



President's Message

Good day, everyone!

I hope you're all enjoying the warm weather and the start of another great summer. It has been an exciting few months, and I know our clubs have been busy with many different activities and events. Before we know it, fall will be here again, so I hope everyone takes some time to enjoy the summer months.

Summer is also an exciting time for our exchange program, as several Junior Farmer members are preparing or currently on their international exchanges. I would like to wish each of them safe travels and an unforgettable experience and I look forward to hearing about their adventures when they return.

As I write this message, many clubs across the province are gearing up to host an outstanding group of incoming exchange delegates to Ontario. They will have the unique opportunity to experience our province, travelling from Ottawa to Chatham and many places in between. If you have the chance to meet one of our delegates, be sure to introduce yourself, ask about their travels, and learn about their home countries. These exchanges are a wonderful reminder of the connections that Junior Farmers creates around the world.

I'm looking forward to catching up with everyone at Summer Games and hearing about everything your clubs have been up to this year.

In Junior Farmers spirit,
Keely Henderson

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Thank you for the support from



Upcoming Dates:

Peterborough Boots and Brews
Country Night - July 17th, Lakefield

Essex Kent Post Planting Bash - July
27th, Ridgetown

Summer Games - July 25th,
Middlesex

July PD Meeting - July 26th,
Middlesex

Canada's Outdoor Farmshow
- September 15th-17th, Woodstock

March Conference

March Conference 2026 was a great weekend full of discussion, learning, touring, and having fun! The event was hosted in Kingston with great attendance. The weekend began with the AGM, having the new 2026-2027 executive team voted into their positions.



2026-2027 JFAO Executive



The tours began at Mackinnon Brothers Brewing Co. The group was given a tour of the brewery and their store.

Mackinnon Brewery



March Conference

The tour bus continued onto Benachres Farms where the group was given a tour of their sheep farm.



Benachres



Benachres



Benachres



The Frontenac Federation of Agriculture was kind enough to sponsor our tour and provided some lovely snacks for the cool day.

March Conference

The banquet was a lovely evening spent eating good food and celebrating the tremendous accomplishments throughout the past year in JFAO made by individuals and by clubs. Some of the awards include best joint youth event, outgoing delegates, best club photo, favourite JF memory and many more! Congratulations to all who received recognition. Thank you to our March Conference coordinator, Cecelia McMorrow. Thank to each of our sponsors that made this event possible!



Retiring Members



Alumni



Coordinator, Cecelia McMorrow



Sponsors, Award Presenters

Grow your future with OFA's Scholarship Program



OFA proudly offers its scholarship program once again in 2026.

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture is proud to share that its popular and valuable scholarship program returns in 2026, continuing our commitment to investing in the next generation of agricultural leaders, innovators and skilled professionals.

Each year, OFA supports students who show leadership, academic excellence, community involvement and a passion for agriculture. OFA is pleased to be able to continue to grow opportunities for students who are helping to shape the future of the agricultural sector.

In 2025, OFA awarded a record \$30,000 in scholarships to 15 outstanding students pursuing undergraduate, postgraduate, leadership and apprenticeship pathways. New veterinary medicine and veterinary technician scholarships were also introduced to help strengthen Ontario's large animal veterinary workforce and support rural and livestock communities.

And in 2026, it gets even better.

The same wide range of scholarship opportunities will be offered again—**plus a NEW scholarship from Hydro One**, supporting students enrolled in agricultural engineering, electrical engineering, bioresource engineering, energy management, renewable energy, or environmental sciences with a focus on sustainable energy in agriculture and land use.

If you're pursuing or planning to pursue a career in agriculture, this is a great opportunity for you.



Undergraduate & postgraduate studies



Apprenticeship & leadership programs



Veterinary medicine & veterinary technology



New Hydro One sustainable energy scholarship



Visit ofa.on.ca/scholarship-program to learn more and get ready to apply.

Applications for 2026 are due August 31.

FRAQ

Two members travelled to Orford, Quebec to attend the Quebec Young Farmers Annual Congress. It was a great opportunity to see how other provinces support thier young farmers, and connect with other organizations helping to better our agricultural community. JFAO was grateful for the opportunity to attend and see how they run their organization.



Sponsorship



Agriculture Farm and Safety Week



The farm is more than a workplace—it's also home. It's where families are raised, crops are grown, and livestock are cared for, all while running a demanding business.

During busy times of the year, like planting or harvest, the pace of work increases, hours get longer, and the risks rise.

Many farm injuries are preventable. Awareness, preparation, and taking a moment to slow down can make all the difference to help keep a life-changing accident at bay.

