

2026 OAAS Convention



Thursday February 19 - Saturday February 21
SHERATON PARKWAY HOTEL, RICHMOND HILL



CONVENTION SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Thursday, February 19, 2026

10:00am - 2:30pm	Pre-Convention Workshops
1:00pm - 5:00pm	Ambassador & Chaperone Registration (Vaughan Hall)
1:00pm - 7:00pm	Registration Desk open
1:00pm - 5:00pm	Resource Room (Gormley)
1:00pm - 5:00pm	Receive Auction Items (Thornhill)
1:00pm - 5:00pm	Learn to Square Dance (hotel gymnasium)
3:00pm - 4:50pm	Ambassador Program (Vaughan Hall)
3:00pm - 3:50pm	Seminars & Workshops
4:00pm - 5:00pm	Ambassador Program (Vaughan Hall)
4:00pm - 4:50pm	Seminars & Workshops
4:00pm - 5:00pm	Young Professional Meet N' Greet (10th Floor)
6:30pm	Doors Open to Evening Entertainment & Share the Wealth tickets for sale
7:00pm - 10:00pm	Evening Entertainment (Grand York)
10:00pm - 12:00am	Ambassador Hospitality (Vaughan Hall)
10:00pm - 12:00am	Hospitality Suite (10th Floor)

Friday, February 20, 2026

7:00am - 4:00pm	Registration Desk open
8:30am - 5:00pm	Ambassador & Chaperone Registration (Vaughan Hall)
8:30am - 9:30am	Seminars, Workshops & Quick Talks
3:00pm - 5:00pm	Ambassador Program (Vaughan Hall)
9:00am - 11:30am	Receive Auction Items (Thornhill)
9:00am - 11:35am	Family Entertainment Showcase (Grand York)
9:00am - 4:00pm	Tradeshow (Convention Floor)
10:00am - 11:30am	Seminars, Workshops & Quick Talks
10:30am - 4:30pm	Viewing Competitions: Quilts (Aurora), Cookies & Tarts, Maple Syrup & Honey (Newmarket), Resource Room (Gormley)
10:30am - 4:30pm	Bidding at Silent Auction (Thornhill)
1:30pm - 3:00pm	Opening Ceremonies: Presentations & Recognition
3:30pm - 4:30pm	Keynote Speaker Courtney Hinds
7:00pm	Seminars, Workshops & Quick Talks
7:30pm - 10:00pm	Doors Open to Friday Evening Showcase & Share the Wealth tickets for sale
10:00pm - 12:00am	Friday Evening Entertainment Showcase (Grand York)
10:00pm - 12:00am	Ambassador Hospitality (Vaughan Hall)
10:00pm - 12:00am	Hospitality Suite (10th Floor)

Saturday, February 21, 2026

8:30am - 1:00pm	Registration Desk open
9:00am - 12:00pm	Bidding in Silent Auction Room (Thornhill)
9:00am - 12:00pm	View Competitions (Lower Level)
9:00am - 12:00pm	Resource Room (Gormley)
9:30am - 10:30am	Seminars & Workshops
10:45am - 11:45am	Seminars & Workshops
12:00pm	Silent Auction Bidding Closes (Thornhill)
1:30pm	Annual Mtg. & Closing Speaker: Ian Hill
3:00pm - 4:00pm	Pick up Silent Auction items (Thornhill)
3:00pm - 4:00pm	Pick up Competition items
6:30pm	Ambassador Group Photo
7:00pm	Doors Open to Saturday Evening Showcase & Share the Wealth tickets for sale
7:30pm	Saturday Evening Entertainment Showcase (Grand York)
10:00pm - 12:00am	Ambassador Intros, Live Auction, Entertainment
10:00pm - 12:00am	Ambassador Hospitality (Vaughan Hall)
10:00pm - 12:00am	Hospitality Suite (10th Floor)

FRIDAY AFTERNOON KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Celebrating Our Fairitage: The Passion & Purpose Behind Our Industry
with **Courtney Hinds**

Fairs are more than just events, they are traditions, communities, and legacies. Courtney will explore the deep-rooted passion that drives the fair industry and the people who make it all possible. - YOU build the presentation!!



THANK YOU TO the EGG FARMERS OF ONTARIO for supporting our Friday opening keynote speaker.



SATURDAY AFTERNOON KEYNOTE SPEAKER

You Make THE Difference: Will We Meet the Moment with **Ian Hill**

Volunteerism is waning. Leadership is weary. Communities are divided and distracted. But still the fair stands, ready to bring people together, ready to inspire belonging, ready to remind us of who we are and why we matter. This is the moment we must meet. This is more than a celebration. It is a call to action. Because the fair matters now more than ever - And so do you. You are THE Difference Maker!



THANK YOU TO CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION & FAIRS.COM for supporting our Saturday closing keynote speaker.





