**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**October 2, 2017**

**Celebrating Canadian Excellence in Agricultural Journalism**

*(Quebec City, Quebec – September 30, 2017)* The best and brightest agricultural journalists, broadcasters, communicators and photographers were honoured at the 2017 Canadian Farm Writers’ Federation (CFWF) Awards Banquet, held on September 30, 2017, in conjunction with CFWF’s annual conference.

Gold, silver and bronze awards were presented in 14 categories at the banquet held at the Concorde Hotel in Quebec City. The banquet concluded the three-day conference, which included various agri-food tours and professional development sessions and a long awaited conference partnership with ACRA (Association des Communicateurs et Rédacteurs de L’Agroalimentaire). A total of 42 awards were presented with winners taking home cheques of $300, $200 and $100 for gold, silver and bronze respectively.

Winners were chosen by 25 judges from across Canada, the United States, the U.K. and Australia. These judges included journalists, photographers, professors, farmers and communicators from different media and publications, and a mix of agricultural and non-agricultural backgrounds.

CFWF (www.cfwf.ca) represents almost 350 English-speaking agricultural journalists, broadcasters and

communicators from across Canada through six regional associations in Atlantic Canada, Eastern Canada, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia.

The awards categories, winners, and sponsors for 2017 are listed on the attached pages.

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For more information, contact:

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2017 CFWF Awards Administrator

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**CFWF 2017 Awards Program – Categories & Winners**

**Electronic Media – Visual** The Jack McPherson Award

Sponsor: Dairy Farmers of Canada

**Gold: Tracey Feist,** UFA Co-operative Ltd., [*On the Road to Better*](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZB0Qx2_gOT4)

**Silver: Bernard Tobin & Jason Stroeve,** Real Agriculture**,** [*Real Agriculture Spray Myths*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/k30k2i39bpj4jis/007_170327_ELECTRONIC%20MEDIA%20VIDEO_Spray%20Myths.mp4?dl=0)

**Bronze: Ingrid Clark,** [*The North-Opportunity*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/2xk5aleibw98ffi/011_170508_Electronic%20Media%20Video_The%20North%20-%20Opportunity%20%281%29.mp4?dl=0)

**Electronic Media – Audio** The Tom Leach Award

**Gold:****Kelvin Heppner,** Real Agriculture, [*Somali Refugees Walking Across Manitoba*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/896g5yrh5byw9cj/002_160624_ELECTRONIC%20MEDIA%20AUDIO_SOMALI%20REFUGEES%20WALKING%20ACROSS%20MANITOBA%20FARM%20FIELDS.mp3?dl=0)

**Silver: Bernard Tobin,** Real Agriculture, [*Real Ag Book Club*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/hk5hklieoon577h/005_160827_Electronic%20Media%20Audio_RealAg%20BookClub.mp4?dl=0)

**Bronze: Shannon VanRaes,** Manitoba Co-operator, [*The Trouble with Singing Chickens*](https://www.agcanada.com/podcasts/between-the-rows/the-trouble-with-singing-chickens-beef-irradiation-and-a-prairie-blizzard)

**News Release** The Alice Switzer Award

Sponsor: UFA Co-operative Ltd.

**Gold:****Karli Reimer,** Ducks Unlimited Canada, [*Hey Canada: It’s Time to Soil Your Undies in the Name of Conservation*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/4b377s9by91u5dh/004_170410_news_release_hey_canadaits_time_to_soil_your_undies_in_the_name_of_soil_conservation.pdf?dl=0)

**Silver: Lisa McLean,** AgInnovation Ontario, [*FarmLead is Changing the way Farmers and Buyers Make a Match*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/1uyynmlo9tapj3g/009_170228_NEWSRELEASE_FarmLead%20is%20changing%20the%20way%20farmers%20and%20buyers%20make%20a%20match.pdf?dl=0)

