



January 31, 2023

## ODC Welcomes Newest Member



ODC is pleased to welcome it's newest Member - **St. Brigid's Creamery** Located in Brussels, Ontario, St. Brigid's Creamery makes Organic Grass-Fed A2 Jersey Butter.

## ODC Scholarship Presentation - February 2, 2023

On February 2, 2023, ODC's *Yves Leroux Advancing Excellence in Cheesemaking Scholarship* will be presented for the second time at Conestoga College!

Ontario Dairy Council worked closely with two colleges in Ontario to develop a Professional Cheese Maker Training Program. The first full time program began in September 2021 at Conestoga College. The *Yves Leroux Advancing Excellence in Cheesemaking Award* is presented to a full-time student in this program. The presentation to this year's recipient will take place virtually on February 2 at 1:00 pm. and Yves Leroux will present the Award.

Also in attendance will be officials from Conestoga College, ODC staff, Board members and guests.

Members interested in joining the presentation can RVSP to [Mary Beth Holmes](#).

## Member Fees

The ODC Board has approved a fee increase for the 2023-2024 fiscal period. The methodology for the increase is based on the 12-month rolling average of CPI as at December 31, 2022 (which is 6.3%, however, the Board capped the fee increase at 3.4%. , The Board also agreed to increase the Non-Bovine flat fee from \$750 toe \$900. ODC will email renewal notices to all Members and Associates in the last week of March. Please contact [Christina Lewis](#) with any questions.

## Queens Park Day - March 8, 2023

The ODC Board of Directors will hold its second Queens Park Day on March 8. They will be meet with key Ministers, MPPs and Queens Park staff. The day

will include a variety of meetings throughout the day, and a hosted luncheon where the Board and staff will share information about ODC and the key issues and opportunities facing Ontario processors. A recap of the day will be shared with Members later in March.

## ODC Convention - Sponsorship Opportunities Now Available

The ODC Convention 2023 will be held at the Marriott Fallsview Hotel in Niagara Falls June 7-9. This event attracts Ontario's senior dairy leaders, farm representatives, government, industry suppliers and a variety of other partners. The program features a top-notch business program and many opportunities to network. It can also be an opportunity to promote your business and products and show support for the dairy processing industry and ODC. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Please contact [Mary Beth Holmes](#) for more information.

## Last Chance to Renew Expiring PMG Certificates

Plant Milk Graders with certificates expiring on March 31, 2023 have a few last opportunities to renew. Refresher sessions are scheduled on the following dates:

- February 7, 2023 – afternoon
- February 9, 2023 – afternoon
- March 21, 2023 – morning or afternoon
- March 22, 2023 – morning or afternoon
- March 23, 2023 – morning or afternoon

Those holding a PMG certificate that expires on March 31, 2023 who do not renew their certificate may have to complete the full PMG program again if they still want to be certified. Contact [Mary Beth Holmes](#)

## Non-Shopkeeper-Distributors (NSD) Must Be Licensed to Receive Milk

*The Milk Act* requires a Non-Shopkeeper-Distributor (NSD) to be licensed in order to receive fluid milk. It is the responsibility of the fluid milk supplier to ensure that the NSD receiving the milk holds a valid license as outlined in section 123 of [Regulation 761 – Milk and Milk Products](#). The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, (OMAFRA) has indicated that not all NSDs are completing the renewal process. To help processors to comply with the regulation, OMAFRA maintains a list of on their website at [Provincially licensed non-shopkeeper-distributors of fluid milk products | ontario.ca](#)

OMAFRA is in the process of communicating with plants that process fluid milk to provide more information. Questions regarding this regulatory requirement can be emailed to the Inspection Programs Unit at [dairyfoodsafety@ontario.ca](mailto:dairyfoodsafety@ontario.ca) or you can call the Agricultural Information Contact Centre at 1-877-424-1300.

# Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada in Consultation on New Funding Program

On January 25, 2023, ODC President participated in a meeting with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) to consult on the development of the new funding program that will offer \$300 million to support innovation and investment into large-scale projects that add value to solids-not-fat. Staff have encouraged AAFC to implement the program as soon as possible.

## ODC Office is moving

The building where ODC's office space currently exists is under new management and is scheduled for demolition. Effective March 1, 2023, ODC will have a temporary new home while Staff continue to pursue a permanent new location. The new office is located at 7111 Syntex Drive, Suite 300, Mississauga, ON L5N 8C3. ODC staff can continue to be contacted by phone at 905.542.3620 or email at [info@ontariodairies.ca](mailto:info@ontariodairies.ca).

## Upcoming Events

[The Future of Food Conference](#) – February 15, 2023

[DFC Policy Conference](#) – March 20 and 21, 2023

[RC Show](#) – April 10-12, 2023

## Contact Us

[Mary Beth Holmes](#), Manager, Member Services and Communications  
[Christina Lewis](#), President

Ontario Dairy Council | 6537 Mississauga Road, Unit B, Mississauga, L5N 1A6 Canada

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