

In the *vineyard*



Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Wed. Apr. 3, 2024

Important: Information regarding voting changes due to district realignment

Industry Updates

Classified Ads



March 2024



Annual General Meeting

Members of the Grape Growers of Ontario are invited to attend the 76th Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, April 3, 2024 at 7:00 pm. (Registration opens at 6:00 pm) at Club Roma, 125 Vansickle Drive, St. Catharines.

Guest Speakers:

- **Update on Alcohol Modernization, Rick Byers**, MPP Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound and Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Finance
- **Wine/Alcohol Trends and Food Inflation -Dr. Sylvain Charlebois**, Professor, Director, Agri-Food Analytics Lab, Dalhousie University -Dr. Charlebois conducts research in the broad area of food distribution, security, and safety.

Registration is required. To be eligible to vote, you must have a grower number and have sold grapes in 2022 and/or 2023.

- Attending in-person? Registration opens at 6:00 pm at Club Roma. Photo identification is required.
- Attending virtually? Registration is required by April 2nd at 4:30 pm by visiting the link provided by eblast and on grapegrowersofontario.com. After registering for online participation, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

IMPORTANT:

Proxy Voting: Proxy voting by mail is not accepted as part of the voting process. However, if a grower is unable to vote, they may send someone to vote in their place to vote on their behalf. A formal letter must be sent to the GGO office stating who will be assigned to vote on their behalf prior to **3:00 pm on the day of the Annual General Meeting (AGM)**; however, they will be accommodated with written direction at the AGM registration if they are unable to do so prior to the meeting.

New in 2024, Ontario Regulation 415 (Grapes for Processing – Plan) made under the Farm Products Marketing Act was amended on June 9, 2023, to update the governance structure of the Grape Growers of Ontario as follows:

Realigned District Boundaries

Geographical district boundary changes are a result of the increasing number of growers becoming established in locations outside of the traditional growing areas. The new GGO Districts established for purposes of elections to the Growers' Committee and Board of Directors are:

District 1, composed of the geographic area of the lower-tier municipalities of Niagara-on-the-Lake and Niagara Falls in the geographic area of Niagara.

District 2, composed of the geographic areas of Dufferin, Halton, Hamilton, Peel and Wellington, and the geographic area of the lower-tier municipalities of St. Catharines, Fort Erie, Grimsby, Lincoln, Pelham, Port Colborne, Thorold, Wainfleet, Welland and West Lincoln in the geographic area of Niagara.

District 3, composed of the geographic areas of Brant, Bruce, Chatham-Kent, Essex, Elgin, Grey, Haldimand, Huron, Lambton, Middlesex, Norfolk, Oxford, Perth and Waterloo.

District 4, composed of the geographic area of Prince Edward and all other geographic areas not included in Districts 1 to 3.

2024 District and Annual General Meeting Elections

Growers' Committee

Beginning in 2024, the Growers' Committee will be increased from 21 to 23 members and the full slate of Growers' Committee members (23 members) will be elected at the 2024 Annual General Meeting as a result of the changes to O. Reg. 415..

The Grape Growers' Committee shall be composed of 23 delegates from the four districts as follows:

1. Eleven (11) producers from District 1.
2. Eight (8) producers from District 2.
3. Two (2) producers from District 3.
4. Two (2) producers from District 4.

Board of Directors

The 10-member Board of Directors will be elected by the Growers' Committee at the first meeting following the Annual General Meeting and before April 30th as follows:

1. Four (4) Directors from District 1.
2. Three (3) Directors from District 2.
3. One (1) Director from District 3.
4. One (1) Director from District 4.
5. One (1) Director from either District 1, 2, 3 or 4. (Director at Large)

Board members shall hold office for a three-year term with the "staggered terms" being established in 2024.

District 1 and 2 will vote for their Growers' Committee representatives April 3rd, 2024, at the GGO Annual General Meeting at Club Roma in St. Catharines.

- o Attending in-person? Registration opens at 6:00 pm at Club Roma.
- o Attending virtually? Virtual registration is required by April 2nd at 4:30 pm. Please get in touch with the GGO for assistance if you did not receive the electronic communication with the registration links on March 8th, 2024.

District 3 will vote for their Growers' Committee representatives March 26th, 2024 at the GGO District 3 meeting.

- o This is a virtual meeting and registration is required by March 25th at 4:30 pm. Please get in touch with the GGO for assistance if you did not receive the electronic communication with the registration links on March 8th, 2024.

District 4 will vote for their Growers' Committee representatives March 27th, 2024 at the GGO District 4 meeting.

