



## President's Message

This past year has been awesome. I've really enjoyed being president, and I can't thank the executive board enough for all the hard work they put in. We've managed to accomplish a lot together, and it has been great working with everyone. I look forward to moving into my new role as past president, and I can't wait to see what the board can accomplish this coming year. I'm excited to see some new faces on the board, and I want to thank all those who will be retiring for all their hard work and dedication.

In Junior Farmer spirit,



Winter Games Attendees

Jordyn Domio

Your 82nd JFAO President

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Thank you to the support from



## Upcoming Dates:

- March Conference March 27-28th



MI



VIEWPOINT

## A new era on the farm: Women lead, mentor and shape the next generation

Posted on 2 March 2026 in OFA Viewpoint



Figure 1: OFA Director Andrea McCoy-Naperstkow, image taken by the Ottawa Citizen

*By Andrea McCoy-Naperstkow, Director, Ontario Federation of Agriculture and Jordyn Domio, President, Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario*

As we approach International Women's Day on March 8, it's hard to believe that only a few decades ago, women in Canada could not legally be recognized as equal partners in their own farm businesses.

Today, 30 per cent of Canadian farmers are women and across the agri-food sector, women are alongside men as equals in many jobs, organizations and boards. That kind of change doesn't happen overnight or on its own – but it's one worth a second glance this year in particular.

That's because 2026 has been designated as International Year of the Woman Farmer by the **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations**.

For both of us, agriculture has always been personal

That was the norm, along with women not being able to claim wages for income tax purposes for work they did on the farm or even be recognized as partners in farm businesses. They also generally weren't involved with agricultural organizations or farm politics.

That norm has changed.

Andrea, who returned to full-time farming after retiring from a career with the city of Ottawa, is a director on the board of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) and has long been involved with her local federation in various roles.

Jordyn is the youngest and only female director on her local federation board and was recently elected as its vice president. She also helped relaunch the local junior farmer club in her area and is currently the president of the **Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario (JFAO)**.

Both of us have been fortunate to be welcomed by the organizations we serve with. That welcoming culture matters to encouraging women to step forward into leadership roles in our industry, but so does mentorship.

The next generation of female farmers is passionate and committed and sometimes, all that's needed is a bit of encouragement from others to give them the confidence they need to take a new step.

Mentorship was pivotal for Jordyn as encouragement from Andrea and other women farmers helped her find her voice and now, she is doing the same for the next group of young leaders.



Figure 2: Jordyn Domio, JFAO President

# Your **perks** are waiting

Discover 5,000+ exclusive perks  
with your Perkopolis account





**Save on everyday purchases and so much more!  
JFAO has partnered with  
Perkopolis so you can save more on  
everything from clothes and groceries to  
events and travel. This perks program is no-cost  
for you to start enjoying members-only  
offers today.**

**Register for your Perkopolis  
account and find over  
5,000 exclusive offers.  
Go to [perkopolis.com](http://perkopolis.com)  
Enter your email address  
Look for an email from us with a link  
to complete your registration.**

**Input your member ID code where  
requested.**

**Your member ID code is:  
JFAO+Member ID #  
i.e. JFAO123456**

# Carson's Roast and Toast



**Carson on his "throne" with his crown, which he specifically requested for his Roast and Toast in January! It was a good time with lots of roasts, lots of toasts, and of course a little skit from our club! Congrats to Carson for his time as JFAO President!  
- Oxford JF**

# Club Reports

## Wentworth-Niagara



**WN had a great time at Winter Games. Peterborough and Durham did an amazing job hosting, and it was nice to see so many new members out.**



# Club Reports

## Middlesex

**We are overjoyed to have 3 members getting married in 2026!! Check out the Announcement section at the end of this issue!**

**We had a wonderful time this past weekend at Fort Rose for our Junior Farmer brunch. It was a great meal**



**We had an amazing night celebrating two of our members at their Buck & Doe! Hannah and Campbell had incredible support from this past and current JF crew. Congratulations to you both!**



## Middlesex

A poster for a 'Farmers Night Out' event. The background is a dark red color. At the top left is a yellow and red boot. At the top right is a yellow banjo. In the center, the text reads 'MIDDLESEX JUNIOR FARMERS PRESENTS FARMERS NIGHT OUT'. Below this, it says 'ILDERTON COMMUNITY CENTER APRIL 11TH, 2026 7PM-12AM'. Further down, it lists 'FEATURING LIVE MUSIC FROM ACOUSTIC FM LIVE AND SILENT AUCTIONS DANCING A LIGHT MEAL'. At the bottom left is a logo with a white figure on a blue and green background. At the bottom center, a yellow box contains the text 'TICKETS \$15 \$10 for Junior Farmers'. At the bottom right is a yellow microphone. At the very bottom, a yellow banner says 'ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE CMHA RURAL MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVES IN MIDDLESEX'. Below the banner, it says 'Tickets can be purchased ahead of time or at the door. Contact 519-280-1030, or email at middlesexjf@gmail.com.'

