look forward to meeting everyone at Canadian Young Farmer's Forum in February!

Thank you to all those who made this year's Ontario Young Farmers Forum - Growing Ontario a success. From our partners, our speakers, the committee, to the coordinator, and the attendees, this event would not be possible without all those involved. A special thank you goes to the Ontario Federation of Agriculture for all their support when running this event, along with all our event sponsors.

For more information about Ontario Young Farmer's Forum or the Junior Farmer's Association of Ontario, please contact Kelsey Banks, Executive Director of Agricultural Programs at [agprograms@jfao.on.ca](mailto:agprograms@jfao.on.ca)

**Kelsey Banks, Executive Director of Agricultural Programs,  
Junior Farmer's Association of Ontario**

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## CANADIAN YOUNG FARMERS' FORUM



Throughout the weekend at CYFF we were asked the question "why do you believe in the future of agriculture"- for me the answer is that the people

involved in the industry are incredibly passionate. That passion will be a driving force as we tackle the changes and challenges that will come. That passion is what pushes us to grow, to adapt, to find ways to get the job done and to continue produce fuel, food and fibre for Canada and the world. That passion was on full display at CYFF 2017. CYFF presents a unique opportunity for young people involved in agriculture from across Canada to gather for a few days of discussion, debate and connection. From the Yukon to Newfoundland and every province in between delegates arrived ready to learn from the election selection of presenters and from one another. In an industry, and country, as vast as our own to have many voices come together to learn from one another is invaluable. From virtual farm presentations to round table talks the importance of discussing the issues facing Canada agriculture, I felt the most valuable element of the conference was the ability to hear new

ideas and points of views. The conference offered a fantastic selection of presenters on a wide range of topics. From Andrew Campbell and Lindsay Smith on talking about agriculture to the public to Len Davies driving home the message that starting succession planning early is essential, each speaker provided insight into different aspects of the industry. For me one of the highlights was the virtual farm tour. A delegate from each province or territory presented on a farm of their choosing and talked about the ins and outs of the operation. From a flower operation in British Columbia to a large potato farm in Prince Edward Island and agri-tourism in Newfoundland each presenter shared their farm and showed the rest of us what agriculture is to them. The variety and scale of farms presented was great to see as it's highlights the diversity of agriculture in Canada. Between the presentations and events delegates had the opportunity to meet and make due friends, discover connections and share their passion for agriculture in Canada.



**Cheers, Kara Pate-  
Junior Farmer Delegate to CYFF 2017**

## 4-H REP REPORT



**Kylie O'Neil  
4-H Representative**

4-H and JFAO both have strong roots in rural Ontario and foster leadership, friendships, new skills and experiences for its youth. For these reasons, it is important to create and maintain relationships and communication between the

two organizations.

At the provincial level, 4-H Ontario offers many programs that Junior Farmer members can take advantage of without being a 4-H member. These include Career Mania (age 14-18), Dairy Sense (age 18-25), Beef Sense (age 18-25) and Poultry Sense (age 18-25). These conferences offer a great learning opportunity, as well as a chance to network with other individuals involved in these industries. For more information on programs and events within 4-H Ontario, visit their website at [www.4-hontario.ca](http://www.4-hontario.ca).

At the local level, there are many opportunities for Junior Farmer clubs to be involved with and support 4-H clubs in their

community. Not only does this positively benefit the community, it can also be used as a joint youth and JF program for the affiliation report. It is also a way to introduce 4-H members to Junior Farmers, in the hopes that they will join your club. A few examples include using the skills of your members to lead a 4-H club, volunteering at the annual judging competition, or sponsoring an award to be presented to a 4-H member in your county. Some clubs have started to sponsor senior 4-H members to attend Junior Farmer events, such as Leadership Camp, March Conference and the Ontario Young Farmers' Forum. Even things as simple as sharing information about upcoming Junior Farmer events with your local 4-H association, through social media can go a long way to promoting our organization and introducing youth to the Junior Farmer experience.

On behalf of 4-H Ontario, I would like to extend a thank you to all Junior Farmer clubs who supported local 4-H clubs in various ways contributing to another successful year learning to do by doing.



## SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT

This year, I am the **#ProudJFer** behind the scenes running JFAO's Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram accounts along with the help of all my fellow Junior Farmer colleagues who submitted content or took pictures over the past year. Facebook, Twitter and Instagram have been active all year long thanks to the contribution of Junior Farmer members across the province.



**Christinia Straathof**  
Social Media Representative

Building on the success of **#ProudJFer**, which was developed last year by our now Past President Kurtis Smith, members have shared their stories throughout the year. The experiences of both incoming and outgoing delegates were documented through the use of **#JFAOexchange**.

With it being Canada's 150th this year, the Century Farm Signs have been incredibly popular. Posts about how to get the signs, but especially posts of people receiving them or of their current farm sign have been popular across the social media platforms.

The engagement with the wider community agricultural community has been tremendous.

Clubs have also been active throughout the year with many posts, providing us content to retweet. Overall the feedback has been quite positive and people are enjoying the updates we're providing. I look forward to our organization keeping up the great teamwork, and just in case you're not aware of how to follow us on all our social media platforms, here is the list:

**WEBSITE** [jfao.on.ca](http://jfao.on.ca)



\* @JuniorFarmers  
@OYFF16  
@JFAOtraveller

\* For club accounts check out our Lists



JuniorFarmers



**Page** Promote JF to Everyone  
Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario

**Group** JF Members to coordinate and network  
Junior Farmers

## OFA REPORT



**Nicholas Weber**  
OFA Representative

We as JFAO wouldn't be able to do much in a year, if it wasn't for the partnership provided by the OFA. The continuous support comes in many forms, from them providing an office space agreement and many of the things that come with it, to the help and mentoring in running OYFF each year. We would not be able to run such a great event every year without their help.

This past year has seen many challenges for both the OFA and the farming community. From taking the lead on the new federal and provincial tax rules, to the new proposed green

legislations, to spearheading a group on the new proposed high speed rail line between Toronto and London, it is always amazing to see what all the different and various bits of legislation that pass through the OFA mailbox (roughly one per week) and how they all either directly impact or indirectly impact agriculture. This past year at the OFA AGM there was very little change in the general leadership with Keith Currie staying on as president and most of the senior roles staying the same.

This year also saw a new development, with JFAO being officially invited to sit in on the policy advisory committee meetings (PAC) which allows for greater communication between both groups, it will be interesting to see where it goes from here.



## AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS REPORT



It's hard to believe that it has been another year of fun and collaboration with the Ontario agricultural industry and Junior Farmer's Association of Ontario.

This year kicked off with working with the new agricultural awareness committee to set our goals for the year and figure out

what we need to do to continue to work with the Ontario agricultural community. Here are 3 of the goals we had:

1. Host a successful Ontario Young Farmer's Forum that covers topics that are of interest to youth in agriculture and are of interest to those becoming the next rural leaders of Ontario
2. Increase sales of the Century Farm Sign program in it's 50th year of business
3. Assist clubs with meeting their agricultural awareness affiliation requirement

After making these goals we made things happen! Within only a few short months we hired a new Ontario Young Farmer's Forum (OYFF) coordinator, Mary Feldskov, started to promote and increase our century farm sign sales, as well as start to work on putting together a list of all the agriculture organizations and committees that could assist clubs in meeting their agricultural awareness affiliation requirements. As the year progressed, we

worked on these projects and I can successfully say that we completed all of them.

OYFF was comprised of numerous attendees from a variety of agricultural farm and agribusiness backgrounds. Thank you to the Ontario Federation of Agriculture and all of our sponsors for making this event successful!

This year our Century Farm Sign program was extremely successful with Canada turning 150 and the century farm sign program reaching it's 50th year. We had many farm families approach us to inquire about the signs and many were handed out.



Last, but not least, Canadian Young Farmer's Forum came out with a great mobile application that any person associated with JFAO can download, hit on 'Ontario', and see all of the agriculture organizations that can help them reach their affiliation requirement.

Overall, this year was one to remember. I truly appreciate all of the time, effort, and passion that our members have for agriculture. Have an excellent 2018 year!

