

2015 Annual Report  
**Proceedings of the 87<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**  
**Saskatchewan Seed Growers Association Inc.**

Ballroom B, Saskatoon Inn, Saskatoon, Sask.

January 13, 2016

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by President Roy Klym at 1:10 p.m. Approximately 140 members and guests were in attendance. In his opening remarks, he welcomed the members and several guests, including: CSGA President Norm Lyster of Stettler, AB; Glyn Chancey, Executive Director from CSGA Ottawa; visiting delegates from Manitoba, Alberta and Ontario Seed Growers Associations, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada personnel; University of Saskatchewan Crop Development Centre personnel; Canadian Seed Institute personnel and representatives from the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture.

**1. Approval of Agenda**

Motion (Les Trowell/Donna Edwards) That the agenda for the 87<sup>th</sup> annual meeting be approved. Carried.

**2. Disposal of Minutes**

Motion (Cathy Fedoruk/Bob Rugg) That the minutes of the 86<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of January 14-15, 2015 be approved. Carried.

**3. Appointment of Committees**

President Roy appointed Laurie Wakefield and Shawn Fraser to the Nominations Committee and asked for further nominations from the floor.

Motion (Donna Edwards/Brent Bews) That nominations for the Nominations Committee cease. Carried.

President Roy appointed Brennan Wiens and Anita Palmier to the Resolutions Committee, and asked for further nominations from the floor.

Motion (Barry Reisner/Bob Rugg) That nominations for the Resolutions Committee cease. Carried.

**4. President's Report**

Roy presented the President's Report, and expressed his appreciation to the Board of Directors for their service over the past year, as well as to the advisors who serve with the Board. He recounted many of the issues that are affecting seed growers, including the adoption of Bill C-18, the Agriculture Growth Act, Plant Breeders Rights Act, which has now adopted UPOV 91 standards; and it raises the issue of liability.

Also of concern is the human resource and labour market issues trends as they affect agriculture. He said that nearly half of the farmers in Saskatchewan are having difficulty finding workers, and that doesn't include the seed industry. There is expected to be 14,800 job vacancies in primary agriculture by 2025, of which 4,000 are expected to be in the grains and oilseeds sector. Labour shortages in the seed industry will add to those totals.

Activities by the board have included succession planning, the need to address issues like Social License, updating Circular 6 and working with CSGA as they look to develop a Strategic Plan and examine the entire Canadian Seed System and where improvements are needed. He concluded by thanking the members for their support and urged their participation as the various issues are brought before the meeting.

Motion (Roy Klym/Larry Littman) That the President's Report be accepted as presented. Carried.

**5. Executive Director's Report**

Dave Akister presented the Executive Director's report, reviewing the operations of the provincial office and the activities of the Board and the Association over the past year. He said the past year will be noted as one of transition for the seed industry, for seed growers, the association, and even the annual meeting, with a new room, new format and new events. The move to privatized field inspection has been completed and now attention has turned to what else needs changing, modernizing, or maybe a complete overhaul.

CSGA has undertaken some strategic planning and the process is underway in seed grower branches in Ontario and Alberta. SSGA will be embarking down a similar path this year. There is a new administration at CSGA; Alberta is in the process of finding a new manager;; and SSGA has been giving some thought to that same issue, and putting succession plans in place. There are many familiar faces who are not at this meeting any more. David Gehl and Dr. Ron DePauw have retired and the passing of former SSGA President Tim Charabin hit everyone hard.

Long-time seed growers are retiring. New growers are getting into the game. New issues are on the agenda. New ideas are coming forward. New partnerships are being formed. There's a new government in place. We're starting to see new faces in key positions. Different people are picking up the torch. This meeting is the time when the Board looks for member input. Where are we going next? Where should we be going? Who's going to lead?

The Board has been involved in many projects over the past year, including the pilot project on Crop Insurance for select plots, and the impact of the seed industry to the province's economy. The Board has held its regular meetings in January, March, June and November. Directors have represented members' interests at the CSGA annual meeting in Montreal and the Interprovincial meeting in Saskatoon; at the annual meetings of Seed Growers in Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario and continue to promote SSGA interests to other organizations such as Saskatchewan Advisory Council on Grain Crops; Saskatchewan Agricultural Hall of Fame, Saskatchewan Forage Industry, Canadian Seed Institute, Western Grains Research Foundation, Crop Production Week; Canadian Seed Trade Association; Saskatchewan Wheat Commission; Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture; and the Seed Industry Advisory Committee.

