

# Annual Report 2019





## 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

David Powers                      *President*  
David Newcombe *Vice-President*  
Lloyd Dyck                      *Treasurer &*  
   *Corporate Secretary*  
Trevor Forbes    *Past President*  
Leonie de Waal                      *Director*  
Katie Keddy                      *Director*  
Lauren Park                      *NSFA Executive*  
   *Representative*

## FARM SAFETY ADVISOR

Lori Brookhouse  
(902) 893-2293  
lbrookhouse@nsfa-fane.ca

## DIRECTOR OF OUTREACH & MEMBER RELATIONS, NSFA

Carolyn Van Den Heuvel  
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[WWW.FARMSAFETYNS.CA](http://WWW.FARMSAFETYNS.CA)

# President's Message

It is my privilege to report on the activities of Farm Safety Nova Scotia for the past year.

The Board continued its work contributing towards the restructuring of the Federation and its impact on Farm Safety Nova Scotia. We are excited about the opportunities this restructure provides for us. We were pleased to see Carolyn Van Den Heuvel become Director of Outreach and Member Relations. We know that she will be awesome in this new role as she has already demonstrated.

With funding in place, we were able to hire our first Farm Safety Advisor, Lori Brookhouse. Lori's main role is to connect with Nova Scotia farmers and to help determine their OHS priorities and how to reach them in ways that make sense. She has spent the second half of this year, meeting with farmers and getting a clear picture of the work that lies ahead. We welcome Lori to the team and are excited for what she will be able to accomplish.

On-farm mock inspections continued in 2019, though at a slower pace. Farm Safety Nova Scotia and the OHS Branch of the Department of Labour and Advanced Education created the Collaboration Advisory Committee to try and demonstrate what a farm inspection looks like, both for farmers as well as the OHS officers. Farms present a multitude of unique challenges and this pilot project was successful at bringing those to light for everyone.

We continue to provide training and workshops to farms throughout the year. We also participated in a number of external events to provide presentations on farm safety. Reaching over 1,000 people in-person over this past year was a great accomplishment.

Agriculture does not have to be so dangerous. Farm Safety Nova Scotia's core values ensure that working together, we can make significant strides in keeping our employees and family members safe on the farm while continuing to be innovative and productive. Our decisions and actions are based on openness, fairness, integrity and honesty. We are committed to providing value to our members. We are passionate about farm health and safety and take pride in what we do. And finally, we are the voice for farm safety across Nova Scotia!

Sincerely,

David Powers

# Farm Safety Nova Scotia Annual General Meeting

NOVEMBER 29, 2019 BEST WESTERN GLENGARRY, TRURO, NOVA SCOTIA

## 11:30 am – Business meeting

### AGENDA

- |            |  |             |  |
|------------|--|-------------|--|
| <b>1.0</b> | Call to Order  | <b>7.0</b>  | Consideration of the Financial Report –<br><i>PricewaterhouseCoopers</i> |
| <b>2.0</b> | Confirmation of Quorum   | <b>8.0</b>  | Appointment of Auditors  |
| <b>3.0</b> | Approval of Agenda   | <b>9.0</b>  | Nominating Committee Report<br>& Election of Directors                   |
| <b>4.0</b> | Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting   | <b>10.0</b> | Other Business   |
| <b>5.0</b> | Business arising from the Minutes  | <b>11.0</b> | Adjourn  |
| <b>6.0</b> | Consideration of Annual Report –<br><i>Carolyn Van Den Heuvel,</i><br><i>Director of Outreach &amp; Member Relations</i> |             |  |

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## Lloyd Evans Memorial Award

We are excited to announce the Lloyd Evans Memorial Award as an annual award that will be presented at the Annual Meeting starting next year, in 2020.

As many of you know, Lloyd Evans was passionate about the agriculture industry and was always giving back anyway he could. Over the years, Lloyd was involved in countless committees and sat on numerous boards. He was a leader in our industry—both provincially and nationally. Lloyd served as President of the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture, spent over two decades on Council of Leaders and was Chair of the Farm Safety Committee. He also was a Director with the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, spent nine years with the National Farm Safety Organization and served on the Executive for the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association. Lloyd's résumé was bountiful and spoke to his commitment and love for both agriculture and farm safety.

Lloyd was integral to the establishment of Farm Safety Nova Scotia and served as one of the original directors for this organization. In an effort to carry on his legacy while celebrating other farm safety leaders, we are excited to introduce to you the Lloyd Evans Memorial Award.

