

**Egg Farmers of Ontario (EFO) March 9 & 10, 2023 Proceedings
Niagara Fallsview Casino Resort**

Thursday, March 9, 2023

Call to Order

Egg Farmers of Ontario's Annual Meeting was called to order at 12:45 p.m. by EFO's Chair, Scott Helps.

Agenda Approval

The agenda was reviewed, moved and carried for approval.

Confirmation of 57th Annual Meeting Minutes/Highlights

Upon a motion duly received and seconded

THAT the highlights of the 57th Annual General Meeting of Egg Farmers of Ontario are accepted as presented

Motion Carried

Chair's Address – Scott Helps, EFO Chair

On behalf of the Board of Directors, the Chair welcomed the broad cross-section of stakeholders and industry partners in attendance and extended a special welcome to representatives of Boards from other provinces and Egg Farmers of Canada.

The Chair provided a market update and spoke about avian influenza; governance training; undertaking a comprehensive policy review; the layer leasing program option to accelerate conversion; extended lay; the poultry barn build with four feather boards, University of Guelph, ARIO and OMAFRA; and government relations. In addition, Mr. Helps announced the Brian Ellsworth Memorial Bursary; investing in industry's future and building leadership capacity, a \$5,000 bursary towards tuition costs for the Advanced Agricultural Leadership Program (AALP).

Looking ahead to 2023, the issues and activities highlighted were:

- Layer quota allocation increase;
- Producer price decrease;
- Policy and Quota Transfer System (QTS) review;
- Discussions on ways to fulfill Ontario's market; and
- EFO's new strategic plan.

Video Greeting from Premier Doug Ford

Scott Helps introduced a video greeting from Ontario Premier Doug Ford. The Premier commented on this exciting event as a fantastic opportunity for egg farmers to come together and learn from experts and network with colleagues in their industry. The Premier thanked the Egg Farmers of Ontario for all that they do; from keeping food supply safe and stable to promoting Ontario farms. You're all absolute champions, he concluded.

Chief Executive Officer's Report – Ryan Brown, EFO CEO

Ryan Brown provided a report on the previous year including human resources and restructuring in various departments; the collaborative response to avian influenza; On-Farm Food Safety and Animal Care Programs; vaccine egg production; and a new partnership with Egg Farmers of Canada called Canadian Egg Technologies. In addition, Mr. Brown noted EFO was victim to a fraudulent wire transfer and had launched a third-party investigation into the matter.

Looking ahead to 2023, projects outlined included:

- Strategic Planning;
- EFOne; Online;
- Quota Transfer System (QTS) Review;
- Flock Verifications;
- Avian Influenza;
- Foodbank Egg Donation Program;
- Rights and Economic Development for Nepal's Empowered Women (RENEW) Project; and
- EFO's Education Program.

Egg Farmers of Canada Report – Roger Pelissero, EFC Chair

Roger Pelissero provided an update on the national front highlighting staffing changes; the continued collaboration achieved since COVID-19; avian influenza; managing egg shortages, and doing their best to fill the market; and the new Federal-Provincial-Territorial Agreement (FPTA) on Guiding Principles for the Marketing of Eggs in Canada. Mr. Pelissero also commented on EFC's 50th anniversary celebration - created in 1972 under the federal Farm Products Agencies Act - and the innovation in egg farming over the last 50 years.

Farm Credit Canada – Jean-Philippe Gervais, Vice-President & Chief Economist

Jean-Philippe Gervais presented a look at 2023 economic trends for the egg industry; navigating inflation. The three economic issues outlined were:

1. Inflation is less persistent – borrowing costs have plateaued;
2. Economy will weaken – some positives mixed in with some downside risks; and
3. Where is food inflation coming from? – labour, supply chain challenges, weather and shifting consumers preferences.

Consumption of both breaker eggs and table eggs is expected to increase only slightly over the next ten years (about 1.7% per year). Because this is a slow growth market, it will be largely reliant on innovation in processing and population growth, he concluded.

Ontario Farm Products Marketing Commission – Valerie Gilvesy, OFPMC Vice Chair

Valerie Gilvesy was welcomed to the meeting and provided an update from the Commission. She commented on challenges over the past year including the COVID-19 pandemic, labour issues, and avian influenza. The Commission commended egg farmers on the dedication and hard work during these challenges, noting we have a resilient industry.

Farm Products Council of Canada Update – Brian Douglas, FPCC Chair

Brian Douglas was welcomed to the meeting and provided an overview of the roles and responsibility of Council through the Council's 50th anniversary video.

In January of 1972, in response to the chicken and egg war, the Farm Products Marketing Agencies Act was created. The Act established a national system of supply management for poultry and eggs, based on three pillars: controlled production, fair producer pricing, and import control. As part of the Act, the Farm Products Council of Canada was created to oversee this new system. The fighting and instability were replaced by cooperation and stability.

