

Nuffield Notes

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Canada 

From the President's Desk

The Nuffield Annual Meeting will take place in Leduc Alberta this coming November. An interesting tour of the area is planned for Friday, November 3rd. Over the past few years, these tours have become the highlight of the annual meeting. It provides an opportunity for the organizing committee to display local agriculture and agri-business. It is also a good time to renew Nuffield friendships and become acquainted with Nuffielders that we have not met before. I encourage each and every one of you to plan on attending this event.

The annual business meeting and banquet will be held on Saturday, the 4th. Ann Gordon will be presenting her recently completed Scholarship Report. Ann's study topic was "Investigating the Leadership Competencies and Behaviors Necessary for Effective Intercultural Ventures in the Agri-Food Industry." Ann's primary focus was on trading with the Chinese and she spent some time in China during her study. We look forward to hearing her report.

At the meeting we will be introduced to our 2006 Scholarship recipient, Harold Parry. Harold and his wife Jill are from Coaldale, Alberta, where they are engaged in a farming operation with Harold's brother. We are pleased to welcome them to the Nuffield family.

Come join us in Leduc for good friends, good food, stimulating conversation, an interesting tour and a great time.

Yours in Nuffield

President Jack

Nuffield Canada

Annual General Meeting Notice

November 4, 2006 9:00 am
Best Western Denham Inn & Suites
5207 - 50th Avenue, Leduc, Alberta

Accommodation:

- www.bestwesterndenham.com
- Block of rooms held until Oct. 4th
- Shuttle from the Edmonton Airport

Pre Meeting Tour – Nov. 3rd

- 9:00 – 4:30
- Sunfresh Farms - a wholesale food business owned by local farmers
 - Riverbend Gardens - Doug and Evelyn Visser
 - Alberta Food Lab
 - Cost – shared between participants

Group Dinner

- Friday night 6:30 - meet in hotel lobby

Staying Longer?

- Alberta, Agri-trade is a large Agricultural show starting on the Wednesday after the meeting (www.agri-trade.com)
 - Reynolds Museum on the Sunday. www.reynoldsalbertamuseum.com

Ontario Hosts Inbound Australian Scholars Tour

By Mark Wales

I had the pleasure of organizing the tour for, and spending the week with the 5 Australian scholars. With much help from others we managed to give them a good "Taste of Ontario". They were able to see an excellent cross section of much of what Ontario (and Canada) has to offer, and, of course the many problems that we as farmers face.

They flew in from Washington June 29 and our first stop was the St. Mary's Cement facility near Bowmanville. The group was fascinated with the scale of production especially as their recent tour of China showed them that everything could be made from concrete. Jim Rickard provided a tour of his farm, and BBQ.

We left early the next day from Toronto to drive to Niagara area, making various stops along the way. We were fortunate to "fresh Taste Sweet Cherries" at Len Troup's farm. Len is chair of the Tender Fruit Board and the Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association. Harvest, packing and marketing were all examined. Next stops were to see a ship transiting the locks in the Welland Canal, lunch and a winery tour. We learned how to pour wine properly. At Niagara Falls we were able to take a ride on "The Maid of the Mist" and see the other attractions in the area.

July 1, our National Holiday was a busy one. We left Niagara early and drove to Delhi where we toured the "VandenBussche Irrigation Demonstration Farm". After a quick lunch, we were off to the "DeCloet New Road Experimental Farm". Here we looked at the end of tobacco mechanization and possible future directions for the area. They are growing a crop of Austrian pumpkins for extracting the oil from the seeds for health food products.

From there we went down towards Port Burwell where we visited EZ Grow Farms. They have 25 acres of blueberries, 65 acres of watermelons and 45 acres of muskmelons, all grown on plastic with drip irrigation. Next stop was the Erie Shores Wind Farm. This 66-tower wind project just came on stream in April and is currently generating 99 mega watts. The project is moving forward with phase 2, which will be another 75 towers. It was amazingly quiet! We stood right at the base and there was no noise at all. Next, we saw another example of diversification at the "Lindsay Farm" where they produce shitake mushrooms in old refrigerated containers using hardwood sawdust and wood chips. We visited the "Aylmer Wildlife Area" which is managed by the local Stewardship Council. They have over 2,000 visiting geese every year. As well, the site has many thousands of Tundra Swans, Geese and Ducks during the annual spring and fall migrations. Dinner on the beach at Port Stanley rounded off a very long day.

Next morning we visited Dan Cornwell's dairy operation where everyone got a good grounding in supply management and quota. Then it was up to George and Tracy Thompson's for a relaxing day of fishing, biking, hiking or just relaxing in the hot tub. Making cherry pie and a late night visit to purchase the latest footwear rounded out the day.

