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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & DEEP DIVE

February 3-4, 2026
The GrandWay, Elora



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Annual General Meeting Agenda: Tuesday, February 3, 2026

9:00am	Opening Remarks: Eleanor Renaud, OSCIA President
9:10am	Ministry Welcome and Updates: Bill Rosenberg, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness and MPP for Algoma-Manitoulin
9:20am	Welcome: Senator Rob Black
9:30am	President Remarks: Eleanor Renaud, OSCIA President
9:50am	Financial Review: RLB Chartered Professional Accountants
10:10am	Regional Updates #1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• North Eastern Ontario• Golden Horseshoe• Heartland
10:40am	BREAK (located in The GrandWay Barn)
11:10am	OSCIA Review of 2025: Julie Henderson, General Manager, OSCIA
11:20am	OSCIA Department Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nicole Mackellar, Director of Member Services and Business Development• Gabriella Visontai Perry, Director of Information Technology
12:10pm	Board of Directors Ratification
12:20pm	LUNCH
1:20pm	Executive Committee Presentation/Flagship Award
1:30pm	Incoming President Remarks
1:40pm	Honourary President Remarks
1:50pm	Regional Updates #2 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• St. Clair• Quinte
2:10pm	BREAK (located in The GrandWay Barn)
2:40pm	Resolutions: John Poel, Chair of the OSCIA Resolutions Committee
5:00pm	DINNER
6:00pm	Guest Speakers: Carbon's Importance in Soil Health: Julian Yu and Devin Baker, BW Fusion
6:30pm	Close and Thank You

SPEAKERS:

Parliamentary Assistant Bill Rosenberg



Bill Rosenberg is the Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) for Algoma-Manitoulin, elected in the 2025 Ontario general election. Prior to his election to Queen's Park, Mr. Rosenberg served his community as the Mayor of Thessalon and brings deep roots in business, farming and rural life to his work. As Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Agri-Business (OMAFA), he supports the Ministry in advancing policies and initiatives that strengthen Ontario's agri-food sector and rural communities. He is a member of the Standing Committee on Public Accounts, a Member of the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs as well as serving as Parliamentary Assistant to the President of the Treasury Board.

Senator Rob Black



The Honourable Rob Black has spent his career in rural, agricultural and leadership roles. He has been involved with 4-H Canada, 4-H Ontario, Junior Farmers and the Advanced Agricultural Leadership Program, which helped shape his leadership skills and path to the Senate. A former Wellington County Councillor, he has also managed the Ontario Research and Development Challenge Fund, and served as Past President of the Canadian 4-H Council and Executive Director of 4-H Ontario and the Rural Ontario Institute among others. Recognized with numerous awards, including the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal and 2021 Produce Champion title, Senator Black has represented Ontario in the Senate since 2018.

Julian Yu, BW Fusion



Julian Yu earned her PhD in Microbiology from Arizona State University following a BS in Genomics from Michigan State University. Her expertise is in soil microbial ecology and bioinformatics. In her previous role, she led the strategic direction and operational management of the soil microbiome research and development laboratory.

Devin Baker, BW Fusion



Devin serves BW Fusion growers across Indiana, Michigan and Ohio as Technical Agronomist, offering agronomy support grounded in both experience and understanding. With over 10 years working with BW Fusion products, Devin brings a practical, farmer-first mindset to field conversation. His training through Purdue University and his work with Agronomy 365 give him a sharp edge in understanding crop performance, but it's his belief in listening first that sets him apart. He's built a reputation as a trusted partner who helps farmers thrive, both through data-driven insights and genuine connection.

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Deep Dive—Residue Smart Agenda: Wednesday, February 4, 2026

9:00am	Welcome and Introductions: Andy Van Niekerk, Director, OSCIA
9:10am	Crop Residues in a Cropping System: Adam Gillespie, UofG and Ian McDonald, OMAFA <i>Optimizing combine setup, options and operation can increase harvest efficiency and residue processing and distribution. This offers more options for residue management after harvest and before planting.</i>
10:00am	BREAK (located in The GrandWay Barn)
10:30am	Residue Management Begins with the Combine: TJ Poehlman, UofG <i>Header and chaff spreaders to modifications to overall implement settings during harvest all impact the quality and distribution of crop residues. Optimization of combine operation impacts the tillage and other choices for residue management ahead of the next crop planting.</i>
11:20am	Post Harvest Residue Management Options—The Academic Angle: Drs. Josh Nasielski and Dave Hooker, UofG <i>Exploring the science! Research findings and discussion on various residue management options including seasonal tillage, residue removal, cover crops, green planting and more.</i>
12:10pm	LUNCH
1:10pm	PANEL: Producer Experiences Managing Crop Residues—Part 1: Lawrence Hogan (Huron), Matt Beischlag (Haldimand) and Johannes Renecker (Manitoulin); Moderator: Horst Bohner <i>Exploring successes and struggles managing crop residues and optimizing the crop production systems for profitable and sustainable futures.</i>
2:00pm	BREAK (located in The GrandWay Barn)
2:30pm	Optimizing Biology for Maximizing Residue Management: Julian Yu and Devin Baker, BW Fusion <i>Decisions on residue management affect the residue/stubble transition to optimize the benefits and reduce the negatives of residue in modern grain crops.</i>
3:20pm	PANEL: Producer Experiences Managing Crop Residues—Part 2: Dave Hooker (Elgin), Carl Brubacher (Wellington) and Kevin Cole (Northumberland); Moderator: TJ Poehlman <i>Exploring successes and struggles managing crop residues and optimizing the crop production systems for profitable and sustainable futures.</i>
4:10pm	Close and Thank You

PRESENTERS:

Dr. Adam Gillespie, Ontario Agricultural College, University of Guelph



Adam's research is focused on soil organic matter. His research program is one which examines land use and ecosystem influences on soil organic matter (SOM) dynamics and their relationship with soil fertility and carbon cycling in both the lab and field settings. Adam believes very strongly in the need to translate innovative research into practice. He uses cutting-edge technology to study how soil organic matter chemistry and persistence relate to soil health and land use change.