The executive met with the national board at the CSGA Annual Meeting in July to raise issues that are a priority to Saskatchewan Seed Growers. This Association was represented when CSGA was holding its strategic planning and risk management sessions in Ottawa in November.

Dave acknowledged and thanked the Annual Meeting sponsors, including: 20/20 Seed Labs, Alliance Seed Corporation, Bayer CropScience, BioVision Seed Labs, BMO Bank of Montreal, CANTERRA SEEDS, Cornerstone Credit Union, CPS Proven Seed, Discovery Seed Lab, EMW Industrial, Farm Business Consultants, FarmChem, Farmers' Edge, Farrell Agencies Ltd., Federated Co-op, FP Genetics, Grain Millers Inc., Mastin Seeds, Northstar Genetics, Richardson International, SeCan, Seed Depot, Syngenta Crop Protection, T&L Seeds and Western Producer Publications.

He also expressed his thanks to President Roy, the Board of Directors and the members, for their continued support.

Motion (Joe Rennick/Wayne Amos) That the Executive Director's Report be accepted as presented. Carried.

#### **6. Education and Publicity Report**

Shawn Fraser presented the Education and Publicity Report, reviewing the past year's activities. He updated members on the various projects being undertaken by the E&P committee, including ongoing training for the Board of Directors, as well as support for programs being developed by the CSGA E&P Committee. The development of a pilot project for Saskatchewan Crop Insurance on select seed crops is ongoing, and publication of the annual Seed Guide has generated more than \$20,000 for the Association.

Motion (Shawn Fraser, Lyndon Olson) That the Education & Publicity Committee report be approved. Carried.

#### **7. National Directors' Report**

Joe Rennick and Bob Rugg gave the National Directors' report, reviewing some of the issues facing the Canadian Seed Growers Association. Two meetings of the CSGA Board have been held over the past year. They reviewed the work of the various committees they are involved with, including Circular 6, Governance, Appeals and Education & Publicity.

Joe reported on changes to Circular 6, including Field Definitions. Discussions continue on when two or more fields can be considered one field and emphasis is being placed on large physical barriers that restrict access to adjacent fields. Waterways have also been added as an example of a restriction to field access.

Growers are encouraged to get an interpretation from CSGA prior to application and the land use verification form (Form 101) is being revised to include a map section for growers uncertain if fields should be joined or split.

CSGA will also be reviewing the maximum impurity standards for difficult to separate other crop kinds. Although changes to Circular 6 could follow the review, there are no changes in this regard for 2016. CSGA is continuing the “Wild Oat Research Project”, for another year, which allows a three fold increase for wild oats in oats (average of 15 per count rather than 5 for Certified) for seed growers in the project. The project is testing the ability of modern seed cleaning equipment (e.g. color sorters) to clean the wild oats out to acceptable grade table levels.

The Governance Committee has identified the following projects for the Committee to consider in 2016, including a review of different governance models and best fit for CSGA; reviews of Board of Director titles, Provincial Governments Directors voting status, Directors terms and term limits; federal appointees to the Board, and the size of the CSGA Board.

Bob reported on the Appeals Committee and the activities of the national E&P Committee. There were only 5 appeals made this year for consideration by the Committee, including one related to a pedigreed pea seed field inter-cropped with canola; two related to levels of wild oats in oats well above even the levels allowed in the Wild Oat Research Project and two related to pea fields planted on chickpea stubble.

The E&P Committee has developed several new videos in 2015, outlining the advantages of using Certified Seed from an end-user perspective; and has developed an on-line Certified Seed learning tool. The program is intended to increase a seed retailers ability to communicate the benefits of Certified seed to customers and will be hosted on CAAR’s (Canadian Association of Agri-Retailers) website.

CSGA is also developing various handouts to support members, industry and new seed growers on various topics. Going forward, the E&P Committee will be taking a closer look at CSGA’s current advocacy work and where CSGA can work more effectively with others in promoting awareness and the benefits of the seed certification and regulatory system. It’s also examining options for developing a seed grower professional accreditation program.

