



Info Holstein

A Holstein Canada publication providing informative, challenging, and topical news.

The Horrific barn fire on November 20, 2011 at HAA034 — home to Frank, Ivy, and Eddy Haasen in Timmins, ON.

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Rebuilding after Devastation

Three Holstein Canada members in Ontario suffered the unimaginable devastation of losing their barns to fire in 2011. The fire may have destroyed their barns, but it didn't destroy their dreams of continuing to dairy farm.

From June to December of 2011, three Holstein Canada members lost parts or all of their barns to fire. For some, going through something as devastating as a barn fire is unimaginable. It is an emotional roller-coaster ride, but with substantial financial implications. Barn fires in the province of Ontario are estimated to cost upwards of \$50 million dollars a year— and that only includes building structures — not livestock, equipment, or agricultural product.

All three members experienced the same devastation after undergoing their unforeseen tragedies, but all were quick to regain their focus on what was important — **continuing to dairy farm**. Each family may have taken their own path to where they are today in the rebuilding process, but at the end of the day, each decided to reconstruct and continue on the family tradition of dairy farming, despite the major setback of a barn fire.

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Frank, Ivy, and Eddy Haasen HAA034 Timmins, ON

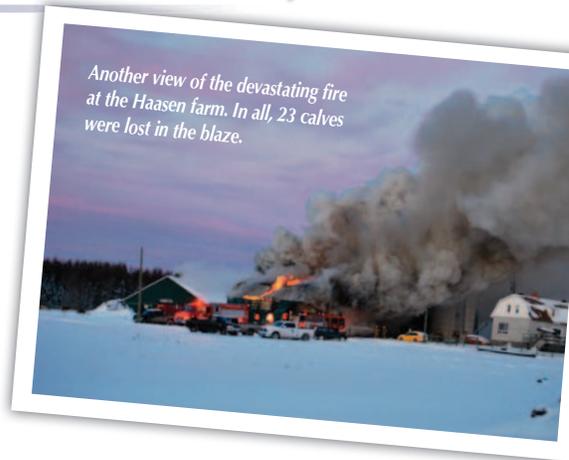
When losing your dairy barn to a fire, there is just no option but to remain positive in a situation like Frank Haasen experienced. Last November 20, 2011, Frank and his wife Ivy and son Eddy, who are all involved in the family farm in Timmins, ON, experienced the unthinkable when their calf barn caught fire. Frank remembers vividly, how cold it was that early winter day — close to minus twenty. The fire consumed all heifer and dry cow facilities plus their milk parlour and milk house. The free-stall, which was built in 1996 and where the cows were housed, was saved by coincidence, when a near-by backhoe—which was being used for Frank and Ivy's house construction—was used to bulldoze the holding area, which attached the flaming calf barn to the free-stall. In all, 23 calves were lost in the blaze, which began in the straw and haymow above the calf barn.

The Haasen's are quick to thank their family and friends throughout

their community from far and wide for the support they received immediately after the fire took place. People came from all over to help remove the wreckage and provide support in any way they could.

A unique situation the Haasen's faced was the remote location of their farm in Northeastern Ontario. The closest dairy herd to the Haasen's is 70 kilometres away and with the Haasen's herd being closed for 30 years, the health challenges after the fire were as substantial as the fire itself. Frank looks back now on this experience and admits that because of outdated vaccination records, more animals were lost after the fire due to being integrated into near-by herds without proper vaccination.

While Frank says, "A fire is an easy exit strategy for those who are unsure about continuing to farm," Frank remains positive about rebuilding with his son Eddy who wants to continue the family farm. The rebuilding process is getting underway in upcoming months. When the decision time came to choose what type of barn to rebuild, it was Frank's father, John, who first came to the homestead in 1958 after emigrating from Holland who said "It is time for the robots" and now, the future barn will be equipped with two robots



Another view of the devastating fire at the Haasen farm. In all, 23 calves were lost in the blaze.

to milk their 90-cow herd.

While rebuilding takes place, the cows are currently kept at three different barns in the local district of Timiskaming, two hours away, with all work hired out. The Haasen's are looking forward to the coming months when their new robotic barn is constructed and the current milking facilities that were saved are transitioned into a heifer and dry cow barn. As Frank comments, "Our life will never be the same again as we won't milk cows like we use to know how too." But, in fine 'Frank fashion,' he has remained positive throughout the entire experience and remains optimistic about the future of the Haasen family farm, even after unforeseen tragedy.

"A fire is an easy exit strategy for those who are unsure about continuing to farm."

A before shot of what the Haasen's farm looked like prior to the fire which destroyed the calf barn, located on the right-hand side.



**Bob & Greg Sedgwick,
Sedgrose Farms
Norwood, ON**

Father-son duo Bob and Greg Sedgwick remember details about their barn fire as if it happened yesterday when they talk about that day in August when their dairy barn was engulfed in flames. It was a hot day on August 12, 2011 when the Sedgwick's tie-stall barn was burned to the ground in a matter of a few short hours. The flames could be seen for miles and the sight of that day will be permanently etched in the Sedgwick's minds forever. As timing would have it, if Bob and Greg had been in the barn only minutes earlier finishing morning chores at 8:30 a.m., they could have been in the barn when the fire first sparked.

