

## **Minutes of the CSGA 2007 Annual Meeting Saskatoon, Saskatchewan July 12 & 13, 2007**

The meeting opened at 8:05 a.m. July 12 at the Sheraton Cavalier Hotel in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. The president, David Mol, welcomed everyone to the 103<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association. A Russian delegation was in attendance and D. Mol asked them to stand and be recognized.

Chief Executive Officer, of the Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies (AOSCA), Chet Boruff, was not able to attend the meeting and sent his regrets. AOSCA is looking forward to the joint annual meeting with CSGA in Québec City, next year.

**Motion:** That the minutes of July 13 and 14, 2006 meeting be approved as printed and circulated. Moved by Cam Henry and seconded by Dan Kirkham.  
CARRIED

### **Canadian Seed Institute Report:**

D. Mol welcomed Executive Director, Jim McCullagh, of the Canadian Seed Institute (CSI). CSI activities include National Forum on Seed (NFS) related activities related to Canadian Method and Procedures (M & P) for seed testing, accredited samplers, Grade Tables and the Weed Seeds Order. J. McCullagh was pleased to report that CSI was founded ten years ago with the help of CSGA and is now financially independent. A final payment will be made to CSGA this fiscal year.

### **Resolutions:**

The Resolutions Committee announced that resolutions need to be brought forward to the committee by Friday at 12:30 p.m.

D. Mol requested a moment of silence to remember those members who died in the past year.

### **President's Report:**

#### **Speaker:**

Dan Kirkham introduced pedigreed seed growers from Churchbridge, Saskatchewan, Roger Kaeding, and his son, Warren, who spoke about the difficulties they faced transferring the farm to the next generation.

At 17 years of age, Warren knew he wanted to take over the family farm but he also knew that he would have to face different challenges than his father did and that there would be new issues to overcome.

Roger and Warren spoke about the relevance of free trade agreements, freight costs, labour shortages, logistics, credit and financing on the future and success of farming today.

It is essential that the next generation is able to adapt to the changing needs of the marketplace. For example, with the increasing number of retired baby boomers the farm is now wholesaling turf grass and birdseed, two commodities that have only become popular in recent years.

Informed consumers today want food that is healthy and the farm is involved in the production of specialty canola and other new varieties for specialty markets.

**Executive Directors Report:**

D. Adolphe reported on the disposition of the 2006 resolutions and CSGA affiliated activities. D. Adolphe thanked the CSGA staff, CSGA Branch Secretaries, and the headquarters staff and field inspection staff at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). Thanks and recognition was given to the Executive Committee and the National Board of Directors.

**2006 Acreage Report:**

D. Adolphe reported on the 2006 acreage applied for inspection.

**Report from the Board of Directors:**

Ed Lefsrud, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, presented the report of the Board of Directors meeting held in Ottawa last November and most recently in Saskatoon..

**Motion:** That the report of the Board of Directors be accepted. Moved by Bob Hart and seconded by Bill Farley. CARRIED

**Financial Report:**

D. Adolphe presented the auditors' report and the financial statements for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2007.

**Motion:** That the financial statements be accepted. Moved by Carl Bolton and seconded by Terry Rempel. CARRIED

**Appointment of Auditor:**

**Motion:** That KPMG be appointed auditors of the Association for the ensuing year, at the remuneration to be set by the Board of Directors. Moved by Doug Heaman and seconded by Lorne Fell. CARRIED

**Dave Akister introduced John Ryan, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Farm Credit Canada (FCC)**

J. Ryan spoke about the cultural transformation that has taken place at FCC. J. Ryan's core belief is that individuals have an inner need, require a purpose, like to be engaged in an activity and can produce extraordinary results when inspired. J. Ryan affirmed that people are the key to success and we can inspire our employees by trust, open, two-way communication, leading by example, acknowledgement and recognition. Changing the culture at FCC was not a "quick fix," it took a lot of time and effort. All of the employees attended eight workshops on the culture of the business and company newsletters are circulated regularly.

The changes at FCC made a remarkable impact on the people and the business. The results were astounding; the portfolio doubled in approximately five years and FCC is now ranked Number 8 of the 100 Best Employers in Canada.

