



Saskatchewan AGROLOGIST

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists

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RESULTS BASED REGULATIONS

By Dave Cubbon, PAg

Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists (SIA) is involved in many areas of activity. About 18 months ago, Council was made aware of legislative change coming from the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment. In the proposed legislative changes, there was potential for impacts on agrologists as well as the public at large from these proposed changes. SIA council has a responsibility to both its members and the public. A number of council members attended public forums organized by the Ministry of Environment to ensure that our viewpoint was heard.

The change that the Ministry of Environment is proposing is to go to a results based regulatory structure. Four pieces of legislation will be impacted. The Environmental Assessment Act, the Forest Resources Management Act, the Environmental Management and Protection Act and the Management and Reduction of Greenhouse Gases Act have all been re-written and will have the regulatory part of the legislation attached to them as a code. These codes will define who plays what role in each activity which is governed under the legislation as well as what are appropriate activities to obtain the results required. The time frame for this is to have the code ready for the legislature by November, 2011.

In the spring of 2010, I was asked to sit on the Saskatchewan Environmental Code Development

Committee. This committee reviews proposed codes that will be attached to the specified acts and recommends completed codes to the Minister of Environment for Approval. The proposed codes are put together by content committees which have expertise in various subject matter areas. There are seven content committees established with sub-committee support as required. The content committees are the Air Content Committee, the Climate Change Content Committee, the Fish and Wildlife Content Committee, the Forestry Content Committee, the Industrial Content Committee, the Lands Content Committee and Municipal Content Committee. The committees are made up of Ministry of Environment staff and other individuals that can bring expertise to the committee in the specified areas. These committees were appointed by the Ministry of Environment. There are people with various backgrounds on these committees which include professional Agrologists. The committees also have a review process where people that wish to see the proposed codes can look at them and provide comments before the documents are presented for approval to the Code Development Committee. This is a place where Agrologists with technical skills can provide appropriate input.

As a Code Development Committee member, my role is to provide input on the various codes that are proposed by the Code Content Committees. This means that I will be reviewing the codes to ensure that the public is protected by the establishment of a specific code and the right people with

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Tara Kennedy PAg
SIA President



February already! Spring is hopefully only a short wait as I have had enough of this snow already. I am looking forward to the Annual Meeting and Conference which will be held at Candle Lake in April. It may be a bit of a drive for some but well worth it I am sure. The Strategic Plan is coming along well and will be presented at the AGM. The council and Executive Director believe that having a plan in place it will make the transition easier for new council members and Executive Directors in the future. This way we can focus on the areas that our members have identified (in the Inshtrix survey) as important to the future of our institute. Along with the strategic plan we would also like to implement a five year budget. By a longer budget planning time line we can ensure that future projects of the Institute have funding and current ones stay viable. Now although looking five years into the future can be scary, it does not mean that changes can not be made as the need arises, but it assists the change over of council members and Executive Directors to keep going forward instead of reinventing the wheel every year. So we hope to see as many of you as possible at the AGM and the Northeast Branch is planning a very informative conference so come earn some PD hours while enjoying the scenery at beautiful Candle Lake!

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Les McLean PAg
SIA Executive Director



As I write weather once again has trumped our plans for council related activities. Early last week we basked in -35C with wind chills equivalent to -45C but by Friday we had to cancel our Executive committee meeting because of rain and very icy roads. This week it has once again plunged to -40C with additional wind chills. The forecasters predict above zero temperatures either tomorrow or the next day which coincides with our rescheduled committee meeting. Could it be a sign of rain? Saskatchewan is a very interesting place to call home.

The Northeast branch has chosen a very appropriate theme for this year's conference and annual general meeting – "Agriculture Today and Tomorrow; Expect the Unexpected". Please join us at the Candle Lake Golf Resort April 6 – 8th. The agenda and registration form can be found on the SIA website.

A contractor for the Professional Standards and Compliance Coordinator position has been secured and Gabrielle Battiste LLB is busy at work reviewing and identifying gaps that exist in the Saskatchewan and Manitoba Agrologist Acts, bylaws and policies. Soon new procedures will appear on both websites related to a formal complaints process for each of the two institutes. This process may need to be accompanied by new or revised bylaws and policies. The second part of this contract will be extension related. We are in the final stages of contracting an individual to outline these changes to our members, to various agrologist and agriculture technologist employers and to those directly affected by our self-regulated mandate of protecting the public.

