



MEMBER UPDATE



*Welcome to the first edition of OPVG's new electronic newsletter for **July 2020**. We're boosting our communication activities which include creating this newsletter to update growers on our efforts, Board decisions and Board Meeting Highlights. We're excited about this new opportunity to share information on Board activities.*

FINANCIAL update

Tomato and carrot fees reduced for 2020

The Board was able to reduce tomato and carrot fees per ton for 2020, due in part to no negotiation costs and a reduction in grading, tissue testing and inspection costs. The new fees per net ton (including HST) are tomatoes at \$1.54 (down 11 cents from 2019), carrots at \$1.50 for slicers and \$1.21 for dicers (down 1 cent from 2019).



Other fees (HST included) are:

- Green peas \$5.68
- Sweet corn \$1.14
- Green and wax beans \$2.54
- Lima beans \$5.74
- Squash \$1.37
- Onions \$3.99
- Cucumbers Chatham \$2.51 (USD)
- Cucumbers other \$3.65 (USD)
- Cucumber Tomek \$4.21 (CDN)

A full OPVG financial report can be found at opvg.org.

REGULATION/POLICY update

Reviewing Reg 440, 441 and more

The OPVG Board is reviewing and updating our regulations and bylaws related to the changes made to Regulation 440 and 441 so that they align with FPMC regulations. In addition, the Board's Governance policies are also being reviewed. Board policies are a guide that gives individuals the breadth and authority to operate and include boundaries needed for organization representatives to achieve the best outcome.

BOARD update

Looking for election committee volunteers

The OPVG Board created an electoral committee to help determine the election process for this fall. Last year, when the new Regulation 441 was released, Farm Products Marketing Commission

(FPMC) prescribed an election process requiring a Returning Officer and mandating an entire electronic voting for the Board of Director positions. This year, the process must follow certain rules but has some flexibility. The Board wants to involve growers in the process and is currently looking for candidates through the District Committee to volunteer for the elections committee – a group that will select the Returning Officer and make recommendations on the voting process.

PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS!

Thanks to all our entrants for their creative submissions to the OPVG ‘Share Your Best Shots’ photo contest! The entries have become an invaluable resource for OPVG to create an internal photo library for use in promotional materials, social media content and presentations to key stakeholders and government about our industry.

We’re passionate about showcasing our growers, their families, fields and end products, and we appreciate your support in providing great photos.



Here are the winners by category:

- **Faces of Farm**: “Farm Work with Grandpa” by Sandra Swanton
- **Our Family, our Friends, Our Community**: “ Road to Home” by Sarah Hebert
- **Something to Admire**: “Heaping with Flavour” by Peter Hack
- **Field to Fork**: “Carrot Harvest” by Dan Sopuch
- **Best and Worst of Nature**: “Beauty in the Beast” by Sarah Hebert

And the **Best Overall Photo** goes to Dave Peters for “All in a Row” (pictured above).

Watch for all the winners [here](#).

MARKET *intelligence* 2020 contract intentions

OPVG is pleased to announce that all preliminary contract volumes for 2020 have increased.

- The number of **carrot** contracts remain unchanged from 2019 at 10. Contract volumes are up from 43,190 tons in 2019 to 47,900 tons for 2020.
- The number of **cucumber** contracts decreased from 89 in 2019 to 79. Cucumber contract tonnage is up from 39,201 in 2019 to 40,936 in 2020.
- The number of **green and wax bean** contracts reduced slightly from 69 in 2019 to 67 in 2020. Green and wax bean contract acreage is up from 4,757 in 2019 to 5,020 in 2020.
- The number of **green pea** contracts increased from 148 in 2019 to 159 in 2020. Green pea contract volumes are up from 13,653 acres in 2019 to 14,700 acres in 2020.
- The number of **lima bean** contracts increased slightly from 33 in 2019 to 34 in 2020. Lima bean contract acreage is up from 3,042 in 2019 to 3,807 in 2020.
- The number of **squash** contracts remains unchanged from 2019 at 5. Squash contract volumes are up from 4,485 tons in 2019 to 5,550 tons in 2020.
- The number of **sweet corn** contracts remain unchanged from 2019 at 119. Sweet corn contract acreage is up from 9,574 in 2019 to 10,196 in 2020.
- The number of **tomato** contracts reduced from 74 in 2019 to 66 in 2020. Tomato contract



tonnage is up from 464,747 in 2019 to 474,880 in 2020.

Here's hoping mother nature co-operates for the remainder of the season – wishing everyone a successful harvest.

Stay connected with OPVG 2020 Board

- **Dave Hope** (Chair) dave.hope@opvg.org
- **Michael Denys**, (1st Vice Chair, District 1) ms_denys@yahoo.com
- **Ken Hamm** (2nd Vice Chair, District 1) kenhamm@gmail.com
- **Dave Froese** (Director District 3) danfroese@amtelecom.net
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