



Ottawa Valley FARM SHOW

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OVSGA INVESTS \$100,000 IN DAIRY RESEARCH CENTRE

April 22, 2009

The Ottawa Valley Seed Growers Association has decided to spark the local fundraising campaign towards a \$750,000 robotic dairy research centre at Kemptville Campus of the University of Guelph with a \$100,000 gift.

The decision was taken April 20 during an association board of directors meeting held at Kemptville Campus. The money will be funneled into the project through the Kemptville College Foundation. Recalling past OVSGA support for foundation objectives and projects, KCF president Colin Carson said the \$100,000 pledge “brings us one step closer” to reaching the local fundraising goal of \$360,000.

Making the case for the hefty grant was Seed Growers director John Joynt who also sits on the foundation. Pointing out that the non-profit association was fortunate to have significant cash reserves, he said it’s appropriate to invest much of it back into the agricultural community.

In addition to the dairy centre, directors earmarked \$20,000 for four Kemptville crop research projects, and \$30,000 over two years towards purchase of a custom research combine harvester for the Campus, with a total estimated price \$370,000 in Canadian funds.

The case for a donation to the harvester purchase was championed by Seed Growers director Bruce Hudson who insisted it was just the kind of project the association should be investing in because it would improve crop research in the region and help fulfill the “paramount” role of getting valid data out to producers.

In other donations, the association confirmed \$6,000 for the Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario, \$1,500 for the regional 4-H show at the Metcalfe Fair, \$200 to 4-H in each of 11 eastern counties, \$250 each extra to counties with 4-H field crop clubs, \$200 to a regional 4-H diagnostic day, \$500 each to two regional Soil and Crop associations, and \$750 to the agricultural component of the 2009 Central Canada Exhibition. In all, about \$160,000 was donated in one day, with funds to be drawn from accumulated proceeds of the association’s annual Ottawa Valley Farm Show held in March.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Tom Van Dusen, OVFS, 613-445-3407.
www.OttawaFarmShow.com