**MIDDLESEX JUNIOR FARMERS  
PRESENTS  
FARMERS  
NIGHT OUT**

**ILDERTON COMMUNITY CENTER  
APRIL 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2026  
7PM-12AM**

**FEATURING  
LIVE MUSIC FROM ACOUSTIC FM  
LIVE AND SILENT AUCTIONS  
DANCING  
A LIGHT MEAL**

 **TICKETS**  
\$15  
\$10 for Junior Farmers

**ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE CMHA RURAL MENTAL HEALTH  
INITIATIVES IN MIDDLESEX**

Tickets can be purchased ahead of time or at the door. Contact  
519-280-1030, or email at [middlesexjf@gmail.com](mailto:middlesexjf@gmail.com).

# Club Reports

## Durham Region

March 2026 Durham Region Junior Farmers have had a busy and exciting few months filled with socials, events, and planning for the year ahead. On December 17th, members gathered in Oshawa for a bowling social. It was a great opportunity to connect and welcome several new members to the club. After a few friendly games, the group headed out for dinner together, making for a fun and relaxed evening. Over the winter, a lot of time and effort went into planning the 2026 Winter Games, which Durham Region Junior Farmers co-hosted with Peterborough County Junior Farmers on February 21st. The event was a huge success, welcoming over 50 members from across the province for a full day of activities. Everyone had a great time participating in the games, and the evening dance was a highlight of the event, bringing even more people out to celebrate and socialize. Durham Region Junior Farmers also held their Annual General Meeting on February 28th, where a new executive team was elected for the upcoming year. The 2026 executive includes President Cameron Barkey, Vice President Tim Rudkin, Secretary Wendy Rudkin, and Treasurer Cody Armstrong. Social Conveners are Emma Cummings and Dawson Ball, with Emma Cummings serving as Provincial Director and Daniel Rheeder as Assistant Provincial Director. Hayley Ashton will represent the club as the DRFA and 4-H Representative. Social Media Representatives for the year are Emma Cummings, Wendy Rudkin, and Payton Stephen. The evening wrapped up with a social where members spent time catching up and looking ahead to the year to come. The club is now looking forward to attending the March Conference in Kingston and continuing the momentum into another great year with Junior Farmers.



## Junior Farmers tour local operations during annual conference

By Luke Edwards

Growing up on his family's cash crop operation in Chatham-Kent, Ryan Handsor was entering new territory as he walked through the lines of apple trees and into the processing facility at Lincoln Line Orchards.

But that was kind of the point for the roughly 30 young people taking part in the Junior Farmers of Ontario Young Farmers Forum. The annual event saw young people listen to presentations from a wide range of speakers, and take in tours of operations like Lincoln Line Orchards, and Summit Station Dairy.

"Seeing what goes into it, it's really intriguing," said Handsor as they wrapped up a tour of the Highway 20 orchard and farm market.

Lincoln Line's Peter Bosman, who bought the property with his wife Mary back in 1999, provided the tour of the facility. He showed them how they use a trellising system with their trees, which offers better sunlight and air flow for more consistent fruit and better protection against disease. Using this style requires a lot of pruning and care, but the improved sunlight and air flow offsets the increased humidity that can lead to disease for Ontario orchards.

"You get a more consistent colouring as well," Bosman said.

In the storage facility, he explained the pains they go through to ensure the apples stay fresh and delicious as long as possible. Sensors monitor temperature, but Bosman also uses some old fashioned techniques as backup, in



Ryan Handsor took part in the Ontario Young Farmers Forum, touring Lincoln Line Orchards. - Luke Edwards photos

case the sensors get out of whack. In that case, a glass of water is an easy way to tell him if the storage room is below freezing.