On Monday, we drove to Ridgetown for a tour of the college and research plots. We visited the W.G. Thompson grain handling facility and enjoyed a BBQ hosted by chair Jack Rigby. The scholars had a chance to present pictures from home on the laptop for all the visiting neighbours to see. Jack had arranged billets for everyone, which allowed for lots of "networking" late into the night.

The next morning we visited Jim Clarke's sweet potatoes, and okra and Ross Brush's broccoli harvest in full swing, Black Tobacco and the floating tray greenhouse. Last visit of the day was to a unique classic car

restoration facility. I have never seen so many valuable cars in one place! Off to Guelph to have dinner with one of the scholar's brother who is a researcher at the U. of Guelph.

Last day in Canada was hosted by OMAF and was a day of policy, programs and tours of the University facilities and the Vet College. We covered Provincial and national programs and I think everyone got a good understanding of what was available to Canadian farmers. During these sessions its hard not to put my lobbyist hat on and lobby for improvements to the few programs that we have.

We made it to Toronto for everyone's flights to Ireland and Australia. Leigh was heading directly home as his wife was expecting in the next 2 weeks. The rest of the group, Carolyn, Garry, Rob and Andrew were off to Ireland for the next leg of their adventure. I enjoyed my week with them and they left Canada with a good understanding of some of what we do here and the many issues we face.

Announcing the 2006 Nuffield Scholarship Recipient

Harold and his wife Jill are from Coaldale Alberta. Harold is President of Perry Quest Ltd. an extensive farming operation growing crops under irrigation. Their main crop is potatoes that they grow under contract for McCain's and Frito Lay. They also raise Lama for breeding stock and fiber production. Starting with no farm assets in 1999 their present farming operation consists of 1600 acres of irrigated land jointly owned with CKP Farms a company owned by Harold's brother. Harold's study interest is soil health and soil biology.

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Membership Form

Return with \$100 cheque payable to **Nuffield Canada**
RR # 3 Site 3 Box 6
Innisfail AB T4G 1T8



NAME _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ Postal Code _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Communications: (check one)

Please mail my newsletter

Email my newsletter

Activities I will help with:

Fundraising

Hosting incoming scholars

Promoting Nuffield

New Scholars Conference in Canada

During the Nuffield Conference in New Zealand, it was agreed that the Nuffield organization would work to broaden the Scholars network and link with like-minded programs from other countries. In 2006 the first Nuffield International Leadership Conference for new scholars, spearheaded by the United Kingdom and Australia, was held in Utrecht, Holland. All of the 2006 Scholars were invited to attend and two Germans from the DLG Prize Program, two young Dutch farmers and an Eisenhower Fellow, joined them.

In the spring of 2007, the second Nuffield International Leadership Conference includes a visit to Canada. The event will take place in Calgary and surrounding area from February 24th to March 3rd. One of the positive aspects of this conference is as it moves around the world, each event will have different issues to discuss and a different focus and this will allow our Scholars to think “beyond the barnyard fence”.

This event should provide Canada with opportunities to profile our organization and the Canadian Scholars. If there are any members of our Canadian organization that would like to be involved, please contact Marilyn Sharp Nuffield '86 at phone: (403) 885-4218 or Email: msharp@rttinc.com

⊃ **Come to Ireland** ⊃
For the 2008

Nuffield International Conference

Dublin June 5 to 17th

- 3 day pre-conference tour of Northern Ireland
- Post conference tour SW Ireland

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Conference Registration Form

Return to

Nuffield Canada

RR # 3 Site 3 Box 6 Innisfail AB T4G 1T8

Or email beck@yourlink.ca

I look forward to participating in

9 Pre-Tour	# people _____
9 Group Dinner	# people _____
9 Annual General Meeting	# people _____
9 Alternative Saturday Program	# people _____
9 AGM Dinner	# people _____

NAME _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ Postal Code _____

Phone _____ Email _____

**Nuffield Canada
Annual General Meeting
Leduc Alberta
Nov. 4, 2006**

Agenda

1. Call to order.
2. Introductions & Welcome
3. In Memoriam
4. Additions to the Agenda and Approval
5. Minutes of the 2005 Annual General Meeting
6. Business arising from the Minutes
7. Financial Report
8. Committee Reports
 - a. Inbound Scholars Tours
 - i. Winter in Manitoba
 - ii. Summer in Ontario
 - b. Newsletter
 - c. Scholarship Committee
 - d. Website
9. Fundraising
 - a. Success stories
 - b. Report on use of fundraising document.
 - c. Other Ideas.
10. New business
 - a. Advertising for Scholars
 - b. Appointment of hosts for summer tour
 - c. Appointment of Hosts for summer picnics
 - d. Other
11. Presidents report.
12. Election of Directors - Four western directors
13. 2007 Annual General Meeting Location and Chairman
14. Adjournment