**Kelsey Banks**  
**Director of Agricultural Programs**

## DONOR LIST

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Cheryl Cottrill  
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Peter Hannam  
Donald Miller  
Danielle Teefy  
Kurtis Smith  
Crystal Blake  
Kylie O'neil  
Sarah Teefy  
Marion F. Buttery  
Anon Anon  
Sherry Quehl  
Deb & Merlin Knapton  
Carol Pollock



## PAST JUNIOR FARMERS OF ONTARIO PROVINCIAL PRESIDENTS

<b>1944</b>	Gordon Orr, York*	<b>1970</b>	Bruce Horsley, Dufferin	<b>1996</b>	Carolyn (Wren) Doris, Renfrew
<b>1945</b>	Howard Laidlaw, Peel*	<b>1971</b>	Don Belluz, Thunder Bay	<b>1997</b>	Sandi (Brander) Shaw, Halton
<b>1946</b>	Warne Emmott, Brant*	<b>1972</b>	Claire Belluz, Perth	<b>1998</b>	Jeff Gatkke, Bruce
<b>1947</b>	Wes Down, Northumberland*	<b>1973</b>	Murray Pearson, Oxford	<b>1999</b>	Craig Spielmacher, Oxford
<b>1948</b>	Ross Beattie, Simcoe *	<b>1974</b>	Glen Ruegg, Wellington	<b>2000</b>	Angela Ackroyd-Tearle, Peel
<b>1949</b>	Allen Poole, Lanark*	<b>1975</b>	Donald Mode, Prescott	<b>2001</b>	Erin MacDuff, University of Guelph
<b>1950</b>	Jack Cockburn, Oxford	<b>1976</b>	Bruce Saunders, Grey	<b>2002</b>	Corinna Smith-Gatkke, Leeds
<b>1951</b>	Eleanor Vellinga, Norfolk*	<b>1977</b>	Bill Emmott, Brant	<b>2003</b>	Mary Feldskov, Huron
<b>1952</b>	Dave Pelletterio, Halton*	<b>1978</b>	Bart Johnston, York	<b>2004</b>	Jennifer (Mitchell) Girvin, Wellington
<b>1953</b>	Don Middleton, Middlesex	<b>1979</b>	Jim Phelan, Huron	<b>2005</b>	Ellen (Batchelor) Mason, Grey
<b>1954</b>	Carl Boynton, York*	<b>1980</b>	Tom Callaghan, Victoria	<b>2006</b>	Joe Dickenson, Lambton
<b>1955</b>	Myrtle McCutcheon, Dufferin	<b>1981</b>	Douglas Peart, Haldimand	<b>2007</b>	Cecelia (McMorrow) McAvoy, Victoria
<b>1956</b>	Russell McAllister, Carleton	<b>1982</b>	Meredith Brophy, Ottawa-Carleton	<b>2008</b>	Brad Found, Durham East
<b>1957</b>	Dave Barrie, Waterloo	<b>1983</b>	Doug Murphy, Haldimand	<b>2009</b>	James McMillan, Haldimand
<b>1958</b>	Kay Sommers, Hastings	<b>1984</b>	Stuart Budd, Norfolk	<b>2010</b>	Shannon Kelly, Bruce
<b>1959</b>	Jim Needham, Bruce	<b>1985</b>	Jim Wert, Stormont	<b>2011</b>	Camille (Black) Ryall, Peterborough
<b>1960</b>	Malcolm Arbuthnot, Russell	<b>1986</b>	Sandra Quehl, Waterloo	<b>2012</b>	Sarah Found, Durham East
<b>1961</b>	Edna Richardson, Peel	<b>1987</b>	J. Allan Cole, Renfrew	<b>2013</b>	Doug Skinner, Durham East
<b>1962</b>	Bill Galbraith, Middlesex	<b>1988</b>	Suzi Stanley, Durham West	<b>2014</b>	Claire Bunnik, Kawartha
<b>1963</b>	Gordon Murray, Victoria	<b>1989</b>	Scott Kelman, Brant	<b>2015</b>	Mike Sproxton, Durham West
<b>1964</b>	John Elliott, Lennox & Addington	<b>1990</b>	R. Kelley Allen, Prescott	<b>2016</b>	Kurtis Smith, Middlesex
<b>1965</b>	Alex Connell, Wellington*	<b>1991</b>	Paul A. Nairn, Perth	<b>2017</b>	Matt Smith, Wentworth
<b>1966</b>	Jack Morris, Essex	<b>1992</b>	Daryl Brodhaecker, Wellington		
<b>1967</b>	Pat Kerr, Durham	<b>1993</b>	Brent R. Barton, Prescott		
<b>1968</b>	Albert Taylor, Waterloo*	<b>1994</b>	Keith A. Emiry, Sudbury		
<b>1969</b>	Izett McBride, Renfrew	<b>1995</b>	Murray A. Shaw, Lambton		