"We have to keep the momentum going and can not stand still, we have to keep moving forward and not take our success for granted." J. Ryan said. FCC will face new challenges in the future with competition and labour shortages and the business is determined to continue being recognized as the main source for expert knowledge in agricultural financing and creativity of new products.

### **Education & Publicity:**

The meeting continued at 1:00 p.m. on Friday July 13 with Robert Stevenson, chair of the Education & Publicity Committee, presenting the E & P Report.

**Motion:** That the Education and Publicity Report be accepted. Moved by Robert Stevenson and seconded by Jim Baillie. CARRIED

### **Equipment Cleanout Challenge:**

Winners of the Equipment Cleanout Challenge were announced by Robert Stevenson. Fourteen prizes have been awarded to 12 different winners from 5 different provinces. The winners are as follows:

Dave Brand, Petrolia ON, East GRAINMAX Bin, \$500 Friesen Seed Tender Voucher, \$250 CSGA Seed Voucher  
Dale Connell, Palmerston ON, \$500 CSGA Seed Voucher  
Dale Hallett, Carstairs AB, \$500 CSGA Seed Voucher  
Jason Martin, West Montrose ON, Agricultural Power Washer  
Robin Nell, Francis SK, \$500 CSGA Seed Voucher  
Francois Potvin, St. David QC, \$500 CSGA Seed Voucher  
Larry Reaburn, Westmeath ON, Brandt GrainBelt Conveyer  
Dave Scott, London ON, \$500 CSGA Seed Voucher  
Ron Vander Hoek, Lucan ON, \$750 CSGA Seed Voucher  
Shayne Wareham, Newdale MB, \$500 CSGA Seed Voucher  
Harold Warkentin, Tofield AB, West GRAINMAX Bin, \$500 CSGA Seed Voucher  
David Wiens, Lomond AB, CSGA \$500 Seed Voucher

### **Research and Development Report:**

Larry Littman, Chair of the Research and Development Committee presented the report. The committee met last November and reviewed six continuing projects and three new projects that were received. The six continuing projects and two of the three new projects were approved for funding totaling \$73,000 for research grants this year.

**Motion:** That the Research and Development Report be accepted. Moved by Larry Littman and seconded by Art Bolton. CARRIED

### **Budget:**

D. Adolphe presented the budget for 2007-2008.

**Motion:** That the Education and Publicity budget increase by \$8,000. Moved by Robert Stevenson and seconded by Norm Lyster. CARRIED

**Motion:** To accept the revised 2007 – 2008 budget. Moved by Lorne Hamblin and seconded by Barry Reisner. CARRIED

### **Speaker:**

Terry Froese introduced Paul Martin of Paul Martin Communications. Mr. Martin, a popular voice on Saskatchewan radio, spoke of continuous improvement in your business and the importance of creating teams and goals. Your most important job is to be a pathfinder, and if not you, then who? You have to make the time and make your plan; what would your business or community look like at ten times the volume. When setting goals you have to look at the long

term vision, short term steps and seek input. You have to be accountable; say what you'll do – do what you say. Your business will benefit if you communicate the vision for the company; monthly, quarterly, and annually.

**Resolutions:**

Bob Hart presented the resolutions.

**Courtesy Resolution #1**

The CSGA would like to thank the following individuals and sponsors for their contribution towards the 2007 Annual Meeting:

Jim McCullagh, Executive Director, Canadian Seed Institute

**Thank you, Speakers**

Roger and Warren Kaeding - Seed Growers, Churchbridge, Saskatchewan

John Ryan - CEO, Farm Credit Canada, Regina, Saskatchewan

Paul Martin - Paul Martin Communications, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

Jill Clark - Phoenix Advertising, Indian Head, Saskatchewan

Perry Dangstorp - Agricultural Economics Student, Producer, Redvers, Saskatchewan

**Thank you, Sponsors**

20/20 Seed Labs Inc.

Affinity Credit Union

AgricoreUnited

Agriprogress Inc.

BARI – Canada Inc.

BASF Canada

Batco Manufacturing Ltd.

Bayer CropScience

Brett-Young Seeds Ltd.

Canadian Wheat Board

Canterra Seeds Ltd.

Cargill Specialty Canola Oils

Cimbria Canada

Coop Hail

Cornerstone Credit Union

Discovery Seed Lab

Dow AgroSciences Canada Inc.