Motion

(Bob Rugg/Joe Rennick) That the National Directors' Report be approved as presented. Carried

## 8. Financial Report

The Auditor's Report was presented by Executive Director Dave Akister, outlining the Association’s financial position for 2015. The report showed total revenues of \$205,080 and expenses of \$170,916, for an operating surplus of \$34,164. The surplus is due primarily to increased membership and acreage fees and SSGA’s share of the proceeds from the CSGA annual meeting hosted in Saskatchewan the previous year.

Current member equity in the Association is \$307,437 compared to \$273,273 reported last year. Highlights of the report included income of \$21,452 from publication of the Seed Guide; \$24,250 in sponsorship; \$23,261 from hosting the CSGA annual meeting and \$5,000 from a Growing Forward II grant. SSGA continues to support the Variety Performance Evaluation trials in the amount of \$10,000.

Motion

(Barry Reisner/Shawn Fraser) That the Financial Report be approved as presented. Carried.

## 9. 2016 Budget

SSGA Vice President Cathy Fedoruk reviewed the financial affairs of the Association and presented the budget for 2016. She outlined the increased activities that the Association is undertaking, and the projected number of acres and membership anticipated. Cathy projected revenues of \$157,100 and expenses of \$156,050 for an operating surplus of \$1,050. Membership revenue is anticipated to be about \$113,500, based on 295,000 acres and 500 members. In comparison to 2015 actual costs, the 2016 budget was presented as follows:

	<b>Actual 2015</b>	<b>Budget 2016</b>
<b>Receipts</b>		
Growing Forward 2 Grant	5,000	2,500
Interest	4,605	600
Membership Fees	124,529	113,500
Miscellaneous Income	23,261	0
SaskSeed Communications	21,452	18,000
Proceeds from Meetings	1,983	2,500
Sponsorship	<u>24,250</u>	<u>20,000</u>
	<b>\$205,080</b>	<b>\$157,100</b>
<b>Disbursements</b>		
Advertising & Promotion	3,150	1,500
Agribition	0	350
Annual Meeting	28,166	30,000
Crop Production Week	393	500
Educational Programs	9,946	5,000
Grants	2,000	2,000
Interest & Bank Charges	371	400
Membership/Registration	1,733	2,000
Miscellaneous	236	500
Newsletters/website/promotions	1,966	2,000
Office Contract	31,200	32,450
Office Contract Extension	8,573	10,350
Office Supplies	2,848	2,800
Postage & Mailing	1,969	2,000
Professional Fees	6,638	7,000
Sask Variety Performance Group	10,000	10,000
Telephone & Fax	2,123	2,200
Travel - Board	16,687	16,000
Travel - Out of Province	35,286	23,000
Travel - Staff	<u>7,631</u>	<u>6,000</u>
	<b>\$170,916</b>	<b>\$156,050</b>
Surplus (Deficit):	\$ 34,164	\$ 1,050

Cathy reported that the Growing Forward 2 grant was the anticipated final payment for costs of the Economic Impact Study; and the reductions in Board and Out of province travel costs were a reflection of the meeting being closer to home in 2016. The amount for the Educational Programs is earmarked for succession planning. Membership and registration became its own category two years ago, as SSGA is a member of a number of organizations and costs are now becoming significant.

Motion (Cathy Fedoruk/Donna Edwards) That the 2016 Budget be approved as presented. Carried.

Motion (Cathy Fedoruk/Bob Rugg) That Virtus Group Chartered Accountants of Saskatoon be retained as the Association's auditors for 2016. Carried.

#### 10. Strengthening the Relationship between Research and end-use Customers

**Cam Dahl**, President of Cereals Canada gave the members an overview of Cereals Canada. It is a broad and diverse collaboration of partners from all sectors of the cereals value chain, including farmers; crop development and seed companies; and grain companies/exporters/processors. The Board of Directors has representation from all three key membership groups.

The goal is to build and implement a market development plan for Canadian cereals, shape the environment for innovation in cereals and be a leader for the cereals industry in Canada. He discussed a report conducted by LMC International that was commissioned by Cereals Canada and CIGI, to examine trends in global wheat demand and explore research strategies and market development strategies.

The report is a broad look at potential opportunities and directions for the industry as a whole and is not intended to be a prescription to any part of the value chain or individual producer or company This is a starting point in the development of strategic market development and research priority setting processes -

one step on a strategic path forward. Different varieties and classes are needed to maximize producer returns in every region, he told members.