Given Lincoln Line runs an onsite market and 85 per cent of their sales are retail, Bosman said

they have a challenge in storing different apple varieties together, since varieties can prefer different storage conditions.



Fortunately, he said some apple varieties mature differently and some taste even better after a few months in storage.

Jordyn Domio, president of JFAO and a Niagara native, said it was another successful year for the forum, as they welcomed young farmers from every corner of the province, both geographically and in terms of farm operations.

"It's nice to get all the different sectors involved," she said.

The theme this year was on-farm diversification, and the tour stops provided a great opportunity for first-hand learning, she said.

The forum occurs in conjunction with the Ontario Federation of Agriculture annual general meeting. In addition to the tour, participants heard speakers discuss topics like software and taxes and how they affect the agriculture sector.

For more information on the Junior Farmers, visit [jfao.on.ca](http://jfao.on.ca).



Peter Bosman told the story of Lincoln Line Orchards to a group of about 30 young people who attended the Ontario Young Farmers Forum last month.

**You Make THE Difference**

14 - NIAGARA FARMER - JULY 2025

## Niagara welcomes group through Junior Farmers exchange program

By Luke Edwards

One of the main purposes of traveling is to experience something new. And that was exactly what the five visitors who spent time in Niagara last month through the Junior Farmers exchange program experienced.

The group kicked off their tour of Ontario with a stay in Niagara, visiting both agricultural operations as well as the regular tourist sites associated with the region. It included young people from Northern Ireland, Scotland, Austria, Switzerland and Germany. A sixth from the Republic of Ireland was set to join them later on.

"It's been very interesting. Especially this area," said Jack Stewart, from Northern Ireland.

"The variety of different farming practices is quite different from what any of us would have experienced."

The visitors had a range of backgrounds, including equine, dairy, beef, and sheep, and vegetables like potatoes.

For the most part, none of the visitors had experienced much in the way of fruit farming and vineyards that can be found in Niagara.

"We don't have the climate for that, so it's very different. We're usually growing crops like silage, barley, grass, wheat, things like that," said Scotland's Fiona Currie, adding the only fruit producers tend to be greenhouse operators.

Germany's Isabelle Pröstler said their experience was similar.

"We only have fruit farms with apples and pears. We have some fruit farms with peaches, but they are in the greenhouse," she said.

"Germany's not so hot in the summer, the winter's not so cold."

When they arrived in Canada we were just getting the earliest of field crops, including asparagus. Pröstler said Germany also produces asparagus, but back home they have both green and white varieties.

"I think that was very interesting to see."

They've also noticed a strong buy local belief here in Niagara, as well as a level of self-sufficiency higher than back home. Learning about



Niagara was the first stop for a group of five visitors traveling in Ontario through the Junior Farmers exchange program. From left: Selina Brettner, Isabelle Pröstler, Jack Stewart, Fiona Currie, and Sophie Kauer. - Luke Edwards photo

the supply management systems in some Canadian ag sectors has also been interesting, they said.

The group said the hospitality they received in Niagara was wonderful. The language barrier was a bit of a challenge for Pröstler, Austria's Selina Brettner and Switzerland's Sophie Kauer. Fortunately, they all speak German so they could communicate easily with each other. And even after only a week or two in Canada they noticed their English improving.

"From day to day it's easier for us," Pröstler said.

After their stay in Niagara, the group is spending time at different locations throughout

Ontario. They got a break week in the middle that happens to coincide with the Calgary Stampede, so Currie said they're hoping to fly to Alberta to experience the event.

She's actually following, somewhat, in the footsteps of her mom, who also took part in the exchange program 20 years ago. While her mom visited different countries, her experience was likewise rewarding and she met people who have become lifelong friends.

The experience has been just as rewarding for the hosts, who have got to learn a bit what farm life is like in other parts of the world. And while president Jordyn Domico and past president Matt Smith said there are differences, there are a lot of similarities too.

"We're all the same," said Domico.

"Different countries, but a lot of the same issues," added Smith.

The Wentworth-Niagara Junior Farmers got back up and running in late 2023 after folding in 2019. For more information, follow the group on Instagram, @wentworthniagara.