Because of the quick-thinking actions of Bob and Greg and their family including Bob's wife Maureen and Greg's wife Sonya, and the many neighbours who came swiftly once word got out about the fire, all animals but two were saved from the milking herd. The farm, which has historical significance to the Sedgwick's, was the dwelling where Bob's father settled on the homestead in 1940.

With no home to milk the 60-cow herd, cows were quickly transported to retired dairy producer, *Neil Moore's*, of Warsaw, ON whose empty barn was the perfect place to accommodate the

Sedgwick's herd. With an easy ten minute commute, the herd was milked there twice a day by Bob and Greg over a five month span.

It didn't take many days after the burned barn was cleared and gone that Bob and Greg began the discussion whether to rebuild or not. "You've got a choice to make. You rebuild or get out", said Bob. Both Bob and Greg ultimately decided that the best thing to do was rebuild after Greg's keen interest in continuing the *Sedgrose* prefix was evident. The question that remained now was— what type of barn should the Sedgwick's build?

"They see this ordeal as turning a bad experience into a great opportunity."

They quickly got working on plans for their 'dream' barn and travelled to all ends of Ontario to look at other producers' barns to ensure they got ideas that incorporated all the right features into the barn that best suited their needs.

After spending five months planning, discussing, and debating whether to remain tie-stall or build a state-of-the-art free-stall barn, Bob and Greg realized that the ultimate barn— that was the most labour efficient— was a free-stall barn.

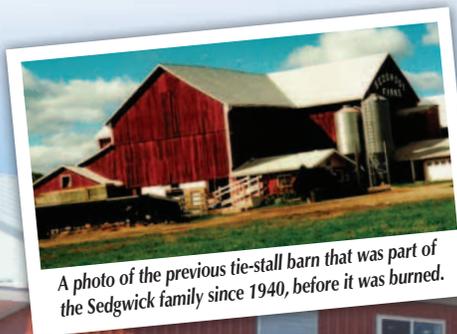
Their 'ideal' 188 foot long x 100 foot wide barn was finally constructed after long days and a speedier-than-normal

building process— and the cows were finally moved into their new home in January of this year. "It was a slight adjustment for the cows, who were used to their tie-stall facility," says Greg, but so far the Sedgwick's are pleased to report that the cows have come to enjoy their new home. Over 100 head are now housed conveniently under one roof and the addition of things such as four cow brushes have been warmly welcomed by the cows who enjoy a bright, well-ventilated, and roomy new barn while remaining very clean— something Greg really appreciates. The new barn boasts a Double-six parlour, which is kept in pristine condition and is efficient—making their milking and chore time just under two hours. The beautiful red barn that now exists on the Sedgwick's property looks as if it was meant to be there all along—with no trace of remnants from a fire insight.

Although the thought of that dreadful morning will remain with the Sedgwick family, they are thankful that no one was hurt and for the outpouring of community support. They see this ordeal as turning a bad experience into a positive opportunity for the unexpected chance to rebuild.

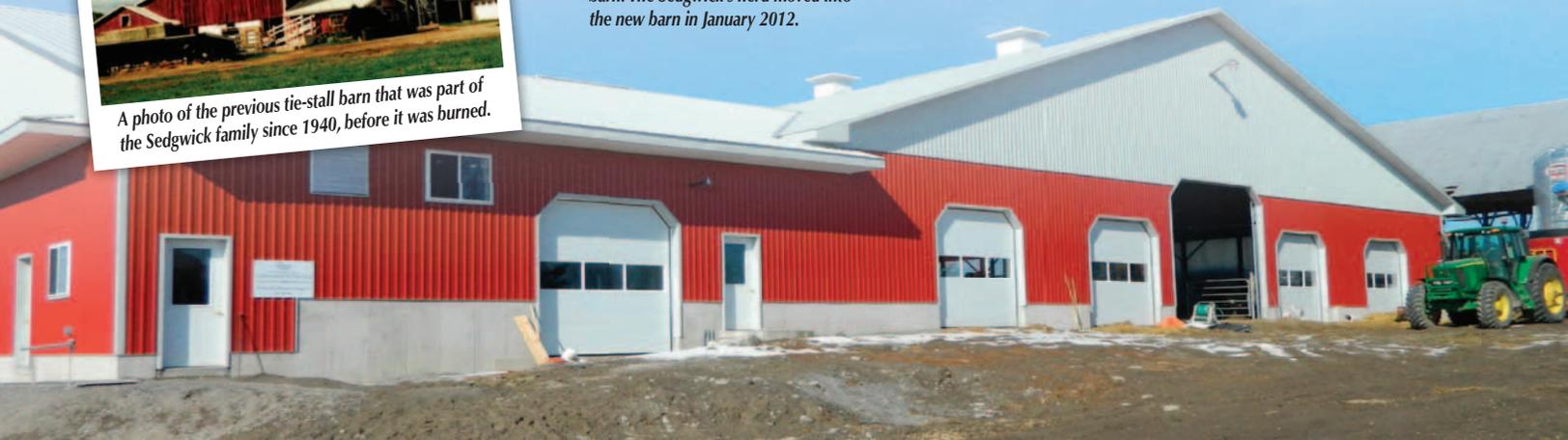


Firefighters arrived at Sedgrose Farms in Norwood, ON within minutes of being alerted of the fire on August 12, 2011. The fire engulfed the entire structure, but luckily, only two cows were lost from the 60-cow milking herd.



