



Press Release

2010 4-H Ontario Conference and Annual Meeting (CAM)

Leaders Building Leaders prepare to meet new challenges

With blueprints and construction of the conference now complete, volunteers can begin to meet the new challenge issued at this year's conference.

Rounding out a couple of jam-packed days was the 10,000 members and 3,000 volunteers in 2015 Challenge. 4-H Ontario will celebrate 100 years of Leaders Building Leaders in 2015. In order to meet the challenge, the new 4-H habit needs to be that as a volunteer or a member - you will invite a friend to an event or an activity. Once they join, then they too will invite a friend, and our numbers, and new opportunities will grow!

Some of the challenges already met and recognized at CAM were the Scrapbook winners with Frontenac taking home first place, followed by Prince Edward and Lennox & Addington. This year marked the first-ever electronic entry from Waterloo. Newsletter winners were also announced and this year, Oxford took home first, followed by Durham West and Chatham-Kent.

Highlighting and recognizing our volunteers – a key component of the conference, at the Monsanto Volunteer Recognition Luncheon – saw 25-year volunteers, Gloria Bannister, Middlesex, Yvonne Chambers, Kawartha Lakes Haliburton, Dianne Colantonio, Essex, Ross Creighton, Lanark, George Dickenson, Lambton, Laurie Jones, Kawartha Lakes Haliburton, Hugh MacDonald, Wellington, Ben Miltenburg, Perth, Betty Morrow, Stormont, Paul Porteous, Dundas, Karen Seymour, Peterborough, Fred Sharpe, Northumberland and George Thornton, Oxford, 30 year volunteers Judy Bell, Peel, Ken McCallum, Elgin, Doreen McGlynn, Bruce, Shirley Morrish, Rainy River, Florence Pullen, Huron, and Brian Steven, Lambton, 35-year volunteers Gayle Bogart, Elgin, Grace Oesch, Perth, Pat Saundercok, Huron, Dean Warner, Peterborough, as well as Doris Jeffery of Perth receiving recognition for 40 years and Don Dodds of Huron receiving recognition for 50 years of volunteer service!

Another opportunity to recognize and honour volunteers occurred at the Syngenta 4-H Ontario Arbor Awards banquet. An annual award, the 2010 recipients were Diane Armstrong, Shelley Barfoot-O'Neill and John den Haan.

We also applauded cheque presentations made by Gencor and Eastern Breeders Inc., in the amount of \$42,525.00 and by Ontario Mutuals in the amount of \$43,000.00 to be used to support 4-H throughout the province.

The 2010 Conference and Annual Meeting was made possible in part due to the sponsorship received from: Monsanto, Thompsons, Hyland Seeds, Syngenta, Dairy Farmers of Ontario, Ontario Mutuals, Hydro One, GROWMARK, Inc., UPI Energy LP, Gay Lea Foods, RKD Web Studios, Scotiabank, Steps to Leadership, STRIVE!, the Agricultural Adaptation Council, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, as well as many local and club supporters who made donations or provided silent or live auction items of which profits were matched by the Team Scotia Community Program.

4-H is an organization of leaders building leaders. Over 6000 youth 10-21 years of age, and a grass roots network of 1600 trained, screened volunteers pledge their Head, Heart, Hands and Health as members of community-based clubs. With projects encompassing agriculture, food, health and the environment, 4-H Ontario's "Learn To Do By Doing" clubs, camps and conferences have a successful 95 year history in developing competence, confidence, connection, character and caring within rural and urban youth.

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