



Canadian Livestock Genetics Association
Association canadienne de l'industrie du bétail et de la génétique

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CLGA Celebrates Ten Years

In September 1998, the Boards of Directors for the Canadian Association of Animal Breeders, the Canadian Livestock Exporters' Association and the Canadian Embryo Exporters' Association (CAAB, CLEA and CEEA) agreed to form a Transition Team charged with the mandate to create a new organization which would be well positioned to effectively serve the Canadian livestock genetics industry in the future. The focus of the new organization was to be on providing a strong collective voice for discussing common issues and negotiating solutions with a focus on areas of animal health, trade, government relations and industry consultation.

Chaired by Dr. Clare Rennie, the Transition Team was composed of Paul Larmer, Jim Weaver, Jady Grad and Tom Hays. The team worked quickly, consulting with industry along the way to define the new organization's role and structure. By the summer of 1999, the search for an Executive Director was underway and Rick McDonald started in that position at the end of September.

The first Board of Directors composed of Tom Hays, Hon. John Wise, Peter Draper, Dr. Clare Rennie, Paul Larmer, Jady Grad, Jim Weaver, Herb McLane, and Pierre Trudeau met on October 4, 1999 and made the following appointments:

Hon. John Wise, Independent Chair,
Jim Weaver, President
Jady Grad, Vice President
Rick McDonald, Secretary/Treasurer

Supplementary letters patent were applied for and on November 15, 1999, Industry Canada officially changed the name of the Canadian Association of Animal Breeders to the Canadian Livestock Genetics Association.

In her report to the 2009 AGM, outgoing President Shelley Doan commented on CLGA's growth from 9 to over 70 members while expanding to include small ruminant and poultry genetics and noted the following highlights:

- Established a voice for our industry with government to get support during the BSE crisis. This "put us on the map" with government agencies and other industry associations, which requires an ongoing relationship to keep up with new faces and policies in government.



- Negotiated with foreign governments to get our cattle and small ruminant markets reopened after BSE
- Organized and hosted the Endless Performance Visioning Conference in the fall of 2006. This conference helped establish CLGA as an important and viable player in the dairy genetics industry.
- Developed a board policy to give CLGA the roots it needs to continue to be successful.
- As part of the board's strategic planning , we conducted a survey for members to voice their opinions and provide input into future directions.

Current CLGA President, Russell Gammon states:

“CLGA enters its second decade with a profound determination to focus on excellent service to our large membership base. We will build on past successes and learning and forge ahead. We'll continue open cooperation with our members, industry partners here in Canada and abroad and government to innovate and lead on animal health and market access issues. The best years for the Canadian livestock genetics industry are still ahead!!!!”

Canadian Livestock Genetics Association is a nationwide, not-for-profit trade association representing the market access and animal health interests of those involved in the sale, service and promotion of livestock genetics both domestically and internationally.

For more information, contact:

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