A photo of the previous tie-stall barn that was part of the Sedgwick family since 1940, before it was burned.

A state-of-the-art free-stall barn now stands in place of the existing tie-stall barn. The Sedgwick's herd moved into the new barn in January 2012.



Collin and Tanya Walker, Walkhavern Farms Ltd. Stayner, ON

Collin and Tanya Walker never dreamed their hard work and improvements made in their dairy barn would become a pile of rubble in two short hours.

In 2000, the keen couple took over *Walkhavern Farms Ltd.*, from Collin's parents Robert K. and Maud Walker. In a few years, they made tremendous improvements with the herd and to the tie-stall barn that existed including renovations to milking, manure, and feed equipment and adding new stabling.

The late evening fire on November 15, 2011 will serve as a constant reminder that in a matter of seconds — all your dreams can literally go up in smoke. In all, the Walker's lost their main dairy barn, entire milking herd of 65 cows, and inevitably, all their income. In addition, equipment such as their TMR, tractor, and skid steer were also lost. One special animal that perished in the fire — and the only cow that was identifiable — was a large-framed *Astronomical* cow that Collin and Tanya had exhibited just a few days earlier at the 2011 **Royal Agricultural Winter Fair**.

Walkhavern Astronom Zeuss (EX-93-2E-CAN) was exhibited in the Mature Cow class at the RAWF and was also named Honourable Mention Grand Champion at the Simcoe County Holstein show last

August. Zeuss had been a foundation cow for the herd and like her stall mates, were the nucleus of the *Walkhavern* prefix.

Luckily, Collin and Tanya have Zeuss's *Goldwyn* sister, Walkhavern Goldwyn Ziola (EX-91-2E-CAN) because at the time of the fire, she was dry and out on pasture. Ziola will be flushed extensively to regain the superior genetics that the Walker's strived for prior to the fire.

The initial shock of the fire was very discouraging for Collin who vividly remembers the day after the fire. He did not want to look out the window from the house for fear that he would have to come to terms with seeing an empty hole where their dairy barn once stood and now, only four silos remained.

“During clean-up, it was hard to sort through the scrap metal. Every piece of metal that I pulled from the rubble I knew exactly where it came from.”

Collin compares a barn fire to that of a death in the family. “I don't wish it on anyone,” says Collin.

But, Collin and Tanya are thankful that no one was injured in the fire, and at the end of the day, buildings and cows can be replaced, but not family. The couple extend their sincere appreciation to their neighbours, friends, business partners, community, and church for their support in helping them remain committed to rebuilding.

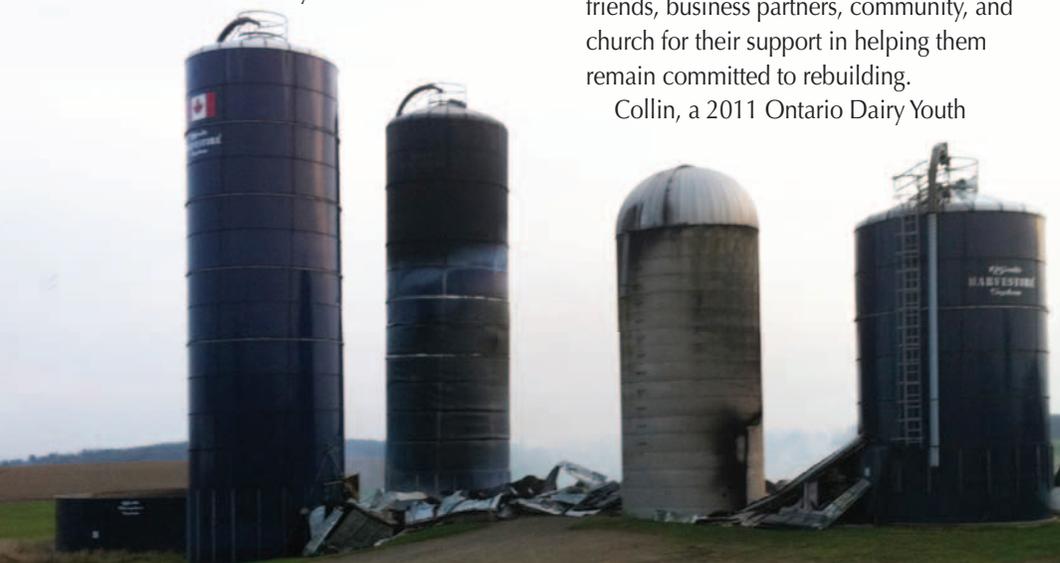
Collin, a 2011 Ontario Dairy Youth

Award winner and active community and dairy industry member with his wife Tanya, remain optimistic about their future in the dairy industry. Above all, the barn fire was a tremendous learning experience when Collin and Tanya had to finally sit down and begin to crunch the numbers to see what insurance would cover. “Make sure your insurance is up-to-date and definitely ensure your business interruption is adequate,” states Collin. The Walker's wish they had been more prepared for something so unexpected and because of this, are rushing to rebuild quickly.

