

Safe farms. Safe families. Safe employees.

2022 Annual Report

Farm Safety Nova Scotia



2022 Annual General Meeting

November 25, 2022

9:15 am — Speaker

Cher Mereweather, Anthesis Provision

Cher is the Agri-Food Sector Lead for Anthesis North America and one of Canada's leaders in food and beverage industry sustainability. She has dedicated her 20-year career to enabling food and beverage companies to embrace sustainability, purpose and circularity in order to create a more resilient food system.

Cher is a passionate advocate for a healthy lifestyle that is deeply connected to the natural environment. The food system became an obvious source of study and focus for her professional career, as food is the nexus between environment and health. What Cher stands for, is a world in which food and beverage products support both people and the planet. Specifically, Cher works with businesses to get clear on why they exist, what their purpose is beyond profit, and to provide them with the support needed to execute this strategy, so that lasting transformational change can happen.

9:45 am — Business Meeting

Draft Agenda

- 1.0 Call to Order
- 2.0 Confirmation of quorum
- 3.0 Approval of agenda
- 4.0 Minutes of the previous AGM
- 5.0 Business arising from the minutes
- 6.0 Consideration of annual report – Carolyn Van Den Heuvel
- 7.0 Consideration of the financial report – MNP
- 8.0 Appointment of Auditors (RFP to be issued)
- 9.0 Nominating Committee Report & Election of Directors
- 10.0 Other Business
- 12.0 Adjourn

Nominating Committee Report 2022 Annual General Meeting

The Nominating Committee of the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture is responsible for finding qualified nominees for the Board of Directors for Farm Safety Nova Scotia. The Nominating Committee Report will be presented at the 2022 annual meeting.

A representative from the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture Council is also appointed from its members to serve as a director for Farm Safety Nova Scotia.

The 2023 Council representative will be Peter Morine.

Respectfully submitted by the Nominating Committee:

Victor Oulton (chair)

Jocelyn Durston

Bert Meyer

Tim Marsh (ex-officio)

Carolyn Van Den Heuvel (ex-officio)

President's Message

Hi everyone,

It's hard to believe that my time on the board for Farm Safety Nova Scotia is coming to an end. It has been a really great eight years, and I have really enjoyed my time on the board. First off, I would like to give a big thanks to all board members I've worked with throughout the years – it's been great to serve with so many folks passionate about health and safety in our farming community. I would also like to give an extra big thanks to all of the staff for their hard work during my time with Farm Safety, I have really appreciated your dedication.

This past year has not been an easy one. As an industry we have faced a pretty tough season when it came to the cost of production. Whether it was the rising cost of inputs, fuel, and other necessities, we couldn't seem to catch a break. To follow-up a difficult planting and growing season, regions of our province were hit with Hurricane Fiona during the peak of harvest season.

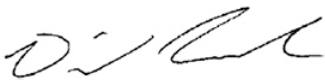
Prior to Fiona's arrival, I had been interviewed by CBC Nova Scotia. The main goal of the article was to talk about preparation measures that farmers were taking or should take before the storm made landfall. But we needed to include the reminder to not neglect our own safety and mental health. I know a lot of farmers put their whole heart and soul into their farm, but we also need to make sure our mental health is cared for as well.

Farm Safety Nova Scotia through the We Talk. We Grow. initiative is on a mission to raise awareness and take action to protect and nurture the mental health and well-being of Nova Scotia's farm community and enhance and maintain a culture where mental health is valued, prioritized, and protected. I encourage you to check out the resources that are available on wetalkwegrow.ca.

One other great resource I want to share with you is our Farm Family Support Line. This is a phone line that is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Calls are confidential and you can receive immediate support. This is available to farmers and their families, and you can access up to three hours of service at no cost. 1-844-880-9142.

Once again, thanks to everyone who has supported the organization during my time here. I look forward to watching the future unfold for Farm Safety.

Yours in agriculture,



David Newcombe
President

Minutes from 2021 Annual Meeting

November 26, 2021, at the Inn on Prince, Truro and via Zoom

1.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 11:50 am by President, David Newcombe.

The meeting commenced with introduction of the board and delivery of the President's message.

