



FSNS Welcomes New Member Services Coordinator

Farm Safety Nova Scotia is pleased to welcome Seonaid MacDonell as the new Member Services Coordinator.

A new staff position for FSNS, the Member Services Coordinator is a one-year term position and is responsible for coordinating training, workshops, and member communications. You will be hearing from Seonaid lots over the next year so it's important that you get to know her a bit...

Seonaid grew up on a hobby farm in Enfield, which included a few Clydesdales, milk cows and a few acres of blueberries. Seonaid developed a love and interest for agriculture through the 4-H program, participating in a variety of projects like beef, goats, crafts and photography. She then continued her passion for agriculture at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College graduating with a degree in Animal Science in 2011. With a desire to explore, Seonaid travelled to Australia and Ireland where she worked on a number of dairy farms, gaining experience in agriculture from a more global perspective. Returning to Nova Scotia in 2016, Seonaid continued her learning, obtaining a Master's degree in Resource and Environmental Management from Dalhousie University.



Seonaid MacDonell, Member Services Coordinator, looks forward to working with producers to learn more about the industry and understanding their needs.

Upon completing her studies, Seonaid began looking for a career in agriculture. "I believe in a sustainable agriculture industry and I want to be a part of the growing agriculture sector in Nova Scotia," said Seonaid. "I want a productive and profitable future for our industry."

Seonaid sees the significant number of challenges and changes the industry is facing. She looks forward to being part of helping the industry grow by understanding where the

changes are coming from and supporting members as needed.

Her love for agriculture extends beyond work with a long-term dream of having a small-scale farming operation that includes an agri-tourism component so she can help tell our story and educate the public on our industry.

With such passion for the industry, Seonaid is a great addition to the FSNS team and we look forward to working with her over the next year! 🌱

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LICENSE ENDORSEMENTS:

Do you have the right license?

TOWING — LICENSE REQUIREMENTS		
License needed	Weight of towed implement	Combination weight (towing vehicle + towed implement)
Class 1	No restriction	No restriction
Class 3	4500 kg or LESS	14 000 kg or MORE
Class 3 + Condition 15	4500 kg or MORE	14 000 kg or MORE
Class 3R (Condition 23) *	4500 kg or MORE	14 000 kg or MORE
Class 5	4500 kg or LESS	14 000 kg or LESS
Class 5 + Condition 15	Up to 14 000 kg minus the weight of towing vehicle	14000 kg or LESS
Class 8 (Tractor License)	Towing not permitted	14 000 kg or LESS
Class 8 + passed Tractor Safety course *	Up to 14 000 kg minus the weight of towing vehicle	14 000 kg or LESS

* applicable to tractor combination only

Please note that the above restrictions and requirements are related to licensing only. The towing vehicle and towed implements must be suitable for the weight of the load.

It's cropping season.
Share the road with farm equipment.



Use caution and slow down as you approach farm equipment. **We all stay safe when we share the road.**

www.farmsafetyns.ca



Safe farming. Safe families. Safe employees.

UPCOMING Training

Each course requires a minimum number of participants and Farm Safety Nova Scotia (FSNS) reserves the right to cancel courses due to low enrollment. Members may also request training to be hosted in their community or at a farm. Contact FSNS to schedule a training course in your area.

To register, email info@farmsafetyns.ca or call (902) 893-2293

Online Training

There are also a number of online training courses on the FSNS website. Cost per course varies. Visit www.farmsafetyns.ca or call (902) 893-2293

Scheduled Training & Workshops

Spanish Emergency First Aid

At a worksite with 1–19 people, at least one person must be trained in emergency first aid.

Cost: \$90 **FSNS Member Cost: \$65**

May 25 Berwick 8am – 5pm

May 31 Truro 8am – 5pm

Endorsement Testing

Upgrade your license with a 15 or 23 endorsement. Limited spots available and priority will be given to those wishing to test for Condition 23.

Note: Condition 23 requires a medical so be sure to book an appointment with your Doctor. You must also have a minimum of Class 5R to test for Condition 23.

