



October 26, 2017

Dear OBA member,

The Annual General Meeting of the Ontario Beekeepers' Association will take place in Niagara Falls, on Friday, November 17th at the Sheraton on the Falls, 5875 Falls Avenue, Niagara Falls, ON L2G 3K7.

Call for Board Nominations and Resolutions

Your association is led by a Board of 14 dedicated and hard-working volunteers. It's critically important to this industry in Ontario that your Board represents a diversity of experiences and opinions and that we continue to advocate vigilantly on your behalf to ensure the sustainability of the beekeeping industry in this province. **Each year we seek nominations for Board positions – please consider submitting a nomination or standing for election yourself.** At the Annual General Meeting in 2014 a multi-year approach to board terms was approved and implemented by resolution, to foster better continuity and succession-planning. With one resignation tendered early this year, **there are five Board positions to be filled**, four with the standard 3-year term and one with a 2-year term. Nomination information and forms are posted on the OBA website and included here, for your convenience. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact Tibor Szabo, Past President, who is Chairing this year's Nomination Committee: szaboqueens@gmail.com or 519 221-4077.

If you'd like to present a resolution at this year's meeting, you'll also find information enclosed and on the website about how to draft a resolution. Resolutions Committee Acting Chair is board member Glen Ackroyd, who can be contacted with your questions or submissions: ackroyd.apiaries@sympatico.ca or 519 934-0006.

You're also welcome to call the OBA office if you'd like more information about how to submit a nomination or resolution.



The Board has made a decision to streamline the Nominations and Resolutions process at this year's AGM and moving forward, to facilitate advance deliberation and discussion, and to allow more transparency in the process for members attending the meeting and for those who are not. **This year, Nominations and Resolutions must be submitted in advance of the AGM – by 5:00 pm on Monday, November 6th – and will not be accepted from the floor.** Nominations and Resolutions will be posted publicly on the OBA website after submission.



Please note that webcasting is not available at this year's meeting.

Note too that, if deemed necessary, the Board may designate next year's Spring Meeting as an official meeting of members, which would allow for further discussion of matters raised at this year's AGM but which, due to time constraints at this joint meeting, may not have been fully addressed there.

I personally invite you to attend this year's Annual General Meeting and Conference. This is an unusual joint meeting with our neighbours to the south, the Empire State Honey Producers, to focus on common issues and opportunities for beekeepers in the North East. Together, we've designed a 2-day event that offers you exceptional learning, great networking and extensive opportunities to meet (and shop) with some of the best suppliers to the industry.

Conference highlights include **Reminding Bees How to be Bees**, by keynote speaker, **Dr. Jonathan Lundgren** and **Neonicotinoid-treated maize and soybeans: quantifying benefits to farmers vs. risks to pollinators**, by keynote speaker, **Dr. Christian Krupke**.

The **spotlight** will be on US beekeepers **Chris Hiatt and Aaron Fisher**, and **Paul Kelly of the Bee Research Centre**.

Learn more about the latest on varroa with Dr. Rob Currie, and small hive beetle with OBA's SHB working group, chaired by Tom Congdon.

Provincial Apiarist **Paul Kozak** and NY State Apiculturist **Paul Cappy**, will compare and contrast the Ontario and NY approaches, playfully themed as **Peameal & Spiedies**.

Leverage your conference attendance and learning by signing up for a pre-conference workshop on Advanced IPM. Or, kick off your stay in Niagara with a tour of Parker-Bee Apiaries | Charlie-Bee Honey and a mead making workshop or a tasting 'tour' of Niagara, offered at Niagara College.

Consider entering your honey, wax or mead in the competition underway at the conference. And I invite you to take part in our **3rd annual honey exchange**. Bring three jars of your own honey and take away three jars to experience some of Ontario's and New York's diverse and unique honey styles and flavours.

This is a perfect time to meet old friends or make new connections. The conference offers great networking opportunities with your fellow beekeepers, including the **Buzz Banquet**, the conference gala event, which will feature an extensive **Silent Auction, Awards presentations**, and a **guided mead-tasting** hosted by **William Roman** of Rosewood Estates Winery & Meadery.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,



Jim Coneybeare
President

PS - Check the website for updates or call the office. AGM and Conference program is subject to change.



NOMINATIONS & RESOLUTIONS 2017

October 26, 2017

CALL FOR BOARD NOMINATIONS

Your association is led by a Board of 14 dedicated and hard-working volunteers. It's critically important to this industry in Ontario that your Board represents a diversity of experiences and opinions and that we advocate vigilantly on your behalf to ensure the sustainability of the beekeeping industry in this province. **Each year we seek nominations for Board positions – please consider submitting a nomination or standing for election yourself.** This is an excellent opportunity to develop leadership skills and give back to an exciting, evolving and vibrant community.