Farm Business Consultants

Farm Credit Canada

Farm Pure Seeds

Farrell Agencies Ltd.

Flaman Sales

Grain Millers Inc.

H & T Processing

Lewis M Carter Mfg (Canada) Ltd.

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Monsanto Canada Inc.

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Potash Corp. of Saskatchewan

RAHR Malting

Saskatchewan Agriculture & Food

Saskatchewan Wheat Pool

Secan Association

Seed Corn Growers of Ontario

Syngenta Seed Treatments

Syngenta Seeds Canada, Inc.

Westeel, Division of VicWest

Western Producer Publications

Yorkton Co-operative Association,

Agro Division

## Awards Banquet Table Sponsors

<b>Ardell Seeds Ltd.</b> Vanscoy	<b>Girodat Seeds</b> Shaunavon	<b>Rugg Seed Farm</b> Elstow
<b>Berscheid Bros Seeds</b> Lake Lenore	<b>Greenleaf Seeds</b> Tisdale	<b>Seidle Seed Farm</b> Medstead
<b>Bews Agrow</b> Eatonia	<b>Greenshields Seeds</b> Semans	<b>Slind Seeds Group</b> Archerwill
<b>Brigden Farms</b> Kisbey	<b>H &amp; T Processing</b> Rabbit Lake	<b>Smith Seeds</b> Limerick
<b>Buziak Seed Farm</b> Mayfair	<b>Hardy Seeds</b> Grenfell	<b>Sopatyk Seed Farms</b> Saskatoon
<b>Cay Seeds</b> Kinistino	<b>Hetland Seeds</b> Naicam	<b>Sudom Seeds</b> Avonlea
<b>Charabin Seed Farm</b> North Battleford	<b>Ken and Larry Trowell</b> Saltcoats	<b>Sundwall Seed Service</b> Govan
<b>Danielson Seeds</b> Norquay	<b>Kirkham Seed Farms</b> Saltcoats	<b>Sunny K Seeds</b> Manor
<b>Doug Illingworth Seeds</b> North Battleford	<b>Lakeside Seeds</b> Wynyard	<b>Sunset Farms</b> Pennant
<b>Edwards Farm Co.</b> Nokomis	<b>Les Trowell Seed Plant</b> Saltcoats	<b>Tebbutt Family Farms</b> Nipawin
<b>Estonia Farming Co.</b> Eston	<b>Lung Seeds</b> Lake Lenore	<b>Tomtene Seed Farm</b> Birch Hills
<b>Farley Seeds</b> Regina	<b>McCarthy Seed Farm</b> Corning	<b>Trawin Seeds</b> Melfort
<b>Fast Seed Farm</b> Kindersley	<b>Northeastern Seed Co.</b> Yorkton	<b>Van Burck Seeds</b> Star City
<b>Fedoruk Farms</b> Kamsack	<b>Reisner Farm</b> Limerick	<b>Veikle Seeds</b> Cut Knife
<b>Fenton Seed Farm</b> Tisdale	<b>Rennick Farms</b> Milestone	<b>Wilfing Farms</b> Meadow Lake
<b>Geiger Farms</b>		

## 2007 Convention Committee

### Co-Chairs

Gerald Girodat, Rick Holm

### Co-ordinators

Dave Akister  
Shannon McArton

### Banquets & Entertainment

Tim Charabin

### Children's program

Tracey Charabin  
Heather Neilley-Froese  
Betty Olson

### Cultural Tour

Bob Rugg

### Finance

Dave Akister  
Joe Rennick

### Hospitality

Dan Kirkham  
Brent Bews

### Program – Grower

Terry Froese

### Program – University of Saskatchewan

Brian Rossnagel

### Program – Alternate

Bernadette Rennick  
Donna Edwards

### Program – National partners

Helen Girodat

### Publicity & Promotion

Shannon McArton  
Dave Akister

### Registration

Darcy Rafoss

### Sponsorship

Les Trowell  
Larry Littman

### Transportation

Lyndon Olson

Moved by Bob Hart and seconded by Gordon Hill.

CARRIED

### Resolution # 2

#### WHEREAS

Application for membership and crop inspection could be considered a high priority, core activity of the CSGA and

#### WHEREAS

Much work has been done in regards to the electronic pilot project but has stalled due to insufficient funds. To hasten on capitalizing on the efficiencies this program could provide

#### BE IT RESOLVED THAT

the CSGA give consideration to the budget from within to focus and complete this program.

