

Annual Report 2016



Photo: Oxford Food Group

Farm Safety Nova Scotia

Annual General Meeting Agenda

BEST WESTERN GLENGARRY, TRURO, NS

DECEMBER 2, 2016

- 1.0 Call to Order
- 2.0 Confirmation of quorum
- 3.0 Approval of agenda
- 4.0 Minutes of the previous annual general meeting
- 5.0 Business arising from the minutes
- 6.0 Consideration of annual report – Carolyn Van Den Heuvel, FSNS Manager
- 7.0 Risk Assessment on Nova Scotia Farms – Kenny Corscadden, Engineering Department, Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture
- 8.0 Consideration of the financial report – PricewaterhouseCoopers
- 9.0 Appointment of Auditors
- 10.0 Nominating Committee Report & election of Directors
- 11.0 Other Business
- 12.0 Adjourn

President's Message

As this year's farming season is drawing to a close I wanted to remind all that Farm Safety Nova Scotia is working hard by continuing to help support and educate farm employees and employers plus their families about farm safety.

To date, we have put on training courses such as first aid, tractor safety, introduction to blueberry harvester, confined space entry and awareness, just to name a few, with participation levels of over 320 people, just this past year. It is important to note that these couldn't be done without the support of our partners. The partnerships we have developed to deliver training to farmers is important to our success as we would not have the capacity to offer the selection of courses without them. We have also partnered with different industry organizations to put on workshops and information sessions throughout the province, reaching over 200 people at these events.

There are projects we are currently working on outside of training and workshops. One to highlight is the Risk Assessment Project with the Engineering Department at DalAC. The goal of the project is to have a tool for farmers to use to assess farm safety risks. We will hear more about this at the Annual Meeting.

This past year we developed a Collaboration Advisory Committee with Department of LAE, WCB and Agriculture. These groups support the work we do through funding and we all want to see safety practices improve on farm. We know that farming is a priority industry for these groups and we need to facilitate the interactions between them and farmers. Making sure the farmer's voice is heard.

We are also working on an Industry Strategic Action Plan and are looking for farmer input. This is important as we don't just want the people on the Board setting the direction. We need to know what industry wants and needs and go from there, making sure the plan suits industry.

Every year accidents happen on farms across Nova Scotia I'm sure everyone has heard of or know someone involved in one. There were a number of accidents that happened this year, many could have been avoided. Some have been lucky others not so much, so please, as the harvest year comes to an end, take a moment to reflect on what you are doing and try to make it safer for you and your families.

Sincerely,



Trevor Forbes



VISION

to create a culture of health and safety where every decision made on Nova Scotia farms begins with safety.

MISSION

to achieve safe farming, safe families and safe employees by supporting the establishment of a culture of health and safety within our farming community through advocacy, awareness, and training & education.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Trevor Forbes	President
David Powers	Vice-President
David Newcombe	Treasurer & Corporate Secretary
Peter Morine	Director
Brenna Koneczny	Director
Donna Langille	Director
Lloyd Dyck	NSFA Executive Representative
Henry Vissers	non-voting exofficio

Industry Partners:

Larry Stewart	OHS/LAE
Heather DuPont	WCB
Ruth Grant	Department of Agriculture

FARM SAFETY MANAGER

Carolyn Van Den Heuvel
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2015 AGM Minutes

- 1.0 Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. by Chairperson, Lloyd Evans. Lloyd highlighted the message from the Chair as printed in the Farm Safety Nova Scotia Annual Meeting book.
- 2.0 Confirmation of quorum** – Quorum was declared by the Chair.
- 3.0 Approval of agenda** – The agenda was approved as circulated referencing page one of the Annual Meeting Book; noting that the adjournment of the meeting will follow the guest speaker. *(Dennis Boudreau / Greg Webster) M/C*
- 4.0 Minutes of the previous annual general meeting** – The minutes of the November 28, 2014 Annual Meeting were approved as circulated on page 3 of the Annual Meeting Book. *(Victor Oulton / Lloyd Dyck) M/C*
- 5.0 Business arising from the minutes** – It was noted that the Annual Budget requested from last year’s meeting will be addressed in the Coordinator’s Annual Report. There was no other business arising from the minutes to report.
- 6.0 Nominating Committee Report & election of Directors** – A motion to appoint Dennis Boudreau as the Election chair for the meeting was approved (Robert Richards / David Newcombe) M/C - Dennis Boudreau, representative of the NSFA Nominating Committee and Election chair presented the Nominating Report and made 3 calls for further nominations. There were no further nominations and the election chair declared nominations now closed with the nominations as follow:

Name	Year(s) remaining in term	Term
Donna Langille	3	1 st
Brenna Koneczny	3	1 st

A motion by Charles Keddy / Tim Hennigar to adopt the Nominating Committee report as listed. M/C.


