

NORFOLK WOODLOT OWNERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

www.norfolkwoodlots.com

April 2021



President's Message

March 29, 2021 virtual AGM update

Mike Whitehead is the winner of the Early Bird Draw. He is now the proud owner of a new chainsaw donated by Premier Equipment and NWOA. Congrats Mike! There are five winners of the Proxy Vote return each receiving a \$100 gift certificate for mulch donated by Townsend Lumber. And, there are 35 door prize winners receiving items from generous local business owners. The donors are identified on NWOA website and in the AGM 2021 Minutes, so you can support them by patronizing their business. Much thanks to Tracey Boerkamp and SpringView Farm Golf Course for soliciting donors for prizes, setting up the draws for the prizes, contacting the winners and holding the prizes until pick up.

There were no new nominations for Board member positions. The current Board members agreed to stay on and continue with their duties. Much thanks to each for their help and input. The 2020 minutes were approved after some minor typo mistakes were corrected. Thanks to a NWOA eagle-eyed member for noting the typos in the 2020 Minutes before being approved. The 2020 financials were also approved.

We plan to return to the former format of guest speaker, vendor and organization displays, at the German Home in Delhi for the March 2, 2022 AGM ... Covid-19 permitting. Time will tell.

Other updates and new business

One of the items of concern is the increasing cost of mailing paper Newsletters and notices. It costs approximately \$10 per member per year for paper mailing (paper, ink, envelopes and postage), plus Board member time stuffing envelopes. Some members are amiable to receive electronic email, which helps, while other members prefer mailed paper copies. Perhaps members, who wish or require paper copies mailed, could pay for the cost? More discussion is required before membership voting on it at the next AGM.

Over this summer the Board will be investigating the pros and cons of joining with the Ontario Woodlot Owners Association as per suggestions by some of the NWOA membership. Many things have changed since the last time NWOA membership voted on this. The Board will gather all relevant information for presentation and discussion with NWOA membership before deciding on whether to put it to a vote at the next AGM.

Please note NWOA **new** mailing address:

Norfolk Woodlot Owners Association (NWOA)
P.O. Box 1146
Waterford, Ontario NOE 1Y0

We welcome your comments, thoughts and ideas for our newsletter, workshops and AGM. We work hard to make them fun and informative, so your feedback is essential. Thanks. You can post them on our website www.norfolkwoodlots.com (Go to the 'About us' Tab then select 'Contact us' to complete the message box), direct email at membership@norfolkwoodlots.com, or call me at 519-426-2782 or email me at johndewitt@kwic.com

NORFOLK WOODLOT OWNERS ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY March 4, 2020
Delhi German Home

NWOA President, Mr. John de Witt, opened the meeting at 7:00pm.

There were one hundred & fifteen people attending the meeting.

Mr. de Witt recognized the presence of a local member of government. He also thanked exhibitors and those who have donated time and prizes that help make the AGM a success. In particular, he thanked Premier Equipment for the chainsaw, to which the NWOA also donated, and Tim Hortons for the refreshments.

Mr. de Witt mentioned a tri-fold, that can be used for familiarization about NWOA, is available to attending members. Tracey Boerkamp moved to confirm Luke Haze as a Director. Angelle van Kleef seconded. Motion carried. Mr. de Witt acknowledged the work of Eric Ferguson and Tracey Boerkamp for their efforts in organizing the AGM as well as the other Directors for their contribution to the Association.

John de Witt	President
Dr. Bob Dukelow	Vice President
Dr. John Morrissey	Secretary / Newsletter Editor
Eric Ferguson	Web committee/Acting Treasurer
Kristen Bernard	Director
Tracey Boerkamp	Director AGM convener
Mark Bacro	Director
Iria Lukosius	Director
Mike Penner	Director
Audrey Heagy	Director
Remus Lukosius	Director
Luke Haze	Director
Dolf Wynia	FSC Committee / Past President
Adam Biddle	Norfolk County Advisors
Dan Marina	
George Demaiter	Nomination Advisor

Mr. de Witt invited members to participate in sharing what is of interest to them on the website. He thanked Kristen Bernard and Dan Marina for their work in providing material that may be of interest to woodlots on the website.

2019 Minutes - The Minutes of the 2019 AGM were reviewed. Dr. John Morrissey moved that they be accepted. Betty Chanyi seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

Financial Report - Eric Ferguson presented the Financial Report. The Opening Balance for 2019 was \$17,413.62. Membership dues from members for the year were \$4,921.06. There was a donation of \$100.00. Total Revenues were \$5,021.06. Expenses for the year were \$5,963.99, leaving a Book Balance of \$16,470.69 as at December 31, 2019. Tracey Boerkamp moved to approve the report. Angelle van Kleef seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

Election of Directors – John de Witt conducted a nomination of new Directors. There were no nominations.