THANK YOU

Co-operators

for providing the convention pens



THANK YOU

RBC

for providing the
convention bags



PRE-CONVENTION WORKSHOPS ... Thurs. Feb 19, 2026

- Judging School: Photography (9:00am - 2:30pm)
- Judging School: Antiques (9:00am - 2:30pm)
- Building Community Leaders (registration closed)
- The Future of Fairs: Governance, Grants, and Growth Planning (10:00am - 2:30pm)
- Workplace Appreciation (10:00am - 2:30pm)

Still time to sign up !!!

THURSDAY NIGHT ENTERTAINMENT

Featuring the

DUELING PIANOS !!!!

AGAIN FOR 2026 !!!
VOTING DELEGATES MUST SIGN IN
AT THE ANNUAL MEETING ON SAT-
URDAY AFTERNOON.

DOWNLOAD the ...
OAAS CONVENTION APP

There's an App
For That

EVENT CODE: OAAS2026

CHECK OUT
the OAAS Convention
Photography Competition
On the main Convention floor



SATURDAY EVENING ENTERTAINMENT

- ♦ Amanda Keeles
- ♦ Off the Rock
- ♦ Eastbound Of Bytown

OAAS Young Professionals Meet N' Greet *Presented by RAM Rodeo*

Thursday, February 19 4:00pm – 5:00pm
in the Presidential Suite, 10th Floor



*Open to convention delegates under the age of 40,
at least 19 years of age & excluding current Ambassadors.*



THANK YOU

SILVER SPONSORS



TRADESHOW IS SOLD OUT

Over 70 booths
All day Friday, 9am-4pm
Main & Lower Level

AUCTION ROOM

Receiving Auction Items

Thurs. Feb. 19, 1:00pm - 5:00pm
Fri. Feb. 20, 9:00am - 11:30am

Bidding Open

Fri. Feb. 20, 11:30am - 4:30pm
Sat. Feb. 21, 9:00am - 12:00pm

Pick up Items

Sat. Feb. 21, 3:00pm - 4:00pm



DISTRICT DISCUSSIONS

Friday afternoon 3:30pm

Everyone is welcome

Meet Fair friends near you

Share ideas & stories

Support one another

Learn from their experiences

RESOURCE ROOM

Share your old fairbooks, posters,
marketing materials

GORMLEY ROOM, lower level.

FRIDAY EVENING ENTERTAINMENT

- **BRADLEY HALE**
- **MAGIC DANNY'S
WONDERAMA SHOW**
- **FLAILING SHILALEIGHS**
 - **JULIA NEVILLE**
 - **TY WILSON**
 - **JANNA LEDUC**

REGISTRATION DESK

opens at 1:00pm, Thursday.

Register individually,

by delegate last name

Located on Lobby Level

*Ambassador & Chaperone
registration is in the
Vaughan Hall Room, Lower Level*

THURSDAY NIGHT ENTERTAINMENT

DUENDE

ANGELICA APPELMAN

THE DUELING PIANOS

AMBASSADOR CONVENTION PROGRAM 2026

February 19-21
Vaughan Hall Room Lower Level
(subject to change)



Thursday, February 19, 2026

1:00pm - 5:00pm
4:00pm - 4:30pm
4:30pm - 5:00pm
5:00pm
6:30pm
7:00pm
10:00pm - 12:00am

Ambassador & Chaperone Registration
Ice Breakers/Meet & Greet for Ambassadors
Welcome/ Expectation of Ambassadors & Chaperones
Dinner with own Ag Society
Doors Open for Evening Programming
Evening Programming begins
Ambassador Hospitality Suite – unsupervised

Friday, February 20, 2026

8:30am - 12:00pm
8:30am - 9:30am
9:30am - 10:00am
10:00am - 12:00pm
12:00pm - 1:00pm

1:30pm - 3:00pm
3:00pm - 3:30pm
3:30pm - 4:30pm
4:30pm
6:30pm
7:00pm
10:00pm - 12:00am

Registration Desk Open
CNE Info session & CNE Ambassador Program
Welcome/Ice Breakers
Speaker from Rural Ontario Institute
LUNCH (provided)
Discuss Saturday evening introductions
Keynote Speaker – Courtney Hinds Passion & Purpose
Free Time – Explore Tradeshow, Auction Room, Competitions
Ambassadors attend delegate seminar
Dinner with own Ag Society
Doors open to Friday evening Showcase
Friday Evening Showcase
Ambassador Hospitality Suite – unsupervised

Saturday, February 21, 2026

9:00am
9:00am - 10:00am
10:00am - 10:30am
10:45am - 11:45am
11:45am - 1:30pm
1:30pm - 3:00pm