\*deceased

## PAST JUNIOR FARMERS OF ONTARIO SECRETARY, TREASURERS AND OFFICE ADMINS

<b>1944-1948</b>	Art Martin*	<b>1989-1994</b>	Diane Martin
<b>1948-1957</b>	T.R.(Dick) Hilliard*	<b>1994-1996</b>	Robyn Garlough
<b>1957-1964</b>	A.G. (Art) Bennett	<b>1996-1998</b>	Michelle Shipp
<b>1964-1965</b>	Rodger Thompson	<b>1998-2000</b>	Beverley (McCulloch) DeVries
<b>1965-1976</b>	C.L.(Carm) Hamilton	<b>2000-2001</b>	Susan Gallotti
<b>1976-1979</b>	Ken Knox	<b>2002-2004</b>	Amanda (Brander) Hammell
<b>1979-1980</b>	Rod Stork	<b>2005-2007</b>	Jane Danen
<b>1980-1983</b>	Janet (Whitehead) Horner	<b>2008-2013</b>	Julia Smith
<b>1983-1985</b>	Hal Thompson	<b>2014-2016</b>	Sarah (Hohnstein) Lennox
<b>1985-1987</b>	Nancy (Larmer) Wert	<b>2017</b>	Kendell Keech
<b>1987-1989</b>	Sue Visser	<b>2017 – Present</b>	Will Carson

\*deceased





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JUNIOR FARMERS IN ACTION!!***

**JUNIOR FARMERS' ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO**

**Financial Statements**

**Year Ended December 31, 2017**



**JUNIOR FARMERS' ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO**

**Index to Financial Statements**

**Year Ended December 31, 2017**

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

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To the Members of Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario, which comprise the statements of financial position as at December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016 and the statements of revenues and expenditures, changes in net assets and cash flows for the years ended December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

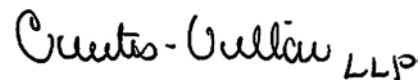
An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained in our audits is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario as at December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2016 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Guelph, Ontario  
March 12, 2018



**CURTIS-VILLAR LLP**  
Chartered Professional Accountants  
Licensed Public Accountants

# JUNIOR FARMERS' ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

## Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31, 2017

	2017	2016
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Cash - operating fund	\$ 64,051	\$ 49,032
Term deposits (Note 6)	10,500	10,500
Accounts receivable (Note 7)	14,832	11,934
Inventory	5,777	6,350
Prepaid expenses	2,979	3,731
Due from operating fund	480	755
	<b>98,619</b>	82,302
CASH - ENDOWMENT FUND	131,804	124,911
CASH - ALUMNI FUND	1,555	1,555
CASH - NEW CLUB FUND	4,004	10,011
	<b>\$ 235,982</b>	<b>\$ 218,779</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 9)	\$ 10,023	\$ 6,814
Deferred revenue (Note 8)	3,193	2,275
Due to endowment fund	480	755
	<b>13,696</b>	9,844
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Operating Fund (Note 2)	84,578	71,838
Endowment Fund (Note 3)	132,283	125,665
JFAO Alumni Fund (Note 4)	1,539	1,539
Club Funds in Trust (Note 5)	3,886	9,893
	<b>222,286</b>	208,935
	<b>\$ 235,982</b>	<b>\$ 218,779</b>

The accompanying summary of significant accounting policies and notes are an integral part of these financial statements



**JUNIOR FARMERS' ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO****Statement of Revenues and Expenditures****Year Ended December 31, 2017**