- o This is a virtual meeting and registration is required by March 26th at 4:30 pm. Please get in touch with the GGO for assistance if you did not receive the electronic communication with the registration links on March 8th, 2024.

It is important you review the attached district outline on page 4 to ensure you attend the correct district meeting to be able to vote. Appendix A provides a list of counties, regions, districts, and single-tier municipalities for each of the districts to assist you with determining your voting area, meeting location and time. GGO staff will be reaching out to those growers affected by the district boundary changes.

2024 District and Annual General Meeting Elections Continued

As a result of the changes to O. Reg. 415, all positions are open for election this year.

Current Growers' Committee Members:

District 1— Matthias Oppenlaender, Kevin Watson, Erwin Wiens, Steve Pohorly, Pia Seeger, Dan Lambert, John Fedorkow, Jeff Duc, Chris Van de Laar, Ben Froese

District 2— Joe Schenck, Benjamin Whitty

District 3— Doug Funk, Jim Morrison, Chris Wismer, Craig Schmidt, Chris Mullet-Koop, Will George

District 4— Brock Puddicombe

District 5— Murray Wilson

District 6— Robert Peck

2024-25 Board and Committee Positions

Upon successful election to the Growers' Committee, members will be given a biographical template which must be completed and submitted prior to running for a Board position. The forms must be submitted to the Board Office by Monday, April 8, 2024 at 4:00 pm. This information will be sent to Grower Committee members for consideration as part of the selection for the Board Directors.

In order to be a member of the Growers' Committee, all members are required to sign Code of Conduct, Confidentiality, and Conflict of Interest documents.

The first meeting of the 2024/25 Growers' Committee will be held at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at the GGO Board Office.



Appendix A

Area	District	Voting Day and Time
Algoma	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Brant	3	GGO District 3 Meeting - March 26, 7:00pm
Bruce	3	GGO District 3 Meeting - March 26, 7:00pm
Chatham-Kent	3	GGO District 3 Meeting - March 26, 7:00pm
Cochrane	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Dufferin	2	GGO Annual General Meeting - April 3, 7:00pm
Durham	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Elgin	3	GGO District 3 Meeting - March 26, 7:00pm
Essex	3	GGO District 3 Meeting - March 26, 7:00pm
Frontenac	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Greater Sudbury	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Grey	3	GGO District 3 Meeting - March 26, 7:00pm
Haldimand	3	GGO District 3 Meeting - March 26, 7:00pm
Haliburton	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Halton	2	GGO Annual General Meeting - April 3, 7:00pm
Hamilton	2	GGO Annual General Meeting - April 3, 7:00pm
Hastings	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Huron	3	GGO District 3 Meeting - March 26, 7:00pm
Kawartha Lakes	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Kenora	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Lambton	3	GGO District 3 Meeting - March 26, 7:00pm
Lanark	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Leeds & Grenville	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Lennox and Addington	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Manitoulin	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Middlesex	3	GGO District 3 Meeting - March 26, 7:00pm
Muskoka	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Niagara - Fort Erie	2	GGO Annual General Meeting - April 3, 7:00pm
Niagara - Grimsby	2	GGO Annual General Meeting - April 3, 7:00pm
Niagara - Lincoln	2	GGO Annual General Meeting - April 3, 7:00pm
Niagara - Niagara Falls	1	GGO Annual General Meeting - April 3, 7:00pm
Niagara - Niagara on the Lake	1	GGO Annual General Meeting - April 3, 7:00pm
Niagara - Pelham	2	GGO Annual General Meeting - April 3, 7:00pm
Niagara - Port Colborne	2	GGO Annual General Meeting - April 3, 7:00pm
Niagara - St. Catharines	2	GGO Annual General Meeting - April 3, 7:00pm
Niagara - Thorold	2	GGO Annual General Meeting - April 3, 7:00pm
Niagara - Wainfleet	2	GGO Annual General Meeting - April 3, 7:00pm
Niagara - Welland	2	GGO Annual General Meeting - April 3, 7:00pm
Niagara - West Lincoln	2	GGO Annual General Meeting - April 3, 7:00pm
Nipissing	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Norfolk	3	GGO District 3 Meeting - March 26, 7:00pm
Northumberland	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Ottawa	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Oxford	3	GGO District 3 Meeting - March 26, 7:00pm
Parry Sound	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Peel	2	GGO Annual General Meeting - April 3, 7:00pm
Perth	3	GGO District 3 Meeting - March 26, 7:00pm
Peterborough	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Prescott and Russell, United Counties	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Prince Edward	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Rainy River	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Renfrew	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Simcoe	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Sudbury	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Thunder Bay	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Timiskaming	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Toronto	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm
Waterloo	3	GGO District 3 Meeting - March 26, 7:00pm
Wellington	2	GGO Annual General Meeting - April 3, 7:00pm
York	4	GGO District 4 Meeting - March 27, 7:00pm

Industry Updates and Events



2024 Sustainability Certification

Growers and wineries who wish to take part in sustainability certification this year can apply through the eGrape portal via www.egrape.ca. The intake will remain open until March 31, 2024, and participants will have until July 31, 2024 to complete their audits.