**Bronze: Heather Johnson,** Canadian International Grains Institute,[*Warburtons Launches Major Pulse Research Initiative with Cigi to Produce Healthier Baked Products*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/yf2tcs6w9f649k7/007_160810_news_releasealice_switzer_award_warburtons_launches_major_pulse_research_initiative_with_cigi.pdf?dl=0)

**General Periodical** The Felix Schmaltz Award

Sponsor: AdFarm

**Gold:****Owen Roberts,** Research Magazine-2017 Yearbook Edition, [*Making an Impact*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/p13ml6exjk8o4dt/001_201701_generalperiodical_making-an-impact.pdf?dl=0)

**Silver: Jay Whetter,** Canola Digest, [*Canola Digest*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/qb6pwfgu7w2u5so/010_161100_4Generalperiodical_CanolaDigestScienceEdtition2016.pdf?dl=0)

**Bronze: Michel Proulx,** Greenhouse, [*The Truth about GMO’s*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/6fa9zv68jwrscct/005_170301_general_periodical_The%20truth%20about%20GMOs.pdf?dl=0)

**Technical Feature**The Peter Lewington Award

Sponsor: Chicken Farmers of Canada

**Gold:****David Schmidt,** The Western Dairy Farmer, [*Small is Better than it was*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/kr6i26wjp3xrfcs/021_170301_technical_feature_small_is_better_than_it_was.pdf?dl=0)

**Silver:****Jennifer Nevans,** Milk Producer, [*Succession Planning Dos and Don’ts*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/66l4wsztpd96twt/018_160701_TECHNICAL%20FEATURE_SUCCESSION%20PLANNING.pdf?dl=0)

**Bronze: Sarah Lisa Guenther,** Grainews, [*Feeding the Harvest Crew*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/2so2vtfrg7d9orf/025_161206_technicalfeature_feedingtheharvestcrew.pdf?dl=0)

**Press Column**The Frank Jacobs Award

Sponsor: Glacier Farm Media

**Gold:****Lisa Guenther,** Grainews, [*Facing up to the Truth about Climate Change*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/tv33daeb3x5ocie/013_170307_presscolumn_facinguptothetruthaboutclimatechange.pdf?dl=0)

**Silver: Gerald Pilger,** Country Guide, [*The Target is Glyphosate*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/bvfir6p3zi1ls20/001_170101_press_column_the_target_is_glyphosate.pdf?dl=0)

**Bronze: Toban Dyck,** National Post, [*The Dark Side of Farming*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/lfskdhxkceo8s81/014_170123_press_column_the_dark_side_of_farming.pdf?dl=0)

**Press Editorial** The O.R. Evans Award

Sponsor: Richardson

**Gold: Trevor Bacque,** GrainWest Magazine, [*Trade-off*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/nvt8eyir95iah34/015_170301_Press%20Editorial_Trade-off.pdf?dl=0)

**Silver:****Allan Dawson,** Manitoba Co-operator, [*Canada Needs Churchill but do Grain Farmers?*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/1wze8u7w8nqymvk/013_160804_Press%20Editorial_Canada%20needs%20Churchill%20but%20do%20grain%20farmers.pdf?dl=0)

**Bronze: Leeann Minogue,** Grainews, [*Bound up by Resolutions*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/815wq7h2v1fu2pz/001_170207_Press%20Editorial_Bound%20up%20by%20resolutions.pdf?dl=0)

**Press Feature** The Dick Beamish Award

Sponsor: Monsanto Canada

**Gold: Lisa McLean,** Better Farming, [*Improving Mental Health on the Farm*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/baz7cwu3efr9c81/040_170401_PRESSFEATURE_ImprovingMentalHealth.pdf?dl=0)

**Silver: Shannon VanRaes,** Country Guide, [*Halal Market*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/iyln0ewwgoawcro/051_170201_Press%20Feature_Halal.pdf?dl=0)