	2017	2016
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Programs and events	\$ 35,976	\$ 42,816
Sponsorship	27,100	43,580
Memberships	15,295	15,750
Gifts and donations	14,481	13,337
Sale of merchandise	14,470	8,277
Fundraising	4,385	6,842
Fines and other revenue	2,153	1,973
Grants	-	3,150
	<b>113,860</b>	<b>135,725</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
Events	32,630	44,627
Human resources	19,268	16,456
Office and administration	17,561	19,215
Travel	9,072	12,957
Inventory purchases	6,987	5,386
Provincial charity	4,500	6,000
Printing and promotion	3,327	3,745
Bursaries and exchanges	3,114	1,218
Representation and meetings	2,356	2,834
Club transfers	2,305	250
	<b>101,120</b>	<b>112,688</b>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 12,740</b>	<b>\$ 23,037</b>

The accompanying summary of significant accounting policies and notes are an integral part of these financial statements

# JUNIOR FARMERS' ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

## Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year Ended December 31, 2017

	Operating Fund 2017	Endowment Fund 2017	JFAO Alumni Fund 2017	Club Funds in Trust 2017	<b>Total 2017</b>	Total 2016
<b>NET ASSETS - BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	\$ 71,838	\$ 125,665	\$ 1,539	\$ 9,893	\$ <b>208,935</b>	\$ 178,746
Excess of revenue over expenditures	12,740	-	-	-	<b>12,740</b>	23,037
Investment gains (losses)	-	6,138	-	-	<b>6,138</b>	6,897
Donations	-	480	-	-	<b>480</b>	755
Funds transferred to clubs	-	-	-	(6,007)	<b>(6,007)</b>	(500)
<b>NET ASSETS - END OF YEAR</b>	\$ 84,578	\$ 132,283	\$ 1,539	\$ 3,886	\$ <b>222,286</b>	\$ 208,935

The accompanying summary of significant accounting policies and notes are an integral part of these financial statements

# JUNIOR FARMERS' ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

## Statement of Cash Flows Year Ended December 31, 2017

	Operating fund 2017	Endowment fund 2017	Alumni fund 2017	Club funds in trust 2017	Total 2017	Total 2016
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>						
Excess of revenue over expenditures	\$ 12,740	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,740	\$ 23,037
Changes in non-cash working capital:						
Accounts receivable	(2,898)	275	-	-	(2,623)	299
Inventory	573	-	-	-	573	3,060
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	2,934	-	-	-	2,934	(4,339)
Deferred revenue	918	-	-	-	918	694
Prepaid expenses	752	-	-	-	752	(674)
	2,279	275	-	-	2,554	(960)
Cash flow from operating activities	15,019	275	-	-	15,294	22,077
<b>INVESTING ACTIVITY</b>						
Funds provided to new clubs	-	-	-	(6,007)	(6,007)	(500)
Cash flow from (used by) investing activity	-	-	-	(6,007)	(6,007)	(500)
<b>FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>						
Investment gains	-	6,138	-	-	6,138	6,897
Donations	-	480	-	-	480	755
Cash flow from financing activities	-	6,618	-	-	6,618	7,652
<b>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH FLOW</b>	15,019	6,893	-	(6,007)	15,905	29,229
Cash - beginning of year	59,532	124,911	1,555	10,011	196,009	166,780
<b>CASH - END OF YEAR</b>	74,551	131,804	1,555	4,004	211,914	196,009
<b>CASH CONSISTS OF:</b>						
Cash	\$ 64,051	\$ 131,804	\$ 1,555	\$ 4,004	\$ 201,414	\$ 185,509
Term deposits	10,500	-	-	-	10,500	10,500
	\$ 74,551	\$ 131,804	\$ 1,555	\$ 4,004	\$ 211,914	\$ 196,009

The accompanying summary of significant accounting policies and notes are an integral part of these financial statements



# JUNIOR FARMERS' ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

## Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended December 31, 2017

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### 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Description of business

Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario is an organization with a mission to build future rural leaders through self help and community betterment in the province of Ontario.

Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario is incorporated without share capital under the Ontario Business Corporations Act as a not-for-profit organization and is a registered charity under the Income Tax Act.

#### Basis of presentation

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations (ASNFPO).

#### Tax exempt status

Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario is a not-for-profit organization and a registered charity and is therefore exempt from income taxes. As a registered charity, Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario is also eligible for the HST Public Service Bodies Rebate.

#### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes unrestricted bank balances.

#### Investments

Short term investments, which consist primarily of commercial paper with original maturities at date of purchase beyond three months and less than twelve months, are carried at amortized cost. Investments are recorded at cost plus accrued interest where interest is not paid annually.

#### Inventory of supplies

The inventory of the Association has been accounted for at the lower of cost and net realizable value. Items for which there have been no sales in the past two years are written off as obsolete.

#### Revenue recognition

Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions.

Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenditures are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured. Endowment contributions are recognized as direct increases in net assets.

Donations are recognized when collection is reasonably assured. In-kind donations are only recorded in the financial statements to the extent that they would have been incurred in the absence of the gift.

Memberships are recognized on a monthly basis. Amounts not yet earned are deferred to the next fiscal year.

Sponsorships are recognized in the year that the event or activity being sponsored occurs.

*(continues)*

# JUNIOR FARMERS' ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

## Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended December 31, 2017

---

### 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(continued)*

#### Fund accounting

Revenues and expenditures related to program delivery and administrative activities are reported in the Operating Fund.

Endowment contributions are reported in the Endowment Fund. Investment income earned on resources of the Endowment Fund is reported in the Endowment Fund or Operating Fund depending on the nature of any restrictions imposed by contributors of funds for endowment.

The Alumni Fund reports the revenues and expenditures related to Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario's alumni relationships.

The Club Fund In Trust reports revenues and expenditures related to the folding or creation of clubs within the association.

#### Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment is expensed on acquisition. Property, plant and equipment currently held includes office furniture, computer equipment and computer software. During the year \$573 was spent on property, plant and equipment (2016 - \$734).

#### Contributed services

The operations of the organization depend on both the contribution of time by volunteers and donated materials from various sources. The fair value of donated materials and services cannot be reasonably determined and are therefore not reflected in these financial statements.

#### Measurement uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities, disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the period. Such estimates are periodically reviewed and any adjustments necessary are reported in earnings in the period in which they become known. Measurement uncertainty exists around inventory valuation. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

#### Financial instruments policy

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value when acquired or issued. In subsequent periods, financial assets with actively traded markets are reported at fair value, with any unrealized gains and losses reported in income. All other financial instruments are reported at amortized cost, and tested for impairment at each reporting date. Transaction costs on the acquisition, sale, or issue of financial instruments are expensed when incurred.

### 2. OPERATING FUND

The purpose of the operating fund is for program delivery and administrative activities. This fund reports unrestricted resources and restricted operating grants.

# JUNIOR FARMERS' ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

## Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended December 31, 2017

### 3. ENDOWMENT FUND

The purpose of the 50th Anniversary Endowment Fund is to establish a financial resource base that will provide annual income to assist the Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario in enhancing its mission statement. The Endowment Fund was established with receipts from the March Conference in 1994, 50th Anniversary donations and other donations specified for the Endowment Fund. In addition, 5% of revenue generated from the Provincial Charity is donated to the Endowment Fund on an annual basis.

A minimum of 20% of the annual interest income from the Endowment Fund will be reinvested each year.

To further the management of the Endowment Fund, the Junior Farmers Association of Ontario hired Ontario 4-H Foundation to manage the fund. Through this agreement Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario retains ownership of the fund.

### 4. JFAO ALUMNI FUND

The purpose of the Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario Alumni Fund is to establish a financial resource base that will provide a means of communication for Alumni and to assist the Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario in enhancing its mission statement.

The organization's Board of Directors administers the fund. Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario can periodically request funds for specific needs from the Alumni Fund. All requests will be considered for approval by the Board of Directors.

### 5. CLUB FUNDS IN TRUST

These funds will be held until a new club is formed in the area and have met all the affiliation requirements, at that time the funds will be handed over to the newly formed club to use.