- 7.0 Annual Report** – Carolyn Van Den Heuvel, FSNS Coordinator presented the Annual Report as found on Page 6 of the Annual Meeting Book. Successful advocacy and awareness activities continue to be a focus of Farm Safety Nova Scotia. Carolyn highlighted the events such as Agriculture Equipment Panel and the road safety campaign that ran on radio stations and social media this past year. Farm Safety NS also conducted a needs assessment this past year which highlighted that education was identified as a priority. Under training, education and resources, Carolyn noted that there was a collaborative effort with WBPANS to coordinate and host the blueberry harvester course. In a 2016 at a glance, Carolyn provided a look at the 2015/16 budget from page 8 along with an

information on a children's Activity Book which is available now, farm safety workbook, Farm Safety newsletter and the farm family support center. Carolyn also played a compilation video featuring members promoting farm safety and in closing encouraged members to make health and safety a part of the culture on their farm.

- 8.0 Financial Report** – Lisa Poehl, PricewaterhouseCoopers presented the Financial Report to the year end of August 31, 2015. *A motion by Robert Richards / Rob Foster to adopt the auditor's report as presented. M/C*
- 9.0 Appointment of Auditors** – *On a motion of Dennis Boudreau / Tim Hennigar, PricewaterhouseCoopers was appointed as the auditor for 2016. M/C*
- 10.0 Guest Speaker, Stewart Franck, Executive Director of the Fisheries Safety Association of Nova Scotia** was welcomed to the meeting to share the experience of the Fisheries association in 'Making Safety Part of Your New Tradition.' Stewart highlighted the mandate of the Fisheries Safety Association of Nova Scotia which was brought into place with dollars in mind and focusing on the people. It was noted that changes in attitudes and culture were needed to improve the safety of the commercial fishing sector. Stewart reviewed some of the work that has been done to date including campaigns around Personal Flotation Devices, other signage, encouragement from fellow fishermen and a Grade 6 poster contest. Stewart went on to address making a change in tradition; be it climate or culture. Changing the safety culture of fishers has led to a 19% reduction in their WCB rates. The group was encourage to think of safety on the farm as a responsibility to the people that work for us and to our families and making safety a habit; consistently. Sharing success stories is important and one way to lead by example in making safety a habit; develop solid safety plans, assess risks, know your plan and practice, practice, practice. There can and will be resistance to safety and those that choose to not adopt safety practices; Stewart provided examples of asking an employee to write a final letter to family members (making one think how the message of a workplace accident would be received by loved ones) or the torn paycheque where an employee is presented half for showing up on the job and the other half for working safety. In closing Stewart noted that everything is preventable, but it doesn't mean we will prevent everything. Nurturing a safety culture and making safety a part of your tradition will reduce your risks.
- 11.0 Adjourn** – *A motion by Robert Richards adjourned the meeting at 2:15 p.m.*

2015/2016 Activity Report

AWARENESS & COMMUNICATIONS

- Farm Safety Nova Scotia is now on Facebook @farmsafetyns  with more than 300 likes!
- You have been receiving the Farm Safety **Connection** in the mail! This newsletter keeps you up-to-date on current initiatives, training and also includes some safety reminders. Distributed five times per year.
- Equipment dealers in Nova Scotia offered a **20% discount** on safety related items for the entire month of March, in support of Canadian Agricultural Safety Week. Thanks to Blueline New Holland, Central Equipment, Green Diamond Equipment and VanOostrum Farm Equipment for supporting this initiative.
- You may have seen us out at a number of industry trade shows throughout the year. Our reach at these trade shows — **over 1000 people**.
- FSNS runs a public awareness campaign reminding motorists to “**Share the Road**” every spring.
- FSNS supports the **Progressive Agriculture Safety Days** hosted by Oxford Frozen Foods. Oxford Frozen Foods reaches over 1200 grade 4 students each year in Cumberland, Colchester and the Valley.
- The **Farm Family Support Centre**, managed by Morneau Shepell, is accessible to registered farmers in the province for counselling support related to mental health, financial, legal and more.
- FSNS continues to promote and represent the interests of the agriculture industry at provincial health and safety related events and meetings.