**Bronze: Nathalie Noble,** [*Seeds of Future Past*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/dw291yzltfqjtm7/043_161001_Press%20Feature_Seeds%20of%20future%20past.pdf?dl=0)

**Monthly Press Reporting** The Jack Cram Award

Sponsor: Investment Agriculture Foundation of British Columbia

**Gold: Jay Whetter**, Canola Digest, [*A Giant Leap for Soil Kind*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/78unwjgexpsbqnj/170500_9Monthlypressreporting_A%20giant%20leap%20for%20soil%20kind.pdf?dl=0)

**Silver: Karen Davidson,** The Grower,[*Taking Stock of the Canadian-American Relationship*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/78unwjgexpsbqnj/170500_9Monthlypressreporting_A%20giant%20leap%20for%20soil%20kind.pdf?dl=0)

**Bronze: Janet Kanters,** Top Crop Manager, [*Herbicide Layering to Manage Weeds*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/uggyw7nuocvilab/010_160630_monthly_press_reporting_herbicide_layering_to_manage_weeds.pdf?dl=0)

**Weekly Press Reporting** The Q.H. Martinson Award

Sponsor: Canadian Seed Growers’ Association

**Gold:****Robin Booker,** The Western Producer, [*The One Percent Clause*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/k0ejx8xc3i14ot8/004_170316_Weekly%20Press%20Reporting_The%20one%20percent%20clause.pdf?dl=0)

**Silver:****Sean Pratt,** The Western Producer, [*Monsanto Takeover Faces Tough Road*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/qni2wugjjhtc4l6/006_160922_Weekly%20Press%20Reporting_Monsanto%20takeover%20faces%20tough%20road.pdf?dl=0)

**Bronze: Shannon VanRaes,** Manitoba Co-operator, [*Get Your Goat on*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/2f42wfvptp3ogu3/011_170511_Weekly%20Press%20Reporting_Get%20Your%20Goat%20On.pdf?dl=0)

**Daily Press Reporting** The C.B. Fairbairn Award

**Gold: Owen Roberts,** Toronto Star,[*A Special E-delivery Down on the Farm*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/xba6ahdecnvnw2f/005_20161003_daily_reporting_special_edelivery_down_on_the_farm_%20%281%29.pdf?dl=0)

**Silver:****Larry Pynn,** The Vancouver Sun, [FOI Documents Show Over 25 per cent of B.C. Dairy Farms Failed Inspection](https://www.dropbox.com/s/ssjyuggd35e6t9x/002_Daily%20Press%20Reporting_FOI%20Documents%20show%20over%2025%20per%20cent%20of%20BC%20dairy%20farms%20failed%20inspection.docx?dl=0)

**Bronze: Rod Nickel & Yuka Obayashi,** Reuters, [Pampered Canadian Pigs Feed Japan’s Hunger for Pricey Pork](https://www.dropbox.com/s/n474czvrxcoehp4/007_161116_dailypressreporting_pampered.pdf?dl=0)

**World Wide Website** The Henry Heald Award

**Gold: Tracey Shelton,** [*www.richardsonresults.ca*](http://www.tablefortwenty.org)

**Silver:** **Lindsey Ehman,** [www.ggc-pgc.ca](http://www.ggc-pgc.ca)

**Bronze: Matthew Dyck,** [*www.thankaretailer.ca*](http://www.realagriculture.com)

**Feature Photograph** The Don Baron Award

Sponsor: Bayer CropScience Inc.

