



**Annual General Meeting**

**March 26, 2014**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Board of Directors .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1 Review of the Agenda.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2 This is the inaugural AGM.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3 Report from the Chair.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4 Treasurer’s Report .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>5 Elections to the Board.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>6 Report on OHA activities.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>7 New Business .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>8 Sponsors.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>March 25 First Annual Board meeting Ontario Hazelnut Association AGENDA .....</b>	<b>12</b>

## March 25, 2014 First Annual Board meeting Ontario Hazelnut Association

### Minutes

### Board of Directors

Martin Hodgson (Chair)       x                         Linda Grimo      x                        Francis Lo  
   x   

Robert Haynes                      (V. Chair)   x                        John Kelly      x                        Darby  
 McGrath   x  

Larry Handsaem                        o                        Shelley Imbeault (Finance)   o                        Peter  
 Scholtens   o  

"Noted experts :                      "Adam Dale      X                        Toktam Taghavi   X                        Elliot Currie  
  X  

*Call to order*

*Ask notes to be taken by Linda Grimo*

### 1    Review of the Agenda

By    Martin

Any Additions to the Agenda                      Martin Asks                      Yes    No

Additions

Add Dr.Elliott Currie to the New Business

Ask for a Motion to Accept the Agenda                      Martin Asks

Moved by    Scott Deslippe    Seconded by    Ernie Grimo

All in Favour   X   Against   O  

Carried                      Yes    No

## **2 This is the inaugural AGM**

of the OHA, since incorporation last May, so there are no previous minutes to review

## **3 Report from the Chair**

State of the business and Future direction

Summary of what happened in 2013 and issues facing OHA

Thank you all for coming to the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Hazelnut Symposium.

First off I want to thank all the sponsors that helped make this gathering possible and I want to thank the founding sponsors who have been with us from the start.

They are: Ferrero, Grimo Nursery, Mori Nursery, OMAF, OCE, Erie Innovation,

OFVA, U of G, Earthgen, Brant Co., Norfolk Co.

I am sure we will all come away from this gathering with a better understanding of how the Hazelnut Industry is developing in Ontario.

This process has been ongoing for a minimum of six years and is very close to the next major step which is the planting out of the first orchards.

This last year saw many major steps taken in this development of the Hazelnut Industry in Ontario. Most of these will be mentioned later in the Report on Activities

The OHA is now a registered corporation.

We have, as of last count, around 200 growers committed to starting commercial orchards. Rob Haynes will take the list of any new memberships and growers.

The initial selection of hazelnut varieties have been determined.

The University of Guelph has been successfully developing the tissue culture protocols for each of these varieties.

A technology transfer agreement has been reached with Harsters to produce micro-propagated trees.

Mori Nurseries will work with Harsters to grow and distribute these trees to other nurseries.

Last but definitely not the least, OHA has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Ferrero to work together to develop the hazelnut industry in Ontario.

Ferrero ultimately is expected to be the largest single customer of Ontario grown hazelnuts.

Everything is in place to start things rolling.

In order to do that the growers will need to take the final step and order the trees for their orchard.

The 200 growers we spoke of is just the first 10-15% of the number we anticipate we will need to reach the goal of 20,000 acres planted by 2030.

The OHA is calling out for more growers to commit to the planting of hazelnut orchards and for all those interested parties to become a member today.

We have proven that we can grow hazelnuts in Southern Ontario, EFB free, over the past 20 years.

Economic studies show that, once in production, hazelnuts are very profitable.

The demand for hazelnuts is increasing worldwide while the supply is not keeping up to this demand.

There is great potential here for the Ontario Hazelnuts

Going forward we need to get trees into the ground as soon as they are available. That will take a commitment from growers and nurseries.

Once the orchard planting starts on an annual basis we need to ensure that consolidators will be there at year 4-5 to handle the crop as it starts to come in.

There are a number of issues that will need to be addressed as this industry develops

Issues OHA will face:

See attached file

In conclusion Although we have a number of challenges before us, all the ground work is in place. Once this project takes off it could become one of the major non cash crops in the province

Ask for a Motion to Accept the Report From the Chair Martin Asks Yes

Moved by\_\_Scott Deslippe Seconded by\_\_Ernie Grimo\_\_

All in Favour   X   Against   O  

Carried Yes No

#### Discussions

Ernie Grimo mentioned of a good self propelled harvester system he saw in Michigan recently.

Lady from Strathroy or( Stratford?) would like to work with other nearby growers to share equipment.

Questions from the floor about Canopy Cover and Tree spacing Spacing.

Replied with full cover of ground at maturity with no grass and spacing of 18 x 18 ft with first period -8-10 years at double density.

Question about spraying of trees.

Replied that Todd Leuty was working on new sprays and would be discussed later in the symposium.

Questions on why Turkey's declining production.

Standard reply of poor harvesting practises, small rough/wild lots, declining interest to harvest crop.

Scott Deslippe in Essex would like to collaborate with local growers.

One attendee indicated that each community has a Community Futures organization that may help in the cost of these type collaborations.

## 4 Treasurer's Report

Shelley Imbeault (was absent)

Read by Martin in Summary

Report attached

Ask for a Motion to Accept the Treasure's Report

Martin Asks Yes

Moved by\_\_\_Adam Dale\_\_\_ Seconded by Karen Robinson

All in Favour\_\_\_X\_\_\_Against\_\_\_O\_\_\_

Carried Yes No

## 5 Elections to the Board

Conducted by Martin

Currently there are 9 Board Members of a potential 13 positions.

Half are rotated every 2 Yrs.

Notification of \_3 Resignations

With regrets Larry Hansaem, Shelley Imbeault, Peter Scholtens

Leaving 7 vacancies

Call for Nominations to the Board 3 times \_\_\_\_\_

Names Nominated to the board: Toktam Taghavi

Randy Wilson Scott Deslippe\_

Karen Robinson Igor Rasic

Each Nominee is asked if they will accept the nomination All accepted

If there are 7 or less new nominees all will be acclaimed All acclaimed

Note several other interested parties were either absent or requested time to think about it.

Motion to Accept the new Nominees to the Board by \_\_\_John Kelly

Seconded by \_Brent Foxcroft

All in Favour\_\_\_X\_\_\_Against\_\_\_O\_\_\_

Carried Yes No

## **6 Report on OHA activities**

**and Things Important to OHA in 2013**

**Meeting with Ferrero in April**

**OHA was incorporated at the end of May, 2013**

**Doc. Signed by Premier of Ont. Kathleen Wynne**

**Min. of Agriculture and Rural Affairs**

**Sent out a call for Growers in June and came back with about 200 names of interested growers**

**Large meeting in June @ Ferrero following which the Memorandum of Understanding was drafted between**

**Ferrero and OHA.**

**Early summer tours of hazelnut plantings in Essex, Simcoe and Niagara. Representatives from Ferrero were present.**

**In Sept. OHA held three training sessions in Essex, Guelph and Simcoe with a total of about 120 attendees.**

**In early Oct. the MoU was signed at the Italian Embassy in Ottawa. John Kelly provide further details later in this meeting.**

**Meetings have been held with funding groups**

**Ag Canada, OMAF and Agri-Credit –**



## **Planning for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium**

Through the Rapid Response Fund we were able to send two board members to Chile to observe the state of the hazelnut industry there to see what we can learn from their experiences. Linda and Rob will talk about this later.

University of Guelph have continued along in the development of protocols for each variety of hazelnut of interest.

### **Distribution of the micro propagated trees**

Harsters have entered into an agreement where they will provide cloned selections to Mori Greenhouses who will act as the central distributor for the trees to other nurseries and to the public.

There is a \$4.8 M AIP application currently under review under the Agri- Innovation and Federal Going Forward 2 programs. This is a key part in the development of the hazelnut industry in Ont. No news yet.

Dr. Elliot Currie has volunteered to act as the Executive Director for OHA for a year starting April.1, 2014

Efforts will be directed:           to raising the profile of OHA

working with the MoU with Ferrero to develop a working plan

finalizing the Cost Analysis

Spreadsheet

*Dr. Currie expanded on this topic:*

*He will be on sabattical for a year. He will work with three Ph.D. students to further OHA promotion.*

*Looks at this as an opportunity to build OHA through the year.*

*Other activities worth noting?*

## **7 New Business**

*Topics to discuss*

*Future Programs and Activities By John Kelly*

*Expect more training sessions, development of an Ag. Insurance for hazelnuts, further research on varieties, help from the Ont. Gov't to help establish hazel nut orchards.*

*Funding Potential*

*Commencement of Plantings*

*Others*

*Martin asked for a motion to adjourn the AGM*

*Moved by Scot Deslitte*

*Seconded by Adam Dale*

*Carried*

*Adjourned*

## **8 Sponsors**

### **Founding Sponsors**

**Ferrero**

**Mori Nurseries**

**Grimo Nut Nurseries**

**OMAF & MRA**

**OCE**

**Erie Innovation**

**Ont. Fruit and Vegetable Association**

**University of Guelph**

**VIRC**

**Ont. Agriculture and Food Technology**

**Earth Gen**

**Brant County**

**File**    LaCie -Hazelnut -OHA stuff – 2014 – AMG2014

## **March 25 First Annual Board meeting Ontario Hazelnut Association AGENDA**

### **AGENDA**

#### **Board of directors**

Martin Hodgson (Chair)_____	Linda Grimo _____	Francis Lo _____
Robert Haynes (V. Chair)_____	John Kelly _____	Darby McGrath_____
Larry Handsaem _____	Shelley Imbeault (Finance) _____	Peter Scholtens_____
"Noted experts : " Adam Dale _____ Toktam Taghavi _____ Elliot Currie _____		

#### ***Call to order***

***Ask notes to be taken by\_\_\_\_\_***

#### ***1 Review of the Agenda***

**Martin**

#### **Additions to the Agenda**

**2 Since this is the inaugural AGM of the OHA, no previous minutes are available**

**3 Report From the Chair**

**4 Treasure's Report**

**5 Elections to the Board**

**6 Report on OHA Activities 2013**

**7 New Business**