At the 2014 AGM the OBA implemented by resolution a multi-year approach to Board terms and a shift from 1-year to 3-year terms to allow for better continuity and succession-planning. With one resignation tendered this year **there are five Board positions to be filled, four with standard 3-year term and one with a 2-year term.** In addition, a provisional (or alternate) position **may** be filled; that person to be brought onto the Board should a current Board position become vacant during the year.

At that same meeting, a resolution was carried that relates to Board composition: at least nine of the 14 Directors should represent the commercial apiary industry of Ontario beekeeping.

These Board members' terms end next month and ARE standing for re-election:

Jim Coneybeare

Dennis Edell

André Flys

Tibor Szabo

For your information, these current Board members' terms end next year, November 2018:

Glen Ackroyd

Steve Bryans

Bernie Wiehle

Jim Wilson

In November 2019, these Board members' terms end:

Tom Congdon

Albert Devries

Paul Lacelle

Emily Mills

Lynn Philp

An election will occur at the AGM on Friday, November 17th if there are more candidates than positions available. All voting members in attendance will be permitted to vote on board elections and resolutions.

EXPECTATIONS OF OBA BOARD MEMBERS

Those who are nominated and agree to stand for election as a Board member are expected to:

- be a member in good standing of the OBA (or become a member soon after their election)
- avoid conflicts of interest, and where such conflicts exist, declare them appropriately
- recognize and honour the need for confidentiality
- prepare for and regularly attend Board and committee meetings and help carry out the business of the Board (there are usually four in-person, all day Board meetings per year (January, March, October, November) plus additional Board and committee meetings via teleconference, as needed)
- help the Board meet its fiduciary responsibilities overseeing the OBA, and
- actively contribute to and stand behind the process and outcome of Board decision-making.

Contact Tibor Szabo, Past President and this year's Nominations Committee Chair for more information about how to nominate yourself or someone else to the OBA Board of Directors: szaboqueens@gmail.com or 519 221-4077.

Nominations are due Monday, November 6th by 5 pm.



Nominees are asked to submit a photograph and short biography to the OBA office as soon as possible and in advance of the election, to be posted on the OBA website and published at the AGM, to allow voting members to get to know the candidates, their experiences and their perspectives.

OBA practice has been to permit nominations to be made from the floor at the Annual General Meeting. However, this year and moving forward, the Board is instituting the requirement for nominations to be made in advance of the meeting and discontinuing the practice of taking nominations from the floor.

All candidates are offered a short opportunity to speak to members prior to the election, which takes place by secret ballot. A short meeting of the new Board takes place onsite soon after in order for the election of officers to take place.

PRESENTING A RESOLUTION AT THE AGM

A Resolution is a written motion that is presented to members for discussion and adoption at a meeting of members. Traditionally, the OBA calls for Resolutions prior to the Annual General Meeting. In the past, Resolutions were also proposed from the floor at the meeting. However, this year and moving forward, the Board is instituting the requirement for resolutions to be made in advance of the meeting and discontinuing the practice of taking resolutions from the floor.

The substance of a Resolution can be anything that is normally presented as a motion; the structure can appear quite formal. Resolutions require both a mover and a seconder.

As an example, the following Resolution was presented and adopted at the 2015 Annual General Meeting.

RESOLUTION 2

Whereas the honey bee inspection program has been recently moved into the animal health program at OMAFRA and,

Whereas honey bees and their designated pests, and management of colonies are unique and far different from other animal husbandry and,

Whereas beekeepers in Ontario have a very good piece of legislation in the Bees Act;

Therefore be it resolved that the OBA engage in dialogue with OMAFRA expressing our broad industry support for maintaining the Bees Act legislation.

Carried Unanimously

You are required to submit Resolutions (moved by you, seconded by another OBA member) **by Monday, November 6th at 5 pm**, in advance of the Annual General Meeting; a form to assist you in drafting your Resolution follows. Proposed Resolutions submitted in advance of the meeting will be posted on the website for all to view.

For more information about how to draft and submit a Resolution, please contact Resolutions Committee Acting Chair, Glen Ackroyd: ackroyd.apiaries@sympatico.ca or 519 934-0006.



RESOLUTION FORMAT
(adjust as required)

WHEREAS, _____

_____ and

WHEREAS, _____

_____ and

WHEREAS, _____

_____ ; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that _____

_____ and be it further

RESOLVED, that _____

_____ .

Moved By: _____

Seconded By: _____