2.0 Confirmation of quorum

Quorum of 10 was confirmed.

3.0 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented on motion by Janice Lutz and Andy Parker. *MOTION CARRIED*

4.0 Minutes of the 2021 AGM

The minutes of the 2021 Annual General Meeting were approved as circulated on motion by Peter Morine and Amy VanderHeide. *MOTION CARRIED*

5.0 Business arising from the minutes — none

6.0 Consideration of Annual Report

Delivered by Carolyn Van Den Heuvel. Recognition was given to Lori Brookhouse, Farm Safety Advisor for the great work she does for Farm Safety Nova Scotia. The various activities relating to online training, industry events, webinars, training and workshops were highlighted. Social media stats were presented with the website receiving over 28,000 views, Twitter with 279 followers and Facebook with 766 likes. Thank you and recognition was given to partners, supporters and funding partners.

We Talk We Grow Campaign – the Strategy of this campaign was presented with its Vision – A culture that supports an environment within the Nova Scotia farm community where mental health and well-being is valued, prioritized and protected and Goals – To ensure the farm community has the support and resources needed to protect and promote mental health and wellness. Also highlighted were the Objectives, Guiding Principles and the Actions that have been committed to as well as Actions for government.

The group was also informed that Farm Safety is currently recruiting for a facilitator for the Peer Support Group Fill Yer Boots.

It was stressed by the membership that the biggest stressor is profitability and this should be front and centre.

7.0 Consideration of the Financial Report

Joanne McRae, MNP joined the meeting to deliver the financial report. Financial statements were approved on motion by Lauren Park and Janice Lutz. *MOTION CARRIED*

8.0 Appointment of Auditors

MNP was appointed as auditors on motion by David Newcombe and Andy Parker. *MOTION CARRIED*

9.0 Nominating Committee Report & Election of Directors

Victor Oulton, chair of the NSFA Nominating Committee presented the nominating report.

Katie Keddy 2nd term; Jean Lynds 1st term

There were three calls for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, nominations closed.

Victor Oulton moved for acceptance of the report, seconded by Janice Lutz. *MOTION CARRIED*

10.0 Lloyd Evans Memorial Award Winner

Jos & Patrick VanOostrum were this year's recipients and received the award at the NSFA banquet.

11.0 Other Business – No other business

12.0 Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 12:18 pm on motion by Peter Morine.

Minutes taken by Shelly MacKenzie, Administrative Services Coordinator, NSFA

Activity Report

2021/2022

AWARENESS & CAMPAIGNS

Campaigns

One Road Campaign

This campaign highlights the importance of keeping farmers, workers, and commuters safe when sharing a roadway together. This year, with financial support from the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association (CASA), we were able to revise old resources as well as create new ones.

These included a safety checklist that adheres to inside of your tractor window, a floor decal for businesses, a commuter vehicle bumper sticker and a short informational video. One Road resources were distributed across the province to both members and the public.

We Talk. We Grow.

After being launched in May 2021, the We Talk. We Grow. campaign continues to be a staple in Farm Safety Nova Scotia's work in mental health. This past year we revamped the Mental Health Kits to provide new resources as well as renewed our support and promotion of the Farm Family Support line.

We continue to raise awareness and take action to protect and nurture the mental health and well-being of Nova Scotia's farming community.

Musings

There wasn't a 4-H club here so we started one.

There wasn't a farmers' market here, so we started one.

There wasn't a farming community here, so we started one.

Do not underestimate the power of people connected to the land.

We have experienced the feeling of strength, peace and resilience that comes from our hands in the dirt.

We know the filaments of joy raising youth in a simple world of fresh air, good food and hard work.

We know the strength of the web the filaments form when crops fail, livestock die, and families grieve.

We know how to be part of a community who rallies around someone when someone needs help.

We support each other, always giving more than we take.

This life in the dirt invigorates, energizes, and seeps into the moments of our lives and reverberates through the lives of others more than we will ever live to see.

Do not underestimate us with our feet and hands in the dirt and our eyes and hearts raised towards the sky.