The SIA council is directly supporting the need for a national body of agrologists. Through a memorandum of understanding, signed by all the Agrologist Institutes, a consulting company has been contracted to implement the Request for Proposals (RFP) call posted in early December 2010. The selected contractor, RANA International, was selected with a mandate to:

- Evaluate various options for and determine the most effective method of financing and operating a national council of Agrologist Institutes.
- Establish a virtual Agrologist Institute's office complete with manpower compliment. This would allow the institutes to have a national presence and to start activity coordinating programs.
- Develop a strategic plan of operation for the Agrologist Institutes based on the developed terms of reference.
- Establish and adopt a priority based implementation plan for the Agrologist institutes strategic plan.

The contract, once complete, will result in a national structure from which the institutes can move forward and tackle the various restrictions to labor mobility as outlined and described in the Montreal Accord which was signed by all provincial institutes in October 2009.

Lately, change seems to be our constant companion. In the last issue of the Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association (SVMA) newsletter, SVMA President Melanie Roth quoted Barack Obama on change. Barack Obama said "Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek". This is very appropriate for almost everyone today including the SIA.

If you have any other questions or concerns please contact the office at 306-242-2606 or email info@sia.sk.ca.

the appropriate skills are in place to allow the completion of the tasks involved. The Code Development Committee is made up of individuals from differing background which includes non-government agencies as well as industry. This mix of people brings together many different ideas to provide direction for the proposed codes.

For individual SIA members that are working under the regulations in the above mentioned acts, it is important to take an active role in the legislative changes. If you have concerns or would like to comment on proposed changes, give me a call. Better yet, if you have an area that you would like to get directly involved with the proposed changes, give Saskatchewan Environment a call and ask to be included as a reviewer in your area of interest.



JOHN ROBERT (JOCK) BLACKLOCK PAg -

October 13, 1921- January 23rd, 2011

Born and raised in Maymont, Saskatchewan, Jock attended the University of Saskatchewan and graduated from the College of Agriculture in 1943. He joined the Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists as a charter member in 1946. After a brief time with the federal government's Agriculture Department he decided to pursue an opportunity he saw as a livestock auctioneer based in Western Canada. Following a ten-day auctioneering course in Iowa, Jock returned home and Blacklock Auction Service was established, followed by Saskatoon Auction Mart in 1961. He also developed a significant Purebred Hereford herd on the farm east of Saskatoon. Jock retired in 1986 after selling the 35th Calgary Bull Sale of his career. He was inducted into the Saskatchewan Agriculture Hall of Fame in 1995.



DONALD ROBERT BARON

December 11, 1927 - November 13, 2010

Don grew up in Ottawa but spent all his spare time on his Uncle Harold Hammond's farm in Quyon, Que. He graduated from Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph in 1949 and then joined the editorial staff of Farmer's Magazine, out of Toronto. In 1952 he moved to Winnipeg where he was named assistant editor, Country Guide. He was appointed as the Country Guide field editor in 1954 and Editor in 1962. He was named Head, Agriculture and Resources TV, for CBC Toronto in 1975. He was named Executive Director of the groundbreaking Palliser Wheat Growers Association, in 1979 working out of Regina. From 1983 to 1990 he served as speechwriter for Premier Grant Devine in Saskatchewan and as Chief of Staff for Hon. Joan Duncan. Don was elected President of the Agricultural Institute of Canada in 1974. He became a professional agrologist with the Ontario Institute of Agrologists in 1975 and transferred to Saskatchewan in 1979. In 1997 he was granted life membership in the Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists. He wrote CANADA'S GREAT GRAIN ROBBERY, published in 1997 which tells the little known story of how grain politics has dramatically reshaped the prairies and Canada. Agriculture has lost one of its great spokesman.



DR. DOUG CAMERON PAg PLEADS GUILTY TO PROFESSIONAL MISCONDUCT

On December 9th 2010, the Discipline Committee (DC) of the Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists (SIA) received and reviewed the joint 'Evidence and Process Agreement' submitted to them by legal counsel for the SIA and Dr Doug Cameron, PAg. Dr Cameron, through his Solicitor, had informed the SIA Professional Conduct Committee (PCC) that it was his intention to plead guilty of professional misconduct as defined under section 28 of The Agrologists Act, 1994 and as set out in the Complaint submitted by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture. The PCC recommended to the Discipline Committee that:

1. Dr. Cameron be given a written reprimand;
2. He be ordered to attend the Professionalism and Ethics Seminar put on by the Institute within the next six months;
3. He pay the reasonable costs of the investigation and hearing, which were fixed at \$1,700.00.

