

PROGRAM



WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

1:00 PM



Alex Bach, Catalan Institute for Research and Advanced Studies

Data management and key performance indicators to maximize profits and minimize environmental impact



Dan Weary, University of British Columbia

Staying compliant with the new dairy code and with changing societal expectations



Albert Devries, University of Florida

What traits make an efficient dairy cow?

PRODUCER PANEL

Moderated by Richard Cantin, PDO Board Member

"Managing For Today, Planning For Tomorrow."

Listen to progressive Canadian producers share information about their profitable decision-making and learn how these three top-notch managers are planning for the future.



Gert Schrijver, Marsfield Holsteins, Stettler, AB

- Milking 300 cows and farming 1,700 acres
- Past Board member with AB Milk and DFC
- Serves on Lactanet Board of Directors
- 2018 Masterbreeder
- 2021 Top 25 Managed Herd with Lactanet



Cox Wensink, Hoenhorst Farms Ltd., Woodstock, ON

- Milking 500 cows using 10x Lely A4 robots
- Background in mechanical engineering and strategic product design
- Participant in the TFW (Temporary Foreign Worker) program since 2019



Phillip Vroegh, Sunny Point Farms, East Noel, NS

- Milking 350 cows in a freestall barn with a parlour and recognized for high production rate per cow
- Ranked 'Best Managed Herd' in Nova Scotia for the last few years
- Received their master Breeder Shield in 2013

EVENING BANQUET GUEST SPEAKER

Wednesday, February 28 - 7:00 PM



Jon Montgomery
Canadian Gold medalist (Skeleton) and host of 'Amazing Race Canada'

Jon Montgomery, Canadian Olympic gold medal winner at the 2010 Olympics in Vancouver and host of the 'Amazing Race Canada' is the featured evening banquet speaker. Jon will speak about teamwork, reaching our goals, and enjoying the process.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29

8:00 AN

"Speak Your Mind" Question & Answer



Stephen LeBlanc, University of Guelph Preparing for success: links between transition period health and reproduction



Barry Bradford, Michigan State University

How low can you go? Best practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions intensity of milk



Marlene Paibomesai, OMAFRA

2024 PDO Labour Survey



Adriana Van Oostveen, Agriculture Wellness Ontario, Canadian Mental Health Association

Building your 'mental health toolbox' with Agriculture Wellness Ontario



Brandon Treichler, Select Milk Producers

Ways to achieve excellence in milk quality



Chris Church, Dairy Consultant

Using the lean management approach on the dairy



Christine Baes, University of Guelph and Filippo Miglior, Lactanet Canada

Canada leads the way towards dairy sustainability: behind the scenes



INDUSTRY PANEL

Moderated by Ben Loewith, Joe Loewith & Sons Ltd.

Our industry: risks of the status quo and ways to change and thrive

Three knowledgeable industry insiders from different perspectives come together to discuss challenges facing the dairy industry.



Al Mussell, Research Director, Canadian Agri-Food Policy Institute

Al serves as the Research Director at the Canadian Agri-Food Policy Institute and is Research Lead, and founder, of Agri-Food Economic Systems, Inc. Recently, Al was also an expert witness for Canada in the CPTPP dispute with New Zealand over dairy TRQ's.



Peter Gould, Retired General Manager, Dairy Farmers of Ontario

Peter had a long career with the Ontario Milk Marketing Board (now Dairy Farmers of Ontario) and was instrumental in the establishment of a single quota system. Peter was inducted into the Ontario Agricultural Hall of Fame in 2023.



Mathieu Frigon, President & CEO, Dairy Processors Association of Canada

Prior to joining Dairy Processors Association of Canada, Mathieu worked with the Parliamentary Information and Research Service where he assumed leadership roles with House of Commons and Senate Committees. Mathieu has also been an Assistant Director of Policy and Economics with Dairy Farmers of Canada.