

# AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY SYMPOSIUM 2025

CULTIVATING TOMORROW: REGENERATION & RESILIENCE

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 28

**6 PM** Registration Open

**6:30 - 8:30 PM** **Welcome Reception**  
*Featuring welcoming greetings from Wayne Simmons, NLFA President; and The Honourable Gerry Byrne, Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture*

**7:15 PM** Keynote Speaker Peter Johnson  
"Wheat Pete" from Real Ag Radio



### KEYNOTE SPEAKER PETER JOHNSON

@WheatPete is the resident agronomist with Real Agriculture, where he posts a weekly podcast "Wheat Pete's Word". He is a regular on "Agronomy Monday" on RealAg radio, Sirius Satellite Radio 147. Peter spent 30 years as the Ontario Cereal Specialist, and loves to talk anything agriculture, especially wheat! He leads the Middlesex Soil and Crop Improvement Association's applied research program, is the Environmental Advocate for the Land Improvement Contractors of Ontario, and is a member of the Ontario Compaction Team. He was named as one of the Top 50 in Canadian Agriculture in 2021, inducted in to the Middlesex County Agricultural Hall of Fame in 2022, and named as the Honorary President of the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association for 2024. Peter operates a small farm near Lucan, Ontario, where he constantly tries out new production ideas, and where the "rubber hits the road"! He is enthusiastic and passionate about agriculture, and loves to be challenged by growers. "Have at him"!!!



# WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29

- 8 AM** Registration Opens
- 8:45 AM** Welcome, with greetings from François Chrétien, Associate Director Living Labs, Science and Technology Branch, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
- 8:55 AM** **Keynote Speaker: *Shaun Haney, RealAg Radio***
- 9:10 AM** **Agronomist Panel: Nitrogen Management in Cropping Systems with Peter Johnson, Dr. David Burton, Shelly Woodworth and moderator Shaun Haney \***
- 10 AM** Composting of Agriculture and Non-Agriculture Materials of Soil Amendments, *Dr. Gordon Price, Dalhousie University*
- 10:30 AM** **Networking Break**



## KEYNOTE SPEAKER SHAUN HANEY

Founder of RealAgriculture, Shaun Haney manages one of the leading industry ag media companies for Canadian farmers and ranchers. RealAgriculture provides the latest in ag policy, agronomics, current events and farm management from their website radio shows, and podcast streams. Shaun is the host of RealAg Radio which is broadcast across North America on Rural Radio Channel 147 on SiriusXM daily at 4:30 PM Eastern, and also makes regular appearances on RFD-TV, Agritalk and US Farm Report. Together with Justin Funk of Agri Studies, Shaun helms RealAgristudies, a market insights partnership formed in 2019.

- 10:55 AM** Understanding nitrogen losses and sources to realize improved nitrogen management in Atlantic Canada, *Dr. David Burton, Dalhousie University \**
- 11:35 AM** AgriCare: Mental Health, Wellness and Safety for NL Farmers, *Chad Bouma, CCAW*
- 12:00 PM** **Lunch Break**
- 1 PM** **Keynote Speaker: *Ben Hartman, Clay Bottom Farm***  
The Lean Farm: Ideas for Profitable, Climate-Smart Farming \*
- 1:30 PM** The Four S's, *Shelly Woodworth, Cavendish Agri Services \**
- 2 PM** Beneficial Management Practices Research Update: Nitrogen Use Efficiency, Cover Crops and Biochar, *NL Living Lab Research Team Linda Jewell, AAFC; Tobias Laengle, AAFC; Crystal McCall, GovNL; Mumtaz Cheema, Memorial University \**
- 2:30 PM** **Networking Break**
- 2:50 PM** Roundtable: Identifying management priorities for nutrient, soil, water and other environmental benefits *with moderator Rosalie Gillis-Madden, Farmers for Climate Solutions \**
- 4 PM** Wrap Up & Recap
- 4:20-7 PM** **Relax & Unwind** (Supper on own)  
NL Beekeepers Association Meeting  
NL Cattlemen's Association AGM  
Fruit & Vegetable Growers of NL AGM
- 7-9 PM** **Movie Night Screening of Common Ground** *with a discussion on regenerative practices in Newfoundland and Labrador moderated by Rosalie Gillis-Madden, Farmers for Climate Solutions \**



