



President's Message

It's hard to believe how quickly this summer has flown by! Over the past few months, our clubs and members have been busy making the most of the summer and staying active in their communities. From volunteering at local fairs, organizing farm tours, tractor pulls and fundraisers, to hosting BBQ socials, sports tournaments and so much more, there has been no shortage of activity across the province. Many of our clubs also had the opportunity to welcome and host international delegates this summer, sharing a little bit of their communities with visitors from around the world.

As summer comes to a close, there is still plenty to look forward to! We have two more provincial events coming up before the end of the year. Autumn Profile will be hosted by the Renfrew County Junior Farmers on October 24 in Horton, Ontario, followed by the Ontario Young Farmers Forum on November 23–24 in Toronto.

We hope to see lots of familiar faces, both members and alumni, at these events as we wrap up another great year of Junior Farmers!

In Junior Farmers spirit,
Keely Henderson

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Thank you for the support from



Upcoming Dates:

Autumn Profile, October 24 in
Horton. Hosted by Renfrew County

Ontario Young Farmers Forum,
November 23-24 in Toronto

Summer Games

Summer Games returned in 2026! The event was held by Middlesex County Junior Farmers.



Tug of war

Clubs and delegates competed in a number of games including rugby, tug of war, dodgeball, soccer, running, kayaking, water balloon fights and more!



Water balloon fight



kayaking races



Dodgeball

Following the games, everyone enjoyed a delicious meal made by Middlesex members. The evening included line dancing lessons and an outgoing exchange presentation.



Emma Cummings, Switzerland



Line Dancing

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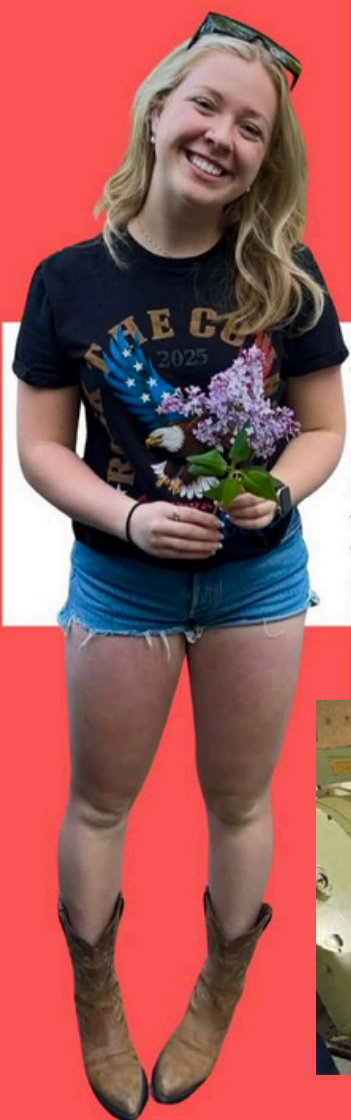
**SCAN
HERE**



Outgoing Delegates - Switzerland

EMMA

Cummings



Emma has been a proud member of Durham Region Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario for the past 6 years, and she's beyond excited to be heading to Switzerland this summer! She can't wait to experience Swiss farming firsthand, dive into a new culture, and make lifelong friendships along the way. Always happiest when she's outdoors and on the move, Emma is especially excited to explore everything Switzerland has to offer—from stunning landscapes to new adventures.



Emma presented her amazing trip at Summer games. She shared many amazing stories and photos from her exchange!



Outgoing Delegates - Austria

JULIE

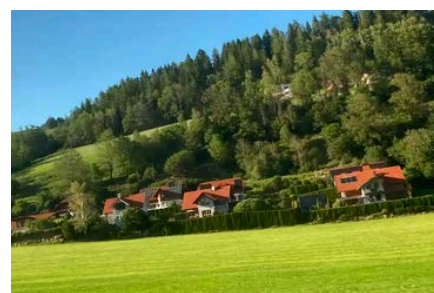
Milne

President, Peterborough Junior Farmers (29).

