

Candidates for the CanAgPlus Board of Directors 2025-2027

The following four (4) candidates are recommended by the Board Nominations Committee for election to the CanAgPlus Board for a two-year term. The election will be held virtually on December 3 at the 2025 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.



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 3500 acres of farmland. The operation has earned top 10 awards from Cavendish Farms in 2021 and 2019 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 previously served on the PNB Safety Net Committee and the PNB Processing Negotiation Committee and currently serves on the National Program Advisory Committee (NPAC). He's also 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. He has served on the CanAgPlus Board since 2021.



ELIZABETH PATTILLO – Beth is currently the Food Safety & OHS Manager for Noggins Corner Farm II Ltd., and also involved with Kings Produce Ltd. Beth was involved in the food safety file with both the Fruit and Vegetable Growers of Canada (FVGC previously CHC) and the Canadian Produce Marketing Association (CPMA) for many years: notably, during both the development of the on-farm food safety program and manual and during the establishment of CanAgPlus. In 2008, she served as CPMA's Chair of the Board, and she continues to be an active member of the Past Chairs

Advisory Council. As an agricultural microbiologist, on-farm food safety has long been Beth's passion. She is also a proud "Grammie Beth" to 15 incredible grandchildren and volunteers with the several trails and gardening organizations in Nova Scotia.



JULIAN SARRAINO – Julian Sarraino is co-Chief Executive Officer of Fresh Taste. Julian's experience is vast within the fresh produce sector. He is actively involved in growing, packaging, processing, marketing, logistics and food safety. Julian is currently a Director on the Ontario Produce Marketing Association Board and was previously a Director on the Fruit & Vegetable Dispute Resolution Corporation Board. Julian is also on the Canadian Produce Marketing Association Promotions Committee and the International Fresh Produce Association Supply Chain Council. Julian is a recipient of the OPMA Fresh Award, and the Produce Business Top 40 under 40 award.

Julian has been a director on the CanAgPlus Board since 2023.



VICTORIA STAMPER – A graduate of the University of Guelph with a Bachelor of Commerce in Marketing, and growing up in London, Ontario, Victoria is no stranger to farms, but her career took her down the path of stainless steel distribution until she joined the potato industry in April 2022 as General Manager of the United Potato Growers of Canada (UPGC). Although quite new to the agriculture industry, Victoria brings many years of supply and demand management experience to the role. She also has familiarity with CanadaGAP from her time with a flexible packaging company leading their team to put in place a Food Safety program. She has served over 10 years on elementary and high school Governing Boards and as committee Secretary-Treasurer for her local Scouts chapter. Victoria has been actively

working with the UPGC through their Board strategic planning process and Board Governance. As a CanAgPlus director, Victoria would bring feedback from the growers she travels to see, not only in her home province of Quebec, but across Canada.

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