

Candidates for the CanAgPlus Board of Directors 2024-2026

The following six (6) candidates were shortlisted by the Board Nominations Committee for consideration by members in the upcoming election. Four (4) candidates will be elected to the CanAgPlus Board for a two-year term. The election will be held virtually on December 4 at the 2024 Annual General Meeting of CanAgPlus. If unable to attend the AGM, members can vote in advance by mail-in ballot or electronically. Contact the CanadaGAP office for assistance.



ALVIN KEENAN – Alvin Keenan, along with his brother Ray, owns and operates Rollo Bay Holdings where they grow, package, and market fresh potatoes to retailers and food service companies nationally and internationally. They are one of the largest agriculture entities in Eastern PEI and employ 40 people year-round. Rollo Bay Holdings was one of the leaders in fresh pack operations in advocating for food safety certification. Alvin has served his community and the agriculture industry in many capacities; currently he is Chairman of the PEI Grain Elevators Corporation, and Past President of the Canadian Horticultural Council. He has served as President of the PEI Federation

of Agriculture, the PEI Farm Practices Review Board, Director of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, and Director of the Canadian Agriculture Human Resource Council. Alvin has served on the CanAgPlus Board since 2018.

STEPHANIE LARIVIERE – With over 25 years of experience, Stephanie is a third generation, passionate produce professional who has been involved in all facets of the 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 vegetable growing operation in Kingsville, Ontario. In 2022 Stephanie was honoured by the Canadian Produce Marketing Association (CPMA) in partnership with Grocery Business and featured in *Grocery Business Magazine*, as one of the outstanding Women in Produce award recipients. She was named one of Greenhouse Canada's Top 10 Under 40 in 2017, and received the Mary Fitzgerald Award from CPMA in 2013. Stephanie has been involved in extensive volunteer leadership and served on numerous industry committees and boards, including a directorship with the Ontario Greenhouse Marketers Association. She also serves as Vice Chair of the CPMA Food Safety Committee and was a grower representative for Food Safety for the Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers for many years. Stephanie was previously a CanAgPlus director for 10 years, including Chair of the Board for 5 years, before stepping down for a one-year hiatus in 2024.





JODY MOTT – Since 2014, Jody Mott has served as Executive Director of the Holland Marsh Growers’ Association, representing root crop producers and packers federally, provincially, and municipally. She is Chair of the Industry Standards and Food Safety Committee for the Fruit and Vegetables Growers of Canada and Vice-chair of the Vegetable Working Group since 2016. Jody has been a director on the CanAgPlus Board since 2016. She has served on several not-for-profit boards, including the Bradford Board of Trade, the Greater Golden Horseshoe Alliance, and the Bradford Minor Hockey Association. She has assisted many farmers implementing a food safety program. Jody has been involved in a

wide range of projects to promote the interests of farmers and is passionate in her commitment to advancing agriculture.

SUSAN RANCK – Susan is the founder and president of Ranck & Associates, LLC, established in 2012. With nearly 20 years of experience in food manufacturing, she specializes in food safety, quality assurance, and regulatory compliance. Her career began with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), where she worked with disease monitoring and control in market cattle. Her experience in industry includes meat and poultry, combinable crops and produce. She has served as an educator, training small businesses on HACCP implementation. Ms. Ranck holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Sciences from Penn State University and a Master of Agriculture degree from Texas A&M University. Additionally, she is a Registered Sanitarian and has been involved in implementation in USDA, FDA and CFIA programs intended to build food safety throughout industry. Susan was previously a benchmark leader with GFSI and has served four years on the CanAgPlus Board of Directors. If re-elected, she looks forward to continuing to share her food safety expertise.





NAOMI THEUNISSEN – As Director of Food Safety for the Star Group, Naomi Theunissen oversees food safety operations for a greenhouse, and several fresh produce packing and RTE manufacturing facilities throughout Western Canada. Before coming to Canada, she served as the Director of Food Safety and Quality at Ladle Fine Foods, a manufacturer and distributor of Mediterranean RTE foods. She also has experience as a third-party food safety auditor and as a consultant, where she has assisted many companies in developing, implementing, and maintaining a variety of food safety schemes. Naomi holds a bachelor's and master's degree in Food Science from the University of Stellenbosch, South Africa.

SCOTT WRIGHT – Scott Wright is the director of the University of Saskatchewan's Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence. Scott previously held several positions with Star Group, which is dedicated to the procurement, sales and distribution of fresh fruits and vegetables. He has also previously worked in government for Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (Science and Technology Branch, Agri-Environment Services Branch, Research Branch and Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration), Saskatchewan Agriculture and Alberta Agriculture. Scott holds Bachelor, Masters, and PhD. degrees in agriculture. Scott has served on the CanAgPlus Board since 2017 and is Chair of the CanAgPlus Board since 2024.



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CanadaGAP Program ■ 245 Menten Place, Suite 312, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K2H 9E8
Tel: 613-829-4711 ■ Fax: 613-829-9379 ■ info@canadagap.ca ■ www.canadagap.ca

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