



November 1, 2016 Revised: November 7, 2016

Dear OBA member,

**The Annual General Meeting of the Ontario Beekeepers' Association will take place in Ottawa on Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at the Holiday Inn & Suites Ottawa Kanata, 101 Kanata Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario K2T 1E6.**

### **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 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 three resignations tendered recently this year **there are seven Board positions, to be elected**, two with 2-year terms and five with the standard 3-year terms.

Nomination information and forms are posted on the OBA website and included here. Call the OBA office if you'd like more information about how to submit a nomination. Or, contact OBA 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, André Flys, this year's Nominations Committee Chair, for more information: [andre@pioneerbrand.ca](mailto:andre@pioneerbrand.ca) or 416 807-2253.

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 Chair is OBA member Albert Devries, who can be reached at [devriesfour@gmail.com](mailto:devriesfour@gmail.com) or 519 868-9429.

If you cannot attend this meeting in person, we are offering you the opportunity to register to dial in and hear the conference presentations. If you are an OBA member, you can use that same dial in process to participate in nominations and elections, including voting.

I personally invite you to attend the AGM and Conference. 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 **Breeding Mite Biters**, by keynote speaker **Dr. Greg Hunt** of Purdue University, and an update on **western pollinators** from **Dr. Shelley Hoover**, a research scientist with Alberta Agriculture and Forestry and secretary of the Canadian Association of Professional Apiculturists. **Ontario's Environmental Commissioner, Dianne Saxe** will open the conference. We'll hear from **Alan Unwin** about the imminent launch of Niagara College's new Commercial Beekeeping program. The spotlight will be on **local beekeeper, Murray Borer**, speaking about beekeeping in the Upper Ottawa Valley and you'll hear from **Harley Gallagher** about his recent experience with stingless and Africanised bees in Nicaragua.

Popular returning speakers include **Provincial Apiarist, Paul Kozak**; **OBA's world-class Tech-Transfer Program specialists**; **Dr. Ernesto Guzman** and two of his graduate students from the University of Guelph's Honey Bee Research Centre; **Dr. Nigel Raine** speaking on pollinator health in Canada, a top-of-mind issue these days; **Stephen Page** of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, and York University's **Dr. Amro Zayed**.

Leverage your conference attendance (and your business opportunities) by signing up for pre-conference workshops on Apitherapy or Bee Biosecurity.

Take part in our **2<sup>nd</sup> annual honey exchange**. Bring three jars of your own honey and take away three jars to experience some of Ontario'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 and Hootenanny**, the conference gala event. Bring your dancing shoes!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tibor Szabo', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tibor Szabo  
President

## CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS



### GUEST SPEAKER

**Dr. Greg Hunt**

**Professor, Behavioral Genetics | Honey Bee Specialist  
Purdue University**

### 2 presentations:

#### **Africanised Honey Bees**

Will interbreeding be a problem in the North?

#### **Breeding Mite Biters**

Purdue University scientists have bred special bees that are biting back. They're particularly good at protecting themselves from Varroa mites. Find out how to breed and take advantage of mite resistant bees.

### Other selected topics and speakers:

#### ***What's Happening with Pollinators in the West?***

Dr. Shelley Hoover is a research scientist with Alberta Agriculture and Forestry and secretary of the Canadian Association of Professional Apiculturists. Her focus is honey and leafcutter bees.

***The Latest Ontario Honey Bee Research***, Dr. Ernesto Guzman & his team from the University of Guelph Honey Bee Research Centre.

***BeeOmics Update***, Dr. Amro Zayed at York University.

***Opening Remarks by Dr. Dianne Saxe***, Ontario's Environmental Commissioner, as she is about to launch her Climate Change report.

***Getting Ready to Launch – Commercial Beekeepers Program at Niagara College***, Alan Unwin, Niagara College.

***Local beekeeper spotlight is on Murray Borer***, speaking about beekeeping in the Upper Ottawa Valley.

Find out about ***Harley Gallagher's recent experience with stingless and Africanised bees in Nicaragua***.

Participate in our ***2<sup>nd</sup> annual Honey Exchange***.

***Visit more than a dozen onsite exhibitors*** and get a jump on your shopping list for 2017.

*Check the website for updates. AGM and Conference program subject to change.*



## NOMINATIONS & RESOLUTIONS 2016

November 1, 2016 Revised: November 7, 2016

### 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 ~~two~~ three resignations recently tendered, this year **there are seven eight Board positions to be filled, two three with 2-year terms and five with 3-year terms.** In addition, a provisional 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 member's terms end next month and ARE standing for re-election:

Steve Bryans                      Albert Devries                      Jim Wilson

### The following Board members' terms end next month and ARE NOT standing for re-election at this time:

Dan Davidson                      Jannet Ann Leggett                      John Van Alten  
(recently resigned, 2-year terms to be filled to November 2018)

Tim Greer                              Brian Rowaan

For your information, these current Board members' terms end next year, November 2017:

Jim Coneybeare, Dennis Edell, André Flys, Tibor Szabo, Julie White.

In November 2018, these Board members' terms end: Glen Ackroyd, John Van Alten.

**An election will occur at the AGM on November 18<sup>th</sup>. All voting members in attendance (including those who have dialed in to participate) will be permitted to nominate candidates, vote on the slate of nominees, and present and vote on resolutions.**

### OFFSITE VOTING



As a result of a Resolution carried at the 2014 AGM, OBA members participating in the meeting by phone will be able to vote. To register for offsite attendance and voting, please submit your event registration by noon on Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup>.

## 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)
- 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
- actively contribute to and stand behind the process and outcome of Board decision-making
- avoid conflicts of interest, and where such conflicts exist, declare them appropriately, and
- recognize and honour the need for confidentiality.

**Contact André Flys, Nominations Committee Chair (416-807-2253; [andre@pioneerbrand.ca](mailto:andre@pioneerbrand.ca))** for more information about how to nominate yourself or someone else to the OBA Board of Directors.



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, after which time all candidates are offered a short opportunity to speak to members. Then the election 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 addition, Resolutions may be proposed from the floor at the meeting. The substance of the Resolution can be anything that is normally presented as a motion; the structure can be quite formal. Resolutions require both a mover and a seconder.

As an example, the following Resolution was presented and adopted at the 2014 Annual General Meeting.

### RESOLUTION 2

Whereas the Ontario Beekeepers' Association holds their Annual General Meeting every year, and;

Whereas members at the meeting vote on resolutions and directors and those that are not at the meeting for various reasons cannot vote;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Ontario Beekeepers' Association shall investigate the possibility of having online voting.

*Moved by: Ken Coyle*

*Seconded by: Vince Nevidon*

You are encouraged to submit Resolutions (moved by you, seconded by another OBA member) 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 information.

For more information about how to draft and submit a Resolution, please contact Resolutions Committee Chair Albert Devries ([devriesfour@gmail.com](mailto:devriesfour@gmail.com) or 519 868-9429).



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: \_\_\_\_\_