

Minutes
Landscape Ontario Nursery Industry Sector Group Meeting
Tuesday November 26, 2024 – 4:00-5:15pm

Present: *non-voting attendees

Names	Affiliation
Todd Baker	Baker Nursery
Bart Brusse	Sheridan Nurseries
Ben Kobes	Kobes Nursery
Philip Pieper	Pieper Nursery
Brent Vanderkruk	NVK Nursery Holdings
Case Vanderkruk	NVK Nursery Holdings
Richard Suk	South Pelham Nursery
Rob Vanderkruk - proxy Jeff B	Connon Nursery
Jeff Winkelmolen	Winkelmolen Nursery
James Somerville	Sommerville Nursery
Richard Worsley - virtual	Uxbridge Nursery
Michael Van Dongen	Van Dongen's GC, Landscaping & Nurseries
Shane Way	Potter's Road* May be able to support
Cody Hildebrant	Fox Hollow* May be able to support
Jeanine West	Landscape Ontario*
Lauralee Gonzalez	Landscape Ontario*
Jamie Aalbers	CNLA*
John Vanderkruk	Hortico*
Cassie Russell	OMAFa*

Record of Discussion

Approval of Agenda

YES

Approval of Previous Minutes

YES

LOGG members

- changes in membership - Christi and John, Paul stepped away for now...hope they can come back in future, Bart will be stepping off (special thanks to Bart for long support of the Research Chair position), Michael van Dongen added to group.
- Co-Chairs - any changes? No- Brent & Philip staying on, full support
- Research Chair nominations/election, Ryan Munroe - support from Cody and James and Shane
- Treasurer nominations/election - Todd Baker

Bart nominated the key positions noted above

Ben K seconded

all in favour, no disagree

Marketing/Educational Research Priorities

- Research subgroup has a 'science/business' focus
- Need a better way to handle marketing/educational side - are there some champions for these?
- Need someone/subcommittee that is passionate, get engaged with LO team, etc.
- Focus: Marketing, sustainability/sales/tools & resources for farms to be better marketers, and Education
- Doesn't have to be a LOGG member, could be someone from a farm that is a member - need a coordinator - Ryan to build out an email request
- James, Cody, Todd to help out setting up

Updates

- Research/IPM priorities (Cassie) - Nov 19 meeting summary available, CR working on finalizing notes - will be available next month to share, highlighted 'signal' app group for IPM
- Short course status - excited, sponsors covering up to 50%, no refunds ok, ideal pricing is the lowest we can do it; need Niagara growers/staff to come!
- New 2024/5 MNRF proposal
- ISAF 2024 update - on track now, lots of communications coming up on SLF and other invasives.
- 2025 Nursery Scout - on track, looking for 2025 ISAF funds to support, job ad ready, interviews in January 2025, will do a lottery for farm spots
- Municipal/stormwater fees (Donna Skelly bill coming) - critical issue for members, JW needs to follow up on Pelham issue with Joe Salemi!!

Financial Review (led by Jeanine West)

- Only covered Research Account - do not want to 'cover' the COHA Cluster 4 soil health project commitment made independently by Joe Salemi (under LO accounts)
- Leave Jeanine's contract as is (90/10: LO/LOGG)
- Strong agreement to review all financials in more detail in separate meeting with Joe Sabatino.

Next Events

Jan 7 - LOGG meeting then reception/dinner

Feb 5 - short course

IPM workshops - to be planned by Cassie

New/Outstanding Action Items:

1. Joe (ED) and JW to develop plan of action for OMAFRA engagement
2. Joe (ED) and JW to connect about options for market growth project
3. JW to follow up with Pelham, Hamilton, etc. regarding stormwater fees. (see new MPP Skelley Motion)
4. JW to work with Joe (C) and Joe (ED) to determine proportion of dues/membership represented by growers
5. JW to communicate financial decisions to Joe (C) and set up financial review meeting.
6. Ryan Munroe to initiate discussions within group for a marketing/education subcommittee
7. Cassie to provide written summary of research/product priorities.