Speaker – Dr Christian McQuarry of Great Lakes Forestry Centre, provided a presentation on Management of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) and work done with Townsend Lumber. He reported that firewood is the most common means of moving Emerald Ash Borer. He informed that feeding under bark destroys the tree. It takes one to two years to complete the cycle of pupation. Climate influences the development of population. Treatments require injection into trees. Management uses natural enemies of EAB to attack larvae or eggs. Research has been introducing natural enemies since 2013. Research is beginning on resistant and resilient ash tree species. Dr McQuarry reviewed the work done with Townsend Lumber on using a systems approach to managing the processing wood products. Lumber was sampled as it was being processed. The final process reveals the risk of EAB infestation is zero. Heat treated slabs revealed no insects at 54°C or greater. The next steps in research will be to apply similar processes to manage bronze birch borer.

Break

Mr. Adam Biddle provided an update on Gypsy Moth. Severe outbreaks were restricted to a few areas. There is a lower prediction for 2020. The County conducted surveys in woodlots. He noted that there are possible high levels in the same areas as 2019. The County also conducted a study of forest cover in the county. The results show that 23.94% of the County is forested and 86.13% of that is on private land. He noted that only 0.7% is within urban boundaries. This report is based on data provided to him. The County's objective is to conserve natural heritage by identifying significant woodlands and providing forest conservation bylaws. This is done by regulating destruction, clearing and issuing permits. He reported that there are 100 to 120 harvests per year. Exemption permits vary from year to year between 2 and 10 per year. The leading justifications for exemptions are for agricultural use. The County will be reviewing the bylaws in 2020. Woodlot owners are encouraged to continue to be aware of recommendations and provide feedback.

Early Bird Prizes - Tracey Boerkamp announced the winners of the Early Bird Door Prizes – a Stihl chainsaw, donated by Premier Equipment and NWOA, was won by Mary deCloet.

Mr. de Witt thanked attendees for their continued interest in the NWOA, sponsors of the meeting, presenters, booth holders and Dan Marina of Norfolk County for providing the technical support for the meeting. He informed association members that there were many gifts provided by sponsors, who were identified, which could be collected at the close of the meeting.

Dr John Morrissey motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9 pm.

NORFOLK WOODLOT OWNERS ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Monday March 29, 2021
Microsoft Team Virtual

NWOA President, Mr. John de Witt, opened the meeting at 7:00pm. The meeting was conducted virtually. Mr. de Witt acknowledged the work of Eric Ferguson and Tracey Boerkamp for their efforts in organizing the AGM as well as the other Directors for their contribution to the Association.

The current Directors are shown in the chart below:

John de Witt	President
Dr. Bob Dukelow	Vice President
Dr. John Morrissey	Secretary / Newsletter Editor
Eric Ferguson	Web committee/Acting Treasurer
Kristen Bernard	Director
Tracey Boerkamp	Director AGM convener
Mark Bacro	Director
Mike Penner	Director
Audrey Heagy	Director
Dolf Wynia	FSC Committee / Past President
Adam Biddle	Norfolk County Advisors
Dan Marina	
George Demaiter	Nomination Advisor

Mr. de Witt invited members to participate in sharing what is of interest to them on the website. He thanked Kristen Bernard and Dan Marina for their work in providing material that may be of interest to woodlots on the website.

2019 Minutes – It was reported that the Minutes of the 2019 AGM contained some typographical errors. The errors did not affect the motions that were conducted as part of the meeting. The amendments have been made and the revised Minutes will be provided to the membership in the next Newsletter.

2020 Minutes – A total of 107 proxy votes were received to accept the Minutes. This represents a majority of the membership.

2020 Financial Report - Eric Ferguson presented the Financial Report. The Opening Balance for 2020 was \$16,470.69 Membership dues from members for the year were \$3,732.49. Total Revenues were \$4,027.49. Expenses for the year were \$1,997.02, leaving a NWOA Operating Balance of \$18,501.16 as at December 31, 2020 and a NWOA Reserve Fund (used for program support such as the NEST Program) of \$15,428.68 and a total Balance of \$33,929.84 as at December 31, 2020. A total of 106 proxy votes were received to accept the Report. This represents a majority of the membership.

Election of Directors – No nominations to join the Board were submitted.

Early Bird Prizes - Tracey Boerkamp announced the winner of the Early Bird Door Prize – a Stihl chainsaw, donated by Premier Equipment and NWOA, was won by Mike Whitehead.