A synopsis of the report and internal analysis has been made public and shows that the “Canada Brand” is consistent high quality. The value chain must remain focussed on preserving this brand promise in key high valued markets. The successful expansion of Canadian wheat market opportunities depend upon quality differentiation from international competitors, but has not yet been realized outside of CWRS and CWAD or in non-traditional growth markets (e.g., West Africa). Achieving this differentiation in new markets will require investment in market development.

He discussed research priorities for wheat and the work of a National Round Table project to bring public and private breeders together with support of producer, public and private funders. Market Development and Support seminars have been completed in 20 countries to provide technical support for current customers, information for potential customers and feedback for the Canadian value chain.

In response to questions, he said that he didn’t see the anti-GMO sentiment as a threat to Cereals Canada’s mission statement. Plant breeding is moving so fast and is targeted to specific needs to be affected by that argument, but the industry in general has to do a much better job of explaining modern Canadian agriculture. There are discussions about society’s desire to put labels on products, but there is still a need to use the product.

#### **11. Saskatchewan Seed Industry: Endless Opportunities**

**Bill Greuel**, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture outlined the Saskatchewan Plan for Growth in agriculture, and reviewed the progress to date. The objectives include increasing agricultural exports to \$15 Billion; increase crop production by 10 million tonnes; establish Saskatchewan as an international leader in biosciences and increase value-added production revenue to \$6 Billion, based on 2010 numbers. The bumper crop of 2013 exceeded the goal of crop production and subsequent years, while not as high, have maintained the pace.

He recounted the many areas where this province has demonstrated leadership in biosciences, including the pending development of Limagrain and Bayer CropScience Research facilities, in addition to the work of the Crop Development Centre, Dow AgroSciences, Dupont/Pioneer, CPS, Cargill and many other supporting industries in the grain sector.

The Government is also very aware of Social Licence, which means doing the right thing and building public awareness of the value and benefits of modern agriculture. Those in attendance responded positively to the message, and urged that its importance be related to the Ministry of Education to help convey it to the public at large.

#### **12. Resolutions Committee Report**

Resolutions Committee Chair Brennan Wiens reviewed the rules and announced that written resolutions were now being accepted. He reported on the action taken on the 2015 resolutions.

#### **13. Nominations Committee Report**

Nominations Committee Chair Laurie Wakefield announced that nominations were being accepted for the positions of President; Vice President, two Directors to serve two-year terms; and one National Director to serve a two-year term.

#### **14. Menial Labour or Meaningful Career? Agriculture's Labour crisis**

President Roy called on SSGA Director Shawn Fraser to moderate the panel discussion: “Menial Labour or Meaningful Career? Agriculture's Labour Crisis”. Panellists included: Cathy Fedoruk, SSGA Director and seed grower from Kamsack; Anna Ditablan, Labour Market Development, Saskatchewan Ministry of Economy, Saskatoon; and Dr. Bryan Harvey, Barley breeder and former chairman of the AAFC Labour Task Force, Saskatoon.

**Cathy Fedoruk** opened the discussion with a very entertaining presentation of her experiences trying to find qualified employees for her seed operation, and the difficulties she encountered working with

government agencies while trying to fill those labour needs. Issues ranged from people not wanting a job to not being qualified to navigating endless hurdles trying to bring in foreign workers. The process involved working with multiple agencies who don't share information, or need it presented differently, or require many months of lead time that prevent potential employees from being available during the appropriate season.

"I just want to make one phone call to one office and get help," she told the members. "It shouldn't be such an onerous process".

**Anna Ditablan** discussed the issues from the perspective of the Saskatchewan Ministry of the Economy. She said that while there are a number of programs and initiatives in place, there is an estimated 95,000 job openings expected in the next five years, and a great number of those will be in Agriculture. Foreign labour will be the solution to many of those challenges.

She recounted several programs to assist in the process, including the provincially-administered, made-in-Saskatchewan immigration program, which allows Saskatchewan to nominate applicants to the federal government for permanent resident status who qualify under Saskatchewan Immigrant Nominee Program criteria. She said that entry prerequisites and selection criteria vary by category and are based on several variables including language ability, education and skill level, employment history, health and criminality. She listed the steps required for employers to hire through SINP. There are also consultants available to help with the process, as is her office with the Ministry of Economy.

