



## 2022 in Review

LRIC works on behalf of all the livestock sectors in Ontario, including Egg Farmers of Ontario. We focus on the future and work with industry partners to build a bright future for the livestock sector. Specific Member services and activities in the past year include:

### Research Process

- We reviewed and arranged for industry reviewers for the 37 proposals submitted for Alliance (OMAFRA / University of Guelph) funding
- Member of the Poultry Research Centre build steering committee
- Hosted a poultry research priorities day, including industry, researchers and OMAFRA
- Working with EFO on new research management agreement
- Worked with members to develop a cross sector research priorities document for use by OMAFRA as they establish Alliance priorities
- Administered member research calls (EFO, BFO, Ontario Pork) and Grant in Aid (DFO)

### Proactive research initiatives

- Worked with Dr Dominique Bureau (OAC) to explore a research project looking into the use of ruminant hides as a source of feedstuffs for monogastric livestock
- Identified a resource in the University of Guelph with expertise of use to the pork sector and arranged for that faculty member to tour a pork farm to learn of their need and the opportunity to do research in livestock
- Organized an industry meeting and broadly circulated the results of Dr Mike Rogers, Food Science (Guelph) regarding the digestion of Beyond Burger versus real meat  
[https://www.livestockresearch.ca/event/more\\_to\\_food\\_than\\_composition](https://www.livestockresearch.ca/event/more_to_food_than_composition)
- Partnered with OAC and OVC to deliver a 1-day Project Management workshop for faculty
- On behalf of members, leading a project exploring possible solutions to the problem of deadstock
- Identified livestock sector challenges and opportunities that could have an Engineering solution and provided these to the School of Engineering at the University of Guelph
- Worked with Grain Farmers of Ontario and Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association to document what success looks like from the OMAFRA / University of Guelph Alliance agreement

### Building bridges

- Continued our successful Mentorship program for early career faculty. This program builds understanding of industry and positive working relationships that will yield better research for years to come.
- Partnered with Grand River Agricultural Society, Wester Fair Association, OAC and OVC to provide \$75,000 in award funds toward cross sector research projects
- Initiated our Bridge program through which industry, graduate students and OMAFRA staff can connect across organizations
- Piloted a farm tour of Engineering graduate students with hopes of expanding next year to include University of Guelph, OMAFRA and industry staff
- Regular meetings with OMAFRA, Deans of OAC and OVC

### Continuous improvement

- Prepared a background document for members regarding the ARIO Act and its possible modernization
- Our International Research Advisory Committee completed their review of Ontario's Livestock Innovation system with key elements of the system being: funding, priorities, program management, extension, and

commercialization. Report and recommendations available at:

<https://www.livestockresearch.ca/uploads/assets/files/Final%20IRAC%20report%20Feb%2028%202022.pdf>

- Provided livestock sector input to the Provincial Climate Change Impact Assessment

### Looking ahead

- Made members aware of various international livestock Declarations (e.g. Dublin Declaration) aimed at ensuring a balanced view of livestock with science-based objectives for improvement.
- Our International Research Advisory Committee is now focusing on better means of setting research priorities as well as ways to better get research into practice
- Participated in a webinar exploring the issue of misinformation in agricultural advisory services... You can view it at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tsw1trVLKvc>

### Communications

- Provided articles to members for their producer magazines
- Provided Opinion Editorials for Farmtario
- Offer our Livestock Innovation newsletter and Research Scouts
- Quarterly update sent to all members and widely distributed to those interested
- Partnered with Dr. Jennifer Ellis and Poultry Industry Council to create 10 faculty / industry leader podcasts, and 22 producer videos focused on innovation
- Our Horizon Series of webinars, dealing with the big issues facing livestock production continued, each webinar accompanied with a white paper on the topic. This year we featured:
  - Embracing Disruptors Facing Ontario Livestock with Deb Stark, Past OMAFRA Deputy Minister
  - What we can learn from the Pet Industry with Anna-Kate Shoveller, Ontario Agricultural College
  - Livestock and Society featuring Vaughn Holder, Alltech
  - Livestock and Soil Health with Chris Brown (OMAFRA) and Mel Luymes (OPACA)
  - Livestock and Plastic Use with Erica Pensini, School of Engineering, University of Guelph.
  - All past webinars and white papers can be seen at [https://www.livestockresearch.ca/white\\_papers](https://www.livestockresearch.ca/white_papers)
- Canadian Poultry Articles
  - Predicting the next pandemic, January 2022
  - Modelling, AI open new avenues, February/March 2022
  - The egg and the barn, April 2022
  - Industry needs to “look sideways” for solutions to big issues, May 2022
  - Bringing a balanced GHG story to the table, June 2022
  - The future of livestock innovation, August 2022
  - Poultry and the future of food, December 2022

As always, we appreciate the strong support of our members and strive to provide excellent value for membership.