



Northumberland Federation of Agriculture

Agenda for board meeting

Nov.14, 2017 at OAFVC Colborne, 7:30pm

1. **Call to order** : Allan Carruthers
2. **Agenda** : motion to *ask for additions or deletions*
3. **Delegations/Guests**:
4. **Approval of Minutes**: motion to approve minutes of Oct. 2017
5. **Financial Report**: motion to approve financial report.
6. **Business Arising from the minutes/current issues**:
 - 6.1. Election of new executive officers. President, First Vice President, Second Vice President. Maximum of three year term.
 - 6.2. AGM review
 - 6.3. OFA AGM November 20 & 21 Toronto. Rooms are booked. President, Vice and PAC. Alternates will be selected at our AGM are not able to attend so need new volunteer. Silent auction donation to be transported by Marty
 - 6.4. Christmas dinner planning. Dec 12?
7. **Correspondence**:
 - 7.1. Rural Ontario Leadership Program- suggestions submitted by Nov. 15
 - 7.2. Farm Business Workshop Dec. 7 Manvers Arena - <http://takeanewapproach.ca/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/manvers-agenda.pdf>
 - 7.3. Draft Soil Health Strategy open for comment - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/soilstrategy>
8. **Reports**:
 - 8.1. Allan, President –
 - 8.2. Bruce Buttar, Zone Director –
 - 8.3. Resi Walt MSR –
 - 8.4. Gene, PAC member –
 - 8.5. Trissia Mellor, County Rep –
 - 8.6. Strategic Goals and Action – update new goals for coming year
 - 8.7. Young Farmer’s Forum- Amy, spring planning
 - 8.8. Electronic Policy Committee - Ashley
9. **New and Other Business**:
10. **Next Meeting**: Next meeting, Jan. 9 Snack duty is assigned to **Ashley Greenly**
11. **Adjournment**:

Snack duty is assigned to **Doug Gray** for tonight

Items of Interest:

The Greenbelt Farmers’ Market Network has recently launched a small funding program called Partners in Production. Funded by the Local Food Investment Fund, it provides 50% cost-share, up to \$2,250 per farm, specifically for equipment purchases. The focus is on the following goals:

- improve the quality of products
- Increase production efficiency
- extend seasonal availability
- broaden selection at markets
- Scale up production of in-demand items
- Address product shortages or gaps

To be eligible, farms must sell products at a market within the Greenbelt Farmers’ Market Network, but their farm does not need to be in the region. I met a number of recipients from a past iteration of this program at a market in Etobicoke this summer. I was impressed and surprised by:

- a) How far some of the vendors travelled -- I spoke with one past recipient from New Dundee and one from Ayton. (This is why I cast the net wide on the regions included on this email!)
- b) How much of an impact could be made with a small \$ amount – one entrepreneur had purchased a semi-automatic filling machine and it had revolutionized her preserves business.

Please feel free to pass along to any producers or food entrepreneurs that you think might be able to benefit from this program. Here’s a link to more information: <https://www.greenbeltfresh.ca/news/2017-production-opportunities-program-funding-opportunity>

The deadline to apply is November 20th.