



Peace Region Forage Seed Association Celebrates 20 years

This document only highlights the accomplishments of the PRFSA from 2005 - 2015. To see 1995 - 2005 please refer to *PRFSA's First 10 Years*.

PRFSA Vision

To improve the quality, consistency and profitability of the turf and forage seed industry in the Peace River Region.

2005 - 2015: Another 10 Years of Accomplishments

The Peace Region Forage Seed Association (PRFSA) is celebrating 20 years of activity! Efforts and accomplishments are due to the dedicated board of directors, advisors, research associates and contractors. Below are reflections of the changes and success' each year since the 10 year celebration in 2005.

2005: First Year Levy Results

- * The first year of levy collection was completed with a gross collection of \$153,806. Fifteen percent was refunded leaving a total of \$90,104 in AB levy and \$35,257 in BC levy.
- * A new PRFSA website was completed in spring 2005.
- * The Annual Summer Tour was held in the BC Peace in the Baldonnel and Flatrock areas.
- * Final year of funding from the AAFC's Canada Adaptation Rural Development Funding.



2005 - 2006

Board of Directors

Dave Forgie, President
Stan Mracek, Vice President
Dave Wuthrich, Treasurer
Bernie Schoorlemmer, AB Grower
Vic Wilms, BC Grower
Randy Graw, AB Grower
Todd Smith, Seed Trade Rep

Advisors

Nigel Fairey, AAFC
Kerry Clark, BC Min of Ag
Calvin Yoder, AB Min of Ag

Contractors

Sandra Burton, Coordinator
Colleen Anderson, Bookkeeper
Barry Willis, Levy Admin

2006 - 2007

Board of Directors

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Dave Wuthrich, Treasurer
Bernie Schoorlemmer, AB Grower
Vic Wilms, BC Grower
Terry Chaibos, AB Grower
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2006: Canadian Forage Seed Conference

- * The PRFSA hosted the 24th Annual Canadian Forage Seed Conference in Grande Prairie, AB March 20-22. The conference highlighted many issues affecting the turf and forage seed industry in Canada, the US and Denmark.
- * A survey of two year old red clover seed fields experiencing dramatic seed yield losses in 2005, concluded that the red clover casebearer, a pest native to Europe, has been introduced to the Peace Region.



Check out our website: www.peaceforageseed.ca

2007 - 2008*Board of Directors*

Todd Smith, President/Seed Rep
 Stan Mracek, Vice President
 Dave Wuthrich, Treasurer
 Bernie Schoorlemmer, AB Grower
 Heather Kerschbaumer, AB Grower
 Vic Wilms, BC Grower
 Terry Chaibos, AB Grower

Advisors

Kerry Clark, BC Min of Ag
 Calvin Yoder, AB Min of Ag
 Jennifer Otani, AAFC

Contractors

Sandra Burton, Coordinator
 Lothar Torheiden, BC Research
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 Barry Willis, Levy Admin
 Jeremy McDonald, Website

**2009 - 2010***Board of Directors*

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 Vic Wilms, Vice President
 Heather Kerschbaumer, Treasurer
 Bernie Schoorlemmer, AB Grower
 Rick Friesen, AB Grower
 Stan Mracek, BC Grower
 Reuben Loewen, BC Grower

Advisors

Kerry Clark, BC Min of Ag
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 Dave Wong, AB Min of Ag
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 Chris Thomson, Events
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 Jeremy McDonald, Website

2007: Industry Recognition

- * Nigel Fairey is recognized for 26 years of contributions to the forage seed industry.
- * PRFSA takes on administering and coordinating the Western Grass Seed Testing (WGST) Program.
- * Annual Summer Tour takes place in the Rycroft, AB area.
- * Production & Marketing Seminar hosted in Dawson Creek, BC in March.

**2008: Strategic Planning**

- * PRFSA collaborates with other forage seed groups in hopes to develop a Canadian Grass & Legume Seed Council.
- * A strategic plan for 2008 to 2012 is developed for the turf and forage seed industry.
- * Production & Marketing seminar held in conjunction with the Peace Agri Classic in G.P., AB.
- * Annual Summer Tour takes place in the Fort St. John - Prespatou areas of BC.
- * Snow Brand Seed reps from Japan came to visit their timothy varieties in the WGST trials.

