



September 2013 Board Meeting Highlights

Prior to the start of the meeting, the Canadian Angus Association Board of Directors met with the Canadian Angus Foundation Board of Directors. It is the first time that the two groups have met. The Foundation Board presented some fundraising ideas to the Association Board, discussed the Foundation's first formal budget and planned changes to the Junior Ambassador Program. It was also announced that Belinda Wagner has been hired as the Executive Director of the Canadian Angus Foundation. She will provide executive leadership and administrative support to the Foundation while maintaining her role as Canadian Junior Angus Association Coordinator and Saskatchewan Angus Association General Manager. Information to look forward to coming from the Foundation and approved by the CAA Board includes:

- An array of new awards, programs and initiatives creating value for the Canadian Angus membership experience including the following three key CAF objectives:
 - o Education & Youth Development:
 - 2014 investment: \$56,250, including \$48,750 in new programs;
 - o Historical Preservation & Restoration:
 - 2013: \$20,500 for Angus Central displays and \$5000 in each year thereafter;
 - o Scientific & Market Research:
 - 2013 and 2014: \$10,000 each year to support a Master's Candidates research project at the University of Saskatchewan in collaboration with the Western Beef Development Centre, Saskatchewan Angus Association and CAA.
- A number of opportunities to provide investment in the Canadian Angus Foundation through name recognition at Angus Central. These initiatives will be launched at the 'grand opening' of Angus Central on Wednesday, December 11th, 2013.

The Board ratified both the Canadian Angus Foundation fundraising program which includes opportunities for members to have their in Angus Central and make a contribution to historical preservation and youth development, as well as their proposed budget and program platform.

Directors discussed the Genetic Defect Policy and experiences handling affected cattle with members before the meeting. After extensive discussion, the Board created a new policy. The new Genetic Condition Policy replaces all previous policies, including those titled Genetic Defect Policy and applies to all animals born on or after September 22, 2013. The full policy with a cover letter from President Kevin Blair and President Elect Corinne Gibson can be found at http://www.cdnangus.ca/genetic_condition_policy_letter.pdf.

The Board's Ownership Linkage Committee presented a three-year ownership linkage strategy to the Board. This strategy is a formal plan for the directors to solicit feedback from members. The Board will be working with the CEO to launch and administer this plan. CAA members can expect

to be asked a series of questions regarding their CAA each time they contact the office. There will be other means of requesting feedback as well, ranging from social media to a new confidential e-mail address for the CAA Board President and question inserts in envelopes containing member correspondence. The Board wants the membership's opinion and will try and create all sorts of manners in which to receive it and 'hear' the membership.

Half a day was spent working with a contracted expert to review the Board's policies. It has been several years since the policies have been thoroughly reviewed and changes have rendered some policies redundant. The Board will spend less time reviewing policies at subsequent meetings, allowing them to focus on future planning and Association visioning.

For 2014–2017, the Board will require the CEO to make a contribution equal to 1% of member activity (a combination of registration, transfer and membership fees) income into a reserve fund rather than the current 3% contribution. This reduction is due to the minimum 6% annual increase in member equity through payments on the principal loan for Angus Central.

The Lloydminster Agricultural Exhibition Association applied to host the 2015 National Show. The Board accepted their bid. The 2015 Canadian Angus National Show will be held in conjunction with Stockade Roundup, November 5–7, 2015 in Lloydminster, SK.

The Board participated in a conference call with Larry Keenan, Interim Co-CEO of the Red Angus Association of America, and Wade Schafer, Executive Vice President of the American Simmental Association, to discuss the multi-breed genetic evaluation and member concerns about Red Angus MILK EPDs. Because the evaluation system uses a slightly negative correlation between growth and milk (-0.3), there is a slight trend for bulls that have high growth levels to be a little lower in milk. This correlation is determined by the data and very justifiable. By using the correlation we have a more accurate prediction of milk than had we not used it. Over time, the cows prove themselves and their data overwhelms the genetic correlation. Anyone who has concerns or questions about EPDs is encouraged to view the EPD 101 workshop on YouTube (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vUJjMRbARKA>) or contact Kajal Devani at the Canadian Angus Association office. Further, Kajal will be delivering a workshop at Red Round-Up for interested CAA members.

To ensure that Directors are performing their fiduciary duty, the Board formed an Audit Committee comprised of President Kevin Blair, Past President Gary Latimer, President Elect Corinne Gibson and Director Bob Hahn. This committee will liaise between the auditors and the Board of Directors to assist with this annual requirement of the CAA Board.

The Board of Directors has modified the electronic registration discount. Any 2014-born calf registered online between January 1, 2014 and December 31, 2014 which is less than 6 months of age will be registered for the \$15 electronic registration fee.

The date of the board meeting scheduled for January 29–31, 2014 was changed to February 14–16, 2014, partly to crossover with GOAL Conference in Calgary next year.