3:15pm - 4:00pm
4:00pm
6:30pm SHARP!
7:00pm
7:30pm

10:00pm - 12:00am

Ambassador Program begins
Tim Carson- 5 Things & More I Wish I knew Earlier
Round Table Discussions Activity
Ambassadors attend delegate seminar
LUNCH (with your Ag Society)
Attend AGM & Keynote Speaker Ian Hill: *You Make THE Difference: Will We Meet the Moment*
Closing Remarks/Survey/Order of introductions
Dinner with Ag Society
Group Photo
Doors open for Saturday Evening Showcase
Saturday Evening Showcase, Introduction of Ambassadors, Live Auction
Ambassador Hospitality Suite – unsupervised

CHECK IT OUT ...
ALL DAY FRIDAY & SATURDAY

Provincial Competitions on the Lower Level



Quilts, Cookies,
Butter Tarts,
Honey &
Maple Syrup

**FREE PARKING AT
THE SHERATON**

look for the signs

3 level parking garage attached to hotel

AG-AWARENESS TRADESHOW

is taking place
Friday February 20th
located on Lower Level,
9:00am – 4:00pm

ESCAPE ROOM ~ stop by
Friday 9am-4pm,
in the Buttonville Room.



THANK YOU

FRIENDS OF THE FAIR SPONSORS

Adam Cousins
Agriculture Wellness Ontario
AgScape
Beth Meszaros
Brooke-Alvinston Agricultural Society
Caledonia Agricultural Society
Cathy Redden
Charles Jones Industrial Ltd.
Clarence Pinkney
Cumberland Agricultural Society
Delta Power, Wyoming
Dundalk & District Agricultural Society
Durham Agricultural Society
Douglas Yeo
Dundalk Agricultural Society
Elmvale Agricultural Society
Embro & Zorra Agricultural Society
Emsdale Agricultural Society
Erin Agricultural Society
Farm & Food Care
Fergus Agricultural Society
Forest Agricultural Society
Glen Syme
Glovebox Entertainment
Harmony Marketing
Heather Owens
Highgate Agricultural Society

Huron Tractor
Karmic Photography
Les & Marilyn Armstrong
Listowel Agricultural Society
Ministry of Tourism, Culture & Gaming
Norfolk County Fair & Horse Show
OAAS District #3
OAAS District #4
OAAS District #5
OAAS District #6
OAAS District #13
Orono Agricultural Society
Palmerston Agricultural Society
Paris Agricultural Society
Perth & District Agricultural Society
Providence Bay Agricultural Society
Ringside Seat
Rockton Agricultural Society
Rural Ontario Institute
Russell Agricultural Society
Seaforth Agricultural Society
Showmen's League of America
Stirling Agricultural Society
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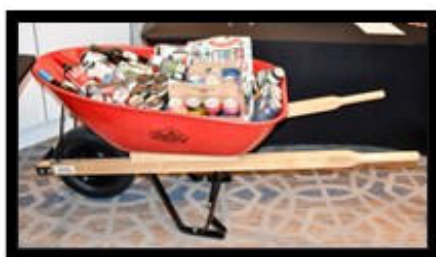


THANK YOU
to FrontDoor+ and Fame Group
Agency for providing
the convention notepads



The OAAS would like to
welcome our guests from the
Alberta & Quebec Fairs

AUCTION ITEMS



**AGRICULTURE AWARENESS
TRADESHOW**
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 20, 2026
LOWER LEVEL



www.ontarioagsocieties.com



THANK YOU

GOLD SPONSORS



Ontario



OAAS Convention 2026 ~ Feb. 19-21

FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT SHOWCASE

Friday Feb. 20, 9am-11:30am Grand York Ballroom

Hosted by: Barry O !!!



THANK YOU to:



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3L Productions Inc.
4-H Ontario
Agriculture Wellness Ontario
AgScape
B & M Entertainment
Bleacher Rentals
Campbell & Co Insurance Consultants
Cdn .Agricultural Safety Association
Canadian Raptor Conservancy
CanaPHEM
Capital Drone Show Inc.
Cassio- JD Graphics Inc
Classic Championship Wrestling
Comedy in Motion with Bob Cates
Cooperators
Daytime Enterprises Ltd.
Dispatch Talent
Dr. Von Houligan Travelling Variety Show Inc.
Duuu by Co-Operators
Edge Entertainment Group
Edge Motorsports
Egg Farmer of Ontario
Encore Promotional Products Inc.