Dr. Cameron, PAg agreed with the recommendation of the PCC and the DC accepted this report.

Dr. Cameron was given 60 days to pay the costs of the investigation and hearing.

For more details on the specifics of this case please refer to the Institutes website at www.sia.sk.ca.

MEMBERS ON THE MOVE



Dale Kelly, PAg

Dale Kelly, PAg - Has accepted the position of CEO and President of POS Bio-Sciences!

If you have exciting news that you would like to add to Members on the Move, forward your news to the SIA office and we will put it in the next newsletter!



FINANCIAL ADVICE

By Jim Vancha, PAg

After working for a large manufacturer and a small private business I realized that although both offer great pension and benefit plans, that was all they offered. Neither offered any type of financial planning to ensure that the pension plan or benefits met the needs of their employees outside of work. I think it is safe to say that in the public sector, the same can be said when it comes to financial planning. Many of those involved in primary agriculture as their main source of income, don't have a formal pension plan and need to design their own pension and investment plan to help enjoy the golden years or transition to the next generation. Therefore as I looked for a new career and based on my experience both as an Agronomist and Human Resources Manager, I saw a need to help people with wealth planning. I chose to work with Investors Group Financial Services Inc, as they offered the most comprehensive plan and complete line of products to meet most peoples' needs and goals.

Wealth planning is important at all stages of life and can be started at any time. Whether we are starting our first job, having our first child, purchasing a home or a cottage, thinking about our final years of working, or in retirement, making sure we have a plan in place will help you and your loved ones feel secure.

As with all good plans we need to have strategies in place to have success and reach our goals. At Investors Group we talk about the 6 strategies or disciplines that help us plan. The important thing to remember is that everyone's plan is different. Based on your goals and objectives, income, and stage in life the financial plan will be designed to meet your needs and be flexible as situations change over time.

Let's look at the 6 Disciplines:

1) Cash management – using our money resources wisely and paying ourself first,

2) Retirement planning – do we have a company or public sector plan, a personal plan, or other sources of income in retirement and how will they be utilized, ,

3) Tax planning - are we taking advantage of tax rules and regulations to reduce our tax bill,

4) Investment planning – how can we use other forms of investments to increase our wealth

5) Estate planning – how do we protect our estate and make sure our children or grandchildren receive what we worked so hard to get, and finally

6) Insurance – protecting our income and loved ones should something unforeseen happen to us and give us some security knowing they will be looked after in the event of an untimely death or disabling accident.

Gone are the days where many of us will only work for one company all of our careers, thus many of us will have several different pension plans, both private and public, all with different rules and regulations. It can be very confusing and complicated and that is how an advisor can help you put it all together to ensure you goals are met at retirement or help you build wealth.

For those actively involved in primary agriculture, planning in off-farm investments can be very useful in maintaining and increasing your cash flow and net worth. Diversification off the farm is as important as diversification on the farm.

With today's technologies, (e-mail, BlackBerrys, print, television, and internet), trying to keep abreast of the latest tax rules, and government programs can be a daunting task. On top that we have ordinary life issues to deal with; kids and all their activities, parents and or grandchildren, or just doing our jobs, we seem to be short of time to spend planning or keeping up to date on financial issues and products.

As a Consultant it is my responsibility to keep up with the info as best as possible and help you develop a plan that meets your immediate and future financial needs.

If you would like more information or would like to sit down and discuss your financial goals and objectives, please feel free to contact me, Jim Vancha.



JIM VANCHA, PAg
Consultant

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The Plan
by  **Investors Group**

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Professional Development Contest Winners

Congratulations to the winners of our 2010 Professional Development Forms Contest;

**Tracy Greier, PAg and
Kari Burnett, PAg.**

Thank you to all who participated!



REGINA BRANCH UPDATE

The Regina Branch SIA is pleased to recognize Taylor Meszaros of Kipling, Saskatchewan as the recipient of the 2010 - 2011 Greg Mitschke Memorial Scholarship.

The objective of the \$1000 scholarship is to encourage students to pursue an agriculture-related career through post-secondary education at the University of Saskatchewan's College of Agriculture. The scholarship also aims to increase the profile of SIA and the Regina Branch of SIA.