Who should attend?

Those hauling heavy truck and trailer, or tractor and trailer combinations.

Cost: \$53/test (Road Receipts)

July – Truro, Valley, and Middleton

Registration Deadline: June 1

Progressive Agriculture Safety Days

An opportunity for children to learn about hazards on the farm and what they can do to stay safe. This workshop is great for those who visit, work or live on farms. Children will visit different stations where they learn in fun, interactive ways.



Who should attend? Children 7 – 13 years old who visit, work or live on farms

Cost: \$10/child or \$20/family

Saturday from 10am – 2pm

June 2 Brookville Hall Register by May 21

June 16 Mariners Centre, Yarmouth Register by June 5

Women's Equipment Operator Day

Participants will learn about safe tractor operation, safe implement hitching, equipment maintenance and more!

Who should attend? Women wishing to increase their tractor operator skills.

Cost: \$30

July TBD Truro Book your spot by June 22!

Road Safety

Farmers have been traveling on the roads with tractors for years but traffic has gotten much heavier and has increased the risks when traveling on public roads with farm equipment.

General Tractor Safety

- Make sure your tractor is equipped with proper safety guards and devices. Check equipment (e.g. hydraulics, tires, and lights) before leaving.
- Tractors manufactured after 1974 must be equipped with a roll-over protective structure (ROPS) and a seatbelt, which must be worn at all times.
- Lock tractor brakes together when traveling on the road.
- Always travel on the road, never the shoulder. When safe, pull off the road to allow vehicles to pass.
- When towing implements, be sure to use proper hitching techniques with safety chains. All implements should be locked in the “travel” position when on public roads.
- All loads must be secured.

Warning Light and Signage Requirements

- **Slow moving vehicle signs must be on the back of the following:**
 - Farm tractors
 - Trailers and equipment being towed by farm tractors
- **Vehicles and equipment displaying a slow-moving vehicle sign must NOT travel faster than 40km/hr.**
- **When traveling with wide equipment:**
 - **Wider than 2.6 m (8'6")**, put fluorescent flags or flashing lights on the sides **AND** an amber warning light on the top of the farm vehicle.
 - **Wider than 4.3 m (14')**, use a pilot vehicle. (Pilot vehicle cannot be towing anything and must have an over-dimensional sign.)
- **When traveling with long equipment:**
 - **More than 7.5 m (24'6")** long, must have a white marker light or reflector on both sides.
 - **A combination of vehicles that is more than 6 m (20')** long, must have white marker lights or reflectors on both sides, every 6 m.



Great turnout at a Road Safety Info Session held at VanOostrum Farm Equipment in March

WCB changes Special Protection requirements

Changes to WCB Nova Scotia's Special Protection coverage plans are making it easier for farmers to protect themselves and their families in the event of workplace injury.

As of January 2018, the WCB no longer requires the purchase of Special Protection coverage for employees who are family members living at home – they can now be included under regular coverage.

The WCB served a small number of employees who covered their workers under this category. Until recently, covering these workers meant employers had to apply to renew Special Protection coverage annually and report the payroll and pay the fee separately. There is now less paperwork and a more consistent level of coverage for all employees.

The change comes as part of the WCB's overall business transformation and service improvement initiatives.

“We are committed to serving our customers the way they want to be served and will continue to listen and seek opportunities for improvements,” says John Banks, director, central services at WCB Nova Scotia.

To learn more about the WCB's voluntary coverage and protecting you, your farm and workers in the event of workplace injury, visit wcb.ns.ca

From the Boardroom Table...

The FSNS Board of Directors has been active over the past couple of months before we get into our busy seasons on the farm. Activities of the board included board meetings, meeting with Minister Colwell, an Advisory Committee meeting and a board governance training session.