Additional door prizes were donated by:

Bert Cronkwright	Norfolk Tractor
Echo Canada	Premier Equipment - Simcoe
Halnor Farm Equipment	Riddock Lumber
Home Hardware – Delhi	Townsend Lumber
Norfolk Field Naturalists	Scotts Canada

Mr. de Witt thanked the Board members for their continued work. Dr John Morrissey motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm.

Long Point *Phragmites* Action Alliance

The Fight on *Phragmites* is Here!

Long Point, ON (April, 2021) – The Long Point *Phragmites* Action Alliance (LPPAA) is calling on landowners in Norfolk County for help with the Long Point region *Phragmites* control program. *Phragmites* is an aggressive invasive plant that spreads easily. It can impact farm crops and operations by clogging drains and blocking access to irrigation ponds and can harm local biodiversity by crowding out the unique plants and animals that call Norfolk County home.

Since 2015, the LPPAA has been implementing a well-planned management approach for controlling *Phragmites* in the Long Point region that is effective, efficient, and environmentally responsible.

In 2019, the voluntary program expanded into the Big Creek watershed to control scattered patches of *Phragmites* hiding on farms and private land. This year the program is expanding across Norfolk County to continue removing *Phragmites* from the landscape and prevent this plant from re-establishing in the areas we've controlled so far! This expansion of services allows private landowners to access professional contractor services, specialized equipment, and aquatic herbicides for landowners in the watershed. These services are provided free of charge!

If you have *Phragmites* on your property and you live in Norfolk County, please contact the LPPAA. This is your chance to receive free-of-charge control services including exterminator assistance to remove *Phragmites* from your property!

Interested landowners are asked to contact the Long Point *Phragmites* Action Alliance at 226-231-0331 or by email at bigcreekphrag@gmail.com. Landowners can also join by visiting our website at www.longpointphragmites.ca.

About - The Long Point *Phragmites* Action Alliance

(www.longpointphragmites.ca) is a collaborative of over 20 agencies and organizations working together to develop a united and well planned management approach for controlling invasive *Phragmites* in the Long Point region that is effective, efficient, and environmentally responsible.



Forestry Products contribute to Canada's trade surplus

March 9, 2021

Excerpted from The Working Forest - By: The Working Forest Staff

Canada posted a trade surplus of \$1.4 billion in January, the first since May 2019, owing to a sharp 8.1% increase in merchandise exports. It was also the largest surplus since July 2014. Imports rose 0.9% in January compared with the previous month.

Widespread export gains

Total exports rose 8.1% in January to \$51.2 billion, with increases in all product sections. This was the largest percentage increase since the rebound in the summer of 2020 that followed the easing of

restrictions following the first wave of the pandemic. Excluding the strong fluctuations in 2020, the January increase was the largest since August 1995. Approximately one-third of the increase in the value of exports was driven by price growth. In real (or volume) terms, exports were up 5.1%.

Exports of aircraft and other transportation equipment and parts rose 72.3% in January, mainly on atypical growth in aircraft exports, which more than doubled. A Canadian airline retired a large number of aircraft from its fleet in January, resulting in the export of these used airliners to the United States. Although concentrated exports such as these are unusual for used aircraft, similar shipments are possible over the short and medium-term.

Exports of consumer goods were up 11.6% in January, primarily on higher exports of miscellaneous goods and supplies. This category, which includes a wide range of goods, rose by \$437 million in January, the largest increase in five years, on higher exports of gold bars to the United States. This type of bar, sold at the retail level to individual investors, is classified within consumer goods, not metal and non-metallic mineral products, which normally includes gold exports to foreign financial institutions. The increase in exports of gold bars in January coincided with higher demand in the United States for this type of investment product.

Exports of energy products rose 5.9% in January, mainly on higher crude oil exports (+9.0%). Higher prices and volumes both contributed to the growth in crude oil exports in January. While volumes were above pre-pandemic levels, prices still lagged, despite the monthly increase.

Exports of forestry products and building and packaging materials (+10.7%) also contributed to widespread growth in January. The increase was largely attributable to lumber exports (+30.4%), which reached a record-high \$2.1 billion in January. Since April 2020, exports of lumber have risen every month except one, mainly on strong price growth. As explained in the most recent [Industrial product and raw materials price indexes](#) releases, demand for lumber has been rising consistently for several months. In January, although prices rose again, the increase was largely attributable to higher volumes. Year over year, the value of lumber exports has more than doubled.

Higher imports of refined petroleum products

Following two consecutive months of decline, total imports increased 0.9% in January to \$49.8 billion. Imports rose in 7 of the 11 product sections. In real (or volume) terms, imports were up 1.0%.

