

2026 FARM EDITION





www.ofa.on.ca

“Simple actions – like wearing high-visibility gear, maintaining equipment or

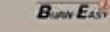
To learn more about farm safety: ag-safetyweek.ca.

CALL 519.655.2341 OR EMAIL STRATFORDTIMES@GMAIL.COM

Home | Farm | Auto | Commercial



Water Treatment Systems and More!



FCC renews partnership with Canadian Centre for Agricultural Wellbeing to support National Farmer Wellness Network and crisis line

CANADIAN CENTRE FOR AGRICULTURAL WELLBEING

www.ccaaw.ca

Farm Credit Canada (FCC) and the Canadian Centre for Agricultural Wellbeing (CCAW) have announced a renewed partnership to sustain and expand the National Farmer Wellness Network (NFWN) and National Farmer Crisis Line, 1-866-FARMS01 (1-866-327-6701).

The renewed investment of \$1.8 million over three years (\$600,000 annually) will allow the program to continue providing tailored, no-cost mental health and crisis support to Canada's farmers, farm families and agricultural workers.

"The response to the National Farmer Wellness Network Crisis Line since its launch has confirmed what we always knew, there is a deep and urgent need for mental health support that speaks the language of farming," said Canadian Centre for Agricultural Wellbeing CEO and lead scientist Briana Hagen. "FCC's renewed investment means we can continue building on this founda-

tion, reaching more farmers and agricultural workers who need immediate, culturally informed support. This partnership is about more than a phone line; it's about ensuring Canada's agricultural community knows it is seen, valued and never alone."

Since launching in February 2025, the National Farmer Wellness Network Crisis Line has connected agricultural workers across Canada with licensed mental health professionals trained through the Canadian Agricultural Literacy Program (CALP), specialists who understand the unique pressures of farming life. The renewal ensures that this vital service continues uninterrupted.

"Farming and ranching asks a lot of people," said FCC president and CEO Justine Hendricks. "Behind every operation are individuals and families managing uncertainty, long hours and immense responsibility. That's why FCC is proud to continue its support to the National Farmer Wellness Network so farmers and farm families have access to trusted mental health support from pro-

fessionals who understand the unique realities of agriculture, whenever they need it."

Farming remains one of Canada's most demanding occupations. Financial volatility, geographic isolation, unpredictable weather and the emotional weight of caring for land and livestock create compounding mental health pressures that general support services are often ill-equipped to address. The NFWN Crisis Line was built specifically to meet farmers where they are, and this renewed commitment ensures it will keep doing so.

"Renewing this commitment means that farmers and farm families across Canada can continue to count on us, not just in a moment of crisis, but as part of an ongoing network of care," said NFWN chief programming officer Deborah Vanberkel. "The trust that agricultural communities have placed in this program is something we do not take lightly. With FCC's continued support, we are able to grow that trust and deepen our reach into every province."



NO JOB TOO BIG OR SMALL

- NEW INSTALLATIONS • RENOVATIONS • REPAIRS
- SEWER CAMERA • WATER SOFTENERS
- WATER HEATERS • A MINI EXCAVATOR FOR SEWER WATER AND HYDRO TRENCHING AND TILE REPAIRS

BIN RENTAL

(14 yard bins for rent anything from yard clean up to a roof or renovation)

BERGER
PLUMBING

Jeremy Berger
Owner

519-274-0160

bergerplumbing.ca

fueling Ontario farms for over 60 years

Diesel. Propane. Delivered.



BOUCHER &
JONES
FUELS

DAVIS &
MCCAULEY
FUELS

SUBMIT YOUR LETTER TO THE EDITOR TO US

CALL 519.622.2341 OR EMAIL STRATFORDTIMES@GMAIL.COM

Agricultural drones take flight after Health Canada pesticide approval

AMANDA NELSON

Times Reporter

A Health Canada approval allowing pesticide application by remotely piloted aircraft systems (RPAS), commonly known as drones, was granted in June, allowing farmers and small businesses across south-western Ontario to spray pesticides in accordance with the Pest Control Products Act and the Pest Control Products Regulations.

While Canadian farmers have been able to use drones for mapping, scouting and crop monitoring, the major regulatory hurdle has been using them to apply pesticides.

Now that new approvals have opened the door for drone-based pesticide applications, small business owners, such as Justin Shieck, owner and operator of Norfolk Drone Services, say they believe farmers can now utilize the technology for greater efficiency.

Shieck was initially taken off guard when he read the report stating that pesticide spraying via drone technology was approved back in June, something he thought he wouldn't see until next year.

"There weren't even signs that this was going to happen by the fall ... we were taken completely off guard about the approval."

Shieck says that countries like China, the United States and Australia have been using drone technology in the agricultural sector for around 15 years, and yet Canada is just starting to see the value after getting feedback from competing countries.

"In the states, drones are treated as another aircraft," he said. "What got me into this business was really watching how fast it expanded across the states and seeing YouTube video after YouTube video and news article after news article showing small businesses booming, with young 20-year-olds and different age groups of farmers enjoying what they're doing and bringing a cheaper solution for farming."

Shieck says he believes farmers throughout Canada will soon own and operate drones, similar to the way they own tractors,



(AMANDA NELSON PHOTO)

Justin Shieck, owner and operator of Norfolk Drone Services, demonstrates agricultural drone technology. The June Health Canada approval allowing pesticide applications by remotely piloted aircraft systems opens new opportunities for farmers and agricultural businesses.

tors, combines or other farming equipment. He says in farming, timing is everything when it comes to spraying pesticides or fertilizers.

"Do I see every farmer owning one, like a Swiss Army knife in their toolbox? One hundred per cent, because farming comes down to timing," said Shieck. "Especially if you're deploying it out of the back of your barn, you can hit timing windows when you really need to."

Compared to small conventional tractors, drones can cover more ground in less time, at about 40 acres per hour; however, large self-propelled sprayers can cover more than 80 acres per hour. These large sprayers are often hard on fields and don't allow for the same mobility as a drone.

The Health Canada report noted that drone application is often the most practical option when fields are soft, wet or too difficult for ground application equipment; when pest outbreaks occur late in crop growth; or for areas that are either too large

or inaccessible for ground application.

"If it's been raining a lot, I don't think anyone's pulling a rig through a field," said Shieck. "Then once a canopy gets high, you can't really spray beans or corn because it's too tall. In the fall, I really see drones tackling the heavy canopies where you're not getting that 25 per cent loss from driving over your beans."

Although Canada is behind in its approval, Shieck says it's not all bad news, and being able to track and assess what's happening in other countries before the Health Canada approval has benefited the budget.

"Canada is cautious," he said. "We take a more science-based regulatory approach than most places, and they do it for safety reasons. I would say it's not a horrible thing that we were behind. Watching and allowing other countries to spend a lot of money on research while we sat back and collected data was valuable. Now we have some brands approved, and we're not wast-

ing that time or money on the trial and error they've already gone through."