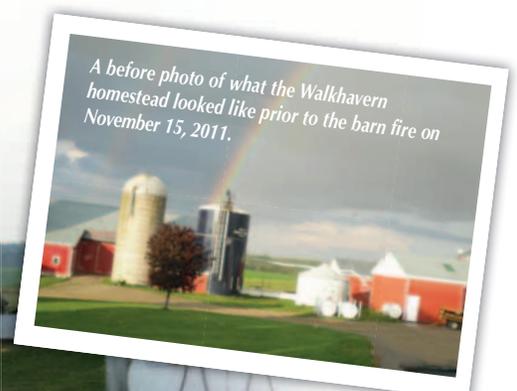
With no cows to milk and a substantial business interruption with the loss of income, the Walkers are grateful that weather has cooperated in recent months and on February 2, 2012—the footings for the walls of their new barn were poured. As of late March, the roofing steel is on the main part of the new dairy barn.

A Double-ten parallel milking parlour is being resurrected and the Walker's are excited for this change in technology to allow for efficiency in milking and providing the best cow comfort for the animals. While they are surprised their perception of free-stall barns has changed, they are looking forward to the coming months when their barn is completed and all animals are moved under one roof.

The landscape on the Walker home farm in Stayner, ON may look significantly different than it did before the fire— with a new free-stall barn and four-less silos that once decorated the farm— but the Walker's embrace the change that this devastating barn fire has brought upon them and have “made a disaster into an opportunity.” 🇨🇦



Only four silos remained on Collin and Tanya Walker's farm in Stayner, ON after the shocking fire that destroyed their entire 65-cow herd. The silos were recently removed to make way for the new free-stall barn that is currently being constructed for the Walker's.



A before photo of what the Walkhavern homestead looked like prior to the barn fire on November 15, 2011.

New CEO Appointed at Holstein Canada

Ann Louise Carson — the first-ever woman CEO — will lead Canada's largest breed association.

The Holstein Canada Board of Directors announced in February that Ann Louise Carson will become the Chief Executive Officer, effective June 4, 2012.

With an established career in the Canadian dairy industry, Ann Louise also brings farming background to the CEO role as she was raised on a Holstein Master Breeder farm, *Carsondale*, in Québec's Eastern Townships. Carson earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Agriculture at McGill University and then began her professional career as an Executive Assistant to Québec's Minister of Agriculture. Her professional career also extended to Embryo Transfer (General Manager of Boviteq Inc.), milk recording (Senior Manager at Valacta), and the processing industry (International Manager at Groupe Lactel). Adding the AI industry

to her résumé, Ann Louise was recently General Manager of Eastern Breeders Inc. (2006-2011), where she played an integral role in the smooth merger with Gencor and the formation of EastGen.

Self-employed since July 2011, Ann Louise facilitated the cross-Canada member consultation of the Holstein Canada and Canadian Dairy Network (CDN) Boards of Directors in the fall of 2011 and is currently conducting strategic planning work for a prestigious Canadian Holstein farm.

Until Ann Louise moves to the Brantford area and during her early transition to the Holstein Canada team, Brian Van Doormaal will continue his dual role as CEO with Holstein Canada and CDN. Van Doormaal is praised by the Holstein Canada Board for his significant contribution over the past two years.



Ann Louise Carson, New CEO of Holstein Canada.

As Holstein Canada President Paul MacLeod stated, "Due to her long career in many aspects of the Canadian dairy industry, Ann Louise is well-known and is appreciated by our members as well as our industry partners. She has Holstein blood in her veins — our Board is very pleased to have her join our team."

Congratulations Ann Louise and welcome to Holstein Canada! 🇨🇦

The Seed is Nil without the Strength of its Roots...

by Paul MacLeod, Holstein Canada President, Woodstock, ON

The illustration on the front cover of the previous February/March 2012 *Info Holstein* perfectly depicts what I wanted to convey in my final President's message.

They say "time flies when you're having fun" — and certainly over the past year, it has been very interesting and rewarding. Time and time again throughout the year, I found myself coming back to the same message — and that was the strength of our members.

If there is one thing this year has taught me, it has been that our members are truly the 'roots' of this Association and the 'seed' in this case is the Association. Without strong roots and

the necessities — such as water and sun — a seed cannot grow, flourish, and succeed.

Just like the interest and passion that members showed this year — roots of a seed go where there is growth — and I feel confident that this Association's roots are going to continue to spread and thrive.

Each year brings its new challenges, which seeds experience too with wind, rain, thunder, and hail. But, at the end of the day, with strong roots in place, this is what determines whether that seed endures the storm. As is true with our Association — the members continue to make the Association strong and successful.

I myself have strong roots at home with my family, who I am very grateful for. It makes it much easier to be away when my wife Ellen and my children

Jessica (husband Doug), Jared (wife Caitlin), and Kyle are always there to keep the farm running seamlessly. It is to them I owe a great deal of gratitude.

As I leave my post as President, I want to personally congratulate and welcome Ann Louise Carson to the Holstein Canada team in her new role as CEO.

In closing, **thank you** to the Holstein Canada members for making the past year a very enjoyable and fulfilling experience as your President! 🇨🇦



Current Holstein Canada President, Paul MacLeod, will finish his term on the Board of Directors this April.