This award will be awarded to an individual, farm, organization or agricultural business, who has had a positive impact on and continuously worked towards improving health and safety within the Nova Scotia agriculture industry. The Lloyd Evans Memorial Award will go to someone who makes significant contributions to support the advancement of health and safety in the agriculture industry. Someone who is considered a safety leader— just like Lloyd.

Award criteria, rules and eligibility will be launched and be open for applications in the Spring/Summer of 2020.

# 2018 AGM Minutes

The meeting was preceded by a presentation from guest speaker Dr. Andria Jones-Bitton on *The Human Side of Farming: Mental Health in Canadian Agriculture*. Highlighting the stresses faced by farmers and the shocking statistics from the National Survey of Farmer Mental Health conducted in 2015–2016. Recognizing we have a problem in Canadian agriculture, Dr. Jones-Bitton's team is piloting a mental health literacy program for the agriculture industry. Wrapping up the presentation discussing the importance of wellness, leaving attendees empowered to complete their own wellness wheels with strategies for improving their wellness within their own operations.

**1.0 Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by President, Trevor Forbes at 11:36 am. An introduction to the Board of Directors and staff was made. Trevor highlighted the goal of the organization—to ensure farmers have access to the tools and resources needed to operate safe and productive farms. Mentioning the current funding challenges faced by the organization.

**2.0 Confirmation of Quorum** – *Quorum of 10 members was confirmed.*

**3.0 Approval of Agenda** – The agenda was approved as circulated *on motion by Peter Morine – Chris van den Heuvel. Motion carried.*

**4.0 Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting** – Minutes of the previous Annual Meeting were approved as circulated *on motion by David Newcombe – Tim Marsh. Motion carried.*

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

**6.0 Consideration of Annual Report – Carolyn Van Den Heuvel, FSNS Manager** – FSNS Manager, Carolyn Van Den Heuvel provided an update on activities completed in the 2017–2018 year including communications initiatives, training & workshops as well as the International Society for

Agricultural Safety and Health Conference held in Halifax with co-host, the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association. Carolyn provided a brief overview of “2019 at a glance” highlighting the April 2018–2019 funding budget, Youth Video Contest winner, farm worker program, and the One Road Campaign.

**7.0 Canadian Agricultural Safety Association update – Marcel Hacault, Executive Director, CASA** – Marcel Hacault, Executive Director of CASA, the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association provided an update on national activities including Canadian Agricultural Safety Week, Be Grain Safe, Progressive Agriculture Safety Days and the Back to Ag Program.

**8.0 Consideration of the Financial Report – PricewaterhouseCoopers** – Nancy Frame presented the audited financial report to the year-end August 31, 2018. A motion to accept the Auditor's report as presented *by David Newcombe – Chris Dewaal. Motion carried.*

Clarification was provided on the amount funding received from the provincial government through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership Program.

**9.0 Appointment of Auditors** – *On motion by Peter Morine – Greg Webster,* next year's auditors will be selected by an RFP process as approved by the Board of Directors. *Motion carried.*

**10.0 Nominating Committee Report & Election of Directors** – Chris van den Heuvel, Chair of Nominating Committee, presented the Nominating Committee Report. There were 3 calls for further nominations. Clarification on which Directors were completing their terms was provided. With no further nominations, Katie Keddy and Leonie DeWaal, were nominated for their first 3-year term *on motion by Chris van den Heuvel – Tim Marsh. Motion carried.*

**11.0 Other Business** – No other business

**12.0 Adjourn** – *Meeting adjourned on motion by Victor Oulton at 12:14 pm.*

# 2018/2019 Activity Report

## AWARENESS & COMMUNICATIONS

- Farm Safety Nova Scotia traffic and engagement—



**Facebook @farmsafetyns**

600+ page likes / 88,000+ people reached



**Website farmsafetyns.ca**

More than 10,700 visitors this year



**Twitter @farmsafetyns**

100+ followers / 61,000+ people reached

- FSNS fully launched the **One Road Campaign**— for farmer, worker and commuter safety when farm vehicles are on highways with motorists travelling at high speeds—and to make sure farmers are adhering to safe practices when using provincial highways and roadways. This campaign was launched on social media, in print, and appeared on TV screens at all Access Nova Scotia offices in the province Spring–Fall.
- The **Workbook** (with templates) that accompanies the **Guide to Your Farm Safety Plan** has been fully integrated into the website!

