

**SAGA 88th Annual General Meeting  
January 17, 2023**

**Online Zoom meeting**

1. President Belisle called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. with 20 members in attendance
2. **Agenda**  
**MOTION:** The Agenda be approved. Bryan Harvey / Ewald Lammerding - **CARRIED**
3. **Minutes of 87th AGM**  
**MOTION:** Approve as amended. John Hauer / Jason Fradette - **CARRIED**
4. **Business Arising from the Minutes** – none
5. **Treasurer's Report/Financial Statement and Report of the Auditor- Morley Ayars**

First I would like to thank Paul Marciniak for reviewing our financial statements. In his compilation report Paul writes "I found no material errors in the financial statements presented to me"

This year was again a very challenging year for SAGA. Our net worth dropped by about 17.3 per cent with negative income of \$17,168.74. This leaves our net worth at \$64,636.09. Our major loss was the decline in our investments of \$8,277.6. The summer reunion went over budget by almost \$2900. Mostly due to the council decided to provide free bus service to the site from the university and an initial drink to registrants. This decision was motivated by participant safety due to the high heat that day. We had to make up the short fall of \$1900 for the scholarship program. We also lost money on the newsletter of about \$2100. Finally, our banking charges and facility rents from the cancelation of the 2022 banquet cost us over \$1300.

We had someone use our web site for "card testing". The result is that council decided to shift from using Moneris to PayPal. PayPal provides us security as well as costing us less. Thus, we used PayPal for the summer reunion and our annual banquet. The estimated savings of this decision will be around \$1,000 a year.

Challenges that council will likely have to address are reviewing our investment strategy, the scholarship program and the newsletter. Our current mutual fund has returned a compound annual rate just over 2.5 percent from 2008. News letter costs are increasing significantly resulting is us having to review revenue sources.

This will be my last annual report because I plan on retiring from council in the next few months.

I have conducted a compilation review of the financial statements of Saskatchewan Agricultural Graduates Association (SAGA) for the period November 01, 2021 to October 31, 2022. In doing so, I reviewed a sample of entries, both revenue and expense.

I found no material errors in the financial statements presented to me and do not recommend any changes be made to those statements.

  
Paul Marciniak

BSA 1980

Date Dec 19, 2022

Entity No. 205879

Name of Corporation: **Saskatchewan Agricultural Graduates' Association Inc.**

### Income Statement 2021-11-01 to 2022-10-31 with comparison to previous year

		(Current Year)	
		2020-2021	2021-2022
<b>REVENUE</b>			
<b>Member Revenue</b>			
Sales of Sodbuster Books	\$ 25.00		
Handling Charge Sodbuster Books	\$ 15.00		
Membership	\$ 1,880.00		
Refund of Memberships	-\$ 940.00		
Scholarship receipts	\$ 260.00		
Banquet and mixer	\$ 15,830.00		
Refund Banquet and mixer	-\$ 15,830.00		
Summer Reunion Registration	\$ 5,430.00		
Alcohol Beverages	\$ 723.75		
Banquet & Mixer at Reunion Night	\$ -		
Hockey	\$ -		
Total Banquet and mixer	\$ 6,153.75		
Total Membership Revenue	\$ 7,393.75		
<b>Other revenue</b>			
Newsletter Subscription	\$ -		
Newsletter Advertisement	\$ 1,450.00		
Total Newsletter Revenue	\$ 1,450.00		
Gain or (loss) on investment	-\$ 8,277.60		
Other Revenue	\$ 220.00		
Total other revenue	-\$ 6,607.60		
Total Revenue	\$ 786.15		
<b>Expenses</b>			
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>			
Sodbuster Books	\$ 11.74		
Total Cost of Goods Sold	\$ 11.74		
<b>General Expenses</b>			
Corporate Registry	\$ 15.00		
Postage	\$ 29.05		
Visa Charges	\$ 387.85		
Mastercard Charges	\$ 218.58		
PayPal Charges	\$ 124.04		
Other Credit Card charges	\$ 4.48		
Moneris Charges	\$ 639.35		
Other Bank Charges	\$ 52.19		
Total Bank Charges	\$ 1,426.49		
GST paid	\$ 168.80		
PST Paid	\$ 69.03		
Total Taxes Paid	\$ 237.83		
Office Supplies	\$ 217.96		
Newsletter layout	\$ 889.00		
Newsletter Printing	\$ 1,565.93		
Newsletter Mailing	\$ 1,095.13		
Total Newsletter cost	\$ 3,550.06		
Life Membership Expense	\$ 484.52		
Website Expense	\$ 804.00		
Summer Reunion	\$ 9,059.08		
Hockey Expense	\$ 593.81		
Total Social Function Expenses	\$ 9,652.89		
Agricultural Students Association	\$ 657.60		
Other student donations	\$ 500.00		
membership fees	\$ 350.00		
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$ 17.75		
Total General Expenses	\$ 17,943.15		
Total Expenses	\$ 17,954.89		
Net Income	-\$ 17,168.74		
<b>REVENUES</b> (Includes revenue for which payment has not yet been received)			
Membership Fees	\$ 820.00		
Grants	\$ -		
Donations	\$ 214.00		
Fundraising	\$ -		
Hockey	\$ -		
Banquet & Mixer	\$ -		
Banquet & Mixer at Reunion Night	\$ -		
Other Receipts	\$ -		
Ag in Motion	\$ -		
Professional Development	\$ -		
Newsletter Subscription	\$ -		
Website/Newsletter Ads	\$ 1,300.00		
Sales of "The Sodbusters Vision" Book	\$ 120.00		
Interest (Increase in value of mutual fund)	\$ 8,717.72		
Total Revenue for the Year	\$ 11,171.72		
<b>EXPENSES</b> (Includes expenses for which payment has not yet been made)			
Personnel Costs (Salaries, etc)	\$ -		
Taxes & Licences (Corporate Registry)	\$ 188.69		
Lease or Rental Costs	\$ -		
Utilities	\$ -		
Insurance	\$ -		
Repairs & Maintenance	\$ -		
Office Supplies & Postage	\$ 70.42		
Bank Charges (including Moneris charges)	\$ 746.13		
Communication to Members	\$ -		
Newsletter (publication & Mailing)	\$ 3,182.55		
Website	\$ 854.00		
Social Functions	\$ -		
Hockey (See shown above in revenue)	\$ -		
Banquet & Mixer	\$ -		
Misc: Visa deduction, ASA	\$ 500.00		
Professional Development-students	\$ -		
Crop Production Week Membership	\$ -		
Sask Ag Hall of Fame	\$ -		
President Portrait	\$ -		
Other, "The Sodbusters Vision" Book	\$ 46.96		
Other Misc Membership fees	\$ 100.00		
Life Membership Expense	\$ 296.50		
Total Expenses for the Year	\$ 5,985.25		
	\$ 5,186.47		