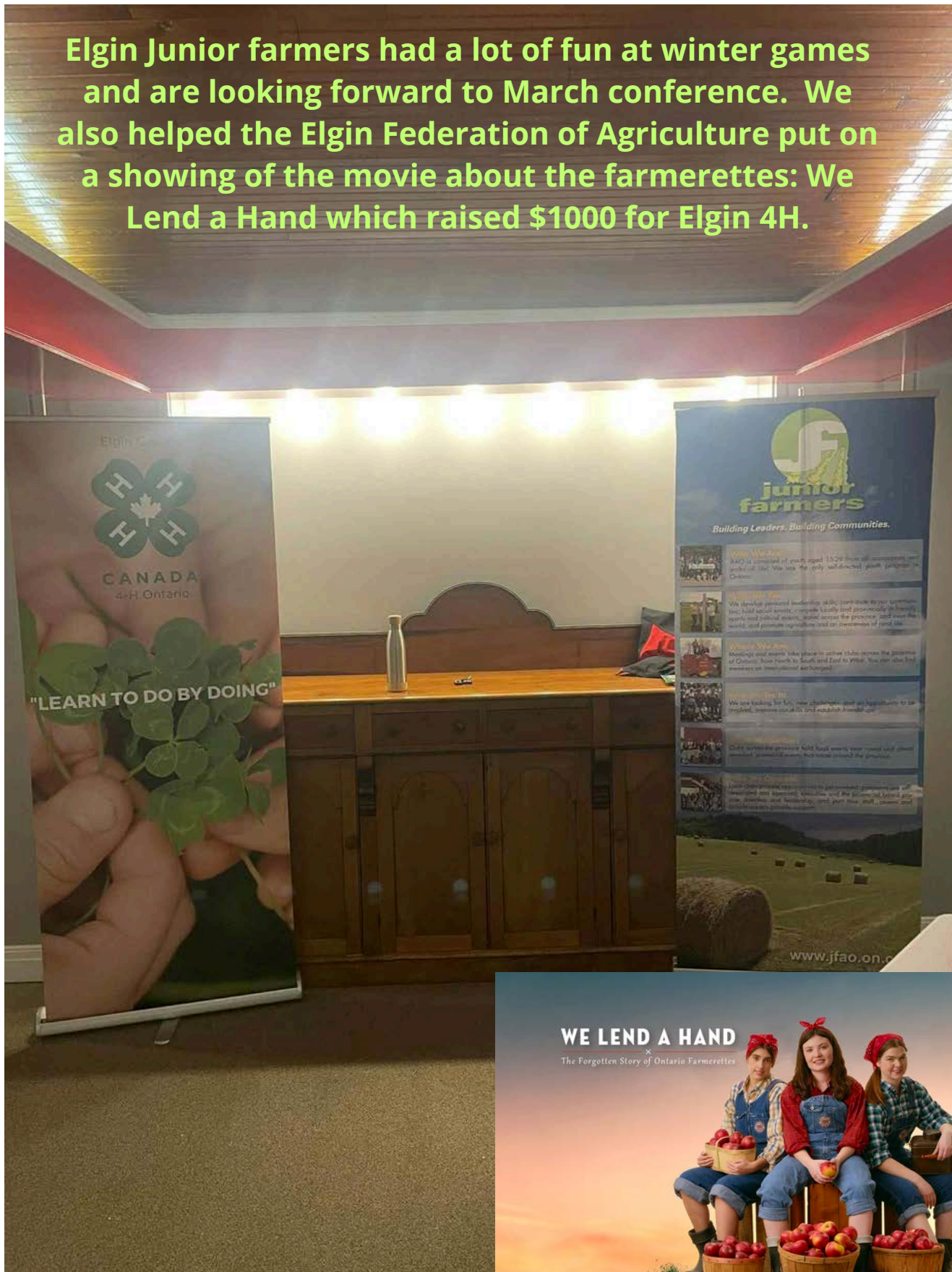
	<p><b>Insuring Family Farms in Haldimand &amp; Norfolk Since 1879</b></p>
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# Club Reports

## Elgin

Elgin Junior farmers had a lot of fun at winter games and are looking forward to March conference. We also helped the Elgin Federation of Agriculture put on a showing of the movie about the farmerettes: We Lend a Hand which raised \$1000 for Elgin 4H.



