

**SASKATCHEWAN SEED GROWERS' ASSOCIATION**  
**92nd ANNUAL MEETING**  
Virtual through Zoom Webinar  
8:30 AM – 12:00 PM Wednesday, January 13, 2021

**MINUTES**

Meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM, January 13, 2021

Quorum was declared.

1. Approval of the agenda

MOTION 20210113-01 That the agenda for the 92nd Annual Meeting be approved. Alica Chalmers / Wanda Jones. Carried.

2. Approval of Minutes of the 91st Annual Meeting

MOTION 20210113-02 That the minutes of the 91st Annual Meeting be approved. Roy Klym / Nick Petruic. Carried.

3. President's Report – Shawn Fraser

MOTION 20210113-03 That the President's Report be received. Wanda Jones / Cathy Fedoruk. Carried.

4. Committee Reports

a. Education and Publicity – Kurt Printz

MOTION 20210113-04 That the Education and Publicity Committee report be received. Kurt Printz / Wanda Jones. Carried.

b. Finance – Michael Shewchuk

i. Financial Statements

MOTION 20210113-05: That the Financial Statements be approved. Michael Shewchuk / Alica Chalmers. Carried.

ii. Presentation of 2021 Budget – The budget for the 2020-2021 fiscal year was presented to the membership.

MOTION 20210113-06 That the Finance Report be received. Michael Shewchuk / Nick Petruic. Carried.

iii. Appointment of Auditor for 2021

MOTION 20210113-07 That Virtus Group Chartered Accountants of Saskatoon be retained as the Association's auditors for 2021. Michael Shewchuk / Roy Klym. Carried.

c. Resolutions – Nick Petruic

Nick Petruic reported on the actions taken with respect to the resolutions from the 2020 AGM.

MOTION 20210113-08 That the Resolutions Report be received. Nick Petruic / Wanda Jones. Carried.

5. Nominations

a. Election of Officers

i. President: Michael Shewchuk

MOTION 20210113-09 That nominations for President cease. Cathy Fedoruk / Alica Chalmers. Carried.

Michael Shewchuk of Blaine Lake was acclaimed as President for the next one-year term.

ii. Vice President: Kurt Printz

MOTION 20210113-10 That nominations for Vice President cease. Roy Klym / Nick Petruic. Carried.

Kurt Printz of Gravelbourg was acclaimed as Vice President for the next one-year term.

iii. National Director: Roy Klym

MOTION 20210113-11 That nominations for National Director cease. Kurt Printz / Cathy Fedoruk. Carried.

Roy Klym of Regina was acclaimed as Saskatchewan's nominee to the CSGA Board of Directors for the next two- year term.

iv. Saskatchewan Directors: Nicholas Petruic, Adam Littman, Lyndon Stoll

MOTION 20210113-12 That nominations for Saskatchewan Directors cease. Alica Chalmers / Roy Klym. Carried.

Three nominations were received. Lyndon Stoll indicated the desire to serve a one-year term and therefore an election was not required.

Adam Littman of Saltcoats and Nicholas Petruic of Avonlea acclaimed as Directors for the next two-year terms and Lyndon Stoll of Saskatoon acclaimed for a one-year term.

6. Resolutions

The Resolutions Committee Chair Nick Petruic presented the following resolutions to the members for consideration:

**RESOLUTION 20210113-01 – Seeds Canada Membership**

**WHEREAS** the Saskatchewan Seed Growers' Association has been a long-standing member of the Canadian Seed Trade Association and,

**WHEREAS** much common ground is shared with our industry partners represented by Seeds Canada and,

**WHEREAS** there is benefit for the SSGA to be in the same room and participate in the discussion, decisions, and direction of Seeds Canada,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the SSGA apply to become an Affiliate Class member of Seeds Canada.

Michael Shewchuk / Kurt Printz. Defeated.

**RESOLUTION 20210113-02 – Courtesy**

**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,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Saskatchewan Seed Growers' Association extend its sincere appreciation to:

- 1) Joe Rennick, Jonathan Nyborg, Doug Miller and Glyn Chancey for their informative presentations
- 2) The sponsors for their generous contributions:

Bayer CropScience	Discovery Seed Labs Ltd.
Westland Insurance Group	SeCan
Syngenta	FP Genetics
Lewis M. Carter Manufacturing (Canada) Ltd.	SGS Canada
Nexeed	CropLife Canada
Federated Co-operatives Limited	Prairie King Inspections Ltd.
Caliber Seed Services Ltd.	Scotiabank
Alliance Seed	
- 3) To any others who have contributed to the success of this meeting.