2009: Wildlife Damage

- * First year of the wildlife damage on fescue study.
- * Pheromone trials to trap the red clover casebearer is initiated.
- * Annual Summer Tour is held in the Falher, AB area.
- * PRFSA remains actively involved in creating a Canadian grass & legume seed council called Forage Seed Canada.
- * Dave Wong spearheads the development of a brochure for turf, forage & native seed users.

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2010: Oregon's forage seed industry

- * Annual Summer Tour takes place in the Fort St. John - Baldonnel areas of BC.
- * A handful of growers from the Peace Region get the opportunity to tour the turf and forage seed areas of Willamette Valley in Oregon in June.
- * Calvin Yoder initiates a study to look at herbicide resistance of Narrow-leaved Hawk's-beard in Creeping red fescue fields.

2011 - 2012

Board of Directors

Todd Smith, President/Seed Rep
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Bernie Legault, AB Grower
Mark Mittelstadt, AB Grower
Tobin Dirks, BC Grower
Bruno Osterwalder, BC Grower

Advisors

Julie Robinson, BC Min of Ag
Calvin Yoder, AB Min of Ag
Dave Wong, AB Min of Ag
Jennifer Otani, AAFC
Rahman Azooz, AAFC

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Jeremy McDonald, Website

2011: Director Involvement

- * The Board of Directors organize a two day orientation workshop in Grande Prairie to clarify roles and new director/member recruitment.
- * Annual Summer Tour takes place at the Beaverlodge Research Station in Beaverlodge, AB.
- * Rahman Azooz is hired as a research scientist at the Beaverlodge Research Station.
- * Another tour is organized for seed growers to Oregon's Willamette Valley in late June.
- * A tailgate pizza party was organized at the WGST plots in FSJ to bring the forage seed growing experts and forage users (livestock & forage producers) together!

2013: Last of PRGST in FSJ

- * The Peace Region Grass Seed Testing trials wrapped up at the Fort St. John site in 2012. These trials continue to be conducted at the Beaverlodge Research Farm.
- * The Annual Summer Tour takes place in the Fort St. John - Baldonnel, BC areas.
- * Bernie Legault honored for years of contributions to the alfalfa seed and leafcutter bee industry.

2010 - 2011

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Jeremy McDonald, Website

2012 - 2013

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... improving the turf and forage seed industry in the Peace Region.

2013 - 2014*Board of Directors*

Reuben Loewen, President
 Tobin Dirks, Vice President
 Heather Kerschbaumer, Treas.
 Danny Friesen, AB Grower
 Mark Mittelstadt, AB Grower
 Blair Hill, BC Grower
 Todd Smith, Seed Trade Rep

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2013: AgrInnovation

* 2013 marked the start of a new five year round of federal funding through the AgrInnovation program. This program focusses on:

- ⇒ Crop rotations
- ⇒ Timing & form of N on fescue
- ⇒ Growth regulators on grasses
- ⇒ Herbicide tolerance
- ⇒ Grass seed testing trials
- ⇒ Pest surveillance & research

* PRFSA treasurer, Heather Kerschbaumer, is elected as president of Forage Seed Canada.

* Ken Steinwand is honored by PRFSA for helping form the association and developing a strong working relationship with the seed trade.

* The Annual Summer Tour was part of an all crops tour that took place at the Beaverlodge Research Station.

**2014 - 2015***Board of Directors*

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 Danny Friesen, AB Grower
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 Blair Hill, BC Grower
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**PRFSA Mandate**

- * To collectively develop the forage seed industry in the Peace Region.
- * To exchange information and prioritize issues.
- * To cooperate and have mutual respect among members and within the industry.

2014: PRFSA Moves to Dawson Creek

- * The PRFSA moved its office into Community Futures Peace Liard in downtown Dawson Creek.
- * The Annual Summer Tour joins a Soils & Forages Field day in the Farmington, BC area.
- * Through the AgrInnovation project, the Beaverlodge Research Farm is able to acquire a CrossSlot no-till drill and PRFSA acquires a weigh wagon.
- * PRFSA supports a pest monitoring project focused on the BC Peace Region.



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