## Grey County

**Grand In Your Hand is back again!  
We raised \$1,000 for local agriculture societies!**



**GREY COUNTY**  
*Jr Farmers*

**GRAND IN YOUR HAND**

**\$20 / TICKET**

**\$1000 CASH TO WINNER**

**CHOOSE YOUR NUMBER 1 TO 100.**  
**WINNER WILL BE DRAWN ON SATURDAY, MARCH 14 AT 4PM**

# Club Reports

## North Simcoe

**Our annual curling tournament went well, donating back to the elmvale curling club, for them to get new updated rock handles**



# Club Reports

## North Simcoe

March 13 made our way down to Rocklyn, for the Grey County Jr Farmers hockey tournament. Grey put on a good fun weekend, both our teams had lots of laughs. With our team1 wining the tournament. Donating the prize money back to Grey county for all they do



# Club Reports

## Stormont-Glengarry

Here are some pictures of our great weekend at the winter games!



**Stay tuned for our our post planting party on June 5th**

## Essex-Kent

**The Essex-Kent Junior Farmers are off to a strong start this winter and we are looking forward to some exciting upcoming events. Members had a great time at Winter Games, which is always a great chance to have fun, build teamwork, and connect with other clubs from across the province.**

**Recently, our members were proud to raise a sizeable donation of canned goods and non-perishable food items to be donated to the Salvation Army and Outreach for Hunger, helping support local families in our community.**

**As we move into this next chapter, we would like to recognize and thank our retiring members, Ryan Handsor and Tom Oriet, whose involvement and dedication will be greatly missed. We also want to extend congratulations to Derrick LeClair and Lynnai Bruggeman on their recent engagement, our club sends best wishes to them as they begin this exciting new chapter together.**

# Club Reports

## Essex-Kent



**What a fantastic night on the ice with Essex-Kent Junior Farmers!**

**Thank you to everyone who came out to our Curling Social. It was great to see such a strong turnout and some familiar, plus new faces. From the friendly competition and first-time curlers giving it a shot, to the laughs between ends and the social time off the ice, the evening was a great reminder of what Junior Farmers is all about: community, connection, and having fun together.**

**A big thank you as well to everyone who helped organize, sweep, throw, cheer, and stick around after. Events like this happen because of the energy and involvement of our members.**

**We're already looking forward to the next one!**

# Club Reports

## Essex-Kent

**The Essex-Kent Junior Farmers have been keeping busy as we transition into another busy time in rural life, with members balancing club involvement and the start of a demanding season. It's an exciting time of year as we shift gears and look ahead to the months to come.**

**We are looking forward to having a booth at the Ridgetown Spring Expo on March 27th. This will be a great opportunity to connect with the community and meet potential future Junior Farmer members at Ridgetown College.**

**Our club is also working on planning a Post Planting Social for June. It will be a great chance for members to unwind after a busy season and spend time together outside of regular meetings.**

**This year, we've also been fortunate to welcome a number of new, younger members to the club, and we're looking forward to their contributions and involvement moving forward.**

# Club Reports

## Wellington

Wellington Junior Farmers have had a slow past few months. In January our club unfortunately passed a motion that we will not be continuing as a club due to lack of membership. That motion will take effect following March Conference, so if anyone knows of anyone looking to join Wellington Junior Farmers please contact us!!



As for events a few of our members attended Carson's Roast & Toast, which was a great night out celebrating our Past-President. Wellington submitted a 4-person team to Winter Games, and had an amazing time competing in all the fun events put on by Durham & Peterborough Junior Farmers. At the end of March a few of our members & alumni will be volunteering at Pizza Perfect hosted by the Grand River Agricultural Society.



Our members are also looking forward to attending March Conference, where two of our members will be graduating out of the Junior Farmer Program!

# Club Reports

## Carleton



**The later half of the year included many fun activities in Carleton County/East Zone! From community events like the Russell JF alumni dance, the Lanark JF alumni dance, East Zone bowling Christmas party, and the Metcalfe Santa parade!**

**We're grateful for all the memories made and looking forward to what's ahead. We also can't wait to see all the great things our newly elected Carleton Exec members get up to!**



# Club Reports

## Carleton

### 110th Anniversary Banquet

On March 13, 2026, Carleton County Junior Farmers hosted their 110th Anniversary Banquet. It was a great night filled with a lot of laughs, catching up, and stories shared! It was a wonderful opportunity to recognize the present by celebrating with those who were members before us. There was Carleton alumni, JF alumni, current Carleton members, and supporters all included in the great turnout. We are grateful for members who came before us as we wouldn't be a club without them and their continued support! Also a big thank you to our local Sponsors who made this event possible.