Wanda Jones / Kurt Printz. Carried.

The assistance of Caroline Lafontaine, Jennifer Seward and Mitchell Japp was also acknowledged.

7. Adjournment

MOTION 20210113-13 That the 92nd Annual Meeting of the Saskatchewan Seed Growers' Association be adjourned. Cathy Fedoruk / Wanda Jones. Carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:54 AM, Wednesday, January 13, 2021.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Shawn Fraser**

I would like to welcome all of you to our first virtual AGM. I think most of us would agree that meeting in person would be preferred and probably more productive. However, COVID 19 is still having a huge impact on how we live, celebrate, and do business. I am sure this Christmas season was different than most of us would have liked but I hope through the season you were able to take some time to reflect on what you are thankful for.

I know restrictions placed on us make it tough, especially in Canada, where we are used to doing what we like when we like. Self isolation for most of us is the chosen way of life for our family and our business which, although I am biased, in my opinion, is a very wise choice.

COVID 19 has highlighted this year, but 2020 was a year to remember in the seed industry as well. The Seed Synergy Collaboration Project, a partnership between the Canadian Seed Trade Association (CSTA), Canadian Seed Institute (CSI), Canadian Plant Technology Agency (CPTA), Commercial Seed Analysts Association of Canada (CSAAC), Canadian Seed Growers' Association (CSGA) and CropLife Canada, was the major topic that has kept your board busy over this past year. Negotiations to amalgamate five (5) of the Seed Synergy partners concluded. As most of you are aware, in July and August voting on the amalgamation package occurred (thank you to all our members that took the time to vote); the seed growers were the only organization to vote "no" to joining the proposed Seeds Canada. The other four (4), CSTA, CSI, CPTA, and CSAAC, have since voted to join as Seeds Canada effective this February.

Anyone who knows me, knows that I am not one to dwell on the past – the future is only achieved by going forward. The only thing I will comment about the vote is that the result made it obvious that the seed grower members who voted were unhappy with the agreement that was negotiated and put forward to vote on.

A year ago, we heard from our membership to proceed forward, "but we need more detail." Detail came over this last year and, obviously, the seed growers did not like the detail, hence the "no" vote.

Where does that leave us? On the outside looking in? Some would paint this picture. I don't think so. The whole seed industry will be stronger in the end because of Seed Synergy talks.

Does a "no" vote mean we won't be working together? No, the seed industry is still depending on all of us to work together. We don't all need to be in the same organization to continue talking and collaborating.

Throughout the last five years, the most common concern I heard from seed growers is "I don't want to lose my voice." In order not to lose something, we need to have it in the first place. We need to hear from our members. We need your voice if you want it heard. 2021 is going to be busy and there are numerous committees, workshops, and Seed Talk seminars that need your input and engagement. So, if you were one of the ones that didn't want to lose your voice, please let it be heard.

You will hear from Kurt on future seed talk seminars and strategic planning coming up in the next few months that SSGA will be hosting. You will hear from Joe Rennick, Jonathan Nyborg, Doug Miller and Glyn Chancey about the CSGA 2.0 Project, including seed grower professional development, digital crop certificates, CSGA modernization committees, and other important seed certification system improvements coming this year.

You will also hear about CFIA entering into Seed Regulatory Modernization. A working group has been formed and a needs assessment survey will be coming out shortly. This working group will be forming task groups to look at different areas of the seed regulations and the goal is to have these regulations in place for the fall of 2020.

They are going to look at things like “Do we need the grade tables?” Should common seed be able to have a variety attached to it? Incorporation by reference? All of these need seed grower input and not just input by the few members that sit on boards. Please consider volunteering to sit on a committee, the board, or at very least providing feedback to help shape the future of SSGA, CSGA, and the whole seed industry.

In closing, I know we are all busy, but in this new year when you see survey or a seminar or someone reaching out for you to sit on a committee, please take an extra minute to consider participating. The one benefit of COVID is that we have learned how to adapt, and online meetings are saving time and money that is not spent travelling as much, so it is easier to be engaged. Thank you for your support over the last 2 years. It has been an honour to serve as your president.