Julie is originally from a Dairy farm in Northumberland County, Ontario, Canada where she still helps part-time. She has a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture and a Certificate in Geographic Information Systems. Which is just a fancy way to say she loves maps and food. Off farm she works for the City of Oshawa and organizes community events for Junior Farmers. Julie has travelled to 10+ Countries, including New Zealand, Costa Rica and in 2023 went to Switzerland as part of a Junior Farmer Exchange. You can find her dancing, laughing with friends, and enjoying the little things



Julie travelled to beautiful Austria for a few weeks. Her exchange presentation will be given at the next provincial event.

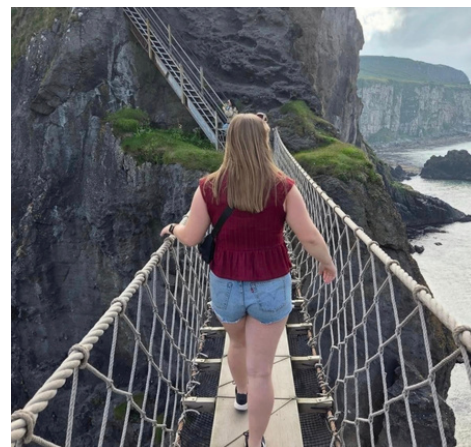


Outgoing Delegates - Northern Ireland

NICOLE



Nicole is 22 and lives on a Dairy Farm just outside of Tavistock. She graduated from the University of Guelph in the spring with a degree in Agriculture Science. She has been a Junior Farmer member since 2020, plays baseball, enjoys outdoor activities and playing with her new puppy.



Nicole spent part of her summer travelling in Northern Ireland. Her exchange presentation will be given at the next provincial event.





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Visit the link below for the full article :

<https://www.mnp.ca/en/insights/directory/the-numbers-every-farm-business-should-know>

Club Updates

Huron Perth

This summer, Huron- Perth donated to the Stratford Ambassador Program!



University of Guelph

Guelph kicked off the year right with their annual Knock your boot scoot and boogie night. They taught line dancing, square dancing and a few swings! They also took part in the annual club fair.



Renfrew

Renfrew hosted the delegates in early July. Some of their activities included pottery making, beekeeping, water activities, dairy farms, games, ziplining and partnered with Lanark County JF for a day.



Lanark

Lanark teamed up with Renfrew for a day of touring delegates.



Club Updates

Carleton

Carleton hosted this years 6 international delegates for their first week in Canada!



Durham

Durham toured the delegates for a day to Carnaghans sheep farm and Sargent Family Dairy.



Stormont Glengarry

Stormont-Glengarry toured the delegates to Saunders Hydro Dam Visitor Centre, Ole Sugar Barn Ice Cream Shop, Maple Ridge Farm, Lavande Braydale Lavender, and ended the day off at the St. Albert Cheese Factory.

Peterborough

Peterborough County spent a week with delegates this summer. Some activities included Wutai Shan Buddhist Temple, pickleball, petroglyphs, Whetung Art Gallery, Ptbo liftlock, Ptbo Music Fest, Water Buffalo Farm, Lakers Lacrosse and Boots and Brews Country Night Dance. Ptbo volunteered at the annual Ptbo County Cattlemens Association Beef BBQ.



Club Reports

Oxford

Oxford hosted the delegates for their fourth week in Canada. They began their trip by floating down the Grand River. The rest of the week they toured to Niagara falls, a vineyard, dairy farm tour, fruit and vegetable farm, toured the CN tower, St. Lawrence Market, St. Jacobs Market, Cribit Seeds and lots of tasty restaurants. Oxford has also had lots of summer socials including ice cream, bonfires and lawnbowling!



Middlesex & Essex-Kent

Middlesex and Essex-Kent hosted the delegates together. Middlesex is making harvest bags again this year to provide tasty snacks for farmers working long harvest hours. Their club is also looking forward to volunteering at the Ilderton Fair, helping with the tractor pull and wagon shuttle rides.



The next generation of leadership starts with you

Agriculture has always been built on strong communities and passionate leaders. As the next generation of farmers steps into increasingly complex roles while managing businesses, adopting new technologies and navigating changing policies, there has never been a more important time for young producers to get involved.

The **Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA)** believes that young farmers in leadership positions are essential to ensuring that agriculture remains sustainable, innovative and representative of the people who will be farming for decades to come.