**Upcoming event in Carleton County – April 8!**

**We will be hosting our annual euchre tournament at the Osgoode Legion on April 8.**

**\$10 buy in, doors open at 5:30pm, games start around 6pm.**

**More info to come on the Carleton JF Facebook page – there might even be something for those who don't feel like they are ready to enter the euchre tournament yet.**

**We hope to see you there!**

# Lanark

**Lanark County Junior Farmers has had a busy first year! Starting up the club has brought many amazing learning opportunities and experiences through meetings, socials, and community events.**

**Lanark held a lake day social at Silver Lake Provincial Park, where members played games, enjoyed a BBQ, and spent the afternoon swimming.**

**At the Perth Fair, Lanark spent the day in the milk booth selling local ice cream, cheese curds, and the best chocolate milk around!**

**Lanark also managed the AgScape booth at the Middleville Fair, sharing knowledge about farming and agriculture with the community.**

**In October, Lanark and Renfrew Junior Farmers teamed up to host a Learn to Line & Square Dance Night in Horton. With a great turnout, we had lots of squares to rotate partners and ended the night learning some fun line dances from Lanark.**

**The Perth Santa Claus Parade was the next big event for Lanark County Junior Farmers. After many strands of Christmas lights, hay bales, and jingle bells, a fantastic float came together that was a huge hit in the parade!**



# Lanark



**The Lanark County Junior Farmers hosted their first-ever Alumni Dance on December 20th at the Lombardy Agricultural Society, and it was a huge success. The evening featured live music by the Glen Silverson Band, along with square dancing called by Glen Syme, making for an energetic and entertaining night.**

**Guests enjoyed a silent auction made possible by the generous support of many local businesses and individuals who share an interest in supporting the club. A late lunch, prepared and served by dedicated members and volunteers, was also provided, and door prizes were awarded throughout the evening. Proceeds from the event will be donated to Lanark County food banks. Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the night—we look forward to seeing everyone at future events and the 2026 Alumni Dance!**



# Lanark



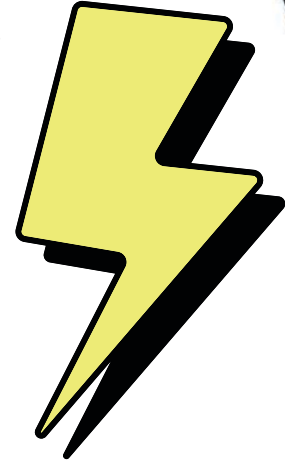
**From outdoor skating at the rink to racing down snowy hills, this winter was filled with fresh air, lots of laughs, and great company. There's nothing better than getting outside, embracing the cold, and making memories together.**

**Thank you to everyone who came out and made it such a fun season — we're already looking forward to what's next.**



*Want to know more details  
about the International  
Exchange experiences?*

*Check out the JFAO Blog!*



[Blog – Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario \(jfao.on.ca\)](http://jfao.on.ca)

**You'll See all 2025 Delegates  
Blog posts are live!**



# Club Reports

## Huron Perth

In January we had our annual general meeting and we were able to fill all positions. Our executives for 2026 past president, secretary, and provincial director Kirsten McIntosh, president Sean Whyte, vice president, and fundraising coordinator Amanda Bos, treasurer, and 4-H rep Lauren Shiell, assistant provincial director Cassie Bos, social media Amber Siertsema, Social coordinator Cameron Hoekstra. Retiring member Will Ringgenberg who will be welcome back for any meetings or socials he would like to attend. Always a team player attending meetings, events and volunteering where help was needed.

Huron Perth had a team excited to compete in winter games with a great theme the Olympics. Our favourite session was the biathlon racing down on the GT racers. We worked together as a team and everyone had a game they excelled in. Later at the dance we were thrilled to win gold. Durham and Peterborough hosted a fantastic event with a great variety of games.

We have started our preparations for the Canadian Dairy Expo selling apple fritters and parking passes. CDX is April 1st and 2nd in Stratford if you would like to stop by and say hi



Kirsten, Roy, Will, Sean



Will, Kirsten, Roy, Sea

# Club Reports

## University Of Guelph



**Line Dancing Recap! It was a fun night of learning some more advanced line dances. We can't wait to see you out there on the dance floor showing us what you learned!**



### Want to Tour Wallenstein Feed Mill?

#### **WE ARE DOING A DAY TOUR WITH OAC SWINE CLUB!**

- Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 2pm
- Tour will take approx. 2 hours
- You are responsible for your own transportation to and from
  - Address: 7307 Wellington Rd 86, Wallenstein, ON (30-40 min drive from the University)
  - If you need a ride, we can help you look for one!