Why it matters

Common risks include long days and fatigue, heavy machinery and moving equipment, time pressure from weather and field conditions, road travel with slow-moving vehicles, multiple people working closely together, or working with animals that can behave unpredictably.

When fatigue sets in or distractions creep in, the risk of injury rises quickly.

Farm safety isn't just about rules and regulations, it's about people:

- Protecting family members, employees, and neighbours
- Preventing injuries that can disrupt operations during critical seasons
- Reducing long-term physical and mental health impacts
- Keeping farms running safely and efficiently

Accidents can happen in a split second, but many can be avoided with planning and attention—even during the busiest times of the year.

How to protect yourself, your team and your farm

You can't eliminate every risk, but small, consistent actions go a long way.

Plan ahead

- Wear protective equipment: gloves, boots, helmets, eye and ear protection, dust masks if needed
- Keep a stocked first aid kit readily available
- Post emergency contact numbers where everyone can see them
- Carry a charged phone when heading out for the day

Inspect equipment

- Check tractors, planters, and attachments before use
- Repair worn or damaged parts and replace missing safety guards
- Shut down equipment before making adjustments or clearing blockages

Educate your team

- Review safety procedures with employees and family members and make expectations clear
- Encourage everyone to speak up about hazards or near-misses

Stay alert

- Avoid working when overly tired, rushed, or distracted
- Take regular breaks and stay hydrated
- Step back and reassess when frustration or stress builds

Leadership Camp

Leadership Camp was held at Camp Quin Mo Lac this year.

The camp offered great outdoor and indoor space for the many team activities.



Towel Keepsake



The JF towel keepsakes came in handy at camp!



This years theme was Surviving the Wild, which came with some extra ammenities... good and bad.

These increased the competition between teams.



The 15 campers were split into 2 teams which competed in many activities.

Volunteer Week

Keep up the great volunteer work and lets see if we can beat last years hours!



Happy Volunteer Week!

Last year members across the Province
spent **577 hours** volunteering.

Join one of our 16 clubs to **volunteer** and
make a **difference!**

Your Community Needs You!

JOIN US TODAY:

 www.jfao.on.ca

A man with a beard and tattoos, wearing a blue t-shirt, jeans, and a brown baseball cap, is sitting on the side of a green John Deere tractor. He is holding a cracked egg in his right hand. The tractor has large black tires with yellow rims. The background is a bright, sunny outdoor setting.

Breaks change. Eggs stay the same.

Helps Family - Ontario Egg Farmers
getcracking.ca

Egg Farmers
of Ontario



get
cracking.

Club Updates

Huron Perth

Huron- Perth was busy at CDX with their apple fritters! Their club has made a tremendous number of donations!! They have donated to Huron and Area Search and Rescue, to Habitat for Humanity, to Huron Hospice, to Optimism Place, to Huron Women's Shelter, and The Haven - Dignity Alternatives. They got together for a fun social spent playing mini golf and their club supported Oxford's trivia night.



Renfrew

Renfrew had another great easter egg hunt!



Lanark

Lanark ran the BBQ and bake sale at "The Big Orange Event". They also had a night of softball!



Club Reports

Carleton

Carleton hosted an awesome Euchre Tournament. Their club co hosted the 4th Annual Tractor Jam at Stanley's Olde Maple Lane Farm. There were tractor great turnouts for pulls, big trucks, antique tractors, classic vehicles, food and bar, plus hands-on fun for all ages. This year's event proudly supported the Care for Hospice Cornwall in memory of Randy Woods.



Stormont Glengarry

Stormont- Glengarry helped sponsor and attended Tagwi SS - UCDSB's trivia night. They are awarding a bursary to an eligible graduate who embraces the JFAO motto and mission. Stormont-Glengarry hosted their fantastic annual Post Planting Party!



Peterborough

Peterborough County spent a sunny day in May cleaning up garbage for their Adopt A Road program. 15 bags of garbage were collected!



Club Reports

Oxford

Oxford hosted a well attended trivia night. Their club, alongside Oxford County Community 4-H, helped with the Thames River Clean-up, picking up trash along the water in Roth Park in Woodstock. Last year Oxford Junior Farmers donated to the Tavistock Public School Playground Fundraiser and the playground has officially opened. Oxford also donated their proceeds from the Embro Truck and Tractor pull to the Mini Diamond project at Matheson Park.



Middlesex

Middlesex hosted another successful Farmer's Night Out! The proceeds were donated to CMHA Thames Valley. They helped at the London-Middlesex Children's Water Festival.



Durham

Durham attended both March Conference and Farmers night out in Ilderton!