#### **EDUCATION AND PUBLICITY REPORT – Kurt Printz**

Other Committee members: Wanda Jones, Nick Petruic

Last March, we had planned to host SeedTalk in-person and, due to COVID-19, that got transitioned to an on-line event instead. The meeting topics were Seed Growing 101, SVUA Pilot Project, SCIC pedigreed seed options, changes to seed treatment regulations, and CSGA future planning. These presentations were recorded and available (individually) for viewing on our website.

SSGA felt it was time for a social media presence and decided to use Twitter as our platform. We posted tweets throughout the year, informing members and the great audience about issues and events of importance to seed growers. If you are on Twitter, please follow us @saskseed.

Much of the Committee’s time and energy was spent working with Glacier Media developing the Interactive Seed Guide and the new website.

The Interactive Seed Guide is made possible by a grant accessed through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership. We also thank our sponsor, SeCan. We have paid much care and attention to ensure we create a usable tool that is statistically accurate and user friendly. The Interactive Seed Guide will help users narrow down varieties based on specific criteria and, further, help locate certified pedigreed seed of any variety.

Due to the financial surplus, we also decided to reinvest in the Interactive Seed Guide and add a georeferencing feature which will allow you to find seed of a particular variety based on location in the province.

We are also developing a new website for the Association. We thank SeCan for sponsoring our website as well.

If you would like to advertise on our website in the future, there are going to be opportunities, so please contact Laurie.

*< Kurt Printz gave a quick live tour of the new website >*

We are planning to host a Seed Talk Series of seminars:

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| January 28  | Seed Regulatory Modernization - Wendy Jahn (CFIA), Chair of the Working Group                       |
| February 11 | New Varieties Update – Richard Cuthbert (AAFC), Hamid Naaem (AAFC) and Bunyamin Tar’an (U of S CDC) |
| February 25 | Seed Quality Update – Jason Danielson, Discovery Seeds Lab  |
| March 11    | Seed Growing 102 – a continuation of Seed Growing 101 from 2020                                     |
| March 25    | CSGA 2.0  |

The dates are tentative so check the website for details and registration links. And watch your email for more details.

Thanks to our Seed Talk sponsors: Bayer SeedGrowth, Discovery Seeds and Westland Group.

We are also going to organize strategic planning that aligns SSGA with the other branches and the CSGA. We also plan to provide governance training to our Board members.

I would like to take time to thank Laurie for all her work on the new website, Interactive Seed Guide and also all the extra work that has been required to host these meetings virtually as opposed to in-person. As you can imagine, the learning curve is steep with all the nuances of hosting of meetings on-line, especially meetings that are legally required and also the need to provide members with an opportunity to vote.

**SASKATCHEWAN SEED GROWERS ASSOCIATION INC.**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**NOVEMBER 30, 2020**





## Saskatchewan Seed Growers' Association 2020-2021 Budget

### INCOME

Advertising	\$ 1,000
Grants	\$ 30,500
Interest	\$ 5,000
Membership and acreage fees	\$ 120,000
SaskSeed Communications	\$ 33,000
Sponsorship	\$ 23,500
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 213,000</b>

### EXPENSES

Accounting and legal fees	\$ 10,200
Advertising and Promotion	\$ 500
Annual Meeting	\$ 15,500
Bank charges, miscellaneous	\$ 700
Board Meetings	\$ 14,550
Education, publicity, special events	\$ 41,700
Insurance	\$ 2,600
Management contract	\$ 50,500
Memberships and registrations	\$ 3,000
Office expenses, supplies, postage, telephone	\$ 5,250
SK Variety Performance Group	\$ 10,000
Scholarships	\$ 4,000
Travel expenses	\$ 40,000
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 198,500</b>
<b>PROFIT</b>	<b>\$ 14,500</b>



## RESOLUTIONS REPORT (on 2020 resolutions) – Nick Petruic

### 1. RESOLUTION 20200115/16-01 – Royalties

**WHEREAS** changes in seed royalty systems will need to evolve in the future, and  
**WHEREAS** these systems will need to be responsive to changes in the marketplace, and  
**WHEREAS** royalty systems that are instituted by government legislation take long periods of time to be revised,  
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the SSGA favor royalty systems that are contractual agreements between vendor and purchaser.

