



**DUNDAS FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE**

*Kemptville College University of ?- what's next...*

As you may have heard, the University of Guelph will be cutting ties with two of its Ontario Agricultural College satellite campuses, Kemptville and Alfred, in 2015 citing financial reasons. This came to our ears agriculturally on very short notice and we here at DFA along with many other community members, leaders, alumni and OFA stepped up to show our disapproval of the situation and gathered stakeholders together March 15<sup>th</sup>. The meeting resulted in the development

and formation of the Kemptville College Renewal Task Force, to find a solution to save the Campus and to continue to deliver Agriculture diploma programs

Task Force elected its chair, **Brian J. Carré**, CAO with the Municipality of North Grenville and appointed Vice-chairs **Marty Derks**, Ontario Federation of Agriculture and **Robert Jelly**, a student at the Kemptville Campus. Other members of the Task Force include: **Ann Weir**, United

Counties of Leeds and Grenville.

**Heather Lawless**, Gren-

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*Marty Derks-Task team Vice chair, Jim McDonell –MPP SD&G  
Jackie Pemberton -DFA President, Eric Duncan –Mayor North Dundas*

*Message from your County President-Jacqueline Kelly-Pemberton*

Spring! We start planning for it before last years harvest is off. Then we wait, like horses at the gate ,and as it gets closer , we are chomping at the bit to get out planting, gearing up for the rush, that moment, when weather and temp signals it's time. Then it is off to the races. As we all know there is so much work done behind the scenes in preparation for

the spring work . The DFA has also been busy attending events such as the DSCIA Seed show – Matilda, KCAT Young Farmers event March 5th , where I spoke to Ag Students on the importance of volunteering in farm organizations, and attended the Young Farmers Tailgate event at the Ottawa Valley Farm Show. Our DFA directors spent the

day on Parliament Hill April 1st to speak with our Federal Politicians about the needs of Agriculture. We are out front and centre in regard to Kemptville Campus closures and the loss of the AG diploma Programs. And we will be Hosting an **All Candidates debate June 4th , 2014 at the Chesterville Legion at 7:30 pm.** A chance

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KCAT-Young Farmers Event

*Like us on Facebook!*



**OFA MEMBER SERVICE**  
**REPRESENTATIVE REPORT**



Hello everyone,  
 Its hard to believe that it is May already. I hope everyone is able to get their crops in especially after this past winter.  
 It has come to my attention that OFA members are not aware of the role of the OFA Member Service Representative (MSR).  
 MSR's provide service to its members in a variety of ways.  
 Some examples include:

- Assistance with farm

- business registration
- Representations to Government, Industry and Society Meetings – either regular county meetings or otherwise organized for information dissemination, policy development, etc.
- Effective OFA committee activities resulting in policy development, legislative change,
- On Farm visits and assistance with problems in the field by providing information, consultation, potential solutions

and support to members Information gathering and dissemination.

- Research activities
- Public Relations work
- Gate signs

This is just a partial listing of the role of your local MSR  
 Thank you for choosing OFA.  
 Until next time,  
 Ruth Vogel

**OFA has to do the second step process again this year. You must submit 2nd step form in order to receive your OFA card. This can be done online on the OFA website or call the OFA head office at 1-800-668-3276. If you haven't received your OFA membership card then please contact your MSR or the OFA head office.**

*Kemptville College con't*  
 ville Community Futures Development Corporation  
**Donald Good**, AGB Lawyers  
**Howard Mains**, Tactix Government Relations & Public Affairs  
**Charles Bennett**, Rideauside Farm Inc. **Mac Johnston**, Kemptville College Foundation.

a must for Kemptville and Alfred Colleges  
 On the eve of provincial budgets these appointments were announced and the Facilitator for Kemptville is Lyle Vanclief, Former Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food for Canada, Liberal Party of Canada (1997-2003) and a graduate of the Ontario Agricultural College, University of Guelph. For the Alfred Campus the Facilitator is Marc Godbout a former Member of Parliament for Ottawa-Orléans, Liberal Party of Canada (2004-2006) and a former Assistant Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Education.  
 When time is of the essence in this whole process the upcoming Provincial election has stalled the fa-

cilitators and Task team, until post election. June 12, 2014  
 As farmers we must ensure that if we want the college to remain with Agriculture as a key component, we are to make it an election issue. DFA will do our utmost to support The Renewal Task Team as they move forward to understand the past and develop a solution that will support Agriculture here in the east. I wish to shout out thanks to Marty Derks-DFA vice President for taking on this challenge with the renewal task force team, at a time when things are extremely busy on our farms. No one said this would be easy  
 Agriculture is a high-tech business and we rely on

our academic institutions for sustainability, advancements and improvements. There is an undeniable role for Kemptville College in developing & building these skills.