The Regina Branch SIA

is again offering the scholarship for the 2011 - 2012 academic year. Students entering the first year of the College of Agriculture at the University of Saskatchewan are eligible. Preference is given to applicants who attended high school in the Regina SIA Branch area and are entering the College the year following completion of high school.

Complete application details can be obtained by contacting Barry Rapp, PAg, Regina Branch SIA at brapp@cpsagu.ca

If your branch has exciting news that you would like to share with the entire membership of SIA, forward your news to the SIA office and we will put it in the next newsletter!

Grow the conversation...May 4 & 5, TCU Place, Saskatoon

ground-breaking **ethics** integrity **synergy** authentic
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STUDENT RELATIONS

**By Brittany Jordet
Academic Vice President,
Agriculture Students' Association**

This year's Ag Bio Challenge featured a group presentation made by teams of four students from the same area of study and representing three different years. Four teams entered the competition, three being from the AgBusiness department and one from Environmental Science.

The teams were given the following topic:

"The Province of Saskatchewan has announced that it will double the amount of irrigated land in the province (from approximately 330 000 acres to 700 000 acres). What are the pros and cons of this strategy, and (on balance) do you support this expansion or not?"

The teams were instructed to prepare a 10-15 minute presentation to be given the next day in front of a panel of 3 judges (A faculty member, a member of the SIA, and a representative from BASF). The winners were announced at a Professor-Student Wine and Cheese the following day. First prize went to Chelsea Tomcala, Janell Healy, Cole Leask, and Kalen Kehrig, who reasoned that irrigated land expansion was not desirable from an environmental science point of view, stating that slow expansion would be easier on resources. Second prize went to Katie MacMillan, Tod Gallais, Stacey Shewchuk and Delee Lott. Third prize was awarded to Brad Boehm, Royce Lodoen, Brodie Haugan, and Justin Senicar. The event was designed to showcase academic talent and enhance the student learning experience, and it was a great success! Thank you to the SIA for sponsoring this event!



1st Place Winners



2nd Place Winners



3rd Place Winners

STATUS CHANGES

From AAg to PAg

Muhammad Bhatti
Wyatt Burnett
Chadrick Carley
Kris Cherewyk
Marc Delage
Dion Fowler
Shannon Friesen
Leah Fullerton
Manoj Goswami
Paula Haygarth
Ravindra Reddy Jammuladine
Jamieson Mills
Chelsie Pearson
Nicholas Petruic
Asheesh Singh

New Articling Agrologists, AAg

Narasimha Bandla
Asim Biswas
Owen Black
Kyle Bohachewski
Sean Harder
Jordan Hennig
Clinton Jurke
Gourango Kar
Megan Kroes
Jin Li
Marc Mansiere
Judichel Moukoui
Barrett Rankin
Josee Saquet
Kimberley Schmitke
Katie Sehn
Mark Treble

Amanda Van De Kerckhove
Matthew Walpole
Gemunu Widyaratne
Logan Williams
Roger Wood

From AAT to AT

Michael Ardell
James Bessel

New Articling Agriculture Technologists, AAT

Graham Bussiere
Ashley Carruthers
Cody Sander
Danielle Stensrud
Bradley Wilderman

Reinstatement PAg

Darwyn Boucher
Terra Fazakas
Jay Fredericks
Jacquie Gibney
Pagette Newton
Lana Shaw
Shelagh Steckler
Morwenna Sutter

Transfer In

Dale Gross
Len Leskiw

Removed from Register

Ashraful Alam
Azam Ali
Abdul Alvi
Daniel Bergen
Robin Coupal
Ezzat Dessouki
Monte Dobson
Jeneen Ewen
Michelle Fleury
Melissa Fuchs
Gerald Holland
Gerald Ivanochko
Daniel Jacobson
Russell Lawrie
Andres Kaczowka
Jennifer Karst
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SASKATCHEWAN AGROLOGIST

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Richard Marleau, PAg, Agriculture in the Classroom, 933.8024

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SUBMISSION DEADLINES:

February Issue - January 2

May Issue - April 1

August Issue - July 1

November Issue - October 1



Agriculture Today
and Tomorrow;
*Expect the
Unexpected*



**2011 SIA CONFERENCE AND
66TH ANNUAL MEETING**
April 6th - 8th, 2011
Candle Lake, Saskatchewan