Executioner Sled Team
Fairs.com
Farco Enterprises Ltd.
Farm and Food Care Ontario
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Grand River Party Rentals & Inflatables
Great Lakes Premiere Pulling Inc.
Hands on Exotics inc.
Hart Entertainment Inc.
Heatwave Blacksmithing
I Am Demolition
Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario
K&K Insurance Canada
Kidomo Inc.
Magic Danny's Wonderama Show!
Marky Monday Children's Entertainment
Meet The Keepers Wildlife Rescue
MoJo Magic Show

NorthFIRE Circus
Ontario Chuckwagon Racing Assoc
Ontario Demolition Derby Ltd.
Ontario Inflatables and Event Rentals
Ontario Truck and Tractor Pulling Assoc/
Ontario Visited
PAL Insurance Brokers Canada
Portable Grandstand Rentals
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Royal Bank
Shield Security Services
Showpass
Silverline Patrol & Security Corp
Sport Systems
Stoneridge Insurance Brokers Ltd
SuperDogs
Superior Events Group Inc.
TCB Pulling Solutions LTD
TEAM T&J
The Booking House
The Funny Waiter Show
Ticketwindow Inc

OAAS CONVENTION
THURSDAY EVENING ENTERTAINMENT

GREAT CANADIAN DUELING PIANOS



presented by:



www.ontarioagsocieties.com



Ontario Association of
Agricultural Societies



OAAS CONVENTION 2026

LEARN HOW TO SQUARE DANCE



THURSDAY FEBRUARY 19th, 3pm.
Hotel gymnasium (at the Best Western)

www.ontarioagsocieties.com

Download the convention app.
(schedules, speakers, sponsors)



Yapp app id code: OAAS2026

www.ontarioagsocieties.com

WORKSHOP & SEMINAR SCHEDULE

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 19

(SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

3:00pm

- Empowering the Next Generation of Leaders - The Vital Role of Ambassadors and Young People in Shaping the Future of Ontario Fairs
- Everyday Ag - A Free-to-Use Ag Education Program: Everyday Ag
- Fields of Opportunity: A Gamified Resource for Ag Fairs
- PANEL DISCUSSION: From Posts to People: Social Media That Works for Ag. Societies
- PANEL DISCUSSION: Smarter Event Planning, Ticketing and Operations
- The Not-So-Boring Board Workshop

4:00pm

- Fields of Opportunity: A Gamified Resource for Ag Fairs
- How Going Digital Can Grow Your Raffle
- Recharge & Reconnect: Real Self-Care for Ag Society Leaders
- Recruiting and Retaining Young People
- Welcome Back - Risks Management and Insurance Planning
- Working with Scary Homecraft Judges

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 20

8:30am

- Beyond the Midway: Modern Volunteer Engagement for Agricultural Fairs
- Event Marketing Tips & Tricks
- Know your audience: Connecting fairgoers with Food and Farming
- Leading with Purpose: CNE Ambassador Program
- PANEL DISCUSSION: Community Partners -Sponsorship At Our Fairs
- Protect the Legacy: A Behind-the-Scenes Fair Audit Workshop
- Seeing, Judging, Teaching - A Judging Journey

10:00am

- Event Marketing Tips & Tricks
- Fair for ALL: Creating Truly Inclusive Events
- Funding Your Future: Writing Competitive Grant Proposals
- Managing Cash Requirements During The Fair Season
- Recruiting & Retaining Volunteers: Building Sustainable Ag Society Teams
- Rooted in Community: Measuring the Impact of Agricultural Fairs
- Welcome Back - Risks Management and Insurance Planning

3:30pm

- District Discussion (Districts #1,2,3)
- District Discussion (Districts #4,5,6)
- District Discussion (Districts #7,8,9,10,13)
- District Discussion (Districts #11,12,14,15)
- Practical AI for Agricultural Societies: Supporting the Work You Already Do
- Reducing Risks & Growing Confidence: Insurance for Agricultural Societies
- What is TSSA to Your Fair and Event?

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 21

9:30am

- Booking a Headliner
- Borrow My Genius: The Workshop Where We Steal the Best Ideas
- Empowering the Next Generation of Leaders - The Vital Role of Ambassadors and Young People in Shaping the Future of Ontario Fairs
- Level Up Your Livestock Show: Tools and Tactics for Modern Fairs
- Practical AI for Agricultural Societies: Supporting the Work You Already Do
- Round Table Discussions
- Round table Discussions: Secretary
- Working with Homecraft Scary Judges

10:45am

- Customer Services Tips for the Unkind Fair Visitors
- PANEL DISCUSSION: Smarter Event Planning, Ticketing and Operations
- PANEL DISCUSSION: Social Media: Personalizing your Content for your Events & Community
- Preparing for Uncertainty in Agriculture
- Round Table Discussions
- Round table Discussions: Treasurer

QUICK TALKS & TIPS

Friday only

Ballantree Room

8:30am - Tastes of the World in North Perth!

9:00am - Junior Fair Board; The Future of Ontario Ag Societies

10:00am - Feeding Families . What would the Waltons do ?

10:30am - Turn Up The Revenue: All About Music Bingo Fundraisers

11:00am - Back to Basics Homesteading Workshops

3:30pm - Extra Income in Storage