The report notes that the approval also aligns Canada with other countries like the United States and Australia, helping Canadian agriculture stay competitive internationally during times when competitive prices are key.

"Using RPAS to apply pesticides can make farming more efficient by helping farmers protect crops while using fewer inputs – such as pesticides and other resources needed for crop production, including labour, fuel and equipment use," read the report. "This will support food security and help keep food affordable."

Drone operation is regulated by Transport Canada, whereas the regulation of pesticides is under the jurisdiction of Health Canada. Transport Canada considers aerial drones to be aircraft, and all pilots must understand and follow Canadian Aviation Regulations.

The data show that the risks of applying pesticides by RPAS are generally similar to those of conventional aerial application. However, drones also have the potential to apply pesticides very precisely, similar to some ground-based spot treatments.

Health Canada also concluded that pesticide residues on food crops resulting from RPAS applications are not higher than those resulting from conventional application methods, making foods as safe as with conventional applications.

Shieck's company, Norfolk Drone Services, offers agricultural drone services focused on precision spraying, spreading and mapping. Its main agriculture-related services include aerial spraying, granular spreading, mapping and aerial imagery, as well as drone sales, support and training.

The cost of a drone package varies, but Shieck says it is generally around \$40,000 to \$50,000 and includes multiple batteries and packages, including spray equipment that can be used for pesticides, fertilizers, herbicides and biological products.

Shieck encourages anyone interested to visit his website or reach out to him directly at www.norfolkdroneservices.ca

RELIABLE FUEL & PROPANE DELIVERY 24/7

Quality products and great service at a fair price.

219 Lorne Ave. E. Stratford, ON N5A 6S4 519-272-0090	6976 Wellington Rd 7 Alma, ON N0B1A0 519-513-4514	165 Avenue Rd Cambridge, ON N1R 7Z1 519-622-3720
--	---	--



From pasture to plate, JC Cattle Co. builds connection between farmers and consumers

GALEN SIMMONS

Regional Editor

On a quiet pasture southeast of Stratford, a group of distinctly patterned cows graze, chew their cud and, for the most part, pay little attention to their visitors.

They are part of JC Cattle Co.'s growing herd of Canadian Speckle Park cattle, a breed that has become the foundation of a young agricultural business built around a simple idea: raise quality beef locally and give customers an opportunity to know exactly where their food comes from.

Based on a family farm outside Milverton, JC Cattle Co. is owned and operated by Morgan Kuepfer, her husband, Jonathan De Vries, and their friend and Jonathan's coworker, Christine Chalmers.

The business began after Chalmers and De Vries, who work together in agriculture, started talking about an empty barn on Chalmers' family farm, where her family had previously operated a dairy farm.

"Those two thought, 'Well, let's go fill it with some beef because we're getting sick and tired of paying the prices that we're paying for beef and high-quality beef at the grocery store,'" Kuepfer said. "Let's see if we can raise some

high-quality beef ourselves."

They started with two purebred, first-calf heifers. Three years later, JC Cattle Co. has grown to roughly 100 cows, not including calves and other animals in the herd.

Chalmers introduced her partners to Speckle Park cattle, a Canadian beef breed known for its distinctive black-and-white colouring and, according to Kuepfer, the quality of its beef.

The animals also proved well suited to the operation.

"They're great mums, they have a good maternal instinct, for the most part they're docile," Kuepfer said. "They're a really high-quality beef. So, because we were going direct to consumer and we wanted something that we loved too, it just seemed like a really good fit."

JC Cattle Co. raises its animals from birth through finishing, with cattle destined either to become breeding stock or enter the company's beef program.

That start-to-finish approach also allows the farmers to have greater control over how their cattle are raised.

Breeding cattle spend roughly six months of the year on pasture, depending on weather, and rotational grazing allows sections of pasture to recover while others are being grazed.

The company also has cattle grazing

40 acres near Cambridge in partnership with rare Charitable Research Reserve, where rotational grazing helps manage the ecosystem and habitat.

Most of the cattle's feed is grown by JC Cattle Co., while what it doesn't produce itself is sourced locally. Its animals receive a grass-and-grain diet through a non-GMO feed program. During the winter, cattle return to barns but continue to have indoor and outdoor access.

"We like to try to keep it as clean and green as we can," Kuepfer said.

That philosophy extends beyond raising the animals.

JC Cattle Co. takes what it calls a "nose-to-tail" approach, finding uses for as much of each animal as possible. Beyond traditional beef cuts, customers can purchase bones and fat, while the company renders fat into cooking tallow and products including skin cream, lip balm and soap. Bones are used for broth, while some organ meat and other products are supplied to the Bark for freeze-dried dog treats.

"We all love a steak or a roast or ground beef," Kuepfer said. "Those are great things. They're nutrient dense. However, there's so much more."

The business's direct-to-consumer model is equally important.

Kuepfer handles much of the market-

ing and sales while continuing to work as a supply teacher, while Chalmers and De Vries handle much of the daily cattle and barn work alongside their full-time jobs.

Customers can meet the farmers themselves at the Stratford Farmers' Market at the Rotary Complex on Saturdays and the Stratford Sunday Market behind city hall. JC Cattle Co. also operates an on-line store and offers free Thursday delivery to Perth County addresses.

For Kuepfer, giving consumers that direct connection to their food is part of what the three farmers set out to accomplish.

"People want to know where their food comes from," she said.

For JC Cattle Co., that means offering customers beef that is "clean and green and it's local and it's Canadian."

And three years into what began with two heifers and an empty barn, the farmers are still figuring out just how large their cattle "addiction" might become.

The herd, Kuepfer said, has been growing as they determine what remains manageable for the three of them.

"We've just been seeing what is still within our management style and reach and kind of just going with the flow."

For more information on JC Cattle Co., visit jccattleco.ca.



KIRKTON BOVINE SERVICES
and PROVITRO IVF & ET SERVICES

YOUR HERD OUR PRIORITY

 HERD HEALTH Dairy • Beef Sheep • Goats	 REPRO Ultrasound Herd Repro Bull Testing	 EMBRYO TRANSFER Flushing Freezing Transfers Exports	 ON-FARM SUPPORT Emergency Care Udder Health Nutrition Barn Consults
--	--	---	--

24/7 FARM ANIMAL TRIAGE
for existing clients

519-229-8911 www.kirktonvetclinic.ca



HAYDEN WATER WELLS
Since 1944

**We speak fluent farmer...
BECAUSE WE FARM TOO!**

- DRILLED WELLS
- PUMP SYSTEMS
- BORED WELLS
- WATER GUARANTEED

Call us FIRST for great deals on new wells & pump systems

LUCAN

• **(519) 227-0057 • 1-888-535-4455**

www.haydenwaterwells.com info@haydenwaterwells.com

EAT... SLEEP... DRILL.