**\*Eligible for CEUs**



# THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

- 8 AM** NLFA Annual General Meeting Registration
- 8:30 AM** NLFA AGM Closed Session
- 9:45 AM\*** NLFA AGM Open Session  
*\*Timing dependent on closed session business*
- 10:30 AM** **Networking Break**
- 10:50 AM** CFA in Action 2024, *Pierre Lampron, Vice-President, Canadian Federation of Agriculture*
- 11:10 AM** Empowering women in agriculture to find and use their voice, *Terri Lynn Robbins and Brenda Aylward*
- 11:30 AM** Farm Safety for Sustainability in Newfoundland and Labrador, *Lori Brookhouse, CASA/Vital Insight*
- 11:50 AM** Agriculture Production and Research Divisional Update, *Sabrina Ellsworth, GovNL*
- 12 PM** **Lunch Break**
- 12:30 PM** The National School Food Program: What it could mean for producers, *Josh Smee, Food First NL*
- 1 PM** **Parallel Sessions A, B & C**  
A: Fruit & Vegetable  
B: Beef & Sheep  
C: Apiculture & Bee Health

Ben Hartman is the author of three books, including *The Lean Micro Farm* (Chelsea Green, 2023) and *The Lean Farm* (Chelsea Green, 2016), winner of the prestigious Shingo Institute Research and Professional Publication Award.

In 2017, Ben was named one of fifty emerging green leaders in the United States by *Grist*. Ben and his wife, Rachel Hershberger, own and operate Clay Bottom Farm in Goshen, Indiana, where they make their living growing specialty crops on 1/3 acre of land in production. Ben has developed an online course in lean farming, at [claybottomfarm.com](http://claybottomfarm.com), and he has consulted for USAID.

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER BEN HARTMAN



- 2:30 PM** **Networking Break**
- 2:50 PM** Best Practices of Canada's Top Farmers, *Christa Wright, Farm Management Canada*
- 3:10 PM** NL Labour Market Update, *Jennifer Wright, CAHRC*
- 3:30 PM** Farmer Producer Panel: *Best Management Practices - What is working on farm for you?*
- 4:30 PM** Wrap Up & Recap
- 4:35-6 PM** Refresh & Recharge
- 6 PM** **Farmers Reception**
- 6:30-9 PM** **Awards Banquet**

# CERTIFIED CROP ADVISOR CONTINUED EDUCATION CREDITS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29

**8:55 AM** **Agronomist Panel: Nitrogen Management in Cropping Systems** with Peter Johnson, Dr. David Burton, Shelly Woodworth and moderator Shaun Haney

**Nutrient Management CEUs: 1**

**11 AM** Understanding nitrogen losses and sources to realize improved nitrogen management in Atlantic Canada, Dr. David Burton, Dalhousie University

**Nutrient Management CEUs: 0.5**

**1 PM** **Keynote Speaker: Ben Hartman, Clay Bottom Farm**  
The Lean Farm: Ideas for Profitable, Climate-Smart Farming

**Nutrient Management CEUs: 0.5**

**1:30 PM** The Four S's, Shelly Woodworth, Cavendish Agri Services

**Nutrient Management CEUs: 0.5**

**2 PM** Beneficial Management Practices Research Update: Nitrogen Use Efficiency, Cover Crops and Biochar, NL Living Lab Research Team Linda Jewell, AAFC; Tobias Laengle, AAFC; Crystal McCall, GovNL; Mumtaz Cheema, Memorial University

**Nutrient Management CEUs: 0.5**

**3 PM** Roundtable: Identifying management priorities for nutrient, soil, water and other environmental benefits with moderator Rosalie Gillis-Madden, Farmers for Climate Solutions

**Nutrient Management CEUs: 1**

**7-9 PM** **Movie Night** Screