

Annual Report 2018





VISION

A culture of health and safety where every decision made on Nova Scotia farms begins with safety

MISSION

To promote and support health and safety practices within our farm community

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Trevor Forbes *President*
David Powers *Vice-President*
David Newcombe *Treasurer &
Corporate Secretary*
Lloyd Dyck *Director*
Brenna Koneczny *Director*
Donna Langille *Director*
Amanda Eisses *NSFA Executive
Representative*
Henry Vissers *non-voting
exofficio*

FARM SAFETY MANAGER

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Member Services Coordinator
Seonaid MacDonell
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President's Message

Your Board has had another busy year. While we presented a strategic plan for roll-out based on industry's input last year, funding is restricting our ability to fully roll out the plans as hoped.

We began the year by developing and submitting a proposal to the *Canadian Agricultural Partnership Program*, and operated from April to September without any guarantee of funding through this program. In early September, we signed a contract for just one year of funding, retroactive to April 2018.

Through diversified funding sources (*Career Focus* and WCB/LAE) we were able to hire a Member Services Coordinator on a one-year term, and to revive some resources and communications with members.

Staff worked to maintain the level of programs available to the farming community, including training, workshops and resources. Improved communication—through newsletters, website, and social media—has been a priority this year. With a communications emphasis on the “*One Road: Safety is a two-way street*” campaign, we targeted both the farm community and general motoring public.

Another project completed this year was the *International Society for Agricultural Health and Safety Conference*, which we co-hosted with the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association in Halifax this past June. Over 150 people attended the conference, and I am proud to say that by all measures it was a success.

As a Board, we participated in governance training over the past year, with plans to review and create governance policies on the internal functioning of the organization. This provides direction to the Board and staff in an effort to work in the best interest of our members. This work got underway this fall.

Although I would like to end on a high note, I'm going to point out that the funding restrictions are going to continue to challenge us as a Board and organization until we figure out long-term sustainable funding. Our goal remains the same—to ensure farmers have access to the tools and resources they need to operate safe and productive farms. We will continue to strive for this goal with the challenges presented and hope you will continue this within your own farms as we ensure safe farming, safe families and safe employees.

Sincerely,

Trevor Forbes

Farm Safety Nova Scotia Annual General Meeting

NOVEMBER 30, 2018 BEST WESTERN GLENGARRY, TRURO, NOVA SCOTIA

10:30 am – Keynote Speaker

Dr. Andria Jones-Bitton “The Human Side of Farming: Mental Health in Canadian Agriculture”

11:30 am – Business meeting

AGENDA

- | | | | |
|-----|--|------|---|
| 1.0 | Call to Order | 7.0 | Canadian Agricultural Safety Association update – <i>Marcel Hacault, Executive Director, CASA</i> |
| 2.0 | Confirmation of Quorum | 8.0 | Consideration of the Financial Report – <i>PricewaterhouseCoopers</i> |
| 3.0 | Approval of Agenda | 9.0 | Appointment of Auditors |
| 4.0 | Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting | 10.0 | Nominating Committee Report & Election of Directors |
| 5.0 | Business arising from the Minutes | 11.0 | Other Business |
| 6.0 | Consideration of Annual Report – <i>Carolyn Van Den Heuvel, FSNS Manager</i> | 12.0 | Adjourn |

THE HUMAN SIDE OF FARMING: MENTAL HEALTH IN CANADIAN AGRICULTURE

Dr. Andria Jones-Bitton, DVM, PhD

In an industry that relies heavily on outside factors that are often unpredictable—such as weather—farmers face high levels of occupational stress, the cause of which is often beyond their control. As a veterinarian and associate professor of Epidemiology in the Department of Population Medicine at the Ontario Veterinary College, Dr. Andria Jones-Bitton noticed many farmers struggling with their mental health and realized the need to explore this further.

The Ontario Veterinary College is located at the University of Guelph in Ontario, here, her research is largely centred around the epidemiology of mental health and resilience in the agricultural and veterinary sectors. Epidemiology is a branch of medicine that deals with the incidence, distribution and possible control of diseases and other factors relating to health.

Dr. Jones-Bitton uses a mixed research methods approach, meaning she uses both quantitative and qualitative methods to achieve her research objectives. Just recently she conducted a national survey among Canadian farmers on mental health, where she received an overwhelming response. These results show that farmers experience higher levels of mental stress and distress than other occupations. After analyzing the results of her research, Dr. Jones-Bitton and her team worked diligently to develop a mental health literacy training program called “In the Know” that is specific to the agricultural community—which is being piloted this fall!

Passionate about Canadian agriculture and the veterinary profession, she is eager to share her findings and to tell the story of the “human side of farming.” Join Farm Safety Nova Scotia as they welcome Dr. Andria Jones-Bitton, who will update us on her research, new programs, and provide us with strategies to ensure we take care of ourselves and each other in this challenging industry.

2017 AGM Minutes

1.0 Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 11:25 am by Chairperson Trevor Forbes. The Farm Safety NS board members were each introduced.

2.0 Confirmation of quorum – *Quorum was declared by the Chair.*

3.0 Approval of agenda – The agenda was approved as circulated referencing page 3 of the Annual Meeting Book. *(Lloyd Evans/Lloyd Dyck) M/C*

4.0 Minutes of the previous AGM – The minutes of the December 2, 2016 Annual Meeting were approved as circulated on pages 3& 4 of the Annual Meeting Book. *(Geneve Newcombe/Victor Oulton) M/C*

5.0 Business arising from the minutes – There was no business arising from the minutes.

6.0 Annual Report – Carolyn Van Den Heuvel, FSNS Manager presented the Annual Activity Report as found on Page 5 and 6 of the Annual Report Book. Carolyn also highlighted the 2017/2018 budget which included the continued funding support of NSFA, noting that much of the budget is reliant on finding funding beyond Growing Forward 2 that ends in March. Highlights of the 2016/17 ‘at a glance’ included new resources such as farm safety plan guide and workbook. A new website will be available soon as well as a best practices framework, more workshops and training. Carolyn highlighted the Farm Family support Centre and that the International Society for Agricultural Safety and Health (ISASH) Conference will be held in Nova Scotia in 2018.

7.0 Strategic Plan Rollout – Carolyn Van Den Heuvel began the presentation of Farm Safety Nova Scotia’s strategic plan by thanking the board members for their commitment to the process of strategic planning. The focus on three (3) priorities: secure funding to support operations and programs, support farm community in understanding and implementing best practices on farm, and to foster positive attitudes and strengthen engagement with the agriculture community.

8.0 OHS Inspection Approach Rollout – Scott Nauss, Senior Director Compliance and Inspection Services with Department of Labour and Advanced Education provided a presentation on the approach to improve Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) in agriculture. The approach consists of three

phases. The first phase is mock inspection which is an educational piece over 1 to 2 years with completion by 2018, various mock inspections have already taken place. Phase 2 is also an educational approach of a voluntary ask for on farm inspection. This is a similar approach to the mock inspection with a report, and no orders or administrative penalties unless there is imminent dangers or issues. Phase 3 will be a more traditional inspection; farms will be selected based on risk. It was noted that any incidents, complaints and OHS history will be outside of this approach and subject to regular OHS inspection. An invitation was extended to anyone interested in signing up for the Phase 1 or 2 approach to contact Farm Safety NS.

9.0 Financial Report – Nancy Frame, PricewaterhouseCoopers presented the Financial Report to the year end of August 31, 2017. *A motion by Lloyd Evans/John Vissers to adopt the auditor’s report as presented. M/C*

10.0 Appointment of Auditors – On a motion of Peter Morine/ Dennis Boudreau PricewaterhouseCoopers was appointed as the auditor for 2018. *M/C*

11.0 Nominating Committee Report & election of Directors – On a motion of Danny Bruce / Kimberly Stokdijk, **Dennis Boudreau** was elected chair for the election proceedings. *M/C*

Dennis Boudreau presented the NSFA Nominating Committee Report referring to page 7 of the Annual Report book. There were 3 calls for further nominations. There were no further nominations and the election chair declared nominations now closed with the nominations as follows:

Trevor Forbes re-elected for a second term of three years, and **David Powers** re-elected for a second term of three years. It was also noted that the NSFA Executive representative for 2018 is **Amanda Eisses**.

A motion by Jim Baillie/ Lloyd Evans to adopt the Nominating Committee report. M/C

12.0 Other Business – No further business to discuss

13.0 Adjourn – On a motion of David Newcombe the meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m.

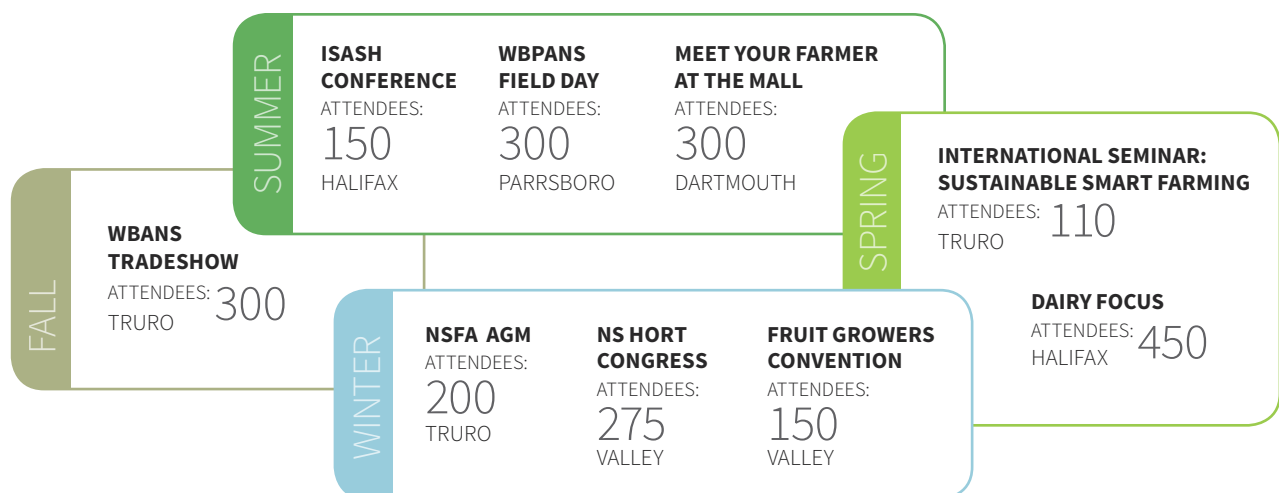
*Meeting notes taken by:
Wanda Hamilton, Associate Director
Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture*

2017/2018 Activity Report

AWARENESS & COMMUNICATIONS

- Farm Safety Nova Scotia is on **Facebook**  **@farmsafetyns** with more than 500 likes!
- You have been receiving the Farm Safety **Connection** in the mail! This newsletter keeps you up-to-date on current initiatives, training and also includes safety reminders. **Connection** is now distributed quarterly.
- Equipment dealers in Nova Scotia offered a 20% discount on safety-related items for the entire month of March, in support of **Canadian Agricultural Safety Week**. Thanks to Blueline New Holland, Central Equipment, Green Diamond Equipment and VanOostrum Farm Equipment for supporting this initiative.
- You may have seen us out at a number of **industry trade shows** throughout the year. Our reach at these trade shows — **over 2000 people**.
- The **Farm Family Support Centre**, managed by Morneau Shepell, is accessible to registered farmers in the province for counselling support related to mental health, financial, legal and more.
- FSNS continues to promote and represent the **interest of the agriculture industry** at national and provincial health and safety related events and meetings.
- A number of **new educational tools and resources** were developed and are available on our website.
- FSNS focused new initiatives on **youth and women in agriculture**.

INDUSTRY EVENTS



FSNS was represented at numerous industry events with an opportunity to network with members.

TOTAL REACH: **2,235** people

2017/18 Activity Report (cont'd)

TRAINING COURSES

SAFE EQUIPMENT OPERATION

FORKLIFT AWARENESS

PARTICIPANTS: 23
AYLESFORD,
KENTVILLE

HOSTED: LICENSE ENDORSEMENT TESTING

PARTICIPANTS: 65
PORT WILLIAMS (x2)
TRURO (x7)



WORKPLACE SAFETY



FIRST AID: EMERGENCY & STANDARD

PARTICIPANTS: 117
PROVINCE-WIDE

FALL PROTECTION:

PARTICIPANTS: 8
TRURO

FIRST AID (IN SPANISH)

PARTICIPANTS: 32
TRURO,
BERWICK



With the support of partners, FSNS offered 26 on-site and on-line training courses in 2017/18.

TOTAL COURSE PARTICIPATION: 245 people

WORKSHOPS

In addition to the workshops below, FSNS gave presentations to:

300 GRADE 4 STUDENTS (OXFORD) AND 22 DAL AC STUDENTS (TRURO x2)
50 OHS OFFICERS (TRURO)

WOMEN'S EQUIPMENT OPERATOR DAY

PARTICIPANTS: 9

CASW - RESILIENCE ON THE FARM

PARTICIPANTS: 9

PHASE 1: ON-FARM INSPECTION

PARTICIPANTS: 14

ON-FARM INSPECTION

PARTICIPANTS: 14

PROGRESSIVE AG SAFETY DAYS

PARTICIPANTS: 35

FARM SAFETY ORIENTATION

PARTICIPANTS: 10

ROAD SAFETY SESSION

PARTICIPANTS: 23

LANDSCAPING WORKSHOP

PARTICIPANTS: 3

YOUTH LEADERSHIP IN AGR. AND RESOURCE INDUSTRIES

BUILDING SAFETY PARTNERSHIPS

PARTICIPANTS: 25

PHASE 2: ON-FARM INSPECTION

YOUTH LEADERSHIP IN AGR. AND RESOURCE INDUSTRIES

FARM SAFETY ORIENTATION

PARTICIPANTS: 18

ISASH WORKSHOP

PARTICIPANTS: 35

ROAD SAFETY SESSION

PARTICIPANTS: 46



FSNS partnered with over ten organizations in 2017/18 to deliver workshops across Nova Scotia

TOTAL WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION: 240+ people

Nominating Committee Report

2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Nominating Committee of the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture is made up of one executive committee member and the two past Presidents of the NSFA. If one or both of the past Presidents are not able to participate, the preceding past President will be asked to serve on the Nominating Committee. The President and Executive Director shall be ex-officio members of the Nominating Committee.

Members of the nominating committee are responsible to find qualified nominees for the Board of Directors for Farm Safety Nova Scotia.

The Nominating Committee puts forward the following names as Directors of Farm Safety Nova Scotia for the 2018 annual meeting:

Name	Year(s) remaining in term	Term
Katie Keddy	3	1 st
Leonie deWaal	3	1 st

A representative from the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture Executive Committee is also appointed from its members to serve as a director for Farm Safety Nova Scotia. The 2019 Executive Committee representative is **Lauren Park**.

Respectfully Submitted by the Nominating Committee:

Chris van den Heuvel (Chair); Dennis Boudreau; Chris deWaal; Victor Oulton (ex officio)

Collaboration Advisory Committee Report

The Farm Safety Collaboration Advisory Committee was established as a committee of Farm Safety Nova Scotia in early 2016. The objective of this Committee is to collaborate on improving health and safety on Nova Scotia farms and to create a forum that will enable timely communications and discussion of agricultural health and safety among various organizations.

The Committee discusses various joint educational initiatives, including the On-Farm Inspection Initiatives and funding opportunities

for Farm Safety Nova Scotia. This Committee is very supportive of industry-led initiatives and will continue to work together to improve health and safety on Nova Scotia farms.

The Committee is currently aiming to focus on more strategic discussions regarding the role of the respective organizations in moving the mandate of Farm Safety Nova Scotia forward. This includes a review of what initiatives and supports have worked in other industries.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Trevor Forbes	<i>President, Farm Safety Nova Scotia</i>
David Powers	<i>Vice-President, Farm Safety Nova Scotia</i>
Carolyn Van Den Heuvel	<i>Manager, Farm Safety Nova Scotia</i>
Harold Carroll	<i>Executive Director, OHS, Department of LAE</i>
Jason Dauphinee-Muise	<i>Director Technical and Outreach Services, OHS, Department of LAE</i>
Scott Nauss	<i>Senior Director Compliance and Inspection Services, OHS, Department of LAE</i>
Steve MacDonald	<i>Director of Communications, WCB</i>
Ruth Grant	<i>Manager Extension and Outreach Services, Department of Agriculture</i>
Becky Sooksom	<i>Regional Services Coordinator, Department of Agriculture</i>
Henry Vissers	<i>Executive Director, Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture</i>

2018/19 Budget

Apr 2018 – Mar 2019

Revenue

CAP Funding	\$	100,000.00
WCB/LAE Funding	\$	50,000.00
Other Project Funding	\$	23,000.00
Member Resources Revenue	\$	15,000.00
Sponsorship	\$	3,000.00
Total Revenue	\$	191,000.00

Expenses

Administrative Expenses	\$	13,300.00
Communications & Promotion	\$	41,000.00
Member Resources	\$	61,000.00
NSFA Services Agreement	\$	30,000.00
Staff Salary	\$	43,064.84
Total Expenses	\$	188,364.84

Net Income \$ **2,635.16**

*Note: the NSFA provides staff and in-kind contributions which are accounted for within the NSFA financials. The NSFA contributes approximately \$55,000 to FSNS.

2018/19 At a Glance

- This year we will continue to coordinate workshops and training. And, to enhance these initiatives we are developing a **training management database** to help you manage your training needs—like reminders and reports on your farm’s training history!
- Development of a **farm worker safety training program**. Targeted toward youth and seasonal workers, we will be developing a framework for what health and safety training workers need to be safe and efficient!
- In addition to the quarterly newsletter, we are launching **Monthly Insight**—an electronic newsletter with voluntary subscription—to provide you with the most current training and workshop opportunities.
- **New website launched, Fall 2018**—more user-friendly, online course registration & online payments!
- **One Road Campaign** had a soft launch in Fall 2018 and further campaign work to be done for Spring 2019. The campaign objective is two-fold: to keep farmers, workers and commuters all safe when farm vehicles are on highways with motorists travelling at high speeds, and to make sure farmers/workers are adhering to safe practices when using provincial highways and roadways.
- The first **Farm Safety Nova Scotia calendar** composed of drawings by our local youth will be distributed amongst the farm community!



For Nova Scotia farmers seeking support –
Farm Family Support Line

A confidential, short-term counselling and advisory service — to help you manage and reduce the stresses in life, including mental health, legal, financial and more.

No cost for up to 3 hrs of service per issue.

Line is open 24 hours a day —

Available to farmers or their immediate family members

1.844.880.9142

TTY: 1.877.338.0275

workhealthlife.com



Farm Family Support Line is managed by Morneau Shepell as a Member Assistance Program.

International Society of Agricultural Safety and Health Conference

Farm Safety Nova Scotia was pleased to co-host the International Society for Agricultural Safety and Health (ISASH) Conference, ***Farm to Sea: anchoring agricultural health and safety*** June 24–28, in Halifax with the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association.