**MOTION:** That the Treasurer's report be approved. Bryan Harvey / Ewald Lammerding – **CARRIED**

**MOTION:** That the Executive appoint the person to do the 2022-2023 Compilation Report. Eric Johnson / Morley Ayars – **CARRIED**

## 6. Reports

a) Scholarship Committee – Ewald Lammerding/Hamish Tulloch

The SAGA undergraduate scholarship is open to continuing undergraduate students in any degree or diploma program offered at the College of Agriculture and Bioresources. At least one and up to two \$3,000 scholarships may be provided each year, depending on the available funds. To be considered for the award applicants must have a minimum of a 70% average and submit a 200-300 word essay demonstrating their commitment to community activities.

Two scholarship recipients were selected for the 2022-23 academic year. However, one of the recipients withdrew from their program during the fall term and rather than selecting a new candidate, the award funds have been retained for use in the future.

The other recipient was Kayley Harvey who is a fourth-year student majoring in Agronomy. Kayley also completed a two-year diploma in Agronomy in 2020. At the Reunion Banquet on Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> she spoke very eloquently about her pride for being selected as this year's recipient.

The Scholarship continues to be supported through donations from the SAGA membership but contributions have declined quite significantly since the pandemic began. The scholarship balance is currently \$3,600.

The return to in-person Reunion activities is hoped to raise awareness in the significance this award has to its recipients and reinvigorate our membership's interest in supporting it.

Hamish Tulloch '91 C – AgBio Director of Development

Ewald Lammerding '88 S

#### **b) ASA – Mathew Trefiak**

To begin, I would like to thank every one of the alumni who lent a helping hand with Bedpush, whether it be coming out to push for a kilometer (or 23!), helping lead the charge for fundraising around the towns of Highway 11, donating money to one of our fundraisers, via the online donation portal, or just spreading the word about Bedpush to help us gain exposure! This event could not have been possible without the alumni support that we received, especially coming out of the pandemic. We held fundraiser events over the month of February, including auctions, bowling, slo-pitch tournament, bingo, and a raffle, all of which were a hit. We also received enormous support from the Ag Industry and without the gracious sponsorships, whether it be a donation, food along the way, toques to keep us warm, or donating the bus for us to use, it wouldn't have been possible to make Bedpush as amazing as it was, helping us reach that grand total of \$88,142.69 for TeleMiracle. On November 17<sup>th</sup> we received an award from the Association of Fundraising Professionals Saskatoon thanks to a nomination from TeleMiracle for our effort, so thank you for the continued support.