Saying yes to new opportunities can open doors to personal and professional growth, whether its participating in grassroots discussions, attending a county meeting, joining a committee or volunteering at



Young farmers gather for Growing Ag event

an event. Every agricultural leader starts somewhere.

during the Ottawa Valley Farm Show.

Local meetings provide a place to discuss challenges affecting your community, propose solutions and connect with fellow farmers and industry leaders at the grassroots level.

Getting involved at the local level can also lead to larger opportunities, including serving as a voting delegate, participating on advisory councils or representing Ontario farmers at provincial and national events.

Through initiatives such as Growing Ag, mentorship opportunities and partnerships with Junior Farmers, OFA is helping emerging producers strengthen these skills while expanding their professional networks. Young farmer delegates invited to participate in Queen's Park advocacy days is one such example where they meet elected officials and gain firsthand experience on how agricultural policy is discussed and developed.

And advocacy isn't just for seasoned leaders, it's for anyone willing to contribute their voice. Confidence in communication, governance and business leadership are all important skills for successful farm leaders today.

Ontario agriculture needs passionate young leaders who are ready to ask questions, share ideas and represent their communities. Whether your interests lie in advocacy, farm business, policy or community engagement, there is a place for your voice.

Getting involved today isn't just about strengthening agricultural organizations, it's about helping build a resilient future for Ontario farming, one opportunity at a time.

The future is yours to shape.

Canada's Outdoor Farm Show



A few members from JFAO volunteered for the JFAO booth at the Outdoor Farm Show. There were some great visitors and great conversations to kick off day 1 of the farm show!



Sponsors

ACC: Supporting Young Farmers in Ontario

For young producers, securing operating credit can be a big challenge. Rising land and equipment costs make it harder than ever to get established, and operating expenses such as seed, fertilizer, fuel, and labour add up quickly.

Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) is a not-for-profit organization that makes financing simple and more affordable, so farmers can focus on growing their business. It provides flexible credit options that fit the farming cycle and give producers access to funds when they need them most.

One way ACC supports young farmers is through the **Advance Payments Program (APP)**, backed by the Government of Canada.

The APP provides interest-free advances of up to \$100,000, with additional financing available at the prime rate, for a total advance of up to \$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.

Another option is the **Commodity Loan Program (CLP)**, designed specifically for Ontario producers.

The CLP offers loans of up to \$750,000 annually at prime rate to cover the costs of planting, cultivation, and harvesting. Funding typically begins in December, helping farmers prepare for the upcoming season. With repayment terms of up to 23 months, this program is structured to fit the production cycle and bridge the gap until earnings start.

ACC recognizes that every young farmer's situation is unique. Whether a smaller operating loan or larger financing solution is needed, the application process is designed to be simple, helping applicants spend less time on paperwork and more time focused on their operations. With low rates and interest-free options, these programs are designed to keep cash flow strong and businesses moving forward.

As the organization's CEO Jaye Atkins says: "Farming is difficult. Funding shouldn't be."

Producers looking to grow their operations are encouraged to contact the ACC team to learn how these programs can support their success.

Contact ACC:

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

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...

Hannah Arnold and Campbell Talbot on their marriage!



On August 15th, Hannah and Campbell tied the knot with a ceremony on the farm followed by a great night of dancing and celebration! Their Middlesex members joined them to celebrate the amazing day.

Announcements

Congratulations goes out to...

Justin McNally and Jeanette Schramm on their marriage!



These two alumni had a beautiful wedding and celebrated at the Elora Mill on August 17th. Many JF members and alumni celebrated with them!

Justin was a member of Niagra, Waterloo and Wellington. Jeanette was a member of Huron Perth and worked as the Fund Development Specialist for JFAO.

Announcements

Congratulations goes out to...

Nevan Juneau and Tori Larkin on thier marriage!



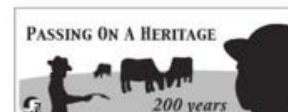
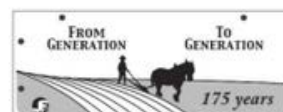
Carleton County is excited to announce that club members Nevan Juneau and Tori Larkin officially tied the knot on August 21, 2026. Join us in congratulating them and wishing them nothing but the very best as they start their lives together!

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



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