Huron, Perth honeybee hive losses lower than many areas

JOHN MINER

Times Reporter

When it comes to beehive losses, Huron and Perth County beekeepers can consider themselves fortunate compared to much of the province.

According to a spring survey by the Ontario Beekeepers Association, the winter hive losses in the region that includes Huron and Perth averaged 17.6 per cent, the second lowest losses in the province.

But beekeepers in some other regions reported losing more than half their hives, including northeastern Ontario, Greater Toronto and Hamilton area and central Ontario. Only northwestern Ontario had lower losses than Huron and Perth.

The overall average loss for Ontario was 45.3 per cent.

South Huron beekeeper Aaron Neeb calculates that to break even, beekeepers can only afford to lose up to 20 per cent of their hives over winter.

"Hive loss is a serious issue for the beekeeping industry," he said.

Neeb said the lower losses this past winter for the Huron and Perth region, which also includes Grey, Bruce and Wellington counties, is extremely positive news for beekeepers in the area.

Last year, the beekeepers in the region weren't as fortunate, reporting losses of 39.5 per cent.

The top reasons for hive losses, according to the Ontario Beekeepers Association survey, were winter weather, small clus-

ters going into winter and queen issues.

Beekeepers reporting overwinter success attributed their lower losses to effective Varroa mite control, good sized clusters going into winter and effective fall feeding of their bees.

The mites are a serious issue for beekeepers, requiring regular monitoring and sometimes multiple treatments, Neeb said. Populations can grow exponentially during a season.

High mite levels can cause viruses and diseases that are difficult to eliminate.

To recover from losses, some beekeepers split surviving hives into two colonies, but that is a bit of a catch-22.

"Yes, you have a new hive, but it is not nearly as strong as it would be if left as a single colony. This can result in lower honey yields and, for some beekeepers with pollination contracts, fewer viable colonies to provide for pollination," Neeb said.

An added issue is that by the time fall arrives, beekeepers have two colonies that require supplemental feed and treatments to make it through the winter.

Ontario beekeepers also try to recover from hive losses by importing queen bees from places such as Hawaii, California, Chile and New Zealand. The downside is these bees are less likely to survive Canadian winters than queens reared in Canada, Neeb said.

A positive development for Ontario beekeepers, according to the provincial association, was the registration this spring of

new mite control products.

Another initiative was announced by the University of Guelph – the Low Varroa Growth breeding program that aims to build resistance to the mites.

The research involves sampling hives twice in a season to compare mite levels and then selecting the ones with lower

mite numbers for new bee colonies.

The Ontario Beekeepers Association is also calling for investments in research and extension to help beekeepers be more resilient in the face of high winter losses.

Ontario's beekeepers produced \$40.8 million of honey last year, up from \$33.4 million in 2024.



(JOHN MINER PHOTO)

South Huron beekeeper Aaron Neeb says the lower winter hive losses is extremely good news.

**EASY LIFT
DOORS LTD**

1-800-667-3845

EASYLIFTDOORS.COM

515 JAMES ST S, ST. MARYS



INDUSTRY LEADING OVERHEAD AND GARAGE DOOR SOLUTIONS
Agricultural | Commercial/Industrial | Residential



STRATFORD FALL FAIR

CELEBRATING

THE **185** TH

ANNIVERSARY

FOR THE FULL
SCHEDULE OF THIS
YEAR'S FALL FAIR,
SCAN THE QR CODE



RE-ELECT



**HARJ
NIJJAR**

FOR CITY COUNCIL

PROVEN EXPERIENCE.
TRUSTED LEADERSHIP.



AUTHORIZED AND PAID FOR BY THE CANDIDATES CAMPAIGN

185TH STRATFORD FALL FAIR

A look ahead: What can you expect at this year's Stratford Fall fair?

CONNOR LUCZKA

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

The 185th Stratford Fall Fair is around the corner. From rides and attractions to agricultural and historical displays, organizers say this year will be one to remember.

"There's something for everybody to get involved with," said Laurie Neubrand, president of the Stratford & District Agricultural Society and chair of the Stratford Fall Fair board. "... We're maintaining the tradition, but it's also a celebration of the 185th Stratford Fall Fair. We were one of the first agricultural societies established in the province back in the year, I think it was 1841 ... It goes back a long way, and everything has developed since then. So things get better and better."

The fair officially kicks off with its opening ceremonies and ambassador competition on Thursday, Sept. 24 at 7 p.m. Right after, the pie auction returns in the Community Hall of Rotary Complex.

Earlier on that day, there are a few additional events

that precede the opening. The Seniors' Euchre Tournament takes place at 1 p.m., a Farm to You show takes place from 4-10 p.m., as do the Midway amusements, courtesy of Campbell Amusements, and the exhibits in the Community Hall.

On Friday, the 4-H Livestock Show kicks off at 9 a.m.

On Saturday, there is free lazer tag at the Agriplex, numerous activities at the Kid's Korner, a goat show in the green space west of the complex, a miniature horse show, a livestock show, a baby show and the mini prince and princess competition, among other attractions.

On Sunday, a church service takes place in the Community Hall at 9 a.m., two dog shows courtesy of 4 Paws Flying Entertainment, the Perth County Beef Club Achievement Day, the Show N' Shine car, truck, tractor and bike show, and the beloved egg drop, courtesy of Stratford Mayor Martin Ritsma.

Ritsma, who has been part of the ag society and organizing body for many years, said the egg drop is a recent addition to the fair. Raised by crane, he drops an egg

onto the crowd below who try to catch it unscrambled for a cash prize.

"We'll frequently hand out \$5 for a great catch or maybe \$5 for a not so great catch where you literally wear egg on your face," Ritsma laughed.

This year marks a significant milestone for the fair and the ag society, at 185 years. Neubrand told the Times it is an honour that they have had the opportunity to organize the event for such a long time.

"A lot of people make it happen over the years," Neubrand said. "People have come and gone, and we're always looking for new volunteers and helpers and ways for people to get involved. Fairs wouldn't go if it hadn't been for volunteers to keep it going."

To that end, the fair is still looking for volunteers. Anyone interested can contact the society at admin@stratfordfairgrounds.com.

The Stratford Fall Fair takes place Sept. 24-27. For the full schedule, visit <https://tinyurl.com/bdjy8fbk>, and for more information visit the ag society's website.



Honouring 185 Years of Fair Tradition!

Famme & Co.
Professional Corporation
CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS

Three locations to serve you...

125 Ontario St., Stratford • 519-271-7581
25 Water St. N., St. Marys • 519-284-1030
210 Oxford St. E., London • 519-432-1663
www.famme.ca



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

The 185th Stratford Fall Fair kicks off Sept. 24. Along with agricultural exhibits, shows, games and attractions, the fair is an important cultural anchor for the city. It predates the city and country, founded in the very first permanent structure of Stratford itself.