Similarly, thank you to the sponsors and SAGA members that came out to participate in the Build Your Connections Casino Night. We hosted a mock casino so that students, alumni, and potential employers got the chance to meet and network in a less formal environment than usual. We also had Ag Bag Drag \*Goose\* whose motto was "We All Bleed Blue at Drag 2022" and had approximately 1500 people in attendance the day of, including students from almost every western Canadian Ag College. We hosted our annual Shave Down to kick off Movember and raise funds for men's mental health, prostate cancer, and testicular cancer. We managed to raise \$4,500 for this cause. The Ag Lounge has been getting revamped with the help of some industry support, from Richardson Pioneer, thank you for giving it a new makeover. This year's Agros Grad Banquet was January 14<sup>th</sup> SAGA members Louis Bossear and Deanne Belisle both spoke at the event which we on the ASA want to say thank you for coming and sharing with those in attendance. This year, The Senior Stick was passed down from **Morgan Davey ('23)** to **Ellie Stauffer ('24)** We are also gearing up for another large concert event in March called Unhinged and beginning to plan our annual March for STARS Fundraising Campaign. If you have any questions about events or want to donate or help support a fundraising campaign in any way, please email myself (Matthew) at [public.relationsuofs@gmail.com](mailto:public.relationsuofs@gmail.com)

At meeting: President Belisle noted that the Dean applauded this group of 4<sup>th</sup> years in their efforts to keep the traditions going as they are the only ones that have experienced in-person education due to COVID.

**c) Membership – Henry de Gooijer**

As of October 31, 2022 SAGA membership was 1739. There are 56 Annual Members, 45 Honorary Life Members, 1 free membership and 1637 Life members. This is a reduction of approximately 19 members from the previous year. The covid pandemic has again impacted membership numbers as the cancellation of the 2022 Ag Grad reunion banquet, traditionally a time where a number of life and annual memberships are purchased, has significantly reduced the issuance of new memberships. While a reunion was held in July for the classes that would have celebrated reunions in 2021 and 2022, the decision was made to not require a membership to attend; therefore the event didn't result in a significant membership change. In 2021-22 there were 12 new memberships issued.

Maintaining current contact information for the membership continues to be a priority. The primary and increasing method of contact with SAGA members is through email versus Canada Post. We currently have email addresses for approximately 60% of SAGA members. However, email addresses tend to change a bit more often than mailing or street addresses, so every mailing of the SAGA newsletter does bring in a list of members for which we no longer have a valid address. Currently we don't have current contact information for approximately 2% of our members. Thank you to the SAGA members who do send their new contact information to us and thanks to the efforts of Ewald, Hamish and the rest of the executive, we are able to track down new information for many and re-establish contact with them.

Henry de Gooijer 83C

**d) Hockey –**

There is no doubt the hockey teams and players were itching to get back on the ice for the 2023 hockey tournament in Waldheim. There were 2 college teams and 4 alumni teams, of the alumni teams there was a 10-year team (2013 Grads) and a 30-year team (1993 Grads).

The A side was won by a team organized by Chad Scott 17', The B side was won by the 93' grad team organized by Joe Clavelle and the C side was won by Dawson Malenfant's team 19-21' grads. The Bouchard Heart Award was given to Royce Lodoen 13'. Royce organized the tournament in the past and continues to organize a team for it every year, he represents exactly who this award was created for. The 30-year team speaks for itself with the lifelong friends made in university.

Hosting this tournament so many years at Waldheim has made it quite easy for planning and organizing the day, I have nothing but gratitude to all the staff and volunteers there. Two years hiatus of the tournament didn't show on the day, friends and teams were still visiting like no time has passed.

2023 SAGA Hockey Tournament					
Income		Deposit #			
	Donations			\$315.00	
	Team Fees			\$1,500.00	
			Total Income	\$1,815.00	
Expenses					
	Waldheim Rink Fees			\$ 1,365.00	
	Misc. Expenses			\$ 196.52	
	Trophy tier	Tier added to A side trophy		\$ 222.00	
				\$ -	
			Total Expenses	\$ 1,783.52	
			Net Profit	\$31.48	
Income Statement as of 12/01/2023 (Chay Anderson Hockey exec)					

#### **e) Newsletter – Ewald Lammerding**

We still have difficulties with members sending us their changes of address and info when they move. Or informing us that they have changed their email address. Many thanks to Henry de Gooijer '83, for all the work and time he contributes trying to keep track and updating.

Costs continue to climb, and not much that we can control. For the Dec. issue, paper price jumped and the dreaded 'supply chain' issue reared its head. The Sask Abilities Council now purchases paper on an 'As Needed' basis instead of keeping it in stock. Fortunately, SAC found a less expensive source but it took an extra week to get enough for our 600 16 page Dec. issue. Hence the delay in mailing. Our real problem was and is with the emailed version. The June issue was distributed mostly as it should, but the Dec. issue has become a fiasco. And it hasn't been fixed yet. At first it was, apparently, a problem emailing to 'sasktel' addresses, but now we have reports that 'gmail', 'shaw' and others haven't come through either. Still trying to get to the bottom of the problem.

