

PLANT *and* ANIMAL HEALTH STRATEGY *for* CANADA

Canadian Plant Health Council

Member Biographies

FPT ADM Champion of the Council



William Greuel has been the Assistant Deputy Minister, Regulatory and Innovation, with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture since May 2015. Prior to that, he was Executive Director of the Ministry's Crops and Irrigation Branch, Manager of Research and Development and the Provincial Oilseed Specialist. Bill has also worked for a small startup biotech company and in the canola seed industry as well as with a major chemical manufacturer.

Council Members



Annette Anderson is the Director of the Agriculture Development Branch of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. The branch is involved in development and delivery of integrated pest management, applied research and technology transfer programs as well as provincial coordination of minor use/emergency use registrations and other plant health initiatives. Annette spent several years in the Deputy Minister's office as Executive Assistant and has held management positions in Greenhouse, Agroforestry and Specialty Crops, Business Management and Research and Innovation.



William Anderson, Ph.D., is currently the Executive Director, Plant Health and Biosecurity Directorate in the Policy and Programs Branch at the CFIA and the Chief Plant Health Officer of Canada. After working as a Research Associate at the National Research Council's Plant Biotech Institute in Saskatoon, he left the laboratory setting to work in the ag-biotech private sector. Bill joined the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) in 2002 and has held various management positions working on programs and policies in areas related to plant health, animal health and food safety, including substantive acting roles as Associate Vice-President and Chief Science Operating officer in Science Branch.



Ian Affleck is the vice-president of plant biotechnology for CropLife Canada. In this role, Ian works with domestic and international agricultural stakeholders and governments on the development of policies, regulations, and science related to plant biotechnology. Prior to joining CropLife Canada, Ian worked at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency for 10 years, where his work focused on the regulation of novel plants and new varieties.

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Miles Beaudin is currently the director of Primary Agriculture at Manitoba Agriculture where he leads industry development and extension to the livestock and crop industry. He is responsible for the Livestock, Crop and Diversification Branch's strategic and business planning, staffing, budgeting as well as overseeing program delivery by the sections. Miles was previously the manager of Quality Assurance and Labor at Manitoba Pork, where he was responsible for programming for on farm food safety, animal care and swine production among other tasks.



Nathalie Durand is the Executive Director of the Crops and Horticulture Division at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. Prior to this role, she was on an assignment at the Farm Products Council of Canada as interim executive director where she oversaw the operations of the supply managed poultry and eggs agencies as well as the promotion and research agencies. She also held different senior positions at AAFC, including as Director of the Americas, and as Director of the Trade Negotiations Division, as well as positions in other federal departments including at Global Affairs Canada where she headed up the group that administers Canada's agricultural import controls.



David Feindel, Ph.D. is the Director of the Plant and Bee Health Surveillance Section, Alberta Agriculture & Forestry. This position involves coordinating a multi-disciplinary team that is responsible for monitoring/surveillance, research, and training/extension activities focused on pest management in cropping systems. Before joining Alberta Agriculture and Forestry, Dr. Feindel worked for fourteen years in private industry, involved in the research and development of pest control products; he has also spent more than eight years in Africa and the Middle East on farming system projects.



Barry Ford has over 30 years of experience in the international forest industry with an extensive background in sales and marketing of coastal and interior B.C. forest products to world markets. As General Manager of Canada Wood Group, Barry oversees global infrastructure operations, represents Canada Wood on Phytosanitary and Market Access related matters, and sits on various working group committees including the Canada Forest Phytosanitary Working Group. He also serves as Marketing Director for the Council of Forest Industries (COFI), for which he leads coast industry marketing programs.

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Anthony Hopkin is the Director of Entomology and Phytosanitary Research at The Pacific Forestry Centre of the Natural Resources Canada's Canadian Forest Service. Anthony started as a research scientist in forest pathology at the Great Lakes Forestry Centre (GLFC) in Ontario, with the then Forest Insect and Disease Survey. He moved into the position of science Director at GLFC in 2005, and later as Director of Entomology and Phytosanitary research in Victoria BC. In his capacity as a scientist and research director, Anthony has worked closely with the CFIA and various provinces to address issues related to forest alien species.



Rebecca Lee, Ph.D., joined the Canadian Horticultural Council (CHC) in August 2016 as Executive Director. She spent six years as Technical Director of the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO), where she also served as Acting Executive Director. Prior to that, she worked as Technical Director with the Association of Colombian Flower Exporters, for whom she designed the Colombian Centre for Innovation in Floriculture. She then served as Executive Director of the Centre for six years. She also helped manage a 40 ha vegetable farm, transitioning 2 ha to organic, and led farmer-based research at a university horticulture research centre.



Krista Thomas is the Director of Plant Innovation with the Canada Grains Council (CGC), an organization of grain industry interests, representing producers, crop input companies, grain companies, and grain processors. Prior to joining the CGC, Krista held various positions with the Canadian federal government, including with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency as the National Manager of the Plant Biosafety Office, responsible for regulating the environmental release of plants with novel traits. Krista also worked at the Canada-US Regulatory Cooperation Council, a body that enhances economic competitiveness by aligning regulatory systems, while maintaining protection for health, safety and the environment.



Karin Wittenberg, Ph.D, P. Ag., is currently serving as the Dean in the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences, and has previously served as Associate Dean (Research) and head of the Department of Animal Science. During her tenure as Dean, she has facilitated the integration of the Department Food and Human Nutritional Sciences, as well as inclusion of textile sciences researchers into the Faculty; overseen the transfer of the governance of the Richardson Centre for Functional Foods and Nutraceuticals to the Faculty; and initiated the renewal of the the Glenlea Research Station, the Faculty's livestock research farm.