Over 170 attendees and guests came from across the globe with representation from 6 different countries. The conference covered a variety of topics: new technology, mental health, partnerships in agriculture, safety motivation, health and wellness, and so much more!

Our local industry was explored through three different tours. The Fisheries Safety Association of Nova Scotia gave a tour along the Sambro harbour as well as a tour of a Canadian Coast Guard ship. A second group went to Lightfoot and Wolfville Vineyards where they went on a tour of their facility, had a discussion surrounding their health and safety practices and of course,

tried the wine! The final tour was of Winding River Farms where they showcased their farm practices and management. All tours received review scores of over 4.5 out of 5—but we weren't shocked, we couldn't have asked for better hosts!

The conference concluded with a workshop facilitated by Kim Hyndman-Moffat titled *“Responding to Farmers Under Stress, Tips for Front Line Workers and Professionals Supporting the Farming Community.”* Kim works for the Manitoba Farm, Rural and Northern Support Services and was providing those who attended, tips for supporting farmers who may be experiences stress, a very timely topic for our industry.

Feedback from attendees was extremely positive, all of them wanting to return to Nova Scotia again!

CONFERENCE
CO-HOSTS



CANADIAN AGRICULTURAL SAFETY ASSOCIATION
ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DE SÉCURITÉ AGRICOLE

ISASH participants enjoying the Halifax boardwalk!



International Society of Agricultural Safety and Health Conference

INDUSTRY TOURS

Three of the tours that ISASH participants took part in during the conference (top to bottom, clockwise) —

From Grass to Glass hosted by Winding River Farms; Creation, Innovation and Fermentation hosted by Lightfoot & Wolfville; Seas the Day hosted by Fisheries Safety Association of Nova Scotia



CONFERENCE SPONSORS

Platinum



Bronze



Gold



Friends



Silver



Thank you to our partners and supporters!

PROJECT PARTNERS

Morneau Shepell manages the Farm Family Support Line as a member assistance program.



St. John Ambulance provides first aid training and first aid kits at discounted rates to members of FSNS.



Safety Services Nova Scotia provides various training courses at discounted rates to members of FSNS.



ENNIS Safety Services provides various training courses at discounted rates to members of FSNS.



Progressive Agriculture Foundation supports the delivery of Progressive Agriculture Safety Days.



The **Department of Labour and Advanced Education, Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal** and the **Department of Agriculture** supported a number of workshops.



The **Canadian Agricultural Safety Association** co-hosted the ISASH Conference in Halifax.



PROJECT SUPPORTERS

Green Diamond Equipment Ltd. supported FSNS at the Women's Operator Day and Progressive Agriculture Safety Days and offered a 20% discount on safety-related items during March in support of Canadian Agricultural Safety Week.



VanOostrum Farm Equipment Ltd. provided equipment and facilities for Endorsement Testings, and offered a 20% discount on safety-related items in March in support of Canadian Agricultural Safety Week.



Blueline New Holland offered a 20% discount in March on safety-related items in support of Canadian Agricultural Safety Week.



Central Equipment Ltd. offered a 20% discount on safety related items during March in support of Canadian Agricultural Safety Week.



Interested in becoming a partner or supporter? Have a suggestion for a partnership opportunity? Let us know by contacting Carolyn, FSNS Manager at cvandenheuvel@nsfa-fane.ca

FUNDING PARTNERS



Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture supports Farm Safety Nova Scotia through staff and in-kind contributions.

Growing Forward 2, a federal-territorial-provincial initiative provides financial support to Farm Safety Nova Scotia.

Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a federal-territorial-provincial initiative providing financial support to Farm Safety Nova Scotia.

FCC provided funding support for *Progressive Agriculture Safety Days*.

Workers' Compensation Board and **Department of Labour and Advanced Education** provided financial support to Farm Safety Nova Scotia.

Career Focus provided financial support to Farm Safety Nova Scotia to hire a Member Services Coordinator.



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