

**Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies
Annual General Meeting, Saturday, February 15, 2020, at 9:00 am
Grand York Ballroom – Sheraton Parkway Toronto North,
Richmond Hill, Ontario.**



- Doug Yeo, OAAS President, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the 2020 OAAS Annual Meeting. The incoming OAAS Board of Directors were introduced.
- Doug Yeo declared the Confirmation of Quorum, 255
- "O Canada" to begin the Annual Meeting.
- Brian Slaughter, OAAS 1st Vice President, asked for a moment of silence in memory of OAAS members who have passed away in the last year.
- Doug Yeo thanked everyone for attending the 2020 Convention and Annual Meeting.
- Doug invited Kathryn Lambert, Convention Administrator and Vince Brennan, Manager, for a few remarks.
- Doug outlined some changes and accomplishments over the past year. 2020 is now a fading memory, 174th AGM is the opportunity to reflect on what has been achieved and look to the coming year. There have been changes in the formation and composition of the committees, new Adhoc committees, with non-board members now on some committees to ensure skills and knowledge needed are included
- Doug reflected on what he learned during his year, recalled how he was asked to step into the role and the lessons learned.
 - OAAS cannot do everything on its own, need help from individual societies
 - Fairs are alive and well throughout Ontario, exhibits and entertainment are strong
 - Challenges getting younger members
 - Fairs are thriving; communities are supporting them, Strategic plan focused on linking with communities, government officials
- Doug thanked the staff for their support and board members for their commitment, passion and input; special thanks to long-time retiring board members. Doug thanked District 8 and the Bayfield Agricultural Society for their support.
 - Proud of what can happen when a team works together, encourages everyone to share their stories and unique ideas
 - The OAAS is a team effort, and Doug is extremely proud to be a small part of it, looking forward to the future and what the next series of teams will do
- Ontario Ministry of Agriculture Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) – Rick Berthiaume on behalf of Hon. Ernie Hardeman. The Ministry recognizes that Ag Societies are economic drivers in communities across the province, relationships driving local food, supported by Ministry. Impressed with member turn out for a Saturday morning
- Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions (CAFE) - Christina Franc, Executive Director, brought greetings from CAFE. Communities are not just where we live and work; we learn, shop, get inspired. She

believes the OAAS is not just an association but a community to raise you to help your communities. Christina hopes that Societies have grown connections at the convention. Looks forward to visiting a lot of Ontario fairs this year.

- The business portion of the meeting began with the approval of the 2020 Agenda
MOTION: Moved and seconded to accept the agenda as presented.
CARRIED.
- Approval of 2019 Minutes
MOTION: Moved and seconded to accept the minutes as presented.
CARRIED.
- Vince Brennan, OAAS Manager, presented the Financial Statement as printed in the Annual Report.
MOTION: Moved and seconded to accept the Financial Statements as printed in the Annual Report.
CARRIED.
- **MOTION: Moved and seconded** to appoint Lynch Rutherford Tozer to provide an Independent Practitioner's Review Engagement for 2020.
CARRIED.
- **MOTION: Moved and seconded** that all acts, contracts, by-laws, proceedings, appointments, elections and payments enacted, made, done and taken by the Directors and Officers of the Association since the last Annual Meeting be and with this ratified and confirmed.
CARRIED
- **MOTION: Moved and seconded** to receive all reports in the Annual AGM Report.
CARRIED
- **MOTION: Moved and seconded** to accept the revision to the Constitution and By-Laws as presented.
CARRIED
 - Change one: The word '*office was removed to change the term from 'office manager' to 'manager'*' in various places throughout the document.
 - Change two: strike the following phrase '*and their Chairpersons'*' from Bylaw 3 – Provincial Organization, Section F Standing Committees
 - Change three: '*published in an industry periodical and mailed,'* replaced by '*circulated'*' from Bylaw 4 - Annual Meeting, Section B
- **MOTION: Moved and seconded** to accept the election of the 2020/2021 OAAS Board of Directors.
CARRIED
- **Special Award** presented to Helen Scutt, by Vince Brennan
 - Thank you for your time providing various OMAFRA programs and convention seminars. You've been a friend to the OAAS and member Agricultural Societies and will be missed!
 - She was presented with the Provincial Meritorious Service Award and a donation to Sleeping Children Around the World Charity as chosen by Helen.
 - Remarks by Helen Scutt
 - Dream Big, keep making things happen and making a difference in communities. Ag Societies are the heart and soul throughout the province
 - We are a community, and we are building communities within our societies

- Keep on doing Ag Awareness and education, such an essential piece for people to understand about agriculture and food
- Keep in touch

Closing Speaker for 2020 Convention Jen Puente, Anchors Away

Not boat anchors but people anchors! Do you struggle with negativity? Jen presented some tips and tricks you can do every day to help keep you forging ahead in your everyday life. Let that anchor go!

- Closing Comments from 2020 President Brian Slaughter.
 - Thank Doug for dedication in 2019, a hard act to follow; thanks to Vince and Kathryn for going above and beyond in their duties
 - Want to recognize fair volunteers here at the convention and for working tirelessly throughout the year to bring the community together during fair time
 - I look forward to seeing you through the year, with beautiful weather for your fairs
 - 175th year for OAAS
 - Past-President's Plaque awarded to Doug Yeo
- No further business, **MOTION** to adjourn the meeting.
- The next AGM is February 20, 2021