The Progressive Agriculture Safety Day held in Antigonish gathered 47 kids, aged 8 – 14. Pictured (left) is staff from the Highland Bike Shop teaching kids about helmet safety.

TRAINING COURSES

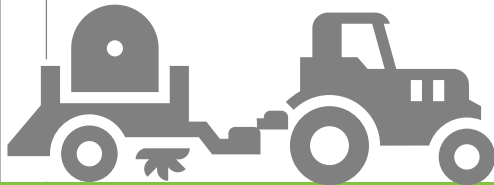
SAFE EQUIPMENT OPERATION

TRACTOR SAFETY COURSE
PARTICIPANTS: 37
TRURO (x2),
ANNAPOLIS VALLEY

HOSTED: LICENSE ENDORSEMENT TESTING
PARTICIPANTS: 21
TRURO, PORT WILLIAMS,
LAWRENCETOWN

FORKLIFT
PARTICIPANTS: 1
HELD
PROVINCE-WIDE

INTRODUCTION TO BLUEBERRY HARVESTER OPERATION
PARTICIPANTS: 12
COLLINGWOOD



WORKPLACE SAFETY



FIRST AID
PARTICIPANTS: 155

OHS FOR FARM OWNERS & MANAGERS
PARTICIPANTS: 12

CONFINED SPACE ENTRY AWARENESS
PARTICIPANTS: 8

WHMIS
PARTICIPANTS: 75
ALL HELD PROVINCE-WIDE



With the support of partners, FSNS offered 15 different on-site and on-line training courses in 2015/16.

TOTAL COURSE PARTICIPATION: 320+
people

WORKSHOPS

FARM SAFETY: IT'S EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS
PARTICIPANTS: 20

GET IN THE KNOW: FUELING YOUR SAFETY CULTURE
PARTICIPANTS: 60

SAFE CATTLE HANDLING WORKSHOP
PARTICIPANTS: 14

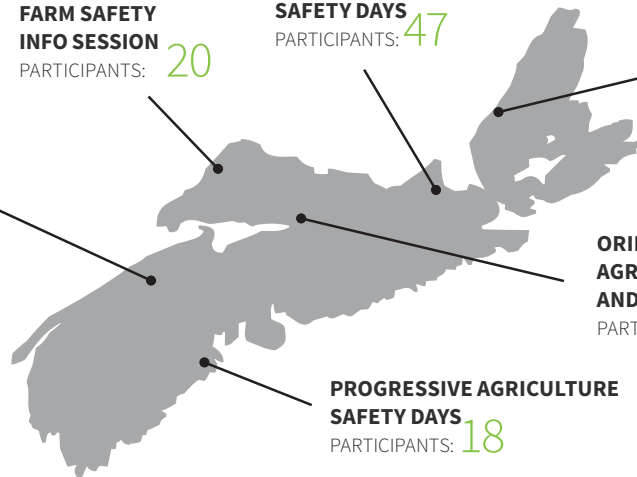
FARM SAFETY INFO SESSION
PARTICIPANTS: 20

PROGRESSIVE AGRICULTURE SAFETY DAYS
PARTICIPANTS: 47

FARM OHS LUNCH & LEARN
PARTICIPANTS: 12

ORIENTATION TO AGRICULTURE HEALTH AND SAFETY
PARTICIPANTS: 29 STUDENTS AT DAL AC

PROGRESSIVE AGRICULTURE SAFETY DAYS
PARTICIPANTS: 18



FSNS partnered with over ten organizations in 2015/16 to deliver workshops across NS.

TOTAL WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION: 200+
people

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee of the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture is made up of one executive committee member and the two past Presidents of the NSFA. If one or both of the past Presidents are not able to participate, the preceding past President will be asked to serve on the Nominating Committee. The President and Executive Director shall be ex-officio members of the Nominating Committee.

Members of the nominating committee are responsible to find qualified nominees for the Board of Directors for Farm Safety Nova Scotia.

