

Annual General Meeting (AGM) & Breeder Education Day

The AGM & Breeder Education Day was held on February 11 in Port Hope, ON. The day was very successful with a positive vibe in the room. There was great press coverage of the day in the Ontario Farmer (agricultural newspaper). Next year's AGM will be in Western Canada, more info coming soon. Any suggested speaker topics are appreciated, please contact the office.

2017 Board of Directors

Congratulations and a warm welcome to Laura Smith from Alberta who joins the CMGA Board of Directors for a three-year term. Laura joins Christie Prins, Stuart Chutter, Catherine Michaud and Becky Vissers. At a board meeting following the AGM, Stuart Chutter was re-elected President while Catherine Michaud was elected as Vice President. Christie Prins take on the Treasurer's position and Laura Smith steps into the position of Secretary.

Retiring Directors

The board recognized Kerry O'Donnell, Tiffany Drong and Landon Spokowski for their contributions to the CMGA Board of Directors as they each have completed their terms as Directors with CMGA. These volunteer Directors have contributed greatly to the direction of the CMGA and its programs and we wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

CMGA on Facebook



CMGA has its own Facebook page where you will find news and information about CMGA and the goat meat industry. Make sure to go and "like" our page at facebook.com/CanMeatGoatAssociation/

NEW! Youth Support Fund

CMGA believes in the importance of getting young people involved in the meat goat industry. Whether it is starting a meat goat operation, post-secondary education in the field of agriculture or attending industry events, the CMGA is pleased to announce a **NEW** scholarship to assist young people to get started in the industry.

The CMGA will award up to \$500 annually in monies to outstanding youth members who are actively involved in the commercial meat goat industry. The purpose of the fund is to support youth members that show a vested interest in the industry to pursue activities that will help them develop as potential future industry leaders. Visit canadianmeatgoat.com/youth to review the application process, **signed applications are due July 31.**

Type Evaluation

The Type Evaluation program will run for 2017! This program can be of assistance to both purebred and commercial breeders. It helps breeders identify specific strengths and weaknesses of individual animals in their herd, and as a result, can help lead to overall herd and breed improvement. While showing is an important part of exhibiting your herd, type evaluation assists producers in making sound breeding decisions for herd productivity and longevity.

Goat Identification and Traceability

To learn more about goat identification and traceability visit www.cangoats.com. To order indicators (tags) for goats please call CCIA, 1-877-909-2333.

Artificial Insemination

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency is currently engaged in a complete revision of the Artificial Insemination Program. A first draft document regarding the small ruminants section has been drafted and was forwarded to the CMGA for review. The Board has reviewed and commented on the document.

Youth Point Chase

The CMGA Youth Point Chase is an excellent program for all youth 21 years and under proudly showing their animals at meat goat shows across Canada. This is your opportunity to collect points for your show efforts and be in the running to be the top point earner at the end of the show season. If you are interested in participating in this year's Youth Point Chase visit the website to learn more.

Sanctioning Shows

As a reminder show applications are due **30 days** prior to the show. A **\$50.00 late fee** will apply for late applications.

An updated list of approved CMGA Judges is posted on the website. A reminder, only approved CMGA Judges can judge sanctioned shows.

For those show committees thinking about hosting a National Show, the application deadline has been changed to **December 31**. This show season would be a great opportunity to have discussions with show committees about submitting an application to host a National Show in 2018.