Please email Josh at [vehofj@uoguelph.ca](mailto:vehofj@uoguelph.ca) or text 226-232-7533 if you have any questions!

**Sign-up Form Link in Our Bio!**



# Club Reports

## Oxford



**Oxford JF participated in Sing Swing this past fall hosted by Huron-Perth JF in Dungannon ON. It was a fun day, filled with line-dancing, square-dancing, a spelling bee, impromptu speeches, singing, as well as a handiwork and baking section. Oxford got 1st place overall!! Shout out to Huron-Perth for putting on such a great event!!**

**In December, Oxford shared some Christmas spirit in the Embro and Innerkip Christmas parades. A few of our members participated in a Christmas Farm and Food Care event in Stratford. We also had our Christmas party, which was nice lowkey gathering in the De Bruyn's shop. We ended off the year with our December meeting and AGM, electing our new executive for 2026. Congratulations to our new executive: President- Giel Vanharen, Vice-President- Scott Hanlon, PD- Amy Danen, Asst. PD- Jacob Bergsma, Secretary- Ilse Kloosterman, Treasurer- Sarah Danen, Fundraising- Emma Pullen, Media & Newsletter- Nicole Danen & Kelly De Bruyn, Ag Contact- Jay Shezi & Landyn Bowen, Social Coordinators- Natasha Bolender & Meggan Kittmer, and OCFA Rep- Landyn Bowen.**



**January has been a quieter month, but we are gearing up for another great year. We are looking forward to the provincial events and socials to come!**

# Club Reports

## Oxford

**February has been a busy month for Oxford JF! It started off with our annual banquet at the Embro Legion. It was a nice evening, with good food and great people. We handed out the Rose awards: Most Enthusiastic new member: Landyn Bowen, Outstanding member: Natasha Bolender, Outstanding retiring member: Luke Ward. The Lifetime Achievement Award was awarded to Jane Danen. We also inducted our 2026 Executive. Thank you to the members that organized the event, it was a success!**



# Club Reports

## Oxford



**Oxford attended Winter Games in Port Perry, that was put on by the Peterborough and Durham Junior Farmers. The theme of the day was the Olympics, Oxford had two teams compete in the day events, which included a variety of sports including basketball, handball, cornhole, spikeball, and of course dodgeball. There was a great turnout, which made for some fun competitions throughout the day. Congrats to Huron-Perth JF for taking home the gold medal! The dance that evening was in Blackstock which was as always, a great time! Shoutout to Peterborough and Durham for putting on such a great event!!**

**To end of the month, a few of our members attended the Coldest Night of the Year Walk in Woodstock. This is a national charity that raises money to end homelessness in communities. Specifically in Woodstock, the money raised was going towards Operation Sharing, a shelter in Woodstock. Thanks to Natasha, Sam, Kelly, and Sophie for representing Oxford JF.**

**We are now gearing up for March Conference, see you all there!!**



## Renfrew



**Easter Egg Hunt**



**Come join the Renfrew County JF club for a  
FREE Easter egg hunt. (Ages 15+).**



**FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2026 @ 7PM**

**Beachburg Fair Grounds  
(14 Caroline St, Beachburg, ON)**

**Think you're too old for an Easter egg hunt? Think again!**

**Join us Friday, April 3, @6:30pm at the Beachburg Fair Grounds (14 Caroline St, Beachburg, ON) for a FREE Easter egg hunt for ages 15+!**

**We've got even more chocolate this year so don't miss out on the fun!**

# Club Reports

## Peterborough



**Peterborough County would like to thank all the competitors at this year's Olympic Winter Games. Each team brought their best, supporting each other, while competing for the gold. Among great competition, congratulations to Huron Perth who took the gold with an impressive winning streak throughout the day. The attendance was incredible, with 14 teams competing. It was such a success and we were so happy to have co-hosted this awesome event!**





## Complete your volunteer hours with 4-H Ontario

We know JFAO members are heavily involved in their communities and part of their membership includes volunteering. As a like-minded organization, 4-H Ontario offers a number of volunteer opportunities for JFAO members to make a difference in the agricultural community.