Come for the rides, stay for the fun! Happy 185th Anniversary!

AL'S AUTO BODY
QUALITY COLLISION REPAIR SPECIALIST

Complete Collision & Refinishing
Repair to all Makes & Models • Frame Straightening

519-393-6164
4298 Perth Line 34, Stratford, ON

DISTINCTLY TEA

185 Years of Tradition, Community & Celebration!

18 York St., Stratford
519-271-9978
www.distinctlyteastratford.ca

Sutton
FIRST CHOICE
Sutton Group First Choice Realty Ltd.
Brokerage
151 Downie St., Stratford, On

Liz Yundt, Realtor®

Celebrating the 185th Anniversary of the Stratford Fall Fair!

Cell: 519-272-9017 | lizyundt@sutton.com

185TH STRATFORD FALL FAIR

A look back: 185 years of the Stratford Fall Fair

CONNOR LUCZKA

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

While today thousands of Stratford residents and visitors visit the annual Fall Fair for the rides and attractions, its history goes back deeper than one could ever guess. It predates Stratford as a city, as a town or village, and indeed Canada as a country.

In 1841, four prominent area citizens – John Linton, William Jackson, Alex McDonald and William Smith – started the Stratford Agricultural Society, according to *Reflections: A History of the Stratford Agricultural Society 1841-1991*, by local historian Dean Robinson. According to Robinson, the four founders invited area farmers, 17 of whom came, to a meeting at the Shakespeare Inn, the first permanent structure in Stratford that is located where Café Bouffon and Pazzo Pizzeria

currently is.

It was in that timber building the society was formed and its first “exhibition” was planned for Oct. 14, 1842.

The fair opened at noon and had exhibits of farm animals and homemade items like woollen mittens and farm implements. There were 28 prize categories and the money totalled 20 pounds, five shillings (\$45 Canadian dollars).

The ag society of the day and its fair continued to grow over time. In 1857, the society paid 200 pounds to the Canada Company for an acre of land that was to be a permanent fairground, located at the corner of Wellington Street and St. Patrick’s Street – though those grounds did not last long.

By 1865 the fair had grown too large to be held there, bouncing around the city across the years.

In 1911, a committee decided on a 24-

acre field near John Street and Britannia Street, which had a sale price between \$3,500 and \$4,000. This field would be home to the fall fair for many years, and residents and visitors can still see the stone entranceway today at the Britannia Street roundabout.

The Stratford Fall Fair was held on that site until 2011. The following year, it took place at the Stratford Rotary Complex and Agriplex off of McCarthy Drive, where it currently is today.

Although the fair changed throughout the years, adding exhibits this year, changing them the next, removing them entirely as the decades went on, the popular carnival attractions that are so prevalent and popular today were not so in its early days.

The ag society voted to include its first “midway” at the fall fair in 1923. It was not without its critics either, as many thought such games, amusement rides and entertainment had no place in the agricultural exhibitions and the operators “cast a seedy and immoral cloud” over the show. Nevertheless, the midway of the day

proved popular enough to warrant its continuation and today the attractions of the fair are synonymous with the fair itself – without any seedy or immoral worries.

Additionally, the Stratford Fair Ambassador program is relatively new, given the fair’s long history. It began in 1974 and those crowned were originally known as the “Queen of the Fair.” The year’s queen was primarily focused on promoting the fair. They would visit other fairs in the area, ride in parades, take an active roll in fair events and help organize the competition for the following year, among other duties.

Today, the role is much the same, though they are now known as ambassadors and both boys and girls may be named.

Fair ambassadors have the opportunity to partake in a regional competition, for title of District 8 Ambassador and get to represent fairs across Huron-Perth. As well as partake in the Canadian National Exhibition (CNE)’s Ambassador of the Fairs competition in Toronto, for title of CNE Ambassador and to represent the CNE at fairs across Ontario.



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

The old fairgrounds that many Stratford residents and visitors remember were not the first grounds that held the fall fair. They were purchased in 1911, but the ag society and fair began in 1841.

splitrailcountrystore.com
4304 Rd 119 Stratford
(519) 273-1881

THE SPLIT RAIL COUNTRY STORE

D&S DOWNHAM EQUIPMENT LTD.

2026 IS D&S DOWNHAM EQUIPMENT'S 65TH YEAR IN BUSINESS

Proudly serving Perth and Oxford County since 1961.
Thank you for all your support.

3981 Perth Line 26, Stratford, ON
519.273.1740 • www.dsdownham.ca

185 YEARS

the

STRATFORD FALL FAIR

For 185 years the Stratford Fall Fair has celebrated the agriculture, families and traditions that make our community strong.

We're proud to celebrate this remarkable milestone alongside the community we are privileged to serve.

Congratulations on 185 years.

MONTEITH
RITSMA
PHILLIPS

6 Wellington Street
(519) 271-6770
www.stratfordlawyers.com

185TH STRATFORD FALL FAIR



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

The Stratford Fall Fair was — and still is — an opportunity to share agricultural practices and accomplishments. Originally held Oct. 14, 1842 by the Stratford Agricultural Society, which was founded only in 1841, its exhibitions varied over the near two centuries of its tenure in the Festival City, though animal husbandry has always been a staple. Pictured here are sheep gathered for an exhibit during the ag society's 100th year of operation, courtesy of *Reflections: A History of the Stratford Agricultural Society 1841-1991*, by local historian Dean Robinson.

TOUCH A TRUCK AT STRATFORD FALL FAIR

Sun., Sept. 27
Starting at 1 p.m.

ELLIOTT MOTORS

of Stratford Inc.

IT'S THE LAW!
Slow down and move over when you see a tow truck.