'Dairy Capital of Canada' Celebrates 100th Anniversary



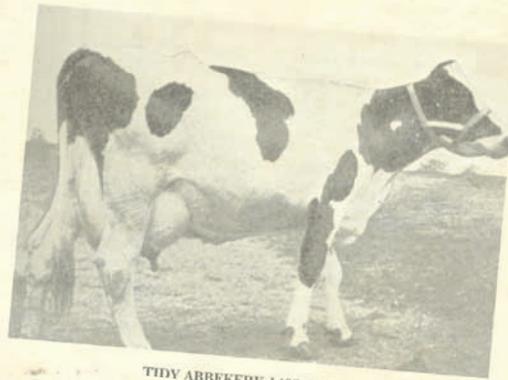
HERMAN BOLLERT

RETTIE



JAMES RETTIE

ALEXANDER RETTIE



TIDY ABBEKERK 1492 C.H.B.

Oxford County Holstein Facts:

- The Holstein Club was founded on February 29, 1912.
- With over 400 members, Oxford remains the 'Dairy Capital of Canada' with the highest milk production and greatest concentration of Holstein cattle in Canada.
- There have been 55 Master Breeders in Oxford County since 1929.
- The County is home to the world famous *Springbank Snow Countess* life-size monument designed by internationally-renowned Oxford county artist, Ross Butler. Countess produced an impressive 9,062 pounds of butterfat and became a world lifetime producer in butterfat.
- Many Holstein Canada President's have hailed from Oxford County including Herman Bollert, Alfred Hulet, James Rettie, Meb Haley, Fred Lee, Tom Dent, Curno Innes, Bob Row, Fred Griffin, Mac Loggan, and current President Paul MacLeod.

The County of Oxford, also known as the 'Dairy Capital of Canada,' celebrated a rather rare milestone when the county held their 100th anniversary celebration with over 500 people in attendance at a magnificent gala event on February 11, 2012.

Commemorating the years of rich history and tradition that exists within the county, pieces of this history along with an array of pictures and memorabilia were on display for attendees when the gala took place in Woodstock, ON—the city in the heart of Oxford County.

The Oxford County Holstein Club came to be on February 29, 1912 when 48 members at the time formed the Oxford County Holstein Association, and now today, over 400 members flourish in the County of Oxford.

But, the journey began even before the Association was formed in 1912. Files indicate that in 1882, a transfer of one bull and nine cows was made to Michael Cook and son of Aultsville, ON. This cemented the Cook's as the first-

recorded pioneer Holstein-Friesian Herd of Canada.

A year later in 1883, Herman Bollert of Cassel, ON bought livestock from the Cook family. The vast majority of all Holsteins in Canada trace back to two animals owned by Bollert — **Tidy Abberkerk** and **Aaltje Posch 4th**.

Years later in 1896, James and Alex Rettie purchased 14 head of Holstein cattle from Herman Bollert, which meant the Rettie brothers now owned *Aaltje* and 13 other head of Bollert cattle. Many present-day Canadian Holsteins trace their lineage back to *Aaltje* and *Abberkerk* genetics and thus, where the present-day Holstein cow was founded from.

Oxford County is not only well-known for their notable show-winning animals, well-managed and high producing herds, but also their commitment and passion to introducing and continuing to promote the Canadian Holstein; the use of leading-edge technology; and advancing the Holstein breed altogether. 🐄



A crowd of 500 people enjoyed an evening in Woodstock, ON to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Oxford County Holstein Club. Attendees were entertained by Guest Speaker, Doug Blair of RockyMountain Holsteins, Cochrane, AB.

Why the ET surcharge at time of Registration, you ask?

Embryo Transfer (ET) involves the handling of many embryos — often times from different matings, at one time. Many donors may be flushed the same day, with the resulting embryos being assessed, manipulated (splitting, sexing, etc.), frozen, thawed, and/or transplanted into recipient dams.

While accredited ET veterinarians/practitioners take necessary precautions in proper handling and labelling, undoubtedly, there is an increased risk of error. The integrity of resulting calf registrations is reliant on the integrity of complete and accurate record keeping of the ET veterinarian/practitioner as well as herd breeding and calving records.

Holstein Canada is obligated to uphold the integrity of the Herdbook by ensuring registered ET animals are supported with detailed embryo transfer documentation.

Furthermore, in the case of embryo exportation, as part of herd book reciprocity, Holstein Canada provides the Herdbook of the importing country

with documentation to support the registration of resulting offspring born in their country.

There are costs associated with capturing, storing and maintaining embryo transfer data, as well as cross referencing this information at the time of registration of resulting calves. These costs are in addition to the costs associated with regular registrations.

Embryo Transfer calves represent 5% of overall registrations in 22% of herds registering. It has been a firm belief of the Board of Directors that additional costs associated with embryo transfer should be allocated to the users of this reproductive technology.

To expedite the registration process of your ET calves, please ensure that all supporting embryo transfer documentation is on file prior to submitting applications for resulting calves. Also, it is helpful if recipient dams are identified on the application for registry in the same manner by which they were identified at the time



of embryo transplant.

Looking forward, could genomic testing, including parentage verification, be used to support ET registrations — eliminating the need for embryo transfer documentation?

