



FALL NEWSLETTER

Highlights of 2024

STEVE DOLSON - CHAIR

At the 2024 Annual General Meeting in March, the Huron Perth Ag Science Centre saw the appointment of Steve Dolson as the Chair of the Board of Directors. Steve brings extensive experience and an impressive background in rural community organizations to our board. After earning his B.Sc. in Agriculture from the Ontario Ag College in Guelph, he provided extensive education services to Ontario farmers through the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture & Food. In 1985, Steve and his wife Karen moved to Perth County and established the nationally recognized dairy herd, Legacy Holsteins. Over the years, Steve has lent his leadership skills to the local 4-H program, the Listowel Ag Society, and numerous dairy industry boards and committees at both the provincial and national level. Most notably, Steve has become well-known across Ontario as the past chair of Ontario's largest Dairy Co-operative, Gay Lea Foods. We are thrilled to have his expertise and passion driving our mission forward.



FUNDING RECEIVED

Trillium Mutual Insurance

In February, Trillium Mutual Insurance supported us with a generous donation of \$11,450. A cheque was presented by Trillium staff and CEO Tracy MacDonald (upper left).

Perth County Cultivating Opportunity Grant

In March, Perth County awarded \$2,500 of funding from the Cultivating Opportunity Grant to support community outreach. Perth County Warden, Rhonda Ehgoetz, presents cheque to Jillian Lewis and Steve Dolson (lower left).

Huron Perth Agriculture and Water Festival

In June, following the dissolution of the Huron Perth Agriculture and Water Festival, Board Members wanted to donate their remaining funds to an organization geared towards educating youth. Cheque presented by Secretary-Treasurer Elizabeth Balfour to Sylvia Behrns and Steve Dolson (above).

Corteva Agriscience

In August, Corteva donated \$1,000. Thank you for your support!



coming soon

We are rebranding to become the **Ontario Agri-Food Discovery Centre!** Watch our website and social media for more updates coming soon!

OUR MISSION

Inspiring youth and adults alike to discover the exciting future of agriculture and food through interactive and immersive experiences and programs.

BUSINESS PLAN UPDATE

Early in 2024 the HPASC Board worked with Process Curiosity, a firm experienced in this space, to develop an updated business plan that is driving the project forward.

SCIENCE CENTRE CONTRACTS ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Thanks to funding received from The Municipality of North Perth, the Board of Directors was able to contract an Administrative Assistant late this summer to support the project. We would like to take a moment to extend a warm welcome to Jessica Deitner. Jessica has a deep appreciation for the agricultural community, having grown up in North Perth and now living on a Huron County farm with her husband and three young children. Her passion for sustainability, education and community, combined with her past experience and rural background, make her an excellent fit for this role. Feel free to connect with Jessica if you have any questions about our project or would like to learn more about supporting us!



Save the Date
AGM
March 27, 2025

OUTREACH

We would like to thank Lisa Thompson, Minister of Rural Affairs, for taking the time to meet with us and discuss the future of our project.

Perth County Council heard a presentation from Steve Dolson, Chair of the Board, at their October 3 Council meeting.

Thank you to the Perth County Federation of Agriculture who also welcomed our Board to share an update on the project.

We look forward to meeting with many more groups in the coming months. Please feel free to reach out if your organization would be interested in hearing more!

MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE!

Individual: \$100/year

Business: \$250/year

Your membership fee is eligible for a tax receipt and entitles you to participate in our Annual General Meeting in March.

CHARITY REGISTRATION #
771833548RR0001

Help make the **Huron-Perth Agricultural Science Centre** a reality!



Thank You



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