The Nominating Committee puts forward the following names as Directors of Farm Safety Nova Scotia for 2017:

Name	Year(s) remaining in term	Term
Lloyd Dyck	3	1 st
David Newcombe	3	1 st

A representative from the Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture Executive Committee is also appointed from its members to serve as a director for Farm Safety Nova Scotia. The 2017 Executive Committee representative is **Jim Baillie**.

*Respectfully Submitted by the Nominating Committee,
Dennis Boudreau, Chair; Beth Densmore; Lloyd Dyck; Chris van den Heuvel (ex officio)*

Collaboration Advisory Committee Report

The Farm Safety Collaboration Advisory Committee was established as a committee of Farm Safety Nova Scotia in early 2016. The objective of this Committee is to collaborate on improving health and safety on Nova Scotia farms and to create a forum that will enable timely communications and discussion of agricultural health and safety.

Through the support of this Committee, FSNS has received financial support from LAE and WCB for the development of the strategic plan. The Committee

has also initiated its first collaborative initiative, on-farm educational inspections.

The on-farm educational inspection initiative will run late-fall, early-winter in Antigonish, Truro and the Valley. The objective of the initiative is to educate the farm community on the inspection process and OHS Officers on farm practices.

This Committee is very supportive of industry led initiatives and will continue to work together to improve health and safety on Nova Scotia farms.

Committee Members

- Trevor Forbes** — *President, Farm Safety Nova Scotia*
- David Powers** — *Vice-President, Farm Safety Nova Scotia*
- Carolyn Van Den Heuvel** — *Manager, Farm Safety Nova Scotia*
- Harold Carroll** — *Executive Director, OHS, Department of LAE*
- Jason Dauphinee-Muise** — *Director Technical and Outreach Services, OHS, Department of LAE*
- Scott Nauss** — *Senior Director Compliance and Inspection Services, OHS, Department of LAE*
- Steve MacDonald** — *Director of Communications, WCB*
- Ruth Grant** — *Manager Extension and Outreach Services, Department of Agriculture*
- Henry Vissers** — *Executive Director, Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture*

2016/17 At a Glance

Farm Safety Nova Scotia has a number of exciting initiatives planned for the upcoming year!

- We will be hosting **Progressive Agriculture Safety Days** in the Truro and Berwick areas. These events are open to children ages 8–13.
- We are working on a new workshop for 14–21 year olds, **Equipment Familiarization for the Young Operator**, target launch is Spring 2017!
- We are currently in the process of **strategic planning**—looking to improve upon the services we provide.
- We will be hosting a number of **workshops** and **information sessions** throughout the winter months so be sure to keep an eye out!
- As part of our collaboration initiatives, we are hosting three **on-farm educational inspections**. Members from the farm community are invited to attend at a host farm to learn about how OHS inspections are conducted and what the inspectors look for. In turn, it will provide us with an opportunity to educate inspectors on farming practices.

AVAILABLE TRAINING

FSNS continues to deliver training at discounted rates to members. Available training includes:

- First Aid (Emergency, Standard and Spanish)
- Tractor Operator Safety
- OHS for Farm Owners & Managers
- Confined Space Entry Awareness
- Forklift Awareness – upon request only
- Chainsaw Safety – upon request only
- and more...

There are also a number of online training courses available on the FSNS website. Cost per course varies.

- WHMIS
- Joint OHS Committee Orientation
- Worker Health and Safety Orientation
- and more...

2016/17 Budget

All project funding is through third party funding. All project funds have formal agreements with defined deliverables and timelines agreed upon by the funding organization and FSNS.

Organization	Funding Description	Amount	Expense Type
Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture (in-kind)	Staff Support & Office Overhead	\$45,000	Operating *
Growing Forward 2	Farm Safety Manager Salary	\$30,000	Operating *
	Display & Exhibit	\$5,000	Project
	Events and Resources	\$25,878	Project
	Media Promotion	\$12,500	Project
	Capacity Building	\$12,500	Project
Canadian Agricultural Safety Association – FCC Ag Safety Fund	Tractor Safety Videos	\$5,000	Project
Workers' Compensation Board & Department of Labour and Advanced Education	Strategic Planning	\$20,000	Project
	Total Operating	\$75,000	
	Total Project	\$80,878	

* \$75,000 in operating expense type is accounted for in the NSFA budget and aligns with the Service Agreement between NSFA and FSNS.