**Dr. Bryan Harvey** gave an overview of the Canadian situation, saying that there are 2.3 million people employed in the Canadian Agrifood sector, which generates \$100 Billion annually or about 7% of Canada's GDP. Federal reports show that labour shortages are among the top five key economic issues and Farm workers are among the top 10 with the highest vacancy rate, even though wages are keeping pace with other sectors.

There are many challenges facing a solution to agriculture labour, including an aging workforce, lack of awareness and interest by youth, competition from higher paying jobs, seasonal nature of the work, it's located in rural areas, requires special training and technology advances require higher skill levels. He addressed the work being done by the Labour Task Force in seeking solutions both in the short- and long term, but changes to government policy are needed. There is a desperate need to educate elected officials and civil servants to rural needs and remove the perception that it's about bringing in cheap foreign labour to replace Canadian jobs. "It's up to us to make these issues known to all levels of government," he said.

**Shawn Fraser** moderated a lively question period as the audience also got involved in the discussion. Some questioned how farmers can get training to better understand how to work with the system; how to get more Canadians interested in agriculture careers; and how to keep foreign workers once they're trained but required to leave after four years. There also has to be more done in the aboriginal labour market.

President Roy thanked the panel and the members for the excellent, thought-provoking discussion. The meeting recessed at 5:10 pm, to be reconvened the following morning.

### **Awards Banquet**

SSGA Director Brennan Wiens presided over the Awards banquet, held in Ballroom B. He introduced Dr. Mary Buhr, Dean of the University of Saskatchewan, who announced the recipients of the SSGA Bursaries. Receiving the \$1,000 awards were Madeline Docherty from Regina and Kirsten Libke of Hanley.

Outstanding Service awards were presented to Wayne Amos of Oxbow and Brent Bews of Eatonia while Elwin Hermanson of Winnipeg was presented with an Honorary Life Membership in the Association. Laurie also paid tribute to those growers who have achieved significant long service milestones in their pedigreed production careers.

2015 Annual Report  
**Proceedings of the 87<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**  
**Saskatchewan Seed Growers Association Inc.**

Ballroom B, Saskatoon Inn, Saskatoon, Sask.

January 14, 2016

**Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by President Roy Klym at 8:00 a.m.

**1. The Real Cost of Seed Production**

**Richard Stamp**, CSGA National Director, and former president of the Alberta Seed Growers Association presented a detailed analysis of the real cost of seed production, based on the pedigreed seed operations on his own farm. Farming since 1978, he became a seed grower in 1985 and now manages about 5,500 acres, all of it dedicated to seed production. They employ 10 full time people and four summer students and serve about 350 customers per year.

He embarked on a process to identify the real cost of seed production more than a decade ago when pedigreed seed and the seed production system had a low perceived value. The biggest competition was CWB projected prices and farmers selling bin-run to other producers. The problems are compounded when growers aren't good at marketing, don't know the real value of the seed they are producing and farmers become contract growers without having an understanding of the pedigreed seed system.

He told members that his calculations were based only on the change from commercial crop production to producing "certified" seed, are the costs incurred to put certified seed into bins in a wholesale position, and are based on Stamp Farms numbers from the 2014 crop season. Once it is in the bin, the grower still needs to clean it and have the product ready for sale, if he's a retailer.

While membership fees, royalties and labour costs are fairly straight forward, the real challenges can be found in identifying those costs which add to seed production, such as equipment idle time during clean-out; isolation strips which result in non-productive land; maintenance fees for mowing or tilling those isolation distances; seed production that has industry costs attached but is not sold as seed. If a grower uses his own seed stock, that too has to be calculated as to the cost if it would have been sold as seed or if it had to be purchased from a retailer. Calculating average crop yields for the farm will help identify the cost of isolation strips, he said.

Using several different examples, Rick demonstrated that just selling part of the production as seed can have a huge impact on the bottom line, as does demoting higher generations for sale to commercial producers. Costs for seed production can easily exceed \$200 per acre, over and above the cost of commercial production.

He concluded by saying that the lost "opportunity" cost of pedigreed seed production will keep reducing the number of growers, and there is an escalating business risk to the industry if growers don't get costs under control. It raises the need to develop a program to qualify seed growers to extract value and growers need to take hold of the "Social Licence" in Canadian Agriculture.

