

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),
10:30am - 4:30pm	Resource Room (Gormley)
11:30am - 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

HOSPITALITY SPONSORS



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 !!!

DOWNLOAD the ...
OAAS CONVENTION APP



EVENT CODE: OAAS2026

THURSDAY NIGHT ENTERTAINMENT

Featuring the

DUELING PIANOS !!!

AGAIN FOR 2026 !!!

**VOTING DELEGATES MUST SIGN IN
AT THE ANNUAL MEETING ON SAT-
URDAY AFTERNOON.**

**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.*

**OAAS
Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies
Celebrating 100 Years**

THANK YOU

SILVER SPONSORS

get cracking.
Egg Farmers of Ontario

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FrontDoor+ TICKETING SIMPLIFIED

RICHMOND FAIR
SINCE 1863
Best Little Fair in Canada

WORLD'S FINEST SHOWS

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CARP FAIR
SINCE 1863
Best Little Fair in Canada

Grand River Agricultural Society

WESTERN FAIR district

encore
PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS
INC.

Ribbons, ribbons and promotional items
for those memorable occasions

SHOWCALL PRODUCTIONS
Sound & Lighting

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



THANK YOU

PLATINUM SPONSOR



CANADIAN
NATIONAL
EXHIBITION

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	Ambassador & Chaperone Registration
4:00pm - 4:30pm	Ice Breakers/Meet & Greet for Ambassadors
4:30pm - 5:00pm	Welcome/Expectation of Ambassadors & Chaperones
5:00pm	Dinner with own Ag Society
6:30pm	Doors Open for Evening Programming
7:00pm	Evening Programming begins
10:00pm - 12:00am	Ambassador Hospitality Suite – unsupervised

Friday, February 20, 2026

8:30am - 12:00pm	Registration Desk Open
8:30am - 9:30am	CNE Info session & CNE Ambassador Program
9:30am - 10:00am	Welcome/Ice Breakers
10:00am - 12:00pm	Speaker from Rural Ontario Institute
12:00pm - 1:00pm	LUNCH (provided)
1:30pm - 3:00pm	Discuss Saturday evening introductions
3:00pm - 3:30pm	Keynote Speaker – Courtney Hinds Passion & Purpose
3:30pm - 4:30pm	Free Time – Explore Tradeshow, Auction Room, Competitions
4:30pm	Ambassadors attend delegate seminar
6:30pm	Dinner with own Ag Society
7:00pm	Doors open to Friday evening Showcase
10:00pm - 12:00am	Friday Evening Showcase
	Ambassador Hospitality Suite – unsupervised

Saturday, February 21, 2026

9:00am	Ambassador Program begins
9:00am - 10:00am	Tim Carson - 5 Things & More I Wish I Knew Earlier
10:00am - 10:30am	Round Table Discussions Activity
10:45am - 11:45am	Ambassadors attend delegate seminar
11:45am - 1:30pm	LUNCH (with your Ag Society)
1:30pm - 3:00pm	Attend AGM & Keynote Speaker Ian Hill: <i>You Make THE Difference: Will We Meet the Moment</i>
3:15pm - 4:00pm	Closing Remarks/Survey/Order of introductions
4:00pm	Dinner with Ag Society
6:30pm SHARP!	Group Photo
7:00pm	Doors open for Saturday Evening Showcase
7:30pm	Saturday Evening Showcase, Introduction of Ambassadors, Live Auction
10:00pm - 12:00am	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.



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
Embroy & 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
Seaford Agricultural Society
Showmen's League of America
Stirling Agricultural Society
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WeGo.ca Website Developers Inc.



THANK YOU

BRONZE SPONSORS



Brigden Fair
A Thanksgiving Weekend Tradition



OAAS District #1

OAAS Past Presidents'

Neil Guthrie

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

ONTARIO Local Food Basket- Value \$150

- Generations Hard Cider
- Garlic Mashed Potato Seasoning
- French Fry Seasoning
- Salt & Vinegar Ontario Peanuts
- Salsa
- Apple Cider & Garlic Vinaigrette
- Sugar Bush Maple Granola
- Wild Blueberry Lavender Spread
- Spiced Apple Red Pepper Jelly
- Maple Mustard
- Maple Syrup
- Caesar Dressing & Dip
- Premium Sliced Peaches
- Sea Salt Tortilla Chips
- Onion & Chive Maple Dip



OAAS CONVENTION 2026



AGRICULTURE AWARENESS TRADESHOW

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 20, 2026

LOWER LEVEL



www.ontarioagsocieties.com



THANK YOU

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3L Productions Inc.
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Agriculture Wellness Ontario
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B & M Entertainment
Bleacher Rentals
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Cdn .Agricultural Safety Association
Canadian Raptor Conservancy
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Capital Drone Show Inc.
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Cooperators
Daytime Enterprises Ltd.
Dispatch Talent
Dr. Von Hooligan Travelling Variety Show Inc.
Duo by Co-Operators
Edge Entertainment Group
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Egg Farmer of Ontario
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Farco Enterprises Ltd.
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Fifth Note Entertainment
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Glovebox Entertainment Inc.
Grain Farmers of Ontario
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
Redd Swing Productions
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 2026 ~ Feb. 19-21
FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT SHOWCASE
Friday Feb. 20, 9am-11:30am Grand York Ballroom
Hosted by: Barry O !!!



















THANK YOU to:



OAAS CONVENTION
THURSDAY EVENING ENTERTAINMENT

GREAT CANADIAN DUELING PIANOS



presented by:



www.ontarioagsocieties.com

OAAS CONVENTION 2026 LEARN HOW TO SQUARE DANCE



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

www.ontarioagsocieties.com

OAAS

Ontario Association of
Agricultural Societies



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?

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

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