



National Farmers Union – Ontario NEWSLETTER

*Strong Communities.
Sound Policies.
Sustainable Farms.*

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Renfrew celebrates the NFU!

Approximately 70 attendees enjoyed a farm to table dinner on Saturday, Aug. 24 at Moonlight Crofters Farm in honour of the NFU's 50th Anniversary. The event also promoted culinary tourism in the Upper Ottawa Valley with about half the diners coming from Ottawa.

Guests were treated to garden tours and visits with dairy goats, chickens, and Scottish Highland cattle. After the tour, Renfrew County NFU board member Christina Anderman spoke to the guests about the importance of small-scale farming and its role in building and supporting rural communities. She also encouraged dinner guests to join the NFU as associate members.

National Farmers Union president Katie Ward spoke about the work the NFU has done to lobby for the re-opening of the prison farms, the rights of farmers to save seed from the crops they grow, and of the many hours she spends working with politicians. She also noted that the NFU received a grant related to fighting climate change.

Moonlight Crofters is owned by Renfrew County NFU members Marshall Buchanan and Kathleen Lindhorst and their son Linden Buchanan. Comedian Martha Chaves provided entertainment. Music by the



Pictured from left, Farm hosts Kathleen Lindhorst and Marshall Buchanan, NFU national president Katie Ward, Christina Anderman and Lauretta Rice.

Mac Charron Trio meant there was plenty of dancing until the evening's end.

Renfrew County NFU board

member Daniel Stermac-Stein made handcrafted leather key tags embossed with the NFU logo as mementos from the event.

Top 3 reasons to come to Winnipeg for National Convention



The NFU is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year back where it all started: Winnipeg. This year's theme – Farmers on the Frontline: Celebrating 50 years of the farm movement! – celebrates all that the NFU has accomplished and looks forward to the next 50 years! Here's the top 3 reasons why you should come to convention:

3. Your organization. Your say!

Convention is where the policies of the NFU get decided. Attendees have a chance to share their opinions in lively discussions from the floor, and delegates vote on resolutions that direct the leaders of the NFU in their work over the course of the next year. For those willing to share their time, elections for national leadership positions are held. Did you know that the NFU has enshrined roles for youth and women leaders in their constitution since its inception?

2. Meet like-minded farmers, academics, and supporters

Daily life keeps us busy on our own farms, but convention is a chance to come together, share ideas, and learn from each other. Whether it's best practices for soil health, challenges at the farmers' market, or how direct action can influence public policy, you'll come away inspired. This year's key note speaker is Avi Lewis, a documentary filmmaker, journalist, and lecturer in Journalism and Media Studies at Rutgers University. His 25-year journalism career has spanned award-winning theatrically-released documentaries to local news reporting, and has appeared on television networks worldwide, including as a former host of the CBC current-affairs programs CounterSpin and On the Map. In 2017, he co-founded and is now Strategic Director of The Leap – an organization launched to upend our collective response to the crises of climate, inequality and racism.

1. Celebrate!

There's dinner and dancing. There's late night conversations and early morning coffee chats. As a member, you are a part of our history and a part of our future. Come celebrate all that makes the NFU special November 25 – 27, 2019!

Early bird prices are in effect until October 11, allowing you to buy now and save \$25 off of regular registration fees. On October 12 regular fee prices will come into effect, and single day registration will be offered. Please note that registration does not include meals. Visit <https://www.nfu.ca/2019convention/register/> to register or phone 306-652-9465.

Coming Events

Local 330 Renfrew – Next meeting is Monday, Oct 7, 7:30 p.m. at the Barr Line Community Centre. For more information, contact Connie Tabbert at rcnfu330@gmail.com or 613-646-7753.

Local 362 Stormont, Dundas, Glengarry, Ottawa, Prescott-Russell – Join your fellow farmers and farm supporters for the monthly meeting of the local chapter of the NFU. Local issues affecting farmers are discussed in depth and explored with the collective knowledge of those present. The next meeting is Oct 10, 7:00 p.m. in the board room at O'Farrell Financial Services, 510 St Lawrence Street, Winchester.

A subscription to The Rural Voice is one of the benefits of being an NFU-O member