Imports of electronic and electrical equipment and parts (+2.9%) also contributed to the increase in January. Imports of electronic and electrical parts and of computers and computer peripherals posted the largest increases.

United States behind the gain in total exports

Exports to the United States rose 11.3% in January to \$37.2 billion, the highest value since September 2019. The spike in exports of aircraft, gold bars, crude oil and lumber was largely due to stronger trade with the United States. Following the steep declines in the spring of 2020, exports to the

United States had remained below pre-pandemic levels. For the first time in January, exports to the United States were higher than February 2020 levels.

Imports from the United States edged up 0.4% to \$31.0 billion. As a result, Canada's trade surplus with the United States over doubled from \$2.5 billion in December to \$6.2 billion in January. This was the largest surplus since September 2008.

When the average exchange rates of December and January are compared, the Canadian dollar gained 0.5 US cents relative to the American dollar. This was the fourth consecutive monthly increase for the Canadian dollar.

Exports to countries other than the United States, which reached a record high in December 2020, edged up 0.3% in January to \$14.0 billion. Higher exports to Saudi Arabia (other transportation equipment) were largely offset by lower exports to the United Kingdom (aircraft, oilseeds, and gold).

Imports from countries other than the United States rose 1.7% in January. Imports from Switzerland (gold) and Nigeria (crude oil) posted the largest increases.

As a result, Canada's trade deficit with countries other than the United States widened from \$4.5 billion in December to \$4.8 billion in January.

New Program Launches to Plant Two Billion Trees

Natural Resources Canada

Feb 19, 2021, 14:00 ET

OTTAWA, ON, Feb. 19, 2021 /CNW/ - Canada is home to healthy and resilient forests that support the well-being of Canadians and our economy by creating thousands of green jobs while absorbing and storing vast amounts of carbon. Canada's path to net-zero emissions includes protected areas and sustainable forests.

That's why today, Canada's Minister of Natural Resources, the Honourable Seamus O'Regan Jr., announced the next step in the Government of Canada's commitment to plant two billion trees: the [Growing Canada's Forests Program](#).

Despite challenges posed by COVID-19, officials have continued engaging with provincial and territorial governments, Indigenous peoples, industry, and non-government stakeholders on ways to realize this tree planting commitment.

To that end, the government is launching two initiatives to seek information on organizations with immediate access to land or trees and those who are interested in collaborating on tree planting initiatives to help Canada realize its 10-year target:

- The [Future Participants](#) Request for Information is an opportunity for organizations to share their vision and capacity to contribute to large-scale, single- or multi-year tree planting projects across

Canada. The information received will help facilitate collaboration with various partners on future tree-planting projects. Response forms will be accepted until **May 27, 2021**.

- The Early Start Projects Expression of Interest will help identify new, shovel-ready tree planting projects across Canada for the 2021 growing season. Eligible organizations will be required to demonstrate that they have access to trees and land as well as proven capacity and experience in delivering large, cost-shared tree planting projects that would result in at least 5,000 new, planted trees this year. This includes monitoring tree survival and reporting on project outcomes starting this spring. The health and safety of workers and communities involved in tree planting is an important consideration, and projects will be required to comply with COVID-19 health and safety protocols. Organizations have until **March 25, 2021**, to submit their Expression of Interest.

The 10 year commitment to plant two billion trees will help Canada combat climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and contribute to our goal of achieving net-zero by 2050. With the help of dedicated organizations across the country, we look forward to growing our healthy, vibrant and sustainably managed forests, leaving behind a legacy for future generations.

Quotes

"Planting two billion trees is more than a plan for climate action. It's a plan for thousands of jobs. We're getting trees in the ground this spring."

Seamus O'Regan, Jr.

Canada's Minister of Natural Resources

"Planting trees is an important part of our plan to build a cleaner, healthier future for our children and grandchildren. Today, the Government of Canada is taking the next step towards our commitment to plant two billion trees by collaborating with organizations across the country. Together, we can fight climate change, support our iconic Canadian biodiversity and create good jobs."

Jonathan Wilkinson

Minister of Environment and Climate Change

"Canada's hardworking farmers have a solid track record of adopting new strategies to fight climate change. Adding trees to agricultural lands will help sequester more carbon, and improve soil health and water quality, which will benefit farmers. Our government's Two Billion Trees initiative is another meaningful step to help farmers and Canada meet or exceed our GHG targets by 2030."

Members can renew their membership, online, using the NWOA website
www.norfolkwoodlots.com and pay online with PayPal.

Go to the website and then to **Members Area**, then to **Member Renewal**.
You may also print the membership application form and renew by mail.