– Jennifer Spencer

Jennifer Spencer of Yellow Brick Road Farm is our recent poetry contest winner. Look for a copy of this poem in the new **We Talk. We Grow.** mental health kits

Communications

Social Media Stats



Facebook (@farmsafetyns) = 929 followers

FSNS Website Views (farmsafetyns.ca) = 28,037 views

Twitter Followers (@farmsafetyns) = 374 followers

YouTube Visits = 38 viewers

on-line
training

NOTICE

Our online training courses will no longer be available on the Farm Safety website in the 2023. We have switched our courses to the **SkillsPass** platform. These courses will still be accessible to all members at no cost.

Website

On www.farmsafetyns.ca you will find a variety of information and resources as well as information on the Farm Safety Nova Scotia organization.

Access our website to find self-guided steps for building your Farm Safety Plan, information on legislation, downloadable safety signs and much more.

Be sure to check our News and Events calendar for updates.

YouTube Channel

Find recorded information sessions on our YouTube channel. These include this year's "Farmer's Safety Corner"

Published Articles

Farm Safety NS contributed to the NSFA's News & Views publication as well as Farm Focus

Industry Partnerships

CASA Provincial Partnership — A FSNS representative meets monthly with other safety professionals from each of the provinces to share provincial safety resources.

TOOLS, RESOURCES AND TRAINING

NEW RESOURCES

Nutritional Resources

Farm Safety Nova Scotia partnered with a team of dietitians at **Kitchen Table Nutrition Communications** and put together nutrition tips and tricks specific to farmers for each meal of the day, including snacks. You can find these informative resources under Resources at www.farmsafetyns.ca

Updated First Aid Info Sheet

In June 2022 Nova Scotia updated the **Workplace Safety First Aid Requirements** to align with the Canadian Standards Association (CSA). As a result, Farm Safety Nova Scotia revised the First Aid Fact Sheet on the website and did a series of social media posts to highlight the changes and new requirements for workplaces in the agriculture sector.

Training and workshops

Progressive Agriculture Safety Days – These events aim to provide education, training and resources to make farm and rural life safer and healthier for children and their communities.

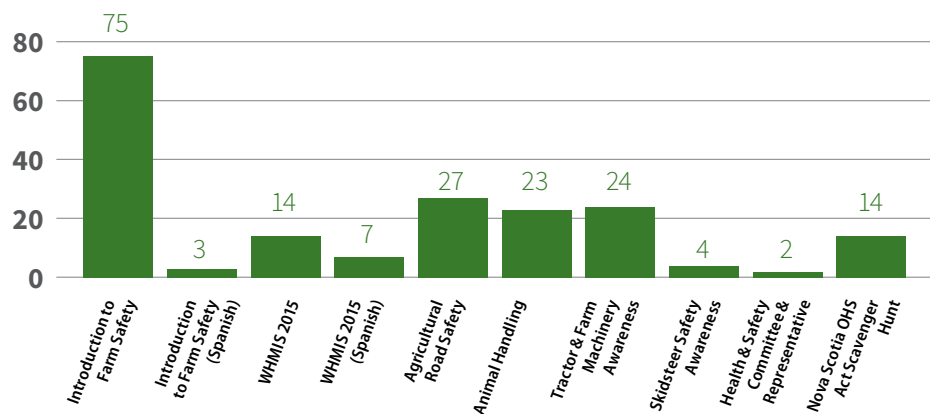
An **online Safety Day** was held on October 22, 2021 with seven participants visiting virtual safety stations.

Two of our new team members are now fully training to **host Progressive Agriculture Safety Days** and Farm Safety Nova Scotia plans to host two of these events each year in varying locations across the province.

ON-LINE TRAINING

Graph showing number of completions for each of 2021/2022 offerings

473
PEOPLE ENROLLED



INDUSTRY EVENTS

FSNS took advantage of attending a variety of events throughout the year to engage with our members. Most of these events were hosted in the fall and winter months! This year, the conferences and AGMs were held virtually, or were hybrid events.