472 Erie St., Stratford | www.elliottmotors.ca **519-305-RIDE**

185TH STRATFORD FALL FAIR



(CONTRIBUTED PHOTO)

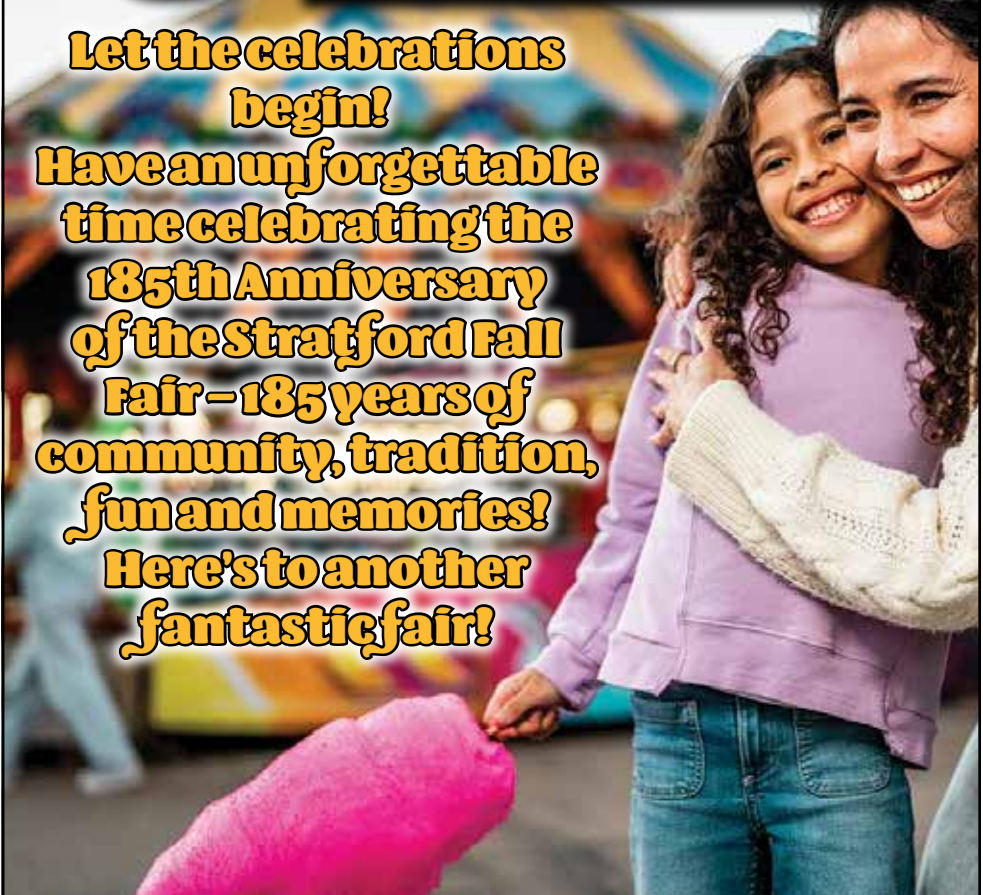
Today, the fair is known for its amusements just as much as its agricultural shows, with many visitors and residents visiting its midway each year. It's hard to believe, given its popularity today, but there was a time when the midway was seen as too far afield for the fair.



Stacked

PANCAKE & BREAKFAST HOUSE

Let the celebrations begin!
Have an unforgettable time celebrating the 185th Anniversary of the Stratford Fall Fair – 185 years of community, tradition, fun and memories! Here's to another fantastic fair!



925 Ontario St. Unit 5B, Stratford | stackedpancakehouse.ca





Stratford Fall Fair:
185 Years Strong!
www.porkcongress.on.ca



BEAT THE SLUSH BEFORE THE RUSH

GET YOUR SNOW TIRES BOOKED TODAY!

COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR AND TIRE SERVICE

Winter seasonal change over. Ask about our FREE tire storage options

SNOW TIRE AND ALL WEATHER TIRE SALE

 GET UP TO A \$100 mail-in rebate with the purchase of 4 eligible new Michelin tires Offer valid Sept 21 to Dec 18	 GET UP TO A \$100 mail-in rebate with the purchase of 4 eligible new Bridgestone tires Offer valid Sept 15 to Dec 07	 GET UP TO A \$100 mail-in rebate with the purchase of 4 eligible new Good Year tires Offer valid Sept 7 to Dec 20
--	---	--

Certain conditions apply. See details on manufacturer rebate site

KEEP YOUR VEHICLE SAFE AND RUNNING AT ITS BEST!

 ENGINE DIAGNOSTICS Check Engine Light? Poor Performance? We'll diagnose the problem.	 EXHAUST REPAIR Mufflers • Exhaust Leaks Pipes • Complete Exhaust Service	 SUSPENSION REPAIR Shocks • Struts • Ball Joints Tie Rods & More
 BRAKE SERVICE & REPAIR Brake Pads • Rotors Calipers • Complete Brake Jobs	 WHEEL ALIGNMENTS Improve Tire Wear • Handling Steering & Vehicle Stability	

\$40 OFF - BOOK YOUR UNDERCOATING TODAY!

519-284-3851			SPECIAL PRICE FOR OIL, LUBE, & FILTER CHANGE (most vehicles, up to 5L of full synthetic oil)	\$89.99
WWW.ASHTONTIRE.CA		WINTER BUMPER TO BUMPER (peace of mind inspection)	\$69.95	Offer expires Oct 15

830 QUEEN ST E. ST. MARYS

Can seasonal patterns help inform fertilizer purchasing decisions?

LEIGH ANDERSON

Farm Credit Canada

As producers turn their attention to the 2027 growing season, buying fertilizer remains one of the most important – and uncertain – crop input decisions. The return of Chinese fertilizer exports has improved supply prospects for some nutrients, but ongoing geopolitical tensions in the Middle East and the potential for disruptions to trade through the Strait of Hormuz continue to create upside price risk. At the same time, energy markets and global trade flows remain important drivers of fertilizer costs.

Against this backdrop, one question consistently comes up: How should producers approach fertilizer purchases in an increasingly uncertain market? In this report, we examine current fertilizer market conditions and explore how historical pricing patterns can help inform purchasing decisions amid ongoing uncertainty.

Fertilizer markets are sending mixed signals

Current market indicators highlight the diverging outlooks for nitrogen and phosphate fertilizers heading into 2027. Urea prices in the U.S. Gulf fertilizer market have retreated significantly from the highs reached earlier in 2026 and now sit roughly 15 per cent below pre-conflict levels, while DAP prices at New Orleans (NOLA) remain approximately 25 per cent above pre-conflict levels. The contrast highlights the different forces shaping nitrogen and phosphate markets. Unlike nitrogen and phosphate, potash prices have remained comparatively stable over the past year.

While Canadian fertilizer prices generally follow U.S. Gulf and NOLA bench-

marks, transportation costs, exchange rates, regional supply-demand conditions and retailer inventories can influence the extent and timing of price changes. As a result, declines in benchmark prices do not necessarily translate into equivalent reductions in Canadian fertilizer prices.

Nitrogen markets easing, but risks remain

Part of the decline in urea prices reflects the seasonal slowdown that follows North American planting, a period often referred to as the summer lull in fertilizer markets. Prices have also softened due to the return of Chinese urea exports after several years of limited participation in global markets, improving product availability and easing pressure on nitrogen prices.

However, lower nitrogen prices should not be mistaken for lower risk. The Middle East remains a critical supplier of fertilizer products, feedstocks and energy, while the Strait of Hormuz remains a key global trade route. Any disruption to regional trade flows, shipping routes or natural gas markets could quickly reverse recent price declines.