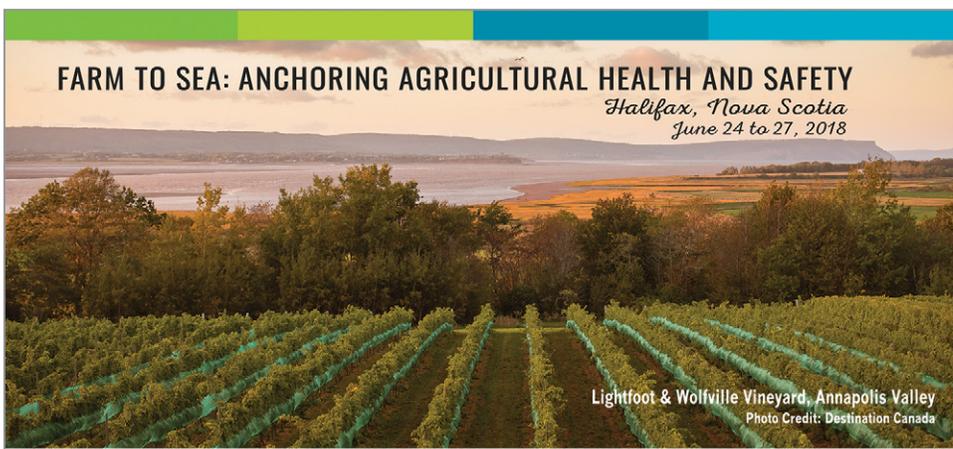
Like many organizations, funding has been a priority topic for the Board. We felt encouraged following our meeting with Minister Colwell where we presented our strategic plan.

We have submitted a proposal for the CAP program in line with our plan, which includes increased funding for farm safety initiatives as well as a recommendation for funding to be available for farms for farm safety implementation. We are currently waiting on acceptance of our proposal. We were also pleased to receive funding through Workers' Compensation Board of Nova Scotia and the Occupational Health and Safety Division of the Department of Labour and Advanced

Education. This funding is focused on farm safety campaigns and the delivery of training and workshops with a focus on youth and women. These initiatives will be rolled out by staff in the next couple of months.

The board has also been focusing efforts on improving its governance policies after attending a governance training session in March. Over the next year, we will be working to improve our policies and procedures to ensure effective management of the organization.

Finally, collaborative relationships remains an on-going priority for the Board. We have been discussing our relationship with the national organization, the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association as well as regional collaboration with the Atlantic Federations of Agriculture. We feel that collaborations with these groups will increase the effectiveness of farm safety delivery and build stronger capacity within the region. 🌱



FARM TO SEA: ANCHORING AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND SAFETY
Halifax, Nova Scotia
June 24 to 27, 2018

Lightfoot & Wolfville Vineyard, Annapolis Valley
Photo Credit: Destination Canada

WE CAN'T WAIT TO WELCOME YOU!

This June 24 to 27, join agricultural health and safety professionals from around the world in historic Halifax at ISASH 2018.

Showcasing the best of agricultural health and safety, the 2018 ISASH conference brings together research, learning, and networking.

From dynamic keynote speakers, to tours showcasing the best of Nova Scotia agriculture; from innovative research, to an inspiring and practical professional improvement session, ISASH 2018 promises to energize, inform, and inspire.



ISASH 2018
International Society for Agricultural Safety and Health
Protecting People In Agriculture

Proudly hosted by:  

Join us! Register now at isashconference2018.ca.

For NS farmers seeking support –
Farm Family Support Line

A confidential, short-term counselling and advisory service – to help you manage and reduce the stresses in life, including mental health, legal, financial and more.

No cost for up to 3 hrs of service per issue.

Line open 24 hours a day –
Available to farmers or their immediate family members

1.844.880.9142
TTY: 1.877.338.0275
workhealthlife.com

MORNEAU SHEPELL  *Farm Family Support Line is managed by Morneau Shepell as a Member Assistance Program.*



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Connection is produced by:

Farm Safety Nova Scotia
60 Research Dr, Bible Hill, NS B6L 1N2
info@farmsafetyns.ca
o: (902) 893-2293 f: (902) 893-7063

FSNS Manager
Carolyn Van Den Heuvel
cvandenheuvel@nsfa-fane.ca
www.farmsafetyns.ca