Thanks for the continued support by our usual three advertisers; Saskatchewan Municipal Hail Insurance (SMHI), Farm Credit Corporation (FCC) and BrettYoung Seeds as well as BlackFox Farm and Distillery.

Thanks again to Irene Ahner '65 for her continuing contributions. She is, however, still waiting for some feedback on her Women Agriculture Graduates' stories in the Dec. 2020 and June 2021 issues. To Allen Hingston '69, for his articles concerning agriculture in Ukraine, of which the Invasion remains a concern for us all. Blair Cummins '77 - MAL: squeezed in another Cheers with Peers this year. We had a wonderful article written by Chong Sheau Ching 1982, and her 4 yr. experiences as an AgBio student. As a foreign student from Malaysia, it was an eye-opener for herself and classmates.

Many thanks to our regular contributors. President Deanne Belisle '79 for her insightful words. VP John Hauer, for helping with everything. Ditto with Past Prez, Jason Fradette. Dean of AgBio, Angela Bedard-Haughn '01, kept us all abreast what the College of AgBio has been doing, and where it is headed and its participation in the Agricultural world. Hamish Tulloch '91: AgBio Development Office for helping Saga members stay aware of the need of on-going contributions for the betterment of the students. Student Reps: PRO Matthew Trefiak '23, and the AgBio Clubs Liaison – Zach Hill '25. These young people have an extremely busy scholastic year, yet still find time to participate in their communities, fundraising record-breaking dollars for charities. And fill out a report for us.

A huge Thank you to each and every AgBio Class that sent in a picture along with a small article telling us all the fun they had at their self-organized Reunions this summer. I had just as much fun reading and looking through what they sent and then feeling guilty that I had to edit anything, just to make it fit.

Please keep in mind that grads cannot read about what is happening with fellow Ag Grads if the information isn't sent to us. Sometimes a tip is all that's needed. Research can do the rest.

Ewald Lammerding '88 S

#### **e) Banquet/Reunion – Ewald Lammerding**

We had been taking all the steps necessary to hold the 2022 Reunion Banquet on Jan. 8, 2022. With the possibility of 44 Grad Classes taking part, early projections were twice as many as usual attending the celebrations. With the entire Saga Executive jumping in to help, we had finalized plans with TCU Place and Imagery Photography on Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> and the Friday Night Social at AgBio on the 7<sup>th</sup>. The WDM continued their support, with Amanda Louie finding a stash of 100 yr. old ads and articles.

Alas, once again, all for naught. We did however, hold the 2022 AGM on the 8<sup>th</sup>. A second year via a Zoom meeting, set up by Secretary Raelene Petracek. 2020 & '21 President Jason Fradette presented Honorary Life Membership to Grant Wood and Wilf Keller. He also drove to Regina to give the award directly to 2021 HLM John Hickie.

But, we had more than enough interest to try and hold a summer party. And, with lots of assistance from many quarters, we managed to pull off the very first SAGA Summer Reunion on July 15<sup>th</sup>. The morning



began with our usual Social tours, conducted by Bryan Harvey '60, (Buildings) Hamish Tulloch '91 (Art) and this year, Adam Harrison (Phytotron). Imagery Photography was there to take official photographs for various Classes. Huge thanks to the Crop Development Centre for allowing us to squeeze in at the Kernen Research Farm, just before their own 50 yr. (51!) celebrations. Thank you to Kirk Blomquist '93, Dr. Pierre Hucl, and 2019 Saga Prez Eric Johnson '82, for your great assistance in co-coordinating it all. And thanks to Kaylie Kryz '21 for her drone photo of everyone there, it looked great! Lorne McConaghy '66, arranged bus transportation for us all, with classmate Richard Bellamy '66 helping keeping any rowdiness to a minimum on the rides there and back.

Thanks to Agar's Corner Catering for a delicious and plentiful meal. (although I mostly ate their dessert). To BlackFox Distilleries for setting up our own Watering Hole at Kernen Farm and to Barb Stefanyshe-Cote '87 & Raelene Petrcek '86 keeping all of us happy with it.

Two Grads regaled the crowd with stories of the good old days. Ross Reynolds '53, delighted everyone with his version of "All the Facts" of how Ag Bag Drag came into being in 1951, concocted by himself and some of the Home Economics ladies. Dave Christensen '58, brought up lots of memories for older grads with tales of the 'Snake Dance'. He also gave a great accounting of how much Agriculture and the teaching of it has changed since his student days and when he began as a teacher at AgBio.