Phosphate markets remain fundamentally tight

Phosphate markets continue to tell a different story. Elevated costs for sulphur, ammonia and natural gas – the primary inputs in phosphate production – have squeezed producer margins. So much so that in some cases, phosphate production has even been curtailed. With the Middle East accounting for nearly half of global sulphur trade, ongoing conflict in the region risks further increasing phosphate production costs and constraining supply.

Also supporting phosphate prices is the

uncertainty surrounding Chinese exports. While lower U.S. tariffs on Moroccan phosphate may encourage some additional North American imports, they are unlikely to materially loosen global market conditions. Chinese export policy remains a key watch item heading into 2027.

Managing uncertainty through purchasing decisions

With fertilizer prices remaining difficult to predict, many farms are focusing on timing of purchases as a risk management tool. Most farms know their expected crop rotation and fertilizer requirements well before spring, and while prices remain uncertain, historical seasonal patterns can provide useful context for purchasing decisions.

Nitrogen exhibits the strongest seasonality of the major fertilizers. Over the past five years, Canadian retail prices have typically been the weakest during late summer and fall before strengthening into the spring application season, with average values peaking in April and May.

Phosphate displays a more moderate but still noticeable seasonal pattern. Prices for Canadian farmers tend to be relatively softer during the second half of the calendar year before gradually strengthening ahead of spring seeding.

In contrast, Canadian potash retail prices have exhibited relatively modest seasonal price fluctuations in recent years, giving producers greater flexibility to manage cash flow.

After summer fill programs, farmers are typically left weighing purchases between fall and spring application windows. Those with storage capacity may be able to separate purchase timing from applica-

tion timing, while others may use supplier programs that allow fertilizer to be priced ahead of delivery.

Recent experience highlights why these decisions matter. Many producers viewed fertilizer prices as unattractive during summer fill programs last year, resulting in limited uptake. Fall fertilizer application was also weaker than normal, pushing a larger share of fertilizer demand into the winter and spring months.

Fertilizer purchasing decisions should also be considered alongside grain marketing plans. As discussed in our recent grains and oilseeds report, historical crop pricing patterns can help inform grain marketing decisions amid market uncertainty. Locking in favourable crop prices can help offset higher fertilizer costs and improve margin certainty heading into 2027.

Bottom line

Geopolitical events this past year have highlighted how quickly fertilizer market conditions can change. Historical pricing patterns suggest nitrogen and phosphate prices often strengthen into the spring application season, contrasting with potash prices which tend to show greater stability. While there is no guarantee markets will follow their typical seasonal path, the latter can be useful in guiding fertilizer purchasing decisions.

Many producers appear to be taking a wait-and-see approach as fertilizer markets move through the fall and into the new year. Given the uncertainty that remains, a phased purchasing strategy may be worth considering. While it will not always result in the lowest price, it can help balance opportunity, risk and flexibility.

Come visit McCully's Hill Farm and bring the whole family!

EMILY STEWART

Times Correspondent

There's always something to do at McCully's Hill Farm, whatever time of year it is.

The farm runs a pancake brunch on Saturdays and Sundays in March where guests can enjoy pancakes, baked beans, sausage and McCully's maple syrup. McCully's will partner with organizations like the Optimist Club and Lions Club, as well as local schools, to raise money for charities like the Ronald McDonald House.

The maple tours also run in March where visitors can take a wagon ride to the top of the hill to meet farm animals, and then through the sugar bush and to the sugar shack to learn about maple syrup production.

"We meet a lot of people who remember making maple syrup with their grandparents or with their dads just boiling it on a small scale or some of them, on a large scale, but they're removed from it now so

it's nice for them to come back and see it," said owner Dennis Aarts. "It's just a real Canadian thing. It's fun and unique so people really enjoy that."

During the summer, McCully's runs a day camp for children involving nature hikes, visits with farm animals and games.

Schools will also take tours during the spring and fall.

"School tours are a really good opportunity. We try to let the kids interact with the animals in a safe way. We have some animals that are used to being handled and stuff like that, so it's pretty exciting for them," Aarts said.

Throughout October on Saturdays and Sundays, McCully's runs the Harvest Festival which features a tractor-drawn wagon ride to see farm animals, the popular pumpkin catapult, a straw tent for children to play in, a corn maze and a horse-drawn wagon ride through the forest to see fall foliage.

"Usually, the forest is decorated Halloween-ish, so you could say it's a bit of a

haunted forest," Aarts said.

Lucid Musings Photography runs Santa photos in McCully's greenhouse in November, with proceeds supporting the local food bank.



CONTINUED TO PAGE B13

(EMILY STEWART PHOTO)

McCully's Hill Farm located just outside of Stratford is a year-round stop for locals looking to reconnect with agriculture and have some good, old-fashioned seasonal fun.

From 2,000 bulbs to 40,000, Perth South flower farm continues to bloom

GALEN SIMMONS

Regional Editor

What began with 2,000 gladiolus bulbs and a couple acres of farmland near St. Pauls has blossomed into 40,000 flowers planted each year and a roadside business with customers who come from near and far to “pick their own rainbow.”

For the past 19 years, Laura Hardeman Good, better known as the Crazy Glad Lady, has grown gladioli on her Perth South farm, selling the colourful cut flowers from her roadside stand and at the St. Marys Farmers’ Market.

The business began when Good’s youngest child was about 18 months old and she was preparing to return to work.

“We had just bought a new farm and I’m like, ‘Do you think I could have a couple of acres? I’m going to try something,’” Good recalled.

The choice of flower came partly from the annual decoration service at nearby Avonbank Church. Good’s mother-in-law would purchase flowers to decorate family graves, and Good wondered if she could grow them herself.

“I don’t know that it ever turned out to be a savings for her,” she joked.

What started with 2,000 bulbs grew year after year until Good reached the roughly 40,000 she plants today.

Those bulbs go into the ground over five or six plantings each spring, sometimes be-



(GALEN SIMMONS PHOTO)

Perth South’s Crazy Glad Lady, Laura Hardeman Good, stands in front of her flower field where she planted 40,000 gladiolus bulbs earlier this year, which are now in full bloom.

fore her husband has planted his corn. This year, Good was planting in mittens.

Flowers generally begin appearing around mid-July and continue until frost, ideally carrying the season through Thanksgiving.

Good waits until each stem has three blossoms before cutting, giving customers a more colourful display than gladioli typically harvested earlier for wholesale markets.

At the height of the season, as many as 30 pails of flowers can line the roadside stand, with colours ranging from white and pink to deep reds and nearly black.

“When they’re doing well, when they’re in

full flush, we have everything,” Good said. “When you come, you get to pick your own rainbow. You get to take home what calls to your heart.”

Growing that rainbow isn’t without its challenges.

Tiny insects called thrips can burrow into the flowers and damage blossoms, while fusarium, a type of fungi, can kill plants after they emerge. Gladioli also require significant crop rotation, with Good saying she generally cannot plant them on the same ground again for about seven years.