Ian McDonald, OMAFA



Ian McDonald has been the Applied Research Coordinator for the Field Crops Unit of OMAFA since 2000 and Crops Innovations Specialist since 2016, before which he spent 15 years in the ag industry as a researcher on new pesticides with Hoechst and Dupont. Through research, demonstration, networking and other means, Ian works to find tools and build knowledge to share with producers and agri-business that enhance farm profitability and reduce agriculture's environmental footprint.

TJ Poehlman, Ontario Agricultural College, University of Guelph, Ridgetown



TJ Poehlman is a college professor at the University of Guelph – Ridgetown Campus. He teaches a variety of equipment, maintenance and safety classes. He farms multiple crops in the greater Croton area. TJ previously worked in the farm industry as an Agricultural Equipment Technician with over 21 years experience in various farm machinery brands.

Dr. Joshua Nasielski, Ontario Agricultural College, University of Guelph



Dr. Joshua Nasielski is an assistant professor at the University of Guelph, Department of Plant Agriculture. He holds the MacSon Professorship in Agronomy for eastern and northern Ontario.

PRESENTERS:

Dr. David Hooker, Ontario Agricultural College, University of Guelph, Ridgetown



Dr. David Hooker is an Associate Professor at University of Guelph based at Ridgetown. His research program focuses on applied, systems-based agronomy in corn, soybean and wheat production. His favourite research projects include the long-term crop rotation-tillage, and long-term cover crop trials to quantify impacts on soil health and yield resilience. He also owns and operates a 550-acre cash crop farm in Elgin County, grounding his research and extension work in real-world farm decision-making.

Lawrence Hogan, Producer, Huron



Lawrence cash-crop farms in the northwest corner of Huron County with his brother Steve: corn, soy beans and winter wheat. Soil conservation and environmental stewardship have always been a very important part of their farming practices. He started no-tilling in the 80s but no-tilling corn after winter wheat was always a challenge. For the past 10 years they have overcome that challenge with the use of the Lamoureux clearing implement and the Bio Strip-Till system.

Matt Beischlag, Producer, Haldimand



Matt Beischlag, along with his parents and two boys (one part-time), operates the family farm that includes grain production, seed dealership and a broiler chicken operation. They focus on maintaining efficient crop management while raising healthy broiler chickens with care and consistency. Through dedication to good farming practices and steady day-to-day work, Beischlag Farms supports a reliable and productive agricultural operation.

Johannes Renecker, Producer, Manitoulin



“JR” co-owns and operates a 450-acre cash crop farm in Tehkummah Township on southeastern Manitoulin Island. He grew up farming near Stratford, Ontario, and relocated to Manitoulin in 2023 to expand. JR holds a B.Sc. in Agriculture (Crop Science) from the University of Alberta and received the 2025 ASA National Student Recognition Award as the only Canadian recipient. His farm’s unique climate supports diverse rotations including corn, soybeans, wheat, beans, peas and trials in canola and biochar. He emphasizes minimal tillage, research partnerships and innovative practices to advance sustainable Canadian agriculture.

PRESENTERS:

Horst Bohner, Ontario Agricultural College, University of Guelph



Horst Bohner has been the provincial Soybean Specialist with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Agribusiness (OMAFA) since 2001. He collaborates with other researchers and growers to address soybean production issues. His responsibilities include soybean field research, validating production techniques and providing leading edge information to Ontario growers. Horst is past chair of the Ontario Oil and Protein Seed Crop Committee and the OMAFA representative for the Heartland Regional Soil and Crop Improvement Association.

Carl Brubacher, Producer, Wellington



Carl is a hog and cash crop farmer as well as working in agricultural sales. He has a family operation including his wife and seven children. They have a focus on soil stewardship and improving their farm's eco-system above and below ground.

Kevin Cole, Producer, Northumberland



Kevin works for Hunco Farms near Cobourg, Ontario. They grow corn, wheat, and soybeans on an equal acreage rotation. His wife and sons also have a cash crop farm north of Port Hope, Ontario, where they grow the same rotation of crops. He grew up on a dairy farm and has been working for Hunco for the last 39 years. Over the course of his life, he has been fortunate enough to observe many changes and advancements in the field of agriculture. Early on, his father introduced him to conventional tillage farming. Over the years, through his work at Hunco and his personal farm, he has been able to experiment and improve from conventional tillage to sustainable practices such as no-till and regenerative farming.

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A warm thank you to our incredible speakers for inspiring us, our sponsors for their generous support, our attendees for their energy and engagement & our dedicated organizers for bringing it all together. This event wouldn't have been possible without each and every one of you.

We look forward to seeing you again next year! Feb 2-3, 2027 - The GrandWay, Elora