**2. The Pedigreed Seed Picture: Quantity, Quality and Questions**

**Bruce Carriere** of Discovery Seed Labs spoke about the quantity and quality of pedigreed seed supplies that could be expected across the province in 2017. He told members that in general, seed crops that came off before the fall rains are in pretty good shape, but quality is limited after. Diseases in cereal crops are on par with the long term averages, while pulse crops are below the average.

F. graminearum, which causes tombstone or scab in the seed, is fairly prevalent again this year, and there is no correlation between VOM (ppm) and percentage of seed infection and no correlation between the visual count for grading and percentage of seed infection. He analysed F graminearum infection by Crop District to give growers a better idea of what's happening in their areas, and recommended that growers use seed lots with low levels; use seed treatments; increase seeding rates to reduce tillers; apply a fungicide and use varieties that have some level of resistance.

Germination testing is all over the Board with 19% of the wheat seed, 41% of durum; 28% of barley, 15% of oats, 21% of field peas, 20% of lentils and 23% of the flax tested showed less than 85% germination. His expectations for spring planting indicate that barley, durum and green peas will be down; canola, chickpeas and wheat acres will be flat; while yellow peas, flax, lentils, oats, soybeans and faba beans will all be up.

### **3. Report from Canadian Seed Growers Association**

CSGA Executive Director Glyn Chancey brought the members up to speed on the activities of the national Seed Growers Association. Having been named to the position in July and officially assuming the role in November, he started by introducing himself and reviewing of his background.

He reiterated that the industry is in the midst of change. In addition to him succeeding Dale Adolphe, there is a new executive director at the Canadian Seed Trade Association, a new federal Minister of Agriculture and new people heading the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

Regulatory change and “modernization” is again on the horizon, he told members, and when that happens, all bets are off. Seed sector organizations are again looking at a Seed Synergy concept, where they work more closely together, but CSGA wants to make sure that the voice of seed growers is not lost. The six organizations looking at the concept include CSGA, Canadian Seed Trade Association, Canadian Plant Technology Agency, Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Commercial Seed Analysts Association of Canada and CropLife.

The process has caused CSGA to ask itself some hard questions, such as whether it’s adding value and what that entails; how well does it rate working with branches; what risks are facing the organization; what would a future regulatory system look like and how far do you take partnerships, and with whom. He reviewed a number of steps the Board has undertaken, focussed on risk identification and developing a Strategic Plan.

Glyn also reported on the progress of the Alternative Service Delivery of field crop inspections and the challenges for CSGA. The national organization is now working with 27 service providers instead of one, and must now work with more than 90 different inspection offices, instead of just CFIA. While CSGA now has a cutting edge seed certification system it can build on, new capacity and improved performance comes at a price and will likely mean fee increases for 2017/18.

He said that 98% of applications were received electronically in 2015 and 100% of the crop inspection reports were received electronically. The average time for private inspectors to create an inspection report is 2.4 days; average time to release the report to the grower is 2.6 days; and average time to complete a CSGA appraisal is 0.75 business days – a process that used to take weeks.

### **4. Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture. The Year in Review**

Mitchell Japp, Cereal Crop Specialist with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture, and an advisor to the CSGA and SSGA Boards of Directors, provided an overview of the activities at the Ministry over the past year.

He told members that the Varieties of Grain Crops, which is published annually in conjunction with the Saskatchewan Seed Guide, is probably the Ministry’s second most popular publication issued by the Ministry – #1 if the issues that are distributed by the Western Producer are counted. The first question that farmers ask is what new varieties are available, and the second is where to get them.

The publication has expanded to 32 pages because of additional content and new varieties, and contains articles on how varieties are tested in Saskatchewan, Fusarium damaged kernels, plant disease resistance, maximum residue limits and Plant Breeders’ Rights. He said there is a real opportunity for growers to talk about PBR when selling seed.

He outlined the province’s continuing support for research and industry through Industry Organization Development Fund (IODF), ADF funding; and the Strategic Research Program. The province continues to support the Regional Variety Trials through the Saskatchewan Variety Performance Group.

## 7. Nominations/Election of Officers

Nominations Committee Chair Laurie Wakefield presented the committee's slate of officers for 2016 and asked for further nominations from the floor.