AgBio Associate Dean – Academic, Fran Walley attended, and along with Saga Past President Jason Fradette formally presented the past two years HLM's with their awards.

2021 – John Hickie and Dave Christensen.

2022 – Wilf Keller and Grant Wood

2022 President Deanne Belisle was finally able to enjoy a Saga Banquet Reunion and oversaw the festivities.

Ewald Lammerding '88 S

#### **f) Sask. Agricultural Hall of Fame – Bryan Harvey**

2022 marked the return to in person celebrations of inductees into the hall. It also marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Hall. A gala event was held to induct a double cohort of inductees and to celebrate a large number of past inductee in attendance. Plans are under way to renovate the Hall and increase the space for portrait hanging.

The inductee for 2023 are Bill Huber , Kevin Hursh, Dorothy Long, John McKinnon and Laurie Tollefson. The ceremony will take place on April 15<sup>th</sup> 2023.

Bryan Harvey

#### **g) Crop Production Week – Jo-Anne Relf-Eckstein**

The main function of the Crop Production Week (CPW) Saskatchewan Inc group, established in 2005, is to support the organization of member events. Typically, these events, held either in-person or virtually, coincide with the Western Canadian Crop Production Show and the SAGA Reunion.

In January 2022, the Western Canada Crop Production Show was held in January 2022, however, due to concerns about COVID-19, most of the organizations held their AGMs using a virtual format while some offered the option of in-person attendance. For several organizations, the delivery of the meetings using Zoom webinar and voting systems was coordinated by the AV Technical staff at Saskatoon Prairieland Park. Overall, AGM attendance was similar to 2021 virtual-only meetings.

Throughout 2021-2022, the CPW Saskatchewan Inc. group continued to hold virtual meetings and the AGM was held on April 12, 2022. Here are the highlights of the meeting:

- The 2022-2023 Board of CPW Saskatchewan Inc. directors include: Tanya Craddock, Chairman, and Danny Petty, Secretary/Treasurer.
- Membership fees stayed the same, \$250 for each member group including: Saskatchewan Ag Grads

Association, Canaryseed Development Commission of Saskatchewan, Sask Winter Cereals, Saskatchewan Seed Growers Association, Sask Alfalfa Seed Producers Development Commission, Saskatchewan Oat Development Commission, AgriARM (c/o IHARF), Saskatchewan Forage Seed Development Commission, Saskatchewan Mustard Development Commission and CropSphere-SaskCrops, representing Sask Pulse, SaskCanola, SaskFlax, SaskWheat, SaskBarley).

- The Financial Position, on an accrual basis as of March 31, 2022, is reported as follows:

TOTAL ASSETS \$55,301. Chequing Account balance of \$23,657. GIC \$30,000, Accounts Receivable \$1,644.

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY \$55,301. Accounts Payable \$5,000. Opening Balance Equity \$59,961. Unrestricted Net Assets -\$9,005, Net Income (deficit) (\$656).

TOTAL INCOME \$7,551 derived from Sponsorship (\$5,000) provided by the Ministry of Agriculture for advertising and promotion of meetings of the CPW Board members, and Membership Fees \$2,250 (regular membership fees @\$250), and Interest (\$301).

TOTAL EXPENSES \$8,207. The main expense is the website (\$5,000), and contract services provided by Saskatoon Prairieland Park (\$3,150). Banking Fees were \$57.

NET INCOME (deficit) (\$656).

TOTAL PROJECTED INCOME 2022/23 is \$7,650 sourced from Membership Fee for 9 members @\$250, Sponsor Income \$5,000, and Interest Income \$400.

TOTAL PROJECTED EXPENDITURES 2022/23 \$9,325. Website (\$5,000), Promotion/Saskatoon Prairieland Park (\$4,000); Administration expenses (\$250) for postage, meeting charges, Bank service charges (\$60), Incorporation Fee (\$15).

PROJECTED SURPLUS 2022/23 Budget (Deficit) (\$1,675).

The AGMs for the CPW Saskatchewan Inc and Crop Sphere (SaskCrops) organizations were scheduled for December (Saskatchewan Forage Seed Development Commission in Nipawin, Dec 12, and the Canaryseed Development Commission of Saskatchewan in Regina, Dec 16), and January 9-12 in Saskatoon. Saskatoon Prairieland Park will provide the AV support for several of the organizations as they each chose to use a hybrid format, a combination of in-person meetings with remote access available through the Zoom teleconferencing system. Following the same process as the previous year, a common registration system, saskcrops.com, and advertising for the AGMs were prepared.

Respectfully submitted on January 12, 2023, for the SAGA AGM

by,

J. Relf-Eckstein

#### **h) Social Media – Mayson Maerz/Louis Bossaer**

I don't have much to say for the social media aspect except we had a lot of feedback and traffic on the reunion and the recent Agro Grad event.