### How to become a volunteer

New 4-H volunteer candidates complete the following process to become a volunteer:

- Submit application form, along with three references
- ☐ **Interview with screening**
- Submit vulnerable sector check
- Complete new volunteer orientation
- Complete child protection training

### Scan to become a volunteer



You can volunteer as a:  
**Club Leader**

Club leaders lead 4-H projects alongside other volunteers. They are responsible for leading youth through a minimum of 12 hours of club meeting time, attending the project achievement and the association's awards banquet.

### Association Executive

Each association relies on volunteers to manage operations of the association through a board of directors and other support roles such as membership coordinator, awards coordinator or webmaster.

### Facilitator

Provincial 4-H programs such as Youth Adventure Camp or the Impact Conference cannot run without help from program facilitators who assist in leading programming. Facilitators support the entirety of the program that can range from a six hour commitment (Discovery Days) to a five night, six day commitment (Provincial 4-H Leadership Camp).

[www.4-hontario.ca](http://www.4-hontario.ca) | 1-877-410-6748

# Announcements

## Submitted by Donna McKay

### UK 75 – Cheers to 50 Years Reunion

Six Junior Farmers and one Ag Rep landed back in Canada after six wonderful weeks in the United Kingdom and Ireland. We represented our County, Ontario Junior Farmers and were asked about all parts of Canada. Trip of a lifetime.



**Henry (& Isobel) Stanley, Halton Ag Rep (passed away May 2011)**

**Donna McKay, Perth County, now Kitchener**

**Bert (& Bev) Thom, Lanark County**

**Bonnie (Millen) (& Lloyd) West, Peterborough County, now Simcoe  
County**

**Jim (& Marie) Hammell, Bruce County**

**Carol Pelton, Oxford County (passed away Spring 2019)**

**Jim (& Jodi) Phelan, Huron County**

# Announcements

Six week earlier we had landed in Edinburgh, Scotland. Tried to kick the jet lag, did some site-seeing and were hosted by nearby Young Farmer – where they blamed the Canadians for the snow. Next day we headed out to our first home. We all went in different directions. Met back in Edinburgh and attended the Royal Highland Show where we met Princess Anne. and for Bert & I, it was off to Ireland for a week. Others were off to England. After staying with 4 families, learning about Young Farmers in their area and helping out when asked we were back together in London. Over the 50 years we've gathered several times- catching up with family happens, reminiscing, testing memories and lots of great talks and laughs around the dinner table. We're already planning a reunion in 2026.



# Announcements

## Engagements

**Congratulations to all of the newly engaged JF members!!**



**Rob MacGinnis and Katelyn O'Neil got engaged September 5, 2025.  
The wedding is May 2, 2026.**

## Engagements



**Campbell Talbot and Hannah Arnold are getting married! Campbell proposed on Nov 1st in the barn! They were just finishing up chores when he popped the question. She was so surprised, she hugged him for about 5 minutes before even answering haha. They can't wait to spend forever together**

## Engagements



Charlie Crump and Cassandra Gorrill got engaged October 26.  
The wedding will be August 8  
Most importantly buck and doe is June 13th!

## Engagements



**Essex-Kent JF wants to extend congratulations to Derrick LeClair and Lynnai Bruggeman on their recent engagement, our club sends best wishes to them as they begin this exciting new chapter together.**

## Engagements



**Oxford would like to announce the engagement of their member Julie De Bruyn to Devin Gras**

# Century Farm Signs

Is your farm eligible? See for yourself! Head on over to <https://www.jfao.on.ca/resources/century-farm-sign>

Signs are now available in French!

Contact Sarah Danen, Director of Community and International Programs, for more information at [sarah@jfao.on.ca](mailto:sarah@jfao.on.ca)



# Gate Signs

The Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario (JFAO) is pleased to offer gate signs. Gate signs can be proudly displayed at the end of your driveway or as part of your farm gate display. There are two sign options including, "Alumni Lives Here" and "Member Lives Here". Due to the popularity of the gate signs, JFAO has extended the availability through an online store (click [here](#)). This is your chance to show your support and pride of JFAO!

Once you have your sign installed, share a photo with us on social media using the #ProudJFer hashtag.. Select photos may be chosen to be featured on the JFAO website or marketing materials



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# Sponsors

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