

The OAAS Convention is almost here .....

### **Are You Ready ???? What Do You Need To Know**

**Date:** February 16-18, 2023

**Location:** Sheraton Parkway Hotel, Richmond Hill

**Registration:** Delegate/Ambassador registration opened on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Early bird deadline is Friday February 3. Click here to [register](#).

**Ambassador:** There is a full Ambassador program returning for 2023. Any Ambassadors from 2020-2023 who have not attended the Ambassador Program at the Convention, are more than welcome to register. Including a group picture and Ambassador Introductions on the Friday evening. An Ambassador program schedule is posted on the [OAAS website](#).

All Ambassadors and Chaperones are also required to complete and PRINT the Code of Conduct forms and bring them to the Ambassador registration desk.(will be posted shortly to the OAAS website)

**Pre-Conference workshops:** There are three pre-conference workshops on Thursday February 16<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am – 2:30pm.

1. OAAS Judging School: Focus on Honey and Maple
2. In The Know: A mental health awareness program for the agriculture community
3. Animal Care Best Practises Workshop

*Advance registration is required for each workshop.*

*Participants do not need to be registered to the convention to attend a pre-convention workshop.*

*There is no fee to attend these workshops. Lunch is not included.*

More details found [here](#).

**Hotel Accommodations:** At the current time the Sheraton Parkway & Best Western Parkway are completely sold out. If you are still looking for accommodations please contact with [nearby hotels](#) for their availability. There is not an OAAS room block setup. *If you have an extra room please let the OAAS know.* REMINDER: All extra rooms booked and not needed, should be cancelled by February 1<sup>st</sup> to avoid any charges. Any room cancelled after February 1<sup>st</sup> will be charged minimum one night.

**Sponsorship:** There is still time to get recognized as a Convention sponsor, more details can be found on the OAAS [website](#).

**Auction:** The OAAS will be offering a silent and live auction at the Convention. Please consider supporting this fun convention feature. More details [here](#).

*Fun Facts: Toronto Maple Leaf and Toronto Blue Jay tickets have already been donated !!! Let us know what you are donating.*

**Speakers and Seminars:** OAAS is thrilled to offer over 40 sessions and 65 speakers this year. Special guest is Michael Bradley who will be the Friday morning keynote speaker “*Create Disney Magic and Big Fun at any Fair*”, along with Thursday & Friday afternoons with “*Dealing with Change and the Future of Fairs.*”

The closing speaker after the AGM on Saturday is James Fraser with “*Winning in the Performance Economy*”.

Sessions begin on Thursday afternoon at 3pm and 4pm and then Friday at 10:30am, 1:30pm & 3:00pm. A tentative list of session are posted [here](#), with updates to come.

**Competitions:** Competitions are returning to the 2023 Convention. Don't forget to bring the district competition champions to convention. All entries must be received by 5pm on Thursday February 16, on the Lower Level. Results and entries will be on display all day Friday.

**Updates:** Be sure to follow OAAS on [Facebook](#), for daily updates and on the OAAS [website](#).

**Volunteer At the Convention:** If you wanted to see "behind the scenes", the OAAS is currently looking for some volunteer to help out for the three days, for a few hours. More details [here](#).

THANK YOU EVERYONE, see you in February !!