	2017	2016
Essex-Kent	\$ -	\$ 6,007
Lambton	2,759	2,759
Russell	369	369
Elgin	758	758
	<u>\$ 3,886</u>	<u>\$ 9,893</u>



# JUNIOR FARMERS' ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

## Notes to Financial Statements

**Year Ended December 31, 2017**

### 6. TERM DEPOSITS

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
BMO RateRiser Plus GIC, 1.00% interest in 2016, 1.150% interest in 2017, matured in July 2017	\$ -	\$ 3,500
BMO RateRiser Plus GIC, 1.00% interest in 2016, 1.150% interest in 2017, matured in July 2017	-	3,500
BMO RateRiser Max GIC, .85% interest in 2016, 1.00% in 2017, 2.00% in 2018, matures July 2018	3,500	3,500
BMO RateRiser Max GIC, .65% interest in 2018, 0.70% in 2019, 0.75% in 2020, matures July 2020	3,500	-
BMO RateRiser Max GIC, .65% interest in 2018, 0.70% in 2019, 0.75% in 2020, matures July 2020	3,500	-
	<u>\$ 10,500</u>	<u>\$ 10,500</u>
Market value	<u>\$ 10,500</u>	<u>\$ 10,500</u>

### 7. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

Accounts receivable is made up of receivables from members, contributions receivables and HST receivable. The following amounts were receivable at year end:

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
General accounts receivable	\$ 5,673	\$ 2,160
Contribution receivable	7,509	4,968
HST receivable	1,650	4,806
	-	-
	<u>\$ 14,832</u>	<u>\$ 11,934</u>

### 8. DEFERRED REVENUE

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Deferred revenue		
Provincial charity	\$ 2,423	\$ 1,675
Corporate sponsors	-	600
Membership Fees	770	-
	<u>\$ 3,193</u>	<u>\$ 2,275</u>

# JUNIOR FARMERS' ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

## Notes to Financial Statements

Year Ended December 31, 2017

### 9. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities consists of trade payables and government remittances payables.

Government remittances (other than income taxes) include, for example, federal and provincial sales taxes, payroll taxes, health taxes, and workers' safety insurance premiums.

	2017	2016
Trade payables	\$ 9,935	\$ 6,692
Employee deductions payable	88	122
	<u>\$ 10,023</u>	<u>\$ 6,814</u>

### 10. LEASE COMMITMENTS

Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario has an open ended lease for its premises with annual payments of \$4,365.

### 11. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The organization is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments and has a comprehensive risk management framework to monitor, evaluate and manage these risks. The following analysis provides information about the organization's risk exposure and concentration as of December 31, 2017.

#### *(a) Credit risk*

Credit risk arises from the potential that a counter party will fail to perform its obligations. The organization is exposed to credit risk from members. An allowance for doubtful accounts is established based upon factors surrounding the credit risk of specific accounts, historical trends and other information. The organization has a significant number of members which minimizes concentration of credit risk. All accounts receivable are deemed collectible.

#### *(b) Liquidity risk*

Liquidity risk is the risk that an entity will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The organization is exposed to this risk mainly in respect of its receipt of funds from its members and accounts payable.

#### *(c) Market risk*

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk comprises three types of risk: currency rate risk, interest rate risk and other price risk. The organization is mainly exposed to interest rate risk.

#### *(d) Interest rate risk*

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument might be adversely affected by a change in the interest rates. In seeking to minimize the risks from interest rate fluctuations, the organization manages exposure through its normal operating and financing activities. The organization is exposed to interest rate risk primarily through its floating interest rate bank indebtedness and credit facilities.

Unless otherwise noted, it is management's opinion that the organization is not exposed to significant other price risks arising from these financial instruments.

## NOTES



## NOTES

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100 Stone Rd. W. Suite 206  
Guelph, ON N1G 5L3**

**To Build Future Rural Leaders Through Self-Help & Community Betterment  
T 519-780-JFAO (5326)  
F 519-821-8810  
E [info@jfao.on.ca](mailto:info@jfao.on.ca)  
W [jfao.on.ca](http://jfao.on.ca)**

### ***The Junior Farmer Song***

*Written by Margaret Watson-McColl in 1947 at Junior Farmer Camp*

The Junior Farmers everywhere are marching right along,  
Our eyes are bright, our steps are light and on our lips a song.  
We give our best with all our zest, in harmony we grow.  
The Junior Farmers in the Province of Ontario.  
The land is ours we treasure it, a heritage have we.  
The country is the finest place, on this we all agree.  
So let us face the future one and all with hearts aglow.  
The Junior Farmers in the Province of Ontario.