### **Facebook**

Here are a few snippets of info I thought was interesting. Our facebook page has in my opinion a much younger crowd interacting with it then our membership. See attachment.

If you see the most recent posts the graduation post got the most reach. It shows to me at least if we want to stay in touch with students taking part in their events and staying connected to social media is the way to do it. See attachment-Posts



## Posts

[Create a post](#)
[Last 5](#)


2023 Agriculture and Bioresources Graduation Banquet last night. Put on by the Agriculture Students Association. What a fun night and what a great group of grads. They will make our industry very proud.  
Sun, Jan 15

Post reach Engagement  
6498 1997



Sad loss for sure Renny. He touched so many lives.  
Mon, Jan 9

Post reach Engagement  
384 43



Retirement of a well known SAGA member. All the best in your retirement Dave.  
Mon, Jan 9

Post reach Engagement  
546 44



Some pics from tonight. Agro Lounge visits and tours.  
Fri, Jan 6

Post reach Engagement  
1698 1206



Looking forward to seeing everyone this weekend. Few updates: 88th reunion is shaping up to be a success. 305+ registered for the banquet. Ticket sales for the banquet are now closed. Largest registration since 2016. College Of Agriculture and Bioresources and SAGA Friday Night Social January 6th, 2023 @ AgBio Atrium. Meet and Greet begins at 4:00. AgBio Tours...  
Fri, Jan 6

Post reach Engagement  
1271 120



Oh boy. I'm not sure what's worse - admitting there's no way I should attempt to squeeze into one of these, or wear the other and look like Moe of the Three Stooges?? #40YearGrad #SAGAREunion See you this weekend Agro and Voc Ag Alumni!  
Fri, Jan 6

Post reach Engagement  
690 158



Cheers with Peers made a successful visit to #westerncanadianagribition last week! Add your pictures to this post if you have any. L-R Kent Gulash, Saskatoon '85D; Agribition CEO Shaun Kindopp; Deanne Belisle Saskatoon, '79C; Ryder Lee, Calgary '99D; Page Newton, Cabri, '89C  
Dec 6, 2022

Post reach Engagement  
581 100



Early bird pricing for reunion tickets are now available.  
Dec 2, 2022

Post reach Engagement  
352 30

## Twitter

1,331 followers

Recent Ag Grad posts has over 2,200 impressions since posted in one day and still going up. Similar to facebook where the ones with the students have the most uptake.

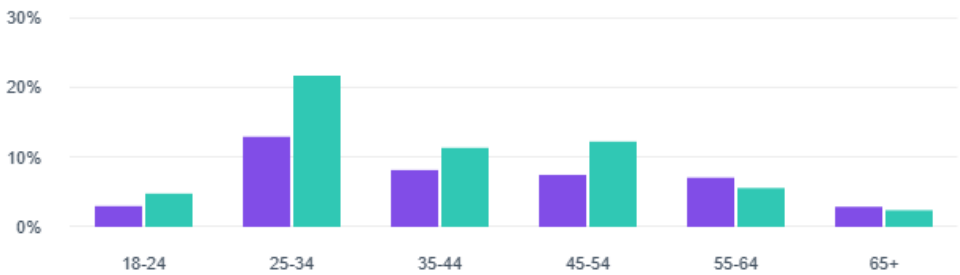
In both cases when we get alumni posting and tagging SAGA is when true interactions really take place. I would encourage more members to send tag us in their posts with anything related to alumni. Anniversaries, new careers, retirements and anything related to alumni group get together.

Tagging us and the Agros tends to get even more uptake. For example when I tweeted out the National Philanthropy Day with the Agros from my personal account and tagged SAGA and Agros we had almost 3000 impressions.

# Audience

## Age and Gender

Men 41.70%  
Women 58.30%



## Location

Cities

Countries

Saskatoon, SK, Canada	157
Regina, SK, Canada	51
Calgary, AB, Canada	23
Swift Current, SK, Canada	18
Moose Jaw, SK, Canada	16
Tisdale, SK, Canada	14
Prince Albert, SK, Canada	10
Melfort, SK, Canada	9
Edam, SK, Canada	8
Yorkton, SK, Canada	8

Louis Bossaer '95C/ Mayson Maerz '83C

### i) Past President – Jason Fradette

It was my pleasure to serve as Past President this last year. I have two items I would like present.

First is Honorary Life Members. It is a privilege to be able to recommend and work with a committee to select the recipients most deserving of this recognition. These past few years we have had more nominees than we can accommodate in our typical two awards process. A list of candidates now exists and will be passed on to the new Past President. However, SAGA should continue to take recommendations from our member ship to add to this list of candidates as they arise to ensure we consider all potential candidates that are making contributions to society and the agricultural community.

