

ONTARIO CANOLA GROWERS NEWSLETTER

Fall 2025

Canadian Canola Growers Association Your Voice in Ottawa

Over the last few months the Canadian Canola Growers (CCGA) and the Canola Council of Canada (CCC) has been tirelessly working on behalf of the canola growers of Canada. Since August 14th, of this year, China's Ministry of Commerce has imposed a 75.8% duty on all Canadian canola seed shipments thereby closing the Chinese market entirely. In September the Government of Canada announced support measures including increased limits to the Advanced Payment Program (APP) and support for the biofuels industry to redirect some of the Canadian canola supply. Rick White, President & CEO of CCGA bluntly indicated: "Farmers should not be expected to borrow their way out of this situation. The Advanced Payments Program (APP) is not designed to provide the required support canola farmers need under this situation." Chris Davison, President & CEO of the CCC also indicated: "While the industry is encouraged there will be some support for biofuel production, the announced Biofuel Production Incentive (BPI) does not go far enough and will not drive meaningful additional domestic demand for canola."

Since those announcements in September, the CCGA has met with the



Front left to right: CCGA Chairman Andre Harpe, Sask. Premier Scott Moe, Prime Minister Carney, SaskCanola Executive Director Tracy Broughton, CCGA President & CEO Rick White



CCGA Director to CCGA Jennifer Doelman— provides a canola farm tour to the Parliament of Canada Internship Program sparking meaningful conversations.

Prime Minister's office and various other officials to continue to push for a more meaningful solution which would result in the market opening up to China.

On Friday October 10th, China's Ambassador to Canada indicated that: "If Canada removed the unilateral unjustified tariffs on Chinese products, China will also reciprocate accordingly". The CCGA & CCC welcomes dialogue between the two countries and emphasizes that time is of the essence as over 40,000 Canadian canola farmers will be focusing on their next year's planting as they try to market their 2025 harvest. Markets for canola have faced significant price declines and the opportunity to market their crop is limited by the Chinese market closure.

The CCGA continues to request the markets to China be reopened for all canola products (seed, oil, meal) and has been clear that this is a political issue that will require a political solution between the Government of Canada and the Government of China to resolve. CCGA's annual lobby day in Ottawa will be taking place on November 4th which continues the tradition of meeting with MPs and government officials to communicate the important topics of canola farming.

Temiskaming Research Centre Sets Up Crop Trials Yielding Practical Results

Charlie Fiset for Northern Ontario Business

University of Guelph's studies give Clay Belt farmers insight on how canola and cereals can be adapted for northern winters.

The tradition of northern farming research is rooted deep in the soil of the Ontario Crops Research Centre – New Liskeard agronomy site. The centre, which has conducted trials run by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Agribusiness (OMAFRA) since 1922, is uniquely positioned to enable farm-testing of research pertinent to northern producers from Temiskaming's Little Clay Belt and beyond.

"It's a really great opportunity for local growers to know how something works for their growing season and region, even with differing soil types and different weather patterns. ... Having access to that data is fantastic," Melinda Drummond, a University of Guelph cropping systems research technician, told Northern Ontario Business.

The centre is owned by the Government of Ontario through Agricultural Research and Innovation Ontario (ARIO). The University of Guelph took over operation and management of the site in 1997, through the Ontario Agri-Food Innovation Alliance (OAFIA), a collaboration between the University and OMAFRA. "Data specifically from Northern Ontario helps to ensure the region is represented in province-wide assessments of the industry. The trials factor in particular concerns about the Northeast region's shorter growing season, harsher winter, and variable frost occurrences in spring and fall," said Drummond.

"We do a lot of interaction with local growers and suppliers, and this helps us know what's going on in the area and makes sure we're reflecting what's common practice here," noted Drummond.

In addition to providing local data, research conducted on the centre's 140 acres in and around New Liskeard contributes to the wider research network of OAFIA agri-food centres across the province.

Between five and 10 on-site technicians conduct 30 to 35 simultaneous studies over the entire growing season, testing the effects of different cover crops, nutrient management and soil fertility, and pest management.

The centre also evaluates newly produced plant species, and performs cultivar evaluations, or in-depth comparisons of different crop varieties to determine what species are best adapted to local growing conditions.

Drummond explains that "Balancing the trials is very interesting to me, the whole logistics of

the site and respecting the timelines of the different crops is continually engaging. Trials also establish how private industry clients can ensure their products are able to thrive on Northern Ontario farms."

"There's also a lot of process-type research that's developed based on southern practices and ensuring and adapting those practices reflect what's true of Northern Ontario, to ensure we're represented," said Drummond.

Another study over the 2024-2025 season by Dr. Joshua Nasielski seeks to enhance the survival of winter canola in the Northeast by experimenting with plant growth regulators, planting dates, and different hybrids and varieties with improved winter hardiness.

Winter canola production in Northeastern Ontario is a growing segment of the canola industry, and expansion is limited by concerns about stand losses over winter in locations with shorter seasons. This year, the centre did a variety of row-spacing trials, varying the distance between crop rows to determine the effects, as well as measuring the effects of different levels of strip-tilling.

Throughout the winter, technicians meet with local farmers and suppliers, and also grower groups like the Grain Farmers of Ontario and the Ontario Canola Growers in order to be aware of the interests and concerns of local farmers.



Melinda Drummond – Research Tech – UoG | Charlie Fiset Photos



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS 2026-2027

If you grow Canola in Ontario and are interested in participating in the Board of Directors or as a District Representative we are looking for your nomination!

Term Lengths:

Board of Director- 3 years, **District Representative-** 1 year

Time Commitment: OCGA Board of Directors meet approximately 6 times a year including the Annual General Meeting. Most meetings are held via a Zoom conference call with meetings lasting an average of 90 minutes. District Representatives should attend the Annual General Meeting and provide input to their local Director.

Compensation: Directors receive a per-diem and OCGA covers out-of-pocket expenses.

District Call for Nominations	Positions Available:	Nominations Due:
1– Northern– North of Tobermory	1 Director 4 District Reps	January 29, 2026
2– Central– South of Tobermory/North of Guelph	1 Director 4 District Reps	January 29, 2026
3–Eastern– East of Pickering	1 Director 2 District Reps	January 29, 2026
4– Southern– South of Guelph	2 District Reps	January 29, 2026

2026 OCGA Nomination Form

Due: January 29th, 2026

Mail or email a photo of the Nomination Form to:

Ontario Canola Growers Association

PO Box 100, 60 Elora Street South

Harriston, Ontario, N0G 1Z0

or

ryan@ontariocanola growers.ca

District #: _____

Date: _____

Nominee Name: _____

Signature _____

Nominator Name or Self Nomination _____

Signature _____

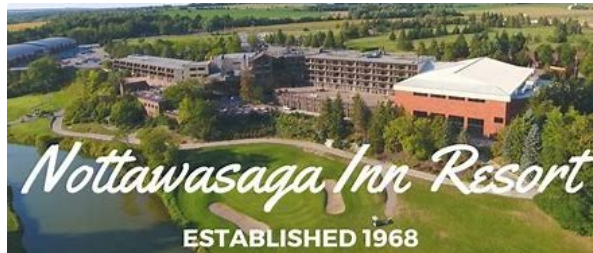
OCGA EVENTS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, February 5th 2026

Nottawasaga Inn Resort & Conference Centre, Alliston, ON

Register online at www.ontariocanolagrowers.ca



Coffee & Canola



Webinar Series
with



Deb Campbell—Agronomy Advantage Inc.

Wednesday, November 26th at 10am

Go to www.ontariocanolagrowers.ca to login

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