That means finding new areas among the

farm’s wheat, corn and soybean rotation each season, preferably close enough to the road for passing motorists to enjoy the view.

And plenty stop.

Along with local customers, Good has welcomed people travelling through Perth County and even customers who made the drive from Toronto during the COVID-19 pandemic simply to buy flowers and bring some colour home.

“Just a chance to make somebody’s day feel a little better, actually,” Good said of what her flowers provide.

That idea inspired this year’s “A Little Gladier World” campaign. Good offered four to six dozen flowers to people with ideas for sharing them with others, including residents of local nursing homes.

The inspiration came from a small rock someone once left at her stand bearing the message, “Today is a good day to be happy.”

“I really like that they bring so much joy to people’s lives,” she said.

For Good, that connection is what has kept a small experiment growing for nearly two decades.

“It makes me really happy,” she said. “I love it.”

The Crazy Glad Lady sells gladioli seasonally from her roadside stand near St. Pauls and at the St. Marys Farmers’ Market. Good can be reached at crazygladlady@gmail.com or 226-927-7963, and the Crazy Glad Lady can also be found on Instagram.

Come visit McCully’s Hill Farm

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B12

lis, as well as seasonal produce and meats. For example, the store will sell fresh turkeys for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

“We try to source everything as locally as we can, but of course you can’t get local peaches and stuff like that, so same thing with our ingredients, we try to get things as locally sourced as we can,” Aarts said.

The store also carries products from

other businesses like Kintore Coffee Co., Sheldon’s Berries, Barrie’s Asparagus, and Heeman’s Greenhouse in Thorndale. McCully’s will also get peaches from Niagara and apples from Blanford-Blenheim.

“We’ve got a lot of good relationships with local places and I think that’s important.”

More information can be found online by visiting www.mccullys.ca.

100 ACRE FARM FOR SALE BY TENDER

23796 Valleyview Rd.,
Thorndale, Ontario

**TENDER DEADLINE FOR OFFERS:
OCTOBER 30, 2026, AT 1 PM**

LAND

Consisting of Residential Lot 1 ½ acre (Principal Residence) 53 Acres workable cropland and with 41 acres systematically tiled and 12 acres with alternative draining ready to go. Soil type Bryanston Loam Soil. Non workable land 46 ½ acres consisting of 14 ½ acres bush and 31 acres of Thames River Valley land, and 1 acre of Thames River. Note, year 2007. Note, year 2007 as part of our Environmental Farm Plan (reforesting 20 acres of the above 31 acres). All acreage is approximate.



HOME FEATURE

1900 sq. foot (Main Floor) beautiful single story brick ranch home nicely landscaped, with attached single car garage (330 sq. ft), and attached 3 season sunroom, full basement – 1620 sq. ft. and the furnace room 286 sq. ft. All square feet are approximate. Driveway Centurian quad block, drilled well 215 ft. (excellent plentiful water). Septic tank and weeping bed, mature north side windbreak.

For further information and info package, and viewing of property for appointments please call:

**GC Boyle Law Firm (519)284-2112
Email: gwendolen.boyle@gcboyle.ca**

Be advised that the highest unconditional offer need not necessarily be accepted by the Sellers.



MATTHEW RAE
MPP – Perth-Wellington

519-272-0660
matthew.rae@pc.ola.org
matthewrae.ca

Oversupply and trade issues drive down dry bean prices for Ontario growers

AMANDA NELSON

Times Reporter

The 2026 Ontario Bean Growers annual general meeting was held in Stratford earlier this year, where dry bean growers from across the region came together to discuss growing concerns around exports, particularly trade, transportation and domestic demand.

Alvin Klassen of Dry Bean World outlined current challenges as Canada continues to navigate overproduction of black beans and ongoing tariff changes that are limiting trade and creating uncertainty for growers.

“In the last five years, we’ve experienced several severe ups and downs in commercial markets related to supply and demand, with the influence of producer and dealer pricing,” said Klassen.

Despite steady global demand for dry beans, many growers are finding it harder to turn a profit.

Prices across North America have dropped sharply in recent years – in some cases by nearly half – while input costs such as fuel and fertilizer have remained high.

“Throughout North America, we are now sitting where bean prices are half of what they were three years ago, and the cost of production hasn’t gone down at all,” said Klassen. “In fact, seed pricing hasn’t gone down, and it’s making it very difficult to sustain production.”

The issue, Klassen said, comes down to supply and demand. A strong harvest has left a surplus of beans in storage – known in the industry as “carryover” – giving buyers less incentive to pay higher prices.

At the same time, export challenges and limited processing options in Canada are making it harder for farmers to move their crops efficiently, adding further pressure to an already strained market.

Jeff English of Pulse Canada said the organization is working to increase domestic consumption through its “Love Canadian Beans” campaign, which aims to raise awareness that many beans sold in stores are grown in Canada and encourage more people to include them in their diets.

“It’s not about telling people how to eat but showing them how beans can be incorporated into everyday foods we already know and love,” said English. “It’s about giving some familiarity to supporting what we see as a great, sustainably grown Canadian crop.”

English added advancements in bean-processing technology could also help grow the domestic market.

“Now that we have companies extracting proteins and starches from pulse crops, we should have an opportunity to put more protein into different foods – not necessarily calling them beans, but using them as a high-protein ingredient,” he said.

Bill Rosenberg, parliamentary assistant



(AMANDA NELSON PHOTO)

A fresh mixed bean salad is one of the many ways Canadians are encouraged to get more beans in their diet during the Ontario Bean Growers Eat More Beans campaign.

to the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness, also addressed growers, highlighting the significant role Ontario’s bean producers play in the province’s agri-food sector.

“Our agri-food sector now generates around \$52 billion in annual GDP,” he said. “This is why Ontario is known around the world for safe, nutritious and delicious food.”

“Eighty to 90 per cent of the beans grown here in Ontario are exported around the world, and that is something to be proud of,” he added.

Overall, the message to growers was clear: while global demand is growing, the industry must navigate trade instability, supply chain risks and the need to build stronger domestic markets to remain competitive.

Ontario soybean farmers face price pressure as China shifts buying and Brazil ramps up production

AMANDA NELSON

Times Reporter

Ontario soybean farmers are watching global trade negotiations closely as uncertainty around exports – particularly to China – adds to price pressure in a market already facing strong global crop supplies.

Brazil is expected to have a record soy-

bean harvest in 2026, a development that analysts say will weigh on prices worldwide.

“There’s forecast to be record production in Brazil, and when there’s strong production, that has downward pressure on price,” said Brian Innes, executive director of Soy Canada. “That’s the first thing to watch for prices in 2026. The sec-

ond is what happens globally with geopolitics and tariffs.”

