

## Candidates for the CanAgPlus Board of Directors 2021-2022

The following four (4) candidates are recommended by the Nominations Committee for election to the CanAgPlus Board for a two-year term. The election will be held on November 29 at the 2021 Annual General Meeting of CanAgPlus.



**DENIS DESJARDINS** – Denis is the co-founder and President of Desjardins Seed Farm Ltd. He and his brother got their start by joining the family business as partners in 1994. Today they grow processing potatoes for McCain Foods Canada and Cavendish Farms across 3000-acres of farmland. The operation has earned top 10 awards from Cavendish Farms in 2020 and from McCain Foods in 2019, 2017 and 2015. During his time in the industry he’s lent his expertise to help negotiate the acquisition of Bon Accord Seed Farm from the province of New Brunswick to Potatoes New Brunswick (PNB), as well as helping implement through legislature a Potato virus Y (PVY) virus cap for potatoes in New Brunswick. Desjardins currently serves on several committees such as the PNB Safety Net Committee, the PNB Processing Negotiation Committee and the National Program Advisory Committee (NPAC). He’s previously served as the PNB chairman, as well as on the Advisory Council to the New Brunswick’s Minister of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries as a member.



**STEPHANIE LARIVIERE** – With over 23 years experience, Stephanie has been involved in all facets of the produce industry. Stephanie currently holds the role of Regulatory Affairs Manager for Erie James Ltd., a packer/marketer/shipper operation in Leamington, and Sunsation Acres Ltd., a greenhouse growing operation in Kingsville, Ontario. Stephanie received the Mary Fitzgerald Award from the Canadian Produce Marketing Association (CPMA) in 2013 and was named one of Greenhouse Canada’s Top 10 Under 40. Stephanie has been involved in numerous industry committees throughout her career, including a directorship with the Ontario Greenhouse Marketers Association. She also serves as Vice Chair of the CPMA Food Safety Committee and has been a grower representative for Food Safety for the Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers for many years.



**IAN MCDONELL** – Ian has been a CanAgPlus director for the past two years with a keen interest in the development of a Strategic Plan for the organization. He has more than 30 years of experience working in the agriculture sector, in particular the development of standards for phytosanitary measures. As Executive Director of the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) for seventeen years, he led groups of stakeholders (government, private companies, farmers, producer and environmental organizations) in phytosanitary standard setting and for the creation of a dispute settlement

mechanism to resolve bilateral differences regarding phytosanitary measures applied under the NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement). Since retirement, he's worked part-time as a consultant, conducting an evaluation of private food safety standards on agricultural producers in sixteen Caribbean countries, as well as conducting Integrated Pest Management training in Honduras.



**ELIZABETH PATTILLO** – For the past fifteen years, Beth has been working as Food Safety Manager and Agritourism Manager at Noggins Corner Farm II Ltd in Nova Scotia's Annapolis Valley. She has an extensive background in planning, developing and implementing horticulture-based quality assurance programs. Prior to her current role, she held a variety of positions including Executive Director for the Nova Scotia Fruit Growers' Association and Chair of the Canadian Produce Marketing Association (CPMA). She was involved in the founding of CanAgPlus in 2012 and with the integration of the Repacking and Wholesaling food safety standard into CanadaGAP. Beth has also been active as a member of the CPMA Food Safety Committee, the Government Issues Management Committee, and CPMA Past Chairs Advisory Council. Currently, she is a director on the CanAgPlus Board and chairs the Technical Advisory Committee.

## CANAGPLUS

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