Dave Lambert Agricultural Scholarship

The Niagara Peninsula Fruit & Vegetable Growers' Association (NPF&VGA) is offering a \$1,500 scholarship to any student accepted to or enrolled in post-secondary agricultural studies (returning to school for the fall term), who is from the Niagara Region and who demonstrates a passion and commitment to the industry.

The intake period is open from March 1st - May 31st. Applicants are encouraged to visit the website www.npfvga.org/scholarship to access the application outline and read the criteria for eligibility.

CCOVI Lecture Series

The Cool Climate Oenology and Viticulture Institute (CCOVI) Lecture Series has returned at Brock University campus for the 2024 edition. The free lectures, which are open to the public, take place weekly on Wednesdays at 2 p.m. in room H313 of the Mackenzie Chown Complex at Brock University. The lectures can also be viewed live online. This year marks the 17th anniversary of the series, with twelve speakers from across CCOVI's network of researchers, scientists, fellows and professional affiliates participating. For full details, visit brocku.ca.

Agricultural Adaptation Council (AAC) Agri-tech Innovation Initiative

The Agricultural Adaptation Council (AAC) is pleased to be delivering the Agri-tech Innovation Initiative on behalf of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs. The purpose of the initiative is to support growth and productivity through innovation, advanced manufacturing, improved food safety and enhanced cyber security, and energy efficiency within the agri-food sector.

Funding for the Initiative comes from the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (Sustainable CAP). Up to twenty five million dollars (\$25,000,000) has been allocated for the Initiative. Sustainable CAP is a five-year (2023-2028), \$3.5-billion investment by federal-provincial and territorial governments to strengthen competitiveness, innovation, and resiliency of the agriculture, agri-food and agri-based products sector.

The intake will close at 11:00 a.m. EST on Thursday, March 28, 2024.

For more information visit www.adaptcouncil.org/atii

VQA Membership Renewal Reminder

This is a friendly reminder to please login to VQA Services and renew your winery membership for the 2024-25 year. Please renew and send your valid Manufacturer's License to info@vqaontario.ca before April 1, 2024 to avoid membership expiry. Once the renewal is completed, the invoice can be found on your VQA Services Invoices page. A payment deferral is available to June 30 if needed, please contact us if you would like to access this.

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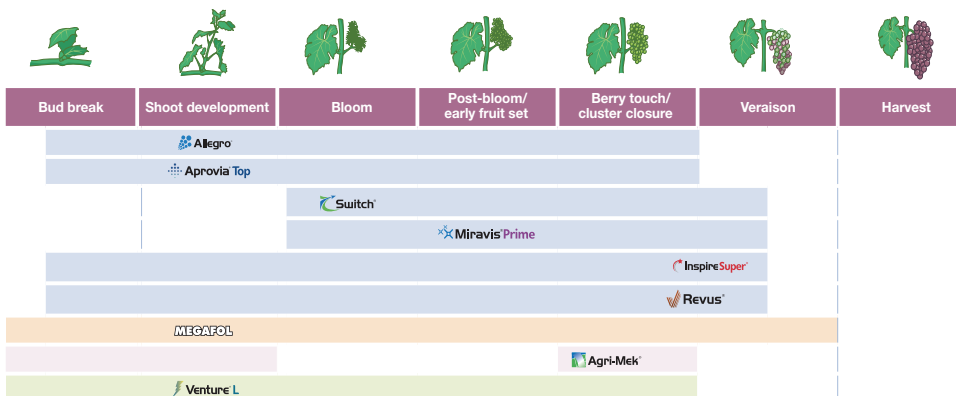
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Cuvée

Grand Tasting

March 30, 2024

WHY it matters?

Proceeds support the Cuvée Legacy Fund providing student scholarships and helps fund research priorities identified by the grape and wine industry.

FOR TICKETS GO TO: [CUVEE.CA](https://cuvée.ca)

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CGCN-RCCV Funding Announced for Cluster Research and Clean Plant Network Development



CGCN-RCCV Treasurer Matthias Oppenlaender (left) Chris Bittle, MP, Lawrence McAulay Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, Executive Director Darien Tempile and Vance Badawey, MP at the joint funding announcement for the Wine Sector Support Program and CGCN-RCCV's Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership funding on Friday, March 1st.