Second, I would like to commend Deanne for leading the executive this past year. She had unique challenges in getting SAGA back on track post pandemic, running both a summer and January reunion,

and dealing with a fall in revenue that resulted from the pandemic. Thank you Deanne for the leadership this past year.

Jason Fradette

**j) Website – Ward Headrick**

We made some changes to the registration process this year. For the Summer Reunion we tested using PayPal as our credit card processor instead of Moneris. We felt the test was successful and decided to fully implement it for the winter reunion. The estimated saving using PayPal vs. Moneris was figured out to be a savings of around \$850 per year to SAGA. We implemented PayPal for the 88<sup>th</sup> Winter Reunion and added the ability for people to pay by e-transfer.

The savings gained by using PayPal and e-transfer were larger than first anticipated (depending on how many people use e-transfer, no service charge for them to SAGA). With PayPal we would have expected to payout ~\$550 for the Winter Reunion in processing fees; however, we were able to trim that down to just under \$280. This should bring our savings up close to over \$1,000 per year on credit card processing.

This is my second year of looking after the website and due to the pandemic, the first real year in seeing the process proceed from start to finish for the Winter Reunion. Having fielded many telephone conversations and receiving emails from our members, I am pushing for changes to our registration process as I believe it is too cumbersome.

Regrettably, this concludes my tenor on SAGA for now. All the best to my successor at this position. I will pass on whatever knowledge I gained and the very helpful SAGA Website, Maintenance, Procedures and Protocols my predecessor, Keith Head left me.

Ward Headrick

**k) Vice-President – John Hauer**

My main activity for the year was to recruit reunion chairs of the feature years for the 88<sup>th</sup> Annual Saga reunion Banquet. After a two year Covid forced hiatus, we were able to hold our 2023 reunion banquet on January 6 & 7, 2023. The weekend started with a come and go social at the ASA student lounge in the Agriculture Building on U of S campus. We were able to mingle with Ag grads and the ASA students throughout the evening. Several tours of the high points in the Agriculture building and former agriculture buildings were conducted.

Saturday included individual years socials and the SAGA Hockey Tournament played in the Waldheim arena. Saturday night was banquet and awards. We welcomed 300 guests to a fantastic roast beef and chicken supper. We awarded Murad Al-Katib '94 (U of S Commerce) and Dr. Brian Fowler '64 C (Professor Emeritus) as Honorary Life members. We featured 20 reunion years, in both the school and college of Agriculture and College of AgBio. We also featured reunion years from the 1971, 1972, 1991, 1992, 2011 and 2012 reunion years. I would like to thank all the grads that served as reunion chairs for their respective grad years:

1943, 1948, 1953 Diploma

1953 Degree Ross Reynolds

1958 Diploma Bill Craddock

1958 Degree Dave Christensen.

1963 Diploma Richard Weetman

1983 Degree Henry DeGooijer

1993 Diploma Darren Steinley

1993 Degree

2003 Diploma Tim McVicar

2003 Degree Faye Dokken

1963 Degree George Wilson & Cecil Stushnoff

1968 Diploma Gord Moore

1968 Degree Arthur Laforge

1973 Diploma

1973 Degree John Beckton

1983 Diploma Neil Crosbie

2013 College of AgBio Vicki Lawrence

2018 College of AgBio Luke Jorgensen

1971 Degree Jim Spiers

1972 Degree Bill Laingh

2011 College of AgBio Katie MacMillan

2012 College of AgBio Royce Lodoen

From what I have heard a good time was had by all. I can't wait until we do this all again next year.

As Vice-president I represented SAGA at several University and other functions, mostly along with Deanne our president. I want to Thank Deanne for all her hard work this past year as president. I look forward to moving up and serving the SAGA as President for the 2023 year.

### **I) President's Report – Deanne Belisle**

At last January's AGM, we had just cancelled our annual reunion for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time and were struggling with how to emerge from COVID and get on with our SAGA life. Jason Fradette, as SAGA president for year 1 and Year 2 of COVID, was forced to play the hand he was dealt. Despite this, he had a tremendous impact on keeping us mentally positive and finding ways to maintain virtual connections with the ASA, College of AgBio and the SAGA membership. He got us comfortable with Zoom meetings and we are not looking back. Thank you, Jason, for your strong leadership during a tough time.