Egg Farmers of Ontario 58th Annual Meeting Highlights

The Farm Products Council of Canada was founded on April 1, 1972. The founding of these four marketing agencies ensued: Egg Farmers of Canada (1972), Turkey Farmers of Canada (1974), Chicken Farmers of Canada (1978), and Canadian Hatching Egg Producers (1986). The Council provides oversight of them. The principle role is to maintain the balance between production and demand for regulated farm products. It officially approves the production level for each of the supply managed sectors and levies for all sectors it oversees. Furthermore, the Council ensures that there is a steady supply, carries out market analysis, and facilitates discussions between stakeholders to keep things moving.

Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Food & Rural Affairs – Honourable Lisa Thompson

Minister Thompson was welcomed to the meeting and spoke about the new sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP) program; Grow Ontario, a provincial agri-food strategy; research and innovation; and government support of the poultry research station in Elora, Ontario.

Grow Ontario includes our vision for the future of the province's food supply chain and we do not take its strength and stability for granted, she said. This strategy is based on our government's belief in the importance of:

- promoting Ontario products, food and technology, supporting our agri-food sector,
- taking action to be a world leader in research and innovation, and
- celebrating all the hardworking people who have secured great jobs throughout the supply chain.

Grow Ontario was informed by the insights of dedicated farmers, Indigenous representatives, food sector leaders and businesses. As farmers, you are making an incredible difference, you need to be proud of what you do. I look forward to working together as we continue to find ways to innovate and grow Ontario. I appreciate every one of you through your donation of eggs to ensure that Ontarians, when they need it, have access to good quality breakfast, lunch and dinner options, she concluded.

National Young Farmers Program Presentation – Brett Graham and Jacob Pelissero

Young farmers Brett Graham and Jacob Pelissero were welcomed to the podium to share their experiences in the National Young Farmers Program. The curriculum content builds knowledge of key industry areas and key soft skills to help prepare young farmers to take on a leadership role in the industry. A range of workshops and webinars were offered, and a number of activities were facilitated to compliment content areas through applied learning. Program benefits include industry knowledge, networking and personal development in communication and leadership skills.

Adjourn

The proceedings adjourned to an in-camera session for EFO's Board of Directors to elect from amongst themselves its Executive Committee. With no further business brought before the assembly, the 58th Annual Meeting of Egg Farmers of Ontario adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Friday, March 10, 2023

Call to Order

The 58th Annual Meeting of Egg Farmers of Ontario was called to order at 8:55 a.m. by EFO Vice Chair Dan Veldman.

Auditor's Report – Jennifer Riddell, RLB LLP

Jennifer Riddell from the accounting firm of RLB LLP reported on Egg Farmers of Ontario's 2022 balance sheet, statements of operation, accumulated surplus, administrative expenses and changes in the

Board's financial position. The Vice Chair announced the appointment of RLB LLP as Egg Farmers of Ontario's auditors for the succeeding year, 2023.

EFO's Public Affairs Report – Donna Lange, Director of Public Affairs

Donna Lange provided an update from the Public Affairs Department including consumer marketing and outreach; nutrition strategy; foodservice; sponsorships; government relations; and social responsibility programs.

Emma Anifowose, Education Programs Coordinator, presented an update on Egg Education in Ontario including trends in education; the in-person program set to launch in the fall of 2023; and upcoming education website - eggeducation.ca.

EFO's Pullet Report – Alvin Brunsveld, Pullet Director

Alvin Brunsveld reported on 2022 activities in the Ontario pullet sector including pullet utilization; growing fee consensus; *Pullet Leasing Pool Policy* adjustment; mandatory reporting; pullet audit transition to EFC; EFO online pullet quota utilization feature; pullet producer rebate; and the pullet contract working group. Mr. Brunsveld also reported on the national front including the Pullet Growers of Canada (PGC) cost of growing survey and new general manager Renauld Sanscartier.

US Egg Industry Report – Roger Pelissero, EFC Chair

Roger Pelissero provided an update on the US egg industry including high path avian influenza (HPAI) and the effect on egg prices; biosecurity measures; UK and France vaccination trials; and the California law banning eggs that are not from cage-free hens.

Industry Working Group Report – Kristen Thompson-Dow, Pullet Business Manager, New-Life Mills (Committee Co-Chair)

Kristen Thompson-Dow provided an overview of the industry meetings which she co-chaired with Alvin Brunsveld, EFO Pullet Director. The goal of the industry meetings is to improve communication; and everyone brings considerable value and discussion. The continued collaboration between EFO and industry representatives will help to ensure the growth and development of a viable industry.

Open Session

Time was afforded on the agenda for egg and pullet farmers to voice their concerns, comments and questions in an open session.

Closing Remarks & Adjournment

Scott Helps announced the election results of EFO's Executive Committee for 2023-2024: Scott Helps, Chair; Dan Veldman, Vice Chair; Scott Brookshaw and Marcel Laviolette. Mr. Helps closed the proceedings thanking farmers, industry members, guests and sponsors.

With no further business brought forward, the 58th Annual General Meeting of Egg Farmers of Ontario adjourned at 12:00 p.m. In lieu of speaker appreciation gifts, Egg Farmers of Ontario will make a financial contribution to Feed Ontario in each speaker's name.