Moved by John Huvonnars and seconded by Lyndon Olson.

CARRIED

**Motion:** To accept the Resolutions Committee Report. Moved by Bob Rugg and seconded by Terry Rempel.

CARRIED

### **Nominating Committee Report:**

Barry Reisner presented the report.

The nominating procedure for the election will be that I, as Chairman of the Nominating Committee present a nominee for each position and will ask for further nominations three times at which time I will declare nominations closed. I will also accept, at any time, a motion from the floor to end nominations.

An election, if necessary, will be by ballot and counting of the ballots will be done by a three person impartial committee that I designate as Chairman.

In accordance with the by-law 5:03 (a) the Honorary President is elected at an annual meeting as a vacancy occurs. Cameron Henry of Oak River, Manitoba continues to serve as Honorary President in his 3 year term.

For President, the committee nominated Ed Lefsrud of Viking, Alberta. There being no further nominations, Ed Lefsrud was declared president for the forthcoming year.

As per By-law 7:03(b), the following were elected at their branch annual meetings as grower directors of the association for 2007 - 2008, effective from the date of the Branch meeting.

British Columbia: Gordon Hill (Taylor)

Alberta: Norman Lyster (Stettler) and Larry Kitz, Two Hills

Saskatchewan: Larry Littman (Saltcoats) and Gerald Girodat (Shaunavon)

Manitoba: Robert Wiens (Domain) and Robert Stevenson (Kenton)

Ontario: Bob Hart (Woodstock) and Neil Shanks (Wheatley)

Quebec: Daniel Lanoie (St. Hugues)

Maritimes: Ivan Nyborg, (New Denmark, NB) and James Baillie (Tatamagouche NS)

There being no further nominations the foregoing were declared elected as Directors for the association for 2007 – 2008.

Neil Shanks was declared as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and Gerald Girodat as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President.

The Provincial Ministers of Agriculture have designated the following as Directors for 2007 - 2008 as per By-Law 7:03 (c):

Prince Edward Island: Peter Boswall

New Brunswick: Mike Price

Nova Scotia: Dr. Claude Caldwell

Quebec: Danielle Bernier

Ontario: Brent Kennedy

Manitoba: Bruce Brolley

Saskatchewan: Mike McAvoy

Alberta: Dr. Cornelia Kreplin

British Columbia: Harvey Glasier

As per By-Law 11:01, one Director appointed pursuant to the provision of ByLaw 7:03 (c) shall be elected to the Executive.

For director on the Executive Committee the Nominating Committee nominated Danielle Bernier of Quebec.

The committee also recommends that the individuals on the proposed list be elected as Associate Members for the forthcoming year. This list of Associate Members is published in the annual report.

**Motion:** to accept the report of the Nominating Committee. Moved by B. Reisner and seconded by T. Charabin. CARRIED

### CSGA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Left to right: Dale Adolphe, Ed Lefsrud, Danielle Bernier, Gerald Girodat  
Seated: David Mol and Neil Shanks

### CSGA NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Back Row: Peter Boswall, Bob Hart, Gordon Hill, Daniel Lanoie, Mike Price  
Middle Row: James Baillie, Larry Littman, Dr. Claude Caldwell, Dale Adolphe, Danielle Bernier,  
Gerald Girodat, Neil Shanks, Robert Stevenson, Larry Kitz  
Front row seated: Dr. Bryan Harvey, Harvey Glasier, David Mol, Ed Lefsrud, Mike McAvoy,  
Norman Lyster  
Regrets: Dr. Cornelia Kreplin, Ivan Nyborg, Brent Kennedy, Bruce Brolley

**Speaker:**

Shannon McCarton introduced Jill Clark and Perry Dangstorp, a brother and sister from Redvers, Saskatchewan.

Both Jill and Perry were born and raised on the family farm in Redvers, Saskatchewan. After graduating with a business degree, Jill was offered a corporate job in Toronto, Ontario with a good income. It was a big decision to leave her home town but it was a glamorous job she thought; with a big office and lots of opportunities for advancement.