Sponsors

North Simcoe

North Simcoe had 2 teams competing in the annual Grey county hockey tournament. Their team won the tournament and donated their winnings back to Grey County. They hosted their annual baseball tournament with great attendance, followed by a great summertime dance.



Wentworth Niagra

Wentworth Niagra hosted a board game night to encourage new members to come out and learn about their club!

Essex Kent

Essex Kent hosted a very well attended Post planting bash!

Elgin

Elgin has been busy with club socials. They had a bowling social and a mini golf social!

Grey County

Grey County hosted their annual hockey tournament with lots of teams competing. Their proceeds were donated to Chapman house. They co hosted a beef dinner and dance in June.



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paiements anticipés



**SCAN
HERE**



Sponsors

ACC: Supporting Young Farmers with Flexible Financing

For young Ontario producers, access to flexible, affordable financing can make a real difference in growing an operation. Rising costs and ongoing expenses mean cash flow is always top of mind, and having the right tools in place is essential.

Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) works with farmers across the province through the Advance Payments Program (APP) to make financing simpler and more accessible.

The program, backed by the Government of Canada, offers interest-free advances of up to \$250,000, with a total cap of \$1 million. Repayment is aligned with sales cycles to support cash flow management. The APP continues to grow in popularity, with more than 34,000 farmers across Canada using the program.

So far this year, uptake has been strong among grain and cash crop producers. As summer begins, livestock farmers are starting to submit applications, particularly for beef, hog, goat, and sheep operations. With more farmers participating each year, it's a good time to get ahead of the rush.

Benefits for Farmers

For young farmers, the APP supports operations in several ways:

- Helps build a credit history to support future growth
- Provides access to smaller or more flexible financing than traditional lenders may offer
- Offers lower-cost borrowing, including the interest-free portion

There are also key advantages for livestock producers. Those raising beef or hogs may qualify for continuous flow eligibility, which means:

- No need to submit receipts
- Less paperwork and simpler administration
- Easier access to funding for ongoing production cycles

Additionally, for these producers, APP advances are designed to keep security simple:

- Secured by the livestock itself in most cases
- No need to use land or other farm assets as collateral

With crop applications underway and livestock applications growing, ACC is seeing more activity across the province. Now is a great time for farmers to explore how the APP can support their operations and help set them up for the seasons ahead.

As Jaye Atkins, Chief Executive Officer of ACC, says: "Farming is difficult. Funding shouldn't be."

Contact ACC:

 1-888-278-8807 (English) | 1-877-350-3684 (French)
 <http://www.agcreditcorp.ca>

Incoming Delegates



MARTHA



LENA



SOPHIE

A light green world map serves as a background for the central text.

MEET THE DELEGATES



CATHERINE



JESSE



CHANTAL



FARMLAND HEALTH CHECK-UP

Plan for
your soil's
future

Why wait? Book your free soil health check-up today

The Farmland Health Check-Up (FHCU) for field crop acres is now available across Ontario. The sooner you take part, the sooner you'll see the benefits on your farm. With a free one-on-one assessment, you can:

- Walk your fields with a CCA or P.Ag advisor
- Identify practical steps to improve soil health and resilience
- Build a plan that strengthens your farm for the future

Why wait until next season? Start now and make changes that matter today. Connect with an Advisor to start your free check-up:

[\[Find an Advisor + Start Your Assessment\]](#)

The FHCU is funded through the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP), a 5-year (2023-2028), \$3.5-billion investment by federal, provincial, and territorial governments.

Announcements

Congratulations goes out to...

**Keely Henderson and Carson Wagner
on their engagement!**



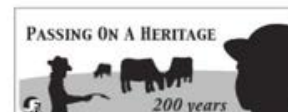
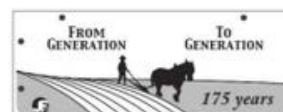
Renfrew County is thrilled to announce the engagement of Keely Henderson and Carson Wagner! Wishing you both happiness, and unforgettable memories as you begin this exciting new chapter together. So happy for you both!

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!

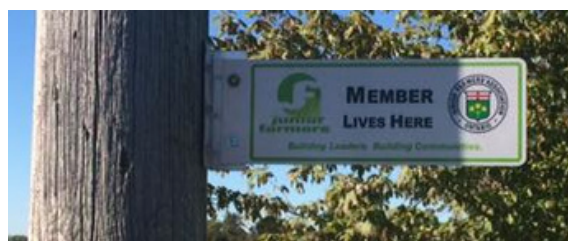
Contact Sarah Danen, Director of Community and International Programs, for more information at sarah@jfao.on.ca



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



The JF Bullhorn is published quarterly by the
Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario
"To build rural leaders through personal growth, travel, experiences,
and community betterment"
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