

New directors join CAPI board

OTTAWA, July 24, 2014 —The Canadian Agri-Food Policy Institute (CAPI) is pleased to announce the appointment of four new Directors to the Institute's Board of Directors. Their appointments were confirmed at CAPI's Annual General Meeting held in Calgary on June 25. The four Directors and their province of residence are: Richard Gray (Saskatchewan), Claude Lafleur (Quebec), David Rourke (Manitoba) and John F.T. Scott (Ontario). This brings the total number of Directors to 11.

CAPI and the Board of Directors wish to thank three Directors who have stepped down from the Board: Paul Paquin (Quebec), Owen McAuley (Manitoba) and Margaret Rempel (Manitoba). CAPI also announces that Owen McAuley was appointed an Honorary Member of CAPI.

New Board of Directors' biographies

Richard Gray

Richard Gray is a Professor in the Department of Bioresource Policy, Business and Economics at University of Saskatchewan. Richard's family experience in Saskatchewan agriculture spans several generations. After completing his Master's Degree, Richard worked for five years as a grain market analyst for Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food. After then completing his Ph.D. at UC Berkeley, Richard was hired as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics at the University of Saskatchewan in 1990. He has published in the areas of agricultural trade, agricultural marketing, and environmental economics. Over time, his research and his graduate students' research have increasingly focused on various aspects of agricultural research and innovation systems. From 2003 until 2013, Richard led the Canadian Agricultural Innovation Research Network and regularly provides advice to farm organizations and government regarding innovation policy and research funding models. In his spare time Richard helps his son Eric operate the family grain farm at Indian Head, Sask. In 2010 he was recognized as Fellow of the Canadian Agricultural Economics Society.

Claude Lafleur

Claude is an agro-economist and MBA graduate, who, over the past eight years has served in the capacity of Chief Executive Officer with La Coop fédérée, the largest agri-food organization in Québec. Under his leadership, the aggregate business volume of the organization, which today employs close to 10,000 individuals, grew from \$3.2 billion to \$5.2 billion. Claude is currently a member of the board and Director General of IFFCO Canada. From 1991 to 1998, Claude served in the capacity of Director General of l'Union des producteurs agricoles du Québec (UPA).

David Rourke

David started Ag-Quest Inc. in 1983, after graduating from the University of Manitoba with a Masters in Plant Science in 1981. He established Ag-Quest Inc. on the basis of doing quality work and has instilled that value in all members of the research team. David served as Project Coordinator for the Canada Grains Council from 1985 to 1993, Director of the Conservation

Tillage Productivity Center from 1991 to 1995, reviewer for the Expert Committee on Weeds and is currently Chair of the Western Feed Grain Development Co-op Ltd. David continues to give direction and vision to the entire team at Ag-Quest and also maintains an active role on his 5,000 acre grain farm and goat dairy at Minto, Manitoba.

John F.T. Scott

John F.T. Scott is an economist, consultant and speaker specializing in Canada's food distribution and retail sector. John analyzes strategies and frequently speaks on Canada's retail industry to public and private companies, government, trade associations, universities and processing groups. In mid-2013 he stepped down as CEO of Canada's largest retail grocery association (The Canadian Federation of Independent Grocers), a position he held for 22 years. He is currently Chair of the acclaimed Vineland Research and Innovation Centre. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Alberta Livestock and Meat Agency (ALMA), the North American Advisory Board of Monaghan Mushrooms, Niagara College and is a Past Chair of Markham Stouffville Hospital. John is one of only three individuals who have received both of the highest recognitions in Canada's retail food industry – the Golden Pencil and the Spirit of the Independent Award.

About CAPI

The Canadian Agri-Food Policy Institute (CAPI) is an independent, unbiased policy forum that is dedicated to the success of Canada's agriculture and agri-food sector. CAPI is a catalyst. It identifies emerging issues, promotes dialogue and advances alternative solutions to issues with stakeholders across diverse agri-food supply chains and among other food stakeholders. Based in Ottawa, CAPI was established as a not-for-profit corporation in 2004 by the federal government and is guided by a diverse Board of Directors and an Advisory Committee.

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