Perry, Jill's brother, an Agriculture Economics student had different plans for his future. He wanted to keep the farm going and wanted to carry on the family farm. But Perry had some valid concerns of his own about his decision. Girls did not seem too impressed when you told them you wanted to be a farmer and in today's living standards a single salary is not enough. All of Perry's friends were getting jobs on the rigs in Alberta with large annual salaries. What if I lost the farm and embarrassed my family, he thought. But Perry knew that he could make a good living in Redvers and he wanted to keep the farm.

After being in Toronto for a few months Jill felt that she had made a mistake. She disliked the smog and traffic jams in Toronto and missed the beautiful prairie skies. She packed up her bags again and took a job at Phoenix Advertising in Indian Head, Saskatchewan.

Both Jill and Perry agree that the decision was very difficult to make, on whether or not to leave the family farm. They spoke of how young people today have lots of available opportunities and easier accessibility to schools and advanced education. There are a lot of barriers to enter farming as a career. For those who do not come from family farms and want to pursue farming as a career if you don't have the money to buy land and if you don't have an established farm, how do you go about it?

Jill and Perry both feel that they were very fortunate to grow up on a farm in Saskatchewan and the experience will always remain a very important part of their lives. They gave a heartfelt address on why Perry returned to farming and Jill did not.

**Awards and Membership Committee Report:**

The report of the Awards & Membership Committee was presented at the banquet by Chairman Neil Shanks with simultaneous French translation.

The Clark-Newman-Clayton-Award was presented by D. Mol to Dr. Ronald DePauw. Dr DePauw has been a hexaploid wheat breeder at the Research Centre in Swift Current, Saskatchewan since 1978. The recipient of the award is to choose a Canadian university that will be requested to name a suitable post graduate student to receive a \$2,500 scholarship from the CSGA. Thomas Zatorski, a post graduate student at the University of Saskatchewan was presented with a \$2,500 cheque from CSGA.

Honorary Life Membership Award Certificates were presented by D. Mol to the following recipients: Rick Holm, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan; W. K. (Bill) Robertson, Ottawa, Ontario; and Jerry Roddy, Vernon, British Columbia.

Robertson Associate certificates and pins were presented by D. Mol to the following recipients: Donna Edwards, Nokomis, Saskatchewan; Edmund Lefsrud, Viking, Alberta; Rick McCarthy, Corning, Saskatchewan; and Ron McKinnon, Abernethy, Saskatchewan.

All of the spouses of the award recipients received a beautiful bouquet of red roses. D. Mol was presented with a silver tray for serving as president on the Board and B. Reisner was presented with a clock for his time on the Board.

Everyone was asked to rise when "God save the Queen" played while Donna Sanders, an impersonator of the Queen, strolled into the room. Dressed in full royal costume she entertained the audience with humorous stories about some of the audience members and many others in the agricultural community.

## Presidents Report

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*David Mol*  
*President*

## Report from the Board of Directors

*Ed Lefsrud*  
*1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President*

This is a short list of activities that the Board of Directors has been involved in for the past year.

- 1) During the Board of Directors meeting at the 2007 Annual Meeting in Saskatoon, the Board expressed an interest in reviewing the structure, timing, organization, sponsorship, etc. of the Annual Meeting. If anyone has any helpful suggestions please talk to one of the directors.
- 2) Financial activities were examined and you shall see this in the budget when it is presented.
- 3) The Nation Forum on Seed (NFS) is somewhat dormant this past year and it will remain that way until we receive ACAAF funding later this year.
- 4) Several of the directors attended regional Seed Program Modernization meetings across Canada and a summary meeting was held in the spring in Ottawa.
- 5) The Canadian Seed Growers' Association Policy Positions were reviewed and revised by the Board. The revised policy positions will be posted to the CSGA website.
- 6) The Education and Publicity, Circular 6, and Research and Development Committees meet regularly and reports from these Committees will be presented later during the meeting.

## Education & Publicity Report

*Robert Stevenson,  
Chair*

I would like to thank the committee members and the staff for the effort they have put into education and publicity this year.

Our budget for 2006/2007 was \$57,000. We spent \$22,000 on Seed Scoop, \$6,500 on writing and editing (Germination magazine), \$5,000 on calendars, \$7,000 on Sharing the Message and developing a new logo, and \$5,000 on the Equipment Clean Out Challenge contest.