“The overwhelming interest of key stakeholders across Eastern Ontario who want to build upon the momentum to renew the Kemptville Campus has been tremendous”  
**Brian J. Carré**

Farmers felt the need to gather once again in force April 27<sup>th</sup> to re iterate to our government that Trades Programs alone were not enough, after Premier Wynne announced 2 million dollars has been set aside for to attendance at Kemptville this fall in the trades programs. The message was clear that a facilitator needs to be appointed for Kemptville and that Agriculture diploma programs are

## Have employees working on your farm?

It's springtime on the farm, and along with warmer temperatures, many Ontario farmers are also welcoming back seasonal employees to help with the busy season ahead. But this year, farm owners with employees on the payroll have new regulations to comply with.

Last fall, Ontario's Ministry of Labour announced that all workplaces covered under the *Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA)* – including farms – must ensure that workers and supervisors have completed a basic health and safety awareness training program by July 1, 2014. It's worth noting that anyone who draws a wage is considered an employee – including family members.

Farm owners will be required to provide the training to workers and supervi-

sors, outlining general awareness of rights and responsibilities of employers and employees under the act. The new minimum content of training for workers also includes instructions on common workplace hazards and occupational illness. For supervisors – and most farm owners are considered workplace supervisors – training includes instruction on how to recognize, assess and control workplace hazards, and how to evaluate those hazards.

The Ministry of Labour has provided a number of free options for workers and supervisors to complete the training. Training resources are available in multiple languages and include an online e-learning module, a printable workbook, and printed workbooks that can be ordered from Service

### President con't

for members to ask the candidates about their vision and party platform as it pertains to growing Ontario, with an focus on Agriculture! So be sure to mark the date in your calendar and just a reminder that our regular monthly meeting will be changed from the 4th to the 11th as a result of the debate. Please check out our website and face book pages as we do our best to keep our

members informed.. Communication is a two way street we need your input to ensure we understand the issues and challenges our farmers face so that we can bring those concerns forward and seek change. Please feel free to contact any of the DFA board members and take the opportunity to attend any of our monthly meetings. We are your DFA and we will continue to

Ontario Publications. The ministry estimates both the employee and supervisor training should take less than hour to complete. All training resources are free of charge and can be completed by your employees at the workplace, or farm.

While farm owners are not required to report the completed training to the ministry, they must maintain a record of completion for all workers and supervisors, and be able to present it if a ministry inspector visits the farm or workplace. This record may be as simple as an employee signing and dating their workbook.

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture encourages farm owners to complete the training with farm employees. This is now a mandatory requirement and a necessary step to ensure the health and safety of

everyone working on Ontario farms. For a complete checklist to help with a simple and practical understanding of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* as well as the *Workplace Safety and Insurance Act* and the *Employment Standards Act*, visit [www.ofa.on.ca](http://www.ofa.on.ca). Let's keep our families and employees safe this growing season.



work on your behalf to bring forward issues that farmers face here in Dundas, forward. Wishing you a safe and a prosperous growing season!

The 2014 –2015 Local Food Map for Stormont-Dundas – Glengarry & Prescott Russell is now underway and DFA is pleased to support the launch of the first ever five county Local Food Map in Print edition, distributing 20,000 maps throughout the region. The Eastern Ontario Agri-Food Network has also recently launched an on-line version at [www.agro-on.ca](http://www.agro-on.ca).

## Your DFA Directors Bio

*Bernard van der Zweep*  
Director –South Dundas

Bernie & Theresa van der Zweep moved to Morrisburg to raise their family in 1980. When they started farming interest rates were at 14%, a new barn was needed to house the Holstein herd, it was a challenging task, but attribute their success to their Holstein enthusiasm, and sharp book keeping skills by Theresa. Over the years they were able to increase land and quota. They have four children who all went through 4-H and off to college. In 2009 after selling the dairy herd, they transitioned to cash cropping.



*“Provincially, we need some positive news concerning Ingredient, recently premier Wynne prepared a 2.5 billion \$ fund for industry retention.....I hope the ag sector can benefit from this, even though it is too late for Leamington and Kellogg's “*

*Bernard van der Zweep*



### Your Dundas County Team

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## Parliament Hill Lobby Day-April 1st, 2014

This year the Eastern Federation of Agriculture joined the Canadian federation of Agriculture and Quebec farmers in the Ottawa Lobby day where farmers have an opportunity to meet with their MP's in Ottawa. This year's event was held on April 1<sup>st</sup>, and event attracted between 75 to 80 MP's to either one of three events (Breakfast, coffee room or a one and one meeting).



Jackie Pemberton, Ag Minister Gerry Ritz,  
Stephen Mellon

It was considered a tremendous success. Jackie Pemberton, Debra Patenaude, Stephen Mellon and Bernie Vander

Zweep attended on DFA's behalf to lobby MP's on several issues. Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz attended the breakfast and stayed to speak with several farmers. Our DFA joined Quebec and Canadian Federation representatives on April 1 to express support for beef and pork export endeav-



ors through CETA. Our local dairy farmers should know that the loss of 150 million dollars was made known to MP's and Senators, and further, the dairy farmers ought to be compensated. In Ottawa, we covered the importance of research, crop protection products, and grain transportation.