While that may seem like a viable solution for the future, it would depend on **all** embryo transfer calves being genomic tested both in Canada and abroad —so only time will tell. In the meantime, the **\$10.00** surcharge applied to Embryo Transfer registration fees is intended to offset the added costs associated with these registrations. 🇨🇦

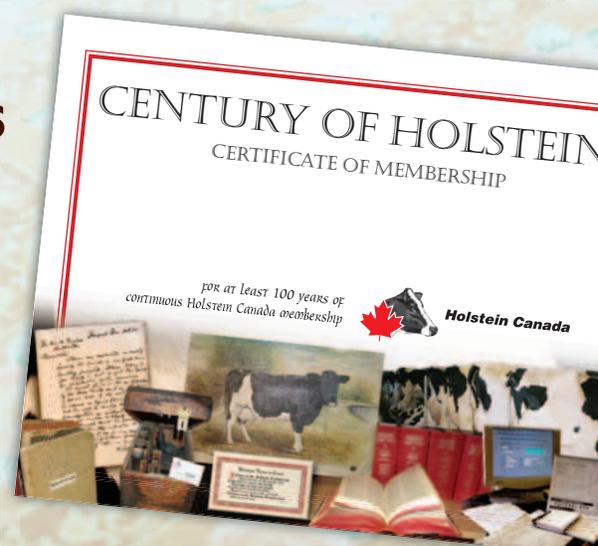
Two New Members Recognized as *Century of Holsteins* Winners

Congratulations to the following two Holstein Canada members who have been recognized as *Century of Holsteins* award winners in 2011. Both members have been an active Holstein Canada member since 1912.

David Ellacott & Family
ASH LINE
Monkton, ON

John Wallace & Family
WALLHOLM
Penobsquis, NB

Both members join an elite list of seven other Holstein Canada members who have been recognized since the award commenced in 2005. The award was introduced to recognize the contribution of Holstein families through long-standing membership of 100 years. 🇨🇦



CLGA and Market Development

Harper Government Investments to Help Dairy Farmers Boost Exports

by Rick McDonald, Canadian Livestock Genetics Association

An investment of over \$1 million will enable the Canadian Livestock Genetics Association (CLGA) to create new markets to export dairy genetics. The CLGA will accomplish this by participating in key trade shows and targeted trade missions, conducting market assessments, and training more farmers in the production and transfer of embryos.

The above is part of an announcement recently made at the Dairy Farmers of Canada Policy Conference in February. The total amount of the investment was \$1,165,127.00 and is available for work done between April 1, 2011 and March 31, 2012.

The market development mandate of CLGA means that they are the industry organization responsible for the development and implementation of long-term international strategies for dairy and small ruminant genetics (although the recent announcement dealt only with dairy). These strategies lay out in broad terms the priorities for the sector and identify where and how CLGA will make their market development investments over the next five years. The strategies also guide CLGA's Government partners in their investments in staffing and programs to support industry priorities.

In January of each year (along with about 40 other agri-food industry associations), CLGA submits an application for funding to the AgriMarketing Program (AMP) for the specific generic activities that our industry will undertake during the next fiscal year (April 1 – March 31) in support of their strategy. In total there is approximately \$22 million in the program.

By July, CLGA usually has a

contribution agreement with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) and can then begin to submit claims. Almost all of the work is performed by CLGA members under contract to the association. Claims are submitted quarterly in order to recover 50% of qualified expenses. For clarity, in order to get the \$1 million funding, the industry has to first spend \$2 million. Approved activities include incoming and outgoing missions, training programs, education programs, and promotion of Canadian genetics and systems, etc. In fact, when non-qualified generic and branded activities are included, CLGA estimates that the dairy industry spends over \$10 million per year on market development!

Although the AMP was fully subscribed, some associations were unable to spend their available funds, so CLGA applied for some of this support and received confirmation on March 6 that they will have access to an additional \$75,600.00 this year — this is more great news! Government programs like AMP have a five-year life span and 2012 is the last year for AMP. CLGA is hopeful that Growing Forward 2 will include a new five-year commitment and CLGA is ensuring they remain actively involved in consultations.

On January 5, 2012, CLGA submitted an application for funding for the period from April



(l to r) Ian MacDonal, National Director, Marketing & Nutrition, Dairy Farmers of Canada, Pierre Lemieux, Parliamentary Secretary to Agricultural Minister Gerry Ritz, and Rick McDonald, CLGA Executive Director

1, 2012 to March 31, 2013. This application included support for the World Holstein Conference, hosted by Holstein Canada, and CLGA hopes to know soon how successful the application process was.

Additional information on CLGA's market development initiatives can be obtained by visiting them on the web at www.clivegen.org 

In the February-March Info Holstein, we featured a story on La Sapiniere September Retarde (EX-90-CAN) who achieved the amazing feat of calving quadruplets in November, 2010.

The article should have mentioned that at the time of this rare accomplishment, Retarde was still owned by her breeder, Bernard Laurin of Ferme La Sapiniere Enrg. of St. Benoit, Qc.

Congratulations to Ferme La Sapiniere Enrg. on breeding Retarde!

Introducing the New GENOID Program:

by Holstein Canada Chief Executive Officer, Brian Van Doormaal

Imagine a producer that has fallen behind in their herdbook registrations, or perhaps even one that never saw value in recording the parentage and lineage of their Holsteins. With the launch of a new service expected by June 1st, 2012, Holstein Canada will soon make it easier than ever to provide producers with valuable herd management information.

The new program is named **GenoID**, which refers to the identification of animals by genotyping their DNA. It will be an extension of the **GenoTest** program introduced in September 2010 — to facilitate and encourage DNA genotyping of animals already in the breed association herdbook.