Here is a summary of activities that your executive undertook to maintain connections and awareness for SAGA:

- Jason attended the ASA Graduation Ceremony in March 2022. He actually had a new graduate ready to buy a lifetime membership on the spot!
- Also in March, SAGA joined other alumni and ASA for the 40<sup>th</sup> annual bedpush.
- In May, we attended the College of AgBio's kick-off to Spring Convocation '22 where we congratulated grads and met their parents before they all walked across the Bowl to attend Convocation.
- We capitalized on the loosening of public health restrictions by lining up the first ever summer reunion on July 14, 2022. Thanks to Dean Angela Bedard-Haughn and College of AgBio who provided coffee and snacks for our Friday morning social in the ASA lounge and Atrium of the Agriculture Building. Thanks also to past presidents, Eric Johnson and Bryan Harvey, who facilitated our use of the CDC's Kernan Farm for BBQ, beer garden and plot tours. The summer reunion was attended by over 150 members and guests who networked until the gates closed.
- I represented SAGA at the Tommy Fraser Memorial Award Selection Committee November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022. An outstanding candidate, Alexa Ridgewell, was chosen.
- At Agribition, SAGA held an outreach event that we call Cheers (Beers?) for Peers. We met alumni from Calgary to Kipling and several points in between and even bumped into some ASA cowboys.
- Next came the Bean Feed where Kayley Harvey from Yorkton received SAGA's Undergraduate Award. This award is funded entirely by donations. We must be diligent in fundraising and keep this award going. It is well received and appreciated by both the College of AgBio and students.
- We redid our webpage this year to modernize registration and payment methods. Our treasurer and the website manager have done a great job. It is a work in progress so you will see some tweaks over the next while. Thanks ever so much to our social media gang. We appreciate their posts and we also appreciate your retweets and likes.
- Our newsletter editor of many years, Ewald "Shortie" Lammerding, continues to do a professional job. Unfortunately, distribution of the newsletter in December was plagued by a spam

glitch which meant some people didn't receive their copy until after the Reunion. We are getting this sorted out, and meanwhile, it helps if you can let us know of any address changes by contacting us on [www.saskaggrads.com](http://www.saskaggrads.com)

- My congratulations to SAGA's 190<sup>th</sup> and 191<sup>st</sup> Honorary Life awardees, Dr. Brian Fowler '64 and Murad Al Khatib B. Comm '94. It was my personal thrill to hear your presentations at the 88<sup>th</sup> Reunion banquet. Thank you for your contributions to Agriculture and Saskatchewan.

Speaking of reunions, this year, we set a record for most alumni attendees in the smallest period – 6 months. With Friday socials and summer/winter reunions, I estimate 500 people re-connected with the Agro community in 2022. Well done to the SAGA Reunion Committee and Reunion Chairs! Thank you for the privilege of serving as your president this past year. It was a pleasure.

Deanne Belisle

**MOTION:** Accept reports: Bryan Harvey / Irene Ahner- **CARRIED**

## 7. New Business

- None

## 8. Election/ Approval of Executive for 2023

### MOTIONS:

- Nominate Lindsay Folk for the position of Newsletter Editor – Ewald Lammerding/Irene Ahner - - **CARRIED**
- Nominate Shannon Walker for the position of Website – Bryan Harvey/Ewald Lammerding - **CARRIED**
- Nominate Randi Wenzel and Bryan Harvey (once he transitions from SAHF representative position) for the position of MAL – Ewald Lammerding/Blaine Fritzler – **CARRIED**
- Nominate Eric Johnson for the position of SAHF rep once Bryan Harvey's term is up – Morley Ayars/John Hauer - **CARRIED**
- Nominate Chad Scott for the position of Hockey – Chay Anderson/ Eric Johnson - **CARRIED**
- Nominate Jason Fradette for the position of Treasurer – Eric Johnson/Jim Pratt - **CARRIED**

The proposed Executive for 2023 is as follows:

President	Deanne Belisle '79C
Honorary President	
Past President	Deanne Belisle '79C
Vice President	John Hauer 84'C
Secretary	Raelene Petracek '86C
Treasurer	Jason Fradette '84C
College Development Coordinator	Hamish Tulloch '91C
Sask. Ag Hall of Fame	Bryan Harvey '60C/Eric Johson '82C
Newsletter Editor	Ewald Lammerding '88S
Membership	Henry de Goojier, '83C
Website	Shannon Walker '16C
Crop Production Week	Jo Anne Relf-Eckstein '85C
Banquet/Mixer	Ewald Lammerding '88S
Hockey	Chad Scott '17C
Social Media	Louis Bossaer '95C/Mason Maerz '83C

ASA – SAGA Liason	rep appointed by ASA
Members at Large	Irene Ahner '65C Blair Cummins '77S Bryan Harvey '60C (once SAHF appointment concludes) Randi Wenzel '13C

**MOTION:** To approve the Executive slate as presented. Jim Pratt/ Harvey Petracek – **CARRIED**

**9. Other Items**

none

**10. Adjournment**

**MOTION** to adjourn - Eric Johnson/ Ewald Lammerding.  
Meeting adjourned by President Belisle at 8:20.