2021/2022 EVENTS

NOVA SCOTIA FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE ANNUAL MEETING (HYBRID: TRURO/ZOOM)
ATTENDEES: 168

HORTICULTURE NOVA SCOTIA CONGRESS (VIRTUAL)
ATTENDEES: 400+

FARM SAFETY NOVA SCOTIA ANNUAL MEETING (HYBRID: TRURO/ZOOM)
ATTENDEES: 76

NS FRUIT GROWERS CONVENTION (VIRTUAL)
ATTENDEES: 120

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



TOTAL REACH: 800+
people

TRAINING & WORKSHOPS

Our goal is to increase the number of farms implementing safe best practices on farm. We do this through a number of means including providing industry specific workshops and required training.

WORKPLACE SAFETY

FARMER'S SAFETY CORNER SESSIONS

WINTER SAFETY, PREPARING FOR AN EMERGENCY, FATIGUE, ANIMAL SAFETY



FIRST AID: BASIC x9 & INTERMEDIATE x2
PARTICIPANTS TRAINED: 106

SAFE EQUIPMENT OPERATION

ENDORSEMENT TESTING (7 DATES)

PARTICIPANTS FOR CONDITIONS: 33
15 and/or 23

TRACTOR SAFETY COURSE — JUNE 2021

PARTICIPANTS: 12
7 MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND 5 DALAC STUDENTS



WORKSHOPS

PROGRESSIVE AG SAFETY DAYS (HELD VIRTUALLY)
PARTICIPANTS: 7

GEAR UP FOR AG WITH DALAC
PARTICIPANTS: 11

Other training included:

CHAINSAW SAFETY AWARENESS (2 SESSIONS)

FALL PROTECTION (3 SESSIONS)

FORKLIFT TRAINING (3 SESSIONS)

Lloyd Evans Memorial Award



2022 Recipient Angus Ells

About the Lloyd Evans Memorial Award

This award goes to an individual, farm, organization, or agricultural business, who has had a positive impact on the agriculture industry and continuously works towards improving health and safety here in Nova Scotia. The Lloyd Evans Memorial Award is presented 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.

“Safety, Excellence, Respect” – a company motto you will hear Angus Ells using and endorsing daily.

For the last 25 years, Angus has worked for Bragg Lumber Company, where safety has always been a top priority for himself and his team. As the Manager of Carrot Operations, Angus ensures his crew is current on all the necessary safety training and certificates they need to complete their tasks and their job safely. Additionally, he ensures all vehicles and work sites have the necessary safety equipment.

Over the years, he has been an enthusiastic supporter and coordinator of Progressive Agriculture Safety Days, a youth focused program that is an opportunity for children to learn about the hazards on the farm and what they can do to stay safe. Children visit different stations where they learn in fun, interactive ways. Angus is a trained coordinator for Progressive Agriculture Safety Days and has organized those events in both Oxford and Berwick locations reaching hundreds of participants. These events help raise the profile on the importance of teaching safety in the school and in our communities.

Angus is always eager to share his knowledge and experiences with others so that safety is a primary consideration in the workplace. Over the years, Angus has been proud of the great safety record they have had at Bragg Lumber.



“His dedication to providing these safety days, as well as his regular workplace safety practices, make him a safety leader.” — Caitlin Congdon

Congratulations Angus!

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.



Tidal Tractor 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.



Central Equipment Ltd. 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.



Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture provided equipment and facilities for Endorsement Testings.



Interested in becoming a partner or supporter? Have a suggestion for a partnership opportunity? Let us know by contacting Caitlyn Creelman at ccreelman@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.



Canadian Agricultural Safety Association provided funding support for the development of online training courses.



MISSION

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

VISION

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<i>David Newcombe</i>	<i>President</i>
<i>Katie Keddy</i>	<i>Vice-President</i>
<i>Lloyd Dyck</i>	<i>Treasurer & Corporate Secretary</i>
<i>Janice Lutz</i>	<i>Director</i>
<i>Foster Murphy</i>	<i>Director</i>
<i>Jean Lynds</i>	<i>Director</i>
<i>Peter Morine</i>	<i>Director (NSFA Council Representative)</i>

STAFF

Now overseen by the Farm and Workforce Development team, Farm Safety programming is brought to you by the following team members:

- Caitlyn Creelman, Farm and Workforce Development Manager*
- Patti Leurdijk, Employer Advisor*
- Margaret Ells, Training and Awareness Coordinator*

WWW.FARMSAFETYNS.CA

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