Innes said changes in trade relations between major economies – especially the United States and China – can have a direct impact on the prices Canadian farmers receive.

“Due to the Trump administration, tariffs on soybeans have changed,” he said. “One thing to watch for in 2026 is how the situation between the U.S. and China evolves, and how the situation between Canada and China evolves. That can have an impact on price if tariffs change.”

More than 70 per cent of Ontario’s soybean crop is exported, with prices shaped by global demand, particularly from China. While China historically sourced much of its soybeans from the United States, it is increasingly turning to Brazil due to generally lower prices.

The Canadian and U.S. soybean markets are also closely linked through cross-border trade and processing, which could impact prices for Canadian farmers.

“Products flow back and forth across the border,” said Innes. “For example, Ontario soybeans are shipped to Michigan, processed into soybean meal and then shipped back into Ontario. Soybean meal and soybean oil trade back and forth

across the border, and that’s why prices are very linked.”

Soybeans are priced on global benchmarks – particularly U.S. futures markets – meaning Canadian prices move in step with broader world trends.

“The price that Ontario farmers see is based on what conditions Canada faces when exporting to the world, including China,” said Innes. “In the past, the difference between Michigan and Ontario was largely tied to exchange rates, but now, with global trade disruptions, Canada and the U.S. face different tariffs and different market conditions.”

Despite growing competition from lower-cost producers, Innes said Ontario remains well positioned as a high-quality soybean supplier.

Ontario is a global leader in identity-preserved and food-grade soybeans, a niche market that allows farmers to compete on quality rather than volume alone.

“We’re living in a time of unprecedented global uncertainty, and if market conditions change for Canadian soybean exports, that will have an impact on price,” said Innes. “But Canadian soybeans have been flowing under strong export conditions for some time, and that has meant strong demand for Ontario soybeans.”



GREEN VALLEY HEATING INC.



HEATMOR™
STAINLESS STEEL
OUTDOOR WOOD FURNACES

Call for dealer in your area.

Office: 1-866-261-0531
Shop/Service/Sales: 1-866-415-2127
www.greenvalleyheating.ca

Distributors of:

CALPEX PUR-KING 

Flexible Pre-Insulated Pipe
LOWEST HEAT LOSS

BRUGG
Pipes



Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers welcome new strategy aimed at helping farmers

AMANDA NELSON

Times Reporter

With the ever-changing climate for food producers across Canada, including trade shifts, global conflicts and climate change, prices on Ontario produce continue to rise. In response, the federal government has launched Canada's first-ever National Food Security Strategy.

"Too much of what we grow is processed elsewhere, and too many Canadians still rely on imported food at higher prices," said Prime Minister Mark Carney. "Canadian farmers deserve more options to sell their produce, and Canadians deserve more options for where to buy their food."

The National Food Security Strategy includes a \$3.2-billion investment over 10 years with a strong focus on strengthening Canada's food system through a mix of production, infrastructure and regulatory changes aimed at reducing reliance on imported produce, especially in winter.

"This is a significant and forward-looking investment that will directly benefit greenhouse growers across Ontario and Canada," said Richard Lee, executive director of Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers (OGVG).

"The strategy acknowledges the essential role our sector plays in producing fresh, nutritious, safe vegetables year-round, while reinforcing Canada's position as a global leader in greenhouse vegetable production, reducing reliance on imports and strengthening supply chains."

A specific \$750-million investment in controlled-environment agriculture (CEA), which includes greenhouses and indoor growing systems, aims to help growers build or expand greenhouse facilities, adopt new growing technologies and produce more fruits and vegetables year-round.

The strategy also aims to support more food processing closer to where crops are grown, meaning infrastructure to turn raw produce into packaged goods locally, reduced transportation costs and reducing spoilage and emissions from long-distance shipping.

The plan also hopes to reduce bottlenecks from farm to processor to retailer

and help independent growers and vendors access markets more easily by supporting infrastructure for storage, transport and distribution.

One key point outlined in the plan notes the government is actively looking to cut regulatory barriers, or "red tape," aiming to help speed up approval for fertilizers and crop protection tools, ease the movement of goods across provincial borders and streamline agricultural regulations throughout the country.

"Through this made-in-Canada approach, we will process more of what our farmers grow here at home, creating jobs, driving economic growth and strengthening Canada's food self-sufficiency," said Heath MacDonald, Canadian Minister of Agriculture and Agri-food.

"By reducing red tape and helping innovative businesses get projects off the ground faster, we will unlock new opportunities for farmers, food processors and entrepreneurs across the agri-food sector."

OGVG says this support will help stabilize food prices in grocery stores, expand producers' market access and reduce the dominance of a few large retailers across the province.

"With the support outlined in this strategy, the greenhouse sector will be able to grow more food more efficiently, and at a lower cost," added Lee. "This benefits not only our farmers, but also Canadian families who are looking for affordable, locally grown food options year-round."

OGVG is a not-for-profit organization representing greenhouse farmers who grow tomatoes, cucumbers and peppers in Ontario. With a commitment to innovation, sustainability and food safety, OGVG members supply fresh, high-quality vegetables to Canadians year-round.



(AMANDA NELSON PHOTO)

The federal government has launched Canada's first-ever National Food Security Strategy, which includes a \$3.2-billion investment and is aimed at strengthening Canada's food system through a mix of production, infrastructure and regulatory changes.



Usborne & Hibbert
Mutual Fire Insurance Company
Celebrating 150 Years

150 Years of Strength, Stability, and Peace of Mind.

At Usborne & Hibbert Mutual Insurance, we have been insuring farms and protecting our neighbours since 1876. We have 150 years of experience insuring small family farms, large commercial farms, and everything in between. When it comes to providing the protection farmers need, no one does it better.

Contact us today and discover the U & H difference!

usborneandhibbert.ca

1-800-422-3996



HOME | AUTO | COMMERCIAL | FARM

M. JONES LIMITED
Vacuum Pumping

Septic Tanks, Holding Tanks & Catch Basins



519-461-0956 mjones.ltd@outlook.com

WE'RE HERE

when you need us.

FARMER
WELLNESS
INITIATIVE

Agriculture
Wellness
Ontario

... when harvest feels long.
... when plans change.
... after a tough day.
... through every season.



1-866-267-6255
FarmerWellnessInitiative.ca

Free ag-informed mental health counselling for
Ontario's farming community.

— in English, French, Spanish and Tagalog —
— intake available 24/7 —

Get started today



Scan the bar code
to add the line to
your contacts

\$ No cost
The Farmer Wellness Initiative is 100% free for Ontario farmers, farm workers and their families with unlimited access

Available any time, anywhere
Intake and urgent support are available 24/7/365 from home, the tractor, the barn or the field

1 Call
and answer a few quick intake questions

2 Connect
with your counsellor for an appointment within a week

3 Continue
counselling for as long as you need support