



Ottawa Valley FARM SHOW

Official Ag Business Partner



SEED GROWERS SUPPORT OSCIA 75TH WITH \$3,000 DONATION Feb 24, 2014

At its most recent directors meeting, the Ottawa Valley Seed Growers Association assigned further proceeds from the annual Ottawa Valley Farm Show to worthy agricultural causes.

The largest beneficiary of the latest round of OVSGA donations was the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association, receiving \$3,000 to assist in mounting its 75th annual summer meeting to be held in Cornwall and area. Directors also voted to give the Canadian Agricultural Hall of Fame \$500 in the form of a renewed membership, while l'Union des cultivateurs franco-ontariens, the French-language farm lobby group, will get \$250 to assist with its annual meeting.

The 87th edition of the OVFS is coming up March 11-13 at the Ernst & Young Centre beside Ottawa International Airport. Occupying the entire building, the 2014 show is fully booked with 40 applicants on a waiting list. Directors spent much of the meeting putting finishing touches on the 2014 show, including seed judging which will occur March 8 at the Greely Community Centre. Winning entries and related trophies will be displayed at the show in Seed Growers booth 1231. As usual, a seed awards reception will be held during the show, March 12 at 12 noon. The official opening March 11 at 12 noon will include short remarks about Farm Credit Canada's Agriculture More Than Ever program and about the 2014 International Plowing Match set for Simcoe County. Greetings will be offered by OVSGA president John Roosendaal, and by Grant Crack, MPP and parliamentary secretary to Premier Kathleen Wynne in her capacity as Minister of Agriculture. At 12 noon March 13, it'll be time for the 21st annual Prestigious Pedigreed Seed sale on behalf of the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario. Featured artist will be Ottawa's Terry Cowan who served in the same capacity five years ago. To date, the sale has raised more than \$100,000 for CHEO.

The OSCIA meeting is set for Aug. 17-19. It marks the first time since 1997 the event has been held in the eastern region. The main meal will take place at Newington on the farm of OSCIA first vice-president Alan Kruszel.

With 150 expected to attend, the meal is being billed as "A Taste of Eastern Valley". It'll offer a selection of local food and beverages demonstrating agricultural production in the region. Several OVSGA directors spoke in favour of the large donation, including Roosendaal. The summer meeting was described as an opportunity to promote the rich history, diversity and savoir faire of Eastern Ontario.

As a Platinum Sponsor, the OVSGA is entitled to send two representatives to the event. It also has an opportunity to address attendees, set up a booth, have its logo on programs, a banner and place mats, and be mentioned after dinner as a major contributor. "The success of this event depends greatly on the support of associations and businesses in this region," Kruszel observed.

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