During an event at Trius Winery in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario on Friday, March 1st, the Honourable Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, officially announced funding granted to CGCN-RCCV to administer two different programs under the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership (SCAP) until March 2028. The Minister announced an investment of \$5.9M, matched by industry contributions, to the Agri-Science Program - Clusters Component for the national Grape & Wine research cluster, and up to \$836,220, also matched by industry contributions, to the AgriAssurance Program! Cluster funding will be used towards 14 research and development activities to help the sector adapt to the increasingly frequent extreme weather events exacerbated by climate change, as well as new pest and disease problems. Funding under the AgriAssurance Program will support continued work to provide Canadian grape growers and wineries with the clean materials needed to plant certified virus-free grapevines in their vineyards. Nurseries that are members of the CGCN-RCCV Verification or Certification Programs may access 50% subsidized virus testing services, which will ensure the long-term success of the sector.



Read the full press release: <https://www.canada.ca/en/agriculture-agri-food/news/2024/03/minister-macaulay-announces-177-million-extension-to-wine-sector-support-program.html>.

Other Updates

- CGCN-RCCV is has been working with our Certification Committee since September 2023 to make various amendments to our Verification and Certification Program protocols. Final versions of the amended protocols are expected to be enacted in Spring 2024.
- CGCN-RCCV's fiscal year-end is March 31st, and our Annual General Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday April 30th. Formal invitations to the AGM will be issued to GGO representatives in advance of the meeting.



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AXISS 8521 Staddle Tractor- Kubota- 4 cyl. throttled to (62)/85 turbo (kW)/hp, water cooling, 4-wheel drive, hydrostatic, two stages of 0-10 and 0-25 km/h (road trip). Anticipate repairs. Started recently. Buyer responsible for shipping. andrew@pearlmorisette.com

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6' disk set - vineyard disk Offset unit with roller harrow and jumper disks. \$9600 quinton13qj@gmail.com

France Fil Bottle Cages - 143 cages of Bourgogne Tradition 28 cages of Bordeaux Tradition \$225 each or better for bulk sale. edward@pearlmorisette.com

Vineyard Equipment - Horr HD - 3 Tine Sub-Soiler /Ripper HD 3 point hitch with 3 removable/adjustable width sub soil tines, and 2 additional ripper teeth. Overall frame width is 73 ½". Asking \$ 1100. 4 – Wheels, with tires. HD 11L- 15 with 6" X 6 bolt pattern. Typically found on heavier wagons, trailers, Manure spreaders, or sprayers. Asking \$200 Call Larry at (905) 945-3515

GW Kent 6-head gravity bottle fillers - 6 available, great condition. These are GW Kent 6-head gravity bottle fillers. \$1,600 each. Made in Italy by MORI-TEM. Heather@bootlegbucha.com

Bulk Bottle sale - We have some bulk glass we are looking to get rid of and were selling it for a great price. Connect with Lydia to discuss prices -were making warehouse space and so prices will be fair. lydia@ravinevineyard.com

Kiote Front Loader - Kiote front loader for sale. Price to be negotiated. Please reach contact at 905 359 8395 or by email at bruzer81@gmail.com

Semi-automatic Pressure Sensitive Labeling Machine - MEB Labeler Model ADS/1 can apply either a single body label or a front and back from the same roll. Production rate of up to 700 bottles per hour. Contact Brian Moreau at 289-383-5601 or brian.moreau@bell.net for more info.

Wanted

Wanted SS Storage tank 10'-13' in diameter - In search for a stainless storage tank 10-13' in diameter. Does not need to be in working condition. must have a conical top. Will be cutting the bottom off only require the barrel and lid to be in decent condition. Barrel wall height needs to be in minimum of 8'.
garren@shaleridgeestatewinery.com

WANTED WINE barrel Racks - looking for 8 wine barrel racks used in good condition. 44.5" L X 14" H and 03.5" wide. Contact Peter 905-651-1451.

Jobs

Vine Pulling service available - Vine pulling service available for 2024 season. If interested please email Evan at smithvineyards@gmail.com

Full-Time Machine Operator - Tzafona Cellars located in Niagara on the Lake is seeking an equipment operator to work on our 65 acres of vineyard located over two farms in the region. Please email resumes or emails of interest to Jesse Cooper, vineyard manager: Jesse.c@tzafona.com

To place classified ads in the newsletter and online, visit grapegrowersofontario.com, or contact the Board Office at info@grapegrowersofontario.com or 905-688-0990 ext 224



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