GenoID will interest herd owners who wish to take advantage of DNA genotyping to know the genetic potential of their heifers and cows as well as owners looking to catch up on herdbook registration activity with minimal research and paperwork.

Following the program launch expected by June, interested herd owners should contact Holstein Canada to enrol and, if qualified, they will be able to take advantage of its benefits for a 12-month period.

Once the herd is enrolled, animals to be genotyped within this new program will submit DNA samples using either the nasal swab kit available from Holstein Canada (\$5 each) or by pulling at least 40 clean/dry tail hairs with visible follicles (roots).

A **GenoID application** form, will be made available via the Holstein Canada web site and must be filled out for each animal and submitted along with the DNA sample. Information that must be provided for each animal will include:

- **Herd management identification, which may be its number or name**
 - **Birth codes (Multiple Birth/Twin and/or Embryo Transfer (ET))**
 - **Animal's coat colour**
- From the animal's DNA sample, Canadian Dairy Network (CDN) will discover the animal's sire and/or dam if they have also been DNA genotyped, confirm the sex of the animal, and compute its genomic and genetic evaluations. At Holstein Canada, the information provided on the **GenoID** form will be combined with any lineage data discovered by CDN to create a record for inclusion in the Holstein herdbook. During the herd's 12-month qualifying period, genotyping fees will be equal to those applicable for the **GenoTest** program, plus an additional \$5 fee, regardless of level of lineage discovered for each animal.
- In general, genotyping within the **GenoID** program will follow two possible strategies. One approach will be to genotype all heifers under a year of age, or perhaps the youngest cross-section of the herd that had not yet been registered in the herdbook. A second approach will be to genotype the entire herd of heifers and cows.
- Key advantages of this second strategy to the herd owner include; (a) maximum discovery of lineage and level of recordation in the herdbook, (b) more accurate estimates of inbreeding for each animal and at the herd level, and (c) an indication of the genetic merit of all animals for production, conformation and functional traits, which contributes to effective herd management and sire mating.
- Look for more details on this new and exciting opportunity in the next issue of **Info Holstein**. 
- **NLID or ATQ tag number for unique animal identification**
 - **Birth date**



Please familiarize yourself with the following Section 11.9.1 of the Association By-laws:

11.9.1 Private Herd Register Necessary

It shall be the duty of each member or other person registering cattle in the herd book to make and retain for a minimum period of fifteen (15) years, in a record system, a complete and consecutive record showing date, name and number of every animal served, the name and number of the sire used, and the date of calving, ear tag number and sex of calf.

Member Disciplined

A member of the Association has been reprimanded under section 11.9.1 of the Association By-laws. This specific section in the By-laws deals with the need to maintain breeding and calving records for a period of 15 consecutive years for the intention of maintaining the integrity of the Herdbook.

The Association conducts both random and selective checks throughout the country to ensure that proper records are maintained. Investigations may also be initiated on the complaint of a member or Board of Director.

The Association depends on members to be vigilant with their records to ensure the highest level of accuracy possible. This guarantees

Canadian herdbook integrity and improves the reliability of genetic improvement programs. A herd record system should be current, practical, and functional and designed so a national designate dropping in could confirm the lineage of all previously registered animals. An on-farm herd record-keeping system does not have to be extensive or complicated but it must comply with Association By-laws.

"The Association depends on members to be vigilant with their records to ensure the highest level of accuracy possible." 



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To place an ORDER: **You must order a Minimum of 12 Units per Order!*

Visit: www.holsteincanadastore.com and click on the Farm Special button on the front page, and fill out the online Order Form.

You must order a **Minimum of 12 items in TOTAL** (ie: 4 Baseball Caps / 2 Golf Shirts / 4 Wind Jackets / 2 Hoodies). As long as the total of the order equals 12 Units, or more. The Holstein Canada logo will be embroidered on all items: On the Front of the Baseball Cap and over the Left Chest of the Hoodie, Wind Jacket, Dress Shirt and Golf Shirt. Your FARM NAME will be embroidered in (WHITE) Lowercase Letters on the BACK of the Baseball Cap, and either on the Right Chest or Right Arm of the chosen items. There are a few colour and sizing options available upon check out. Should you have any questions, please call Marylee, a Stincor Van Smith Representative at **1-800-383-4938 ext. 4146**.

Are your Swabs About to Expire?



The expiry date for swabs can be located on the bar code at the bottom of the swab. There should be a month followed by the year to indicate when the swab expires.

The answer is on the vial! Each swab has an expiry date noted above the bar code located on the bottom of the swab.

Samples should be submitted for testing two months prior to the expiry date to avoid failing quality control checks at time of submission. 🇨🇦

Diamond Jubilee Medal Winner — David Chalack

An honour was bestowed upon a Canadian dairy industry professional, Dr. David Chalack of Balzac, Alberta.

Chalack, a 2011 Canadian Agricultural Hall of Fame Inductee, was honoured to be one of 60 Canadians in February to receive the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Medal — one of a series of national celebratory gestures to mark the 60th anniversary of the Queen's ascent to the throne.