- The **Connection** newsletter and **Monthly Insight** were discontinued and content was integrated with **NSFA News & Views** and **eNews** for more effective communications.
- The **Farm Family Support Centre**, managed by Morneau Shepell, continues to be accessible to registered farmers in Nova Scotia for counselling support related to mental health, financial, legal and more.
- Equipment dealers in NS offered a 20% discount on safety-related items for all 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.
- FSNS continues to promote and represent the **interest of the agriculture industry** at national and provincial health and safety related events and meetings.
- FSNS launched a **Sustainability Series** to help you integrate your Farm Safety Plan into the farm sustainability tool — [farmsafetyns.ca/sustainability-series/](http://farmsafetyns.ca/sustainability-series/)

## INDUSTRY EVENTS

FALL 2018

### ATLANTIC POULTRY CONFERENCE

ATTENDEES: 75  
VALLEY

### WBPA'S ANNUAL MEETING

ATTENDEES: 200  
TRURO

### NSFA AGM

ATTENDEES: 200  
TRURO

### FSNS AGM

ATTENDEES: 200  
TRURO

WINTER/SPRING 2019

### HORTICULTURE NS CONGRESS

ATTENDEES: 225  
VALLEY

### NS FRUIT GROWERS CONVENTION

ATTENDEES: 150  
VALLEY

### ATLANTIC FARM MECHANIZATION SHOW

ATTENDEES: 10,135  
MONCTON

FSNS took advantage of attending a variety of events throughout the year to have an opportunity to engage with our members in-person. Most of these events were hosted in the fall and winter months!

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

TOTAL REACH:

**11,185**  
people

# 2018/19 Activity Report (cont'd)

## TRAINING COURSES

### SAFE EQUIPMENT OPERATION

#### FORKLIFT AWARENESS

PARTICIPANTS: **52**  
CUMBERLAND,  
KINGS (x4)

#### CHAINSAW SAFETY

PARTICIPANTS: **11**  
HANTS

#### HOSTED: LICENSE ENDORSEMENT TESTING

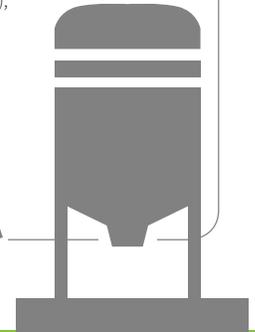
PARTICIPANTS: **10**  
KINGS & COLCHESTER



### WORKPLACE SAFETY

#### FIRST AID: EMERGENCY & STANDARD

PARTICIPANTS: **171**  
HANTS, KINGS (x8),  
CUMBERLAND (x2),  
LUNENBURG (x2),  
YARMOUTH



With the support of partners, FSNS offered 22 on-site and on-line training courses in 2018/19.

**TOTAL COURSE PARTICIPATION:** **244** people

## WORKSHOPS

FSNS delivered presentations at a variety of meetings and events, (included below) reaching:

**777** people

SCOTIAN GOLD GROWER MEETING – OHS INSPECTION INITIATIVE  
PARTICIPANTS: **30**

WHAT KEEPS YOU UP AT NIGHT? MAKING SAFETY PART OF THE WAY YOU DO BUSINESS  
PARTICIPANTS: **13**

PHASE 1: ON-FARM INSPECTION  
PARTICIPANTS: **37**

FRUIT GROWERS DAY  
PARTICIPANTS: **50**

SCOTIAN GOLD – ROAD SAFETY  
PARTICIPANTS: **35**

YARMOUTH PROG AG SAFETY DAY  
PARTICIPANTS: **18**

OXFORD PROG AG SAFETY DAY  
PARTICIPANTS: **350**

PHASE 1: ON-FARM INSPECTION  
PARTICIPANTS: **10**

FUTURE FARMERS  
PARTICIPANTS: **200**

FARMER FOR A DAY  
PARTICIPANTS: **111**

DIPLOMA EQUIPMENT OPERATOR  
PARTICIPANTS: **17**

GEAR UP FOR AG  
PARTICIPANTS: **37**

WHAT KEEPS YOU UP AT NIGHT? MAKING SAFETY PART OF THE WAY YOU DO BUSINESS  
PARTICIPANTS: **9**

DAL AC POLICY PRESENTATION  
PARTICIPANTS: **19**

FSNS partnered with over ten organizations in 2018/19 to deliver workshops across Nova Scotia

**TOTAL WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION:** **159** people

# Nominating Committee Report

## 2019 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.

*Respectfully Submitted by the Nominating Committee:*

*Chris van den Heuvel (Chair); Chris deWaal; Dennis Boudreau; Victor Oulton (ex-officio); Henry Vissers (ex-officio)*