*Baine Fritzler / Kevin Yauck. Carried.*

The SSGA Board has not been approached one way or another by anyone to support a change in royalties since this resolution was carried. We will continue to engage when new information is presented to us and bring updated information to the membership for consideration. There was no opportunity to take action with regards to this motion.

### 2. RESOLUTION 20200115/16-02 – Seed Synergy

**WHEREAS** the overarching goals of the Seed Synergy project include:

- Update delivery of novel product regulations for plant breeding innovation,
- Streamline Seed Regulations requirements and modernize the regulatory framework,
- Define a new industry delivery model for the seed certification program,
- Create a “single window” for all seed regulatory and member services, and
- Create a more efficient and effective industry organizational model, and

**WHEREAS** the Saskatchewan Seed Growers’ Association serves as the official voice of its members, and

**WHEREAS** the only way to have impact on the outcome of these goals is to remain engaged in the current Seed Synergy process,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Saskatchewan Seed Growers’ Association Board continue to engage in the Seed Synergy conversation and act as a partner with the other Regional Chapters for the benefit of Grassroots Seed Grower producers.

*Shawn Fraser / Mike Shewchuk. Carried.*

The Board did engage in the Seed Synergy conversation all the way through to the vote. This was done by sending emails to our members, use of Twitter and phoned members to encourage members to attend the virtual town halls and to get out and vote. In addition, the Board took it upon themselves to attend and participate in virtually all the town hall meetings. Since the vote, we have not been engaged with the process but continue to work with CSGA and their path forward.

### 3. RESOLUTION 20200115/16-03 – Membership

**WHEREAS** the Saskatchewan Seed Growers’ Association supports and lobbies for a strong, vital seed industry in Saskatchewan for the benefit of its members, and

**WHEREAS** the proposed governance model includes representation to the NSO board provided by the various Regional Chapters, and

**WHEREAS** the membership structure may need to be revised to allow for a voluntary and inclusive model of membership,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Saskatchewan Seed Growers' Association review their bylaws to determine how to open the existing membership of the SSGA to include seed industry and value chain representatives.

*Nick Petruic / Wanda Jones. Carried.*

The flavour of this motion regarding looking into opening the membership was assuming there was a yes vote to join Seeds Canada. We as a Board have planned a strategic planning session for early in 2021 and welcome any feedback from the membership. There is also a desire from the Board to know from the membership that, given a "no" vote, should we continue to look into opening up the membership to non-seed growers, but rather anyone directly involved in the seed industry in Saskatchewan?

#### 4. Resolution 20200115/06-04 – Courtesy

**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,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Saskatchewan Seed Growers' Association extend its sincere appreciation to:

1) The guest speakers and program participants for their informative presentations, including

<i>Pierre Hucl</i>	<i>Richard Cuthbert</i>	<i>Lexi Ensor</i>
<i>Jaiman Chin</i>	<i>Jonathan Nyborg</i>	<i>Caroline Lafontaine</i>
<i>Doug Miller</i>	<i>Sandy Junek</i>	

2) The sponsors for their generous contributions to this annual meeting, including

<i>BASF Canada Inc.</i>	<i>Nutrien Ag Solutions</i>
<i>SeCan</i>	<i>Seed Depot</i>
<i>Lewis M. Carter Manufacturing (Canada) Ltd.</i>	<i>Discovery Seed Labs Ltd</i>
<i>BMO Bank of Montreal</i>	<i>Farrell Agencies Ltd.</i>
<i>Syngenta Canada Inc.</i>	<i>Bayer SeedGrowth</i>
<i>FP Genetics</i>	<i>Canterra Seeds</i>
<i>Nexeed</i>	<i>SGS BioVision</i>
<i>Grain Millers Canada Inc.</i>	<i>CropLife Canada</i>
<i>Scotiabank</i>	<i>Prairie King Inspections</i>
<i>Alliance Seed Corporation</i>	<i>Can-Seed Equipment</i>
<i>Caliber Seed Services</i>	<i>Cornerstone Credit Union</i>
<i>Federated Co-operatives</i>	<i>The Western Producer</i>

3) *Laurie Hayes for all her effort to make this AGM successful, and*

4) *To any others who have contributed to the success of this meeting.*

*Kurt Printz / Nick Petruic. Carried.*

Sincere appreciation was extended.