Chalack was recognized for his



(l-r) Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Diamond Jubilee Medal Recipient, Dr. David Chalack, and Governor General David Johnston.

contributions to the field of animal care and to the success of the Calgary Stampede. 🇨🇦

Classification Schedule

MR mid-round

Month	Classification	Regions
April	Early	ON – Elgin, Oxford ON – MR Peterborough, Northumberland, Victoria, Durham, Waterloo QC – Matapédia, Bonaventure QC – MR Shefford
	Mid	ON – MR Lennox, Addington, Frontenac, Hastings, Prince Edward QC – Matane, Témiscouata, Arthabaska QC – MR Vaudreuil, Soulanges, Huntingdon, Lac Saint-Jean, Roberval, Châteauguay, Beauharnois, Laprairie, Napierville, Saint-Jean, Iberville, Richmond, Missisquoi PE, NB, NS, NL – MR
	Late	QC – MR Compton, Brome QC – Mégantic, Wolfe
May	Early	ON – Perth ON – MR Wellington, Thunder Bay QC – Lotbinière QC – MR Sherbrooke, Stanstead SK – MR
	Mid	ON – MR Northern Ontario QC – Nicolet, Yamaska QC – MR Frontenac, Beauce, Lévis, Québec, Montmorency BC – Lower & Central Fraser Valley, Richmond Delta
	Late	ON – MR Prescott, Glengarry QC – Verchères, Rouville BC – Upper Fraser Valley, Okanagan, Vancouver Island
June	Early	ON – Leeds, Grenville, Renfrew ON – MR Dundas, Stormont, Niagara, Wentworth, Brant, Haldimand, Norfolk, Russell, Carleton QC – Drummond, Bagot, Saint-Hyacinthe, Richelieu, Labelle, Argenteuil QC – MR Dorchester
	Late	ON – Lanark, Grey, Bruce ON – Huron QC – Abitibi, Témiscamingue, Pontiac, Papineau, Gatineau, Deux-Montagnes, Terrebonne

Top Sires According to Average Final Score of 1st Lactation Daughters

Based on 1st Lactation Classifications from January/February 2012

Top 10 Sires with 100+ Daughters Classified in Two-Month Period				Top 10 Sires with 30-100 Daughters Classified in Two-Month Period			
Sire	Daughters Classified [▲]	Avg. Daus. Score	Avg. Dam Score	Sire	Daughters Classified [▲]	Avg. Daus. Score	Avg. Dam Score
Sanchez	259	82.52	82.41	Damion	71	82.21	81.58
Goldwyn	480	81.94	82.00	Carisma	36	81.58	81.28
Dundee	116	81.34	81.24	Promotion	77	81.19	81.91
Talent	172	81.18	80.33	Spirte	74	81.16	80.15
Mr Sam	182	81.08	81.32	Final Cut	95	80.92	80.82
Re Design	229	81.01	80.67	Lightning	52	80.90	81.38
Bolton	172	80.95	80.92	Twister	30	80.83	80.27
Denison	351	80.75	80.56	El Toreador	34	80.79	80.44
Lightning	108	80.73	80.66	Florian	69	80.62	79.80
Denzel	157	80.68	80.32	Altaminister	33	80.58	80.61

Note: [▲] Daughters are included in the statistics only if both the daughter and her dam calved for the first time before 30 months and were both first classified within the first six months of lactation. Sires listed must have > 50% of daughters that improve in score over the dam.

First Dairy Goat Classified by Holstein Canada

Holstein Canada expands business opportunities by offering classification services to Dairy Goat clients.



Dairy goat producers participating in the GoGen pilot project receive classification reports to summarize the classification visit. These reports provide timely delivery of information that can be utilized by dairy goat producers to make enhanced and effective mating decisions in their herds. Seen here in the above photo is an Excellent classified Apline doe.

On February 24th, a group of Holstein Canada classifiers made history by visiting a dairy goat herd in Southwestern, ON. This visit marked the first time a dairy goat has been officially scored by a Holstein Canada classifier — the initiative was the culmination of years of work and cooperation leading up to February.

Holstein Canada was approached in 2010 to consider offering classification services to goat producers under the framework of a pilot project initiated

by Ontario Goat. They received an investment of \$700,000 over three-years from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) to spear-head this project entitled **GoGen**. This progressive initiative aims to create a framework to enhance the genetic evaluation system for dairy goats including the expansion of important management tools such as registration, classification, milk recording, use of artificial insemination and young sire testing and on-farm health protocols.

Fourteen **GoGen** dairy goat herds, with 2,500 milking does, will be classified in the months ahead by Holstein Canada classifiers. Following this initiative, classification services will become available to additional dairy goat producers across Canada. Herd and animal fees charged for the service will be identical to that currently existing for dairy clients.

Holstein Canada strongly believes this initiative will enable diversification and expansion of existing dairy breed services and brings additional sources for revenue as the dairy goat industry in Canada becomes more progressive.

For more information on how to become a Dairy Goat Client of Holstein Canada, please contact Client Services at 519-756-8300.

While the linear and major traits are identical for goats as they are for cows, emphasis on certain traits has been adjusted to reflect minor structural differences. These include:

- Goat udders are halved rather than quartered therefore emphasis from Front Teat Placement was removed and added to Fore Attachment.
- Emphasis on Foot Angle in Feet & Legs was increased.
- Thurl Placement will remain as a research trait until further analysis can be conducted.



Holstein Canada classifier Tom Byers officially scores his first Alpine dairy goat. All the same equipment and similar reference points are used to classify dairy goats by Holstein Canada classifiers.

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Published six times annually
Subscription: \$18 outside Canada

Publications Mail
Agreement 40008691

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