The Nominating Committee puts forward the following names as Directors of Farm Safety Nova Scotia for the 2019 annual meeting:

Name	Year(s) remaining in term	Term
Lloyd Dyck	3	2 <sup>nd</sup>
David Newcombe	3	2 <sup>nd</sup>

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 **2020 Executive Committee representative is Lauren Park.**

# Collaboration Advisory Committee Report

The Farm Safety Collaboration Advisory Committee was established as a committee of Farm Safety Nova Scotia in early 2016. Its objective is to collaborate on improving health and safety on NS farms and to create a forum that enables 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 FSNS. 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's current aim is 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

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

*(left) On-Farm Safety Inspection Workshop hosted with Scotian Gold and Department of Labour this morning! Great turnout with over 40 farmers. Thanks to Waldo, Judy and Alex for hosting us!*

# Farm Safety Nova Scotia Funding

Farm Safety Nova Scotia is currently funded through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership and Worker's Compensation Board of Nova Scotia, with \$125,000 and \$100,000 respective contributions. FSNS also strives to access other project funding to support the development and delivery of resources to its members.

The current contract with Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture for CAP Funding is on a sliding scale over the next four years, from \$125,000 to \$90,000. WCB is currently providing funding under annual contracts.

FSNS is being encouraged by both NSDA and WCB that it must aim to secure a sustainable funding source, outside of government funding, to support its operations. The recent change to the services agreement with NSFA has a significant savings to FSNS in reducing our administration and overhead costs. The FSNS Board will continue to work over the next year to propose a funding model to continue its work in supporting Nova Scotia farmers in ensuring safe and productive farms.

## 2019/20 At a Glance

- We continue to deliver training, and this year you will also see **training go online!** Introduction to Farm Health and Safety and WHMIS are ready to go. We will continue to build on the available farm worker safety training, with Road Safety and Safe Livestock Handling next on the list.
- Early in the new year, keep an eye out for **upcoming workshops**—Building Your Farm Safety Plan, Violence in the Workplace and Fitness for Duty—to be offered at various locations.
- **Engaging with youth** remains a priority. This will be done through hosting Progressive Agriculture Safety Day in Antigonish (Oct 23) and a number of youth contests to be launched soon—colouring, selfies, essays—aimed for younger children to teens.
- We are excited to announce the **launch of On-Farm Advisory Services** (a fee-for-service model with member rates) that will allow you to have an Advisor come out to your farm and help you assess your

situation, develop your farm safety plan and support the advancement of your farm safety program. Don't worry—we will continue to provide tools and resources on the website at no cost to those who want to take on this work themselves!

- Learning from each other is important, you'll see **"Our Farmers' Stories" video series** continue and we will be looking for farmers to participate!
- **On-Farm Inspection Initiative** continues and we are still looking for farms to participate in the educational components of the program. Compliance inspections are in our near future and we want to ensure you are prepared!



### For Nova Scotia farmers seeking support — **Farm Family Support Line**

Confidential, short-term counselling & 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 hours of service per issue.**

**Line is open 24 hours a day —**

Available to farmers or immediate family members

**1.844.880.9142**

**TTY: 1.877.338.0275**

**workhealthlife.com**

**MORNEAU SHEPELL**



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

# 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 **Ag Health and Safety Alliance** delivered the Gear Up for Ag Program.



**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 on safety-related items during March in support of Canadian Agricultural Safety Week.



## PROJECT SUPPORTERS

**Green Diamond Equipment Ltd.** supported FSNS at Progressive Agriculture Safety Days and offered a 20% discount on safety-related items during March 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 Van Den Heuvel at [cvandenheuvel@nsfa-fane.ca](mailto:cvandenheuvel@nsfa-fane.ca)

## FUNDING PARTNERS



**Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture** supports the administration of 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.

# Snapshots from 2018/19



Attended the Scotian Gold Apples grower meeting this morning and hosted a road safety info session along with vehicle compliance. Great turn out, great discussion!



Our CASW workshop is underway! So excited to have Reg Steward here with us from AgSafe BC! We've already got started on the interactive work! #AgSafeCanada



At Progressive Agriculture Safety Day in Oxford! Promoting Farm Safety to grade 4 students across Cumberland County!



Spending our day at Hants County Exhibition participating in Future Farmers Friday where grade 3-5 students learn about farming!



Had a great time at the Yarmouth Progressive Ag Safety Day!! Thanks to all our participants and volunteers!!



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