**Gold:****Lorne McClinton,** The Furrow, [*Mike Furi*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/veyid3lkifw701x/004_160901_feature_photogaph_mike_furi?dl=0)

**Silver:****Tamra Leigh,** Country Life BC, [*Freight Farm Feeds Local Niche*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/v6c3ofgui9oyq5f/003_170101-FEATURE%20PHOTOGRAPH-%20FREIGHT%20FARM%20FEEDS%20LOCAL%20NICHE.pdf?dl=0)

**Bronze:****Karen Morrison,** The Western Producer, [*Cabbage Harvest*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/lv8xdv11dlk50dv/008_170908_Feature%20Photo_Cabbage%20harvest.jpg?dl=0)

**News Photograph** The John Phillips Award

Sponsor: Farms.com

**Gold:****Glen Lowson,** The Grower, [*Apple Growers Learn to Love Terroir and Tourists*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/pwec79djn9zw0md/001_NEws%20Photograph_apple%20growers%20learn%20to%20love%20terroir%20and%20tourists.pdf?dl=0)

**Silver:****Barb Glen,** The Western Producer, [*Coat Removal*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/ycoqch3a0urfcgo/005_170413_News%20Photograph_Coat%20Removal.jpg?dl=0)

**Bronze:****William DeKay,** The Western Producer, [*Bull*](https://www.dropbox.com/s/fx85a6fgr2dsbl5/004_161201_14.%20News%20Photograph_you%20mess%20with%20the%20bull.jpeg?dl=0)

**Adjudication Process**

Each category entry was independently reviewed, evaluated and scored by two judges where possible. Judges’ scores are averaged to determine gold, silver and bronze winners in each category. In the case of a tie or an extreme variation in scores between judges, the awards chair may be required to independently scrutinize and score the relevant entries.

**Awards Chair**

Hugh Maynard - *Qu’anglo Communications & Consulting*

**Awards Administrator**

Johnnie Belinda Cluff - *Qu’anglo Communications & Consulting*

**Founding Patron**

Monsanto Canada Inc.

**Prizes**

Gold - $300, Silver - $200, Bronze - $100

**Judges**

**Electronic Media -Visual Scott Swanson**, North Dakota State University

 **Bruce Sundeen**, *Electronic Media Specialist,* North Dakota State University

**Electronic Media-Audio****Donna McElligott,** CBC

**Pete Lewis,** *Freelancer,* Way With Words

**News Release**  **Tim Cook,** *Deputy Bureau Chief, Western Canada,* The Canadian Press

 **Jane Craigie,***Owner, Jane Craigie Marketing*

**General Periodical Marty Brett,** *Senior Communications Officer*, Chicken Farmers Canada

 **Holly Spangler,** *Editor,* Prairie Farmer

**Technical Feature Frederic Marcoux**, *Dairy farmer,* Ferme Philippe Marcoux; *President,* UPA Nouvelle-Beauce

 **Ben Potter**, Penton Media/Farm Features

**Press Column**  **Jeff Caldwell**, *PR/Content Specialist,* Meyocks Group

**John Muggeridge,** *Writing Services,* Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

**Press Editorial** **Terry Stevenson** *Communications Manager,* Southern Co-operative Services

**Press Feature Mark Cripps,** *Senior Communications Advisor,* Office of the Hon. Bill Mauro, Minister of Municipal Affairs, Government of Ontario

 **Wayne Larsen,** *Adjunct Professor* Department of Journalism, Concordia University

**Monthly Press Reporting Gregg Hillyer,** *Editor in Chief,* DTN/The Progressive Farmer

 **Gil Gullickson,** *Crops Technology Editor,* Successful Farming

**Weekly Press Reporting Kelly Daynard,** *Executive Director,* Farm and Food Care Ontario

 **Andy Walker,** *Editor,* Island Farmer

**Daily Press Reporting Tom Button,** *Editor,* Country Guide

 **Neil Haesler,** *Retired Deputy Editor,* Postmedia Inc.; *Journalism Instructor,* Carleton University

**Website**  **Sarah Andrewes**, *Vice President,* Hill+Knowlton Strategies Canada

**Feature Photography David Barr**, Photobar Agricultural Stock Photo Library

**News Photography Richard Buchan**, *Photo Editor,* The Canadian Press Toronto

 **Fred Lum**, *Photographer,* The Globe and Mail