Last November E & P met and decided on three priorities:

- 1) Grower –Retailer marketing Education and assistance
- 2) University and Agricultural College promotion
- 3) End user advocacy.

Our first priority, grower marketing education we see as a series of marketing workshops held in conjunction with branch meetings. We have applied to ACAAP for funding to support these workshops and should know by November.

Our next priority, agricultural university and college promotion is an initiative to see that agricultural students gain an understanding of the pedigreed seed system. We envision developing a series of lectures and aids to be used in existing university courses as an introduction to the seed system and show the opportunities that it creates for economic development. We have budgeted \$10,000 for this but will need more end user advocacy in an attempt to inform end users of the importance of the pedigreed seed system. CSGA has applied to ACAAF to fund this project.

In February we had a joint meeting with CSTA to determine common priorities. Two areas were identified. One is to promote the Certified Seed Tax Incentive, the other to benchmark Canada with regard to research, plant breeding and levels of use of certified seed.

CSGA has contributed towards the development of a new certified seed logo. The E & P Committee is recommending we adopt this logo and you will start to see it being used across the seed industry as a consistent advertising campaign.

## Research & Development Report

Larry Littman  
Chair

The Canadian Seed Growers' Association provides research grants on an annual basis for up to \$12,000 per project, per year. Based on satisfactory performance and availability of funds an additional one or two years may be granted. A national director is chosen to visit the research project to ensure that the funds are being spent in the best interests of our members. Priority research areas include pedigreed seed crop production standards such as isolation and previous land use requirements.

The Committee met in November of last year and reviewed six continuing projects and three new projects that were received. The six ongoing projects were reviewed and accepted for a total of \$61,000.

These projects are:

<b>Continuing Projects</b>	<b>Term of Project</b>	<b>Amount Approved</b>	<b>Directors Site Visits 2007</b>
Agronomic Modeling of Barley Volunteers (Dr. Linda Hall, Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development)	Year 3 of 3	\$12,000	E. Lefsrud
Persistence of wheat genotypes differing in primary dormancy (Steven Shirliffe, University of Saskatchewan)	Year 3 of 3	\$12,000	M. McAvoy
National Gene Development Strategy for control of common Bacterial Blight for the Canadian Dry Bean Industry (Peter Pauls/Chris Gillard, University of Guelph)	Year 3 of 3	\$12,000	Bob Hart
Modeling transgene movement to facilitate containment in field crop seed production systems in Canada. (Dr. Rene Van Acker, Department of Plant Science, University of Manitoba)	Year 3 of 3	\$10,000	R. Stevenson
Variety Fingerprinting in Canadian Wheat Phase II Research Plant (Dr. Doug Procnier, AAFC, Winnipeg MB)	Year 2 of 2	\$5,000	R. Stevenson

The effect of flowering synchrony on canola ( <i>Brassica napus</i> ) outcrossing rates (Marie-Josée Simard, AAFC, Sainte-Foy, QC)	Year 2 of 3	\$10,000	D. Bernier
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Three new projects were received and the following two new projects were approved for funding.

<b>New Projects</b>	<b>Term of Project</b>	<b>Amount Approved</b>	<b>Site Visit</b>
<b>Project # 1</b> Chemical and biological seed treatments to improve growth of plants derived from red-smudged durum seed (Myriam R. Fernandez, Semiarid Prairie Agricultural Research Centre, AAFC, Swift Current, SK)	1 Year	<b>Project # 1</b> was approved for \$7,000 with matching funds from seed treatment companies and the term of the project will be one year.	Gerald Girodat
<b>Project # 2</b> Refinement of a Conservative, Quasiphsical Model of Wheat Outcrossing Franco DiGiovanni Airzone One Ltd. Mississauga ON	1 Year	<b>Project # 2</b> was approved for \$5,000 and to be considered as a one year project.	Bob Hart

Research grants total \$73,000 this year.

The maximum amount of \$12,000 available for funding has been constant for some time, and with the increase in wages and costs the Committee felt \$12,000 is no longer an adequate amount. Only three new applications were received this year and the Committee recommended to the Board, and the Board agreed, to increase the maximum amount for projects from \$12,000 – \$15,000. The Research and Development budget for 2008 – 2009 will then increase from \$75,000 to \$90,000.