- Motion a) President - Roy Klym  
(Larry Littman/Wayne Amos) That nominations cease. Carried. With no further nominations, Roy Klym of Regina was declared elected as President for the next one year term.
- Motion b) Vice President - Cathy Fedoruk  
(Brennan Wiens/Anita Palmier) That nominations cease. Carried. With no further nominations, Cathy Fedoruk of Kamsack was declared elected to a one-year term as vice-president.
- Motion c) National Director - Bob Rugg  
(Gerald Girodat/Les Trowell) That nominations cease. Carried. With no further nominations, Bob Rugg of Elstow was declared as elected as Saskatchewan's nominee to the CSGA Board of Directors for the next two years.
- Motion d) Saskatchewan Directors - Two Year Terms - Mike Shewchuk/Kurt Printz  
(Barry Reisner/Cathy Fedoruk) That nominations cease. Carried. With no further nominations, Mike Shewchuk of Blaine Lake and Kurt Printz of Gravelbourg were declared elected as directors for two-year terms.

## 5. New Varieties Update

**Dr. Richard Cuthbert**, Wheat Breeder with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Semiarid Prairie Agricultural Research Centre. (SPARC) in Swift Current reported on the new Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada varieties that are in development, including several Wheat and Durum varieties. Of note were a CWRS variety that yielded 12% higher than Carberry with a similar protein content and which matures three days earlier, and a solid stem durum that is stronger than all the checks, and yields higher than several currently popular varieties.

**Dr. Pierre Hucl** of the University of Saskatchewan's Crop Development Centre outlined a number of promising varieties that are under development, and/or are moving forward for possible registration in 2016. Plant breeders contributing to the development of new varieties were: Aaron Beattie (barley & oat); Bunyamin Tar'an (chickpea); Pierre Hucl (spring wheat and canary seed); Curtis Pozniak (durum, GP and CPS wheat); Bert Vandenberg (lentil and faba bean); and Tom Warkentin (pea). Of note was a solid stemmed durum variety and a CPS wheat with moderate FHB tolerance that yields 18% higher than Carberry. Three pea varieties will be released through the Saskatchewan Pulse Growers this year, and two more are due for potential release in 2017.

## 9. Resolutions

The Resolutions Committee Chair Shawn Fraser presented one resolution to the members for consideration:

### RESOLUTION #1

**WHEREAS:** The Saskatchewan Seed Growers Association would like to officially recognize the contributions of those individuals and organizations that have assisted in this Association's annual meeting;

**BE IT RESOLVED:** That Saskatchewan Seed Growers Association extend its sincere appreciation to:

- 1) the Guest Speakers and program participants for their enlightening presentations, including: Mr. Bruce Carriere, Mr. Cam Dahl, Mr. Shawn Fraser, Dr. Pierre Hucl, Mr. Glyn Chancey, Ms. Anna Ditalban, Mr. Bill Greuel, Mr. Mitchell Japp, Mr. Richard Stamp, Dr. Richard Cuthbert, Ms. Cathy Fedoruk, Dr. Bryan Harvey, and Mr. Norm Lyster;
- 2) the Sponsors for their generous contributions and support of this annual meeting, including: 20/20 Seed Labs, Alliance Seed Corporation, Bayer CropScience, BioVision Seed Labs, BMO Bank of Montreal, CANTERRA SEEDS, Cornerstone Credit Union, CPS Proven Seed, Discovery Seed Lab, EMW Industrial, Farm Business Consultants, FarmChem, Farmers' Edge, Farrell Agencies Ltd., Federated Co-op, FP Genetics, Grain Millers Inc., Mastin Seeds, Northstar Genetics, Richardson International, SeCan, Seed Depot, Syngenta Crop Protection, T&L Seeds, and Western Producer Publications;
- 3) and to any others who have contributed to the success of this meeting.

Moved by Les Trowell

Seconded by Brent Bews

Carried

With no other business, President Roy expressed his appreciation to the speakers, guests and the members for their participation at the annual meeting and for their support of the Association. He then called forward Director Brennan Wiens and presented him with a plaque for his service to the Association.

Motion

(Cathy Fedoruk/Lynnell Olson) That the 87<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Saskatchewan Seed Growers Association be adjourned. Carried.