External Statistics

OHS INSPECTION STATS FOR THE FARMING INDUSTRY

The Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Division of the Department of Labour and Advanced Education (LAE) is responsible for the enforcement of the OHS Act and regulations. The Act and regulations identify the minimum standard for health and safety at Nova Scotia Workplaces. The following statistics represent the inspections conducted within the farming industry between April 1, 2015 and March 31, 2016.

Work type Inspections (Total 17)	
Complaint	2
Incident	3
Targeted	12

Common compliance issues identified during the inspections

- Employers' precautions and duties
- Program, including OHS Committee
- Forklifts and hoists
- Ladders, fall protection and fall protection training
- Proper safeguards
- First aid training and available supplies
- Emergency showers and eyewash stations
- Portable compressed gas cylinders
- Electrical rooms
- Risk of drowning
- Availability of information at the workplace
- Powers of officers and power to require reports, assessments and tests
- Threshold limit values

WCB STATS FOR THE FARMING INDUSTRY

There were over 320 farms registered with WCB for the 2015 year. In Nova Scotia, farming is a non-mandatory industry, with the exception of Christmas Tree Farming. The following charts provide an overview of new farming industry claims in 2015.

Nature of Injury	Number of Claims
Sprains, Strains	39
Cut, Laceration, Puncture	31
Contusion, Crushing, Bruise	12
Other traumatic injuries and disorders	11
Fractures, Dislocations	6
Inflamed Joint, Tendon, Muscle	4
Concussions, Intracranial Injuries	2
Digestive system diseases & disorders	1
All Other	10
Grand Total	116 (27 of these resulted in timeloss)

Injury Event	Number of Claims
Contact With Objects and Equipment	49
Bodily Reaction and Exertion	30
Falls	15
Exposure To Harmful Substances	11
All Other	7
Assaults, Violent Acts and Harassment	2
Transportation Accidents	1
Other Events And Exposures	1
Grand Total	116 (27 of these resulted in timeloss)

Thank you to our partners and supporters!

PROJECT PARTNERS

Morneau Shepell manages the Farm Family Support Centre as a member assistance program.



St. John Ambulance provides first aid training and first aid kits at discounted rates to members of FSNS.



Safety Services Nova Scotia provides various training courses at discounted rates to members of FSNS.



Dalhousie University (Extended Learning, Faculty of Agriculture) delivers the Tractor Safety Course and provided equipment and facilities for Endorsement Testing.



WBPANS partners to deliver the Introduction to Wild Blueberry Harvester Operation Course.



Perennia partners with FSNS on various workshops and training courses.



NS Cattle Producers partnered on the "Safe Cattle Handling" Workshop.



Cape Breton Partnership partnered on the Farm OHS Lunch & Learn in Mabou.



DBE supports the Introduction to Wild Blueberry Harvester Operation course by providing facilities and equipment.



Green Diamond Equipment Ltd. supported FSNS at Progressive Agriculture Safety Days, provided equipment for Tractor Safety Courses and Endorsement Testings, and offered a 20% discount on safety-related items during March in support of Canadian Agricultural Safety Week.



PROJECT SUPPORTERS

Blueline New Holland supported FSNS by providing equipment for Endorsement Testing, and offered a 20% discount in March on safety-related items in support of Canadian Agricultural Safety Week.



Central Equipment Ltd. offered a 20% discount on safety-related items during March in support of Canadian Agricultural Safety Week.



Progressive Agriculture Foundation supports the delivery of Progressive Agriculture Safety Days.



VanOostrum Farm Equipment Ltd. supported FSNS by providing equipment and facilities for Tractor Safety Courses and Endorsement Testings, and offered a 20% discount on safety-related items in March in support of Canadian Agricultural Safety Week.



FUNDING PARTNERS



Growing Forward 2, a federal-territorial-Provincial initiative providing financial support to Farm Safety Nova Scotia. **Nova Scotia Federation of Agriculture** supports Farm Safety Nova Scotia through staff and in-kind contributions. **Homegrown Success** provided support to the development of the Farm Safety Workbook.

FCC and CASA The Tractor Safety Course was supported by the FCC Ag Safety Fund administered by the Canadian Agricultural Safety Association with funding from Farm Credit Canada.

OHS Education Trust Fund, administered by the OHS Division of the Department of Labour and Advanced Education, provided support to the development of the Farm Safety Workbook.

Workers' Compensation Board and **Department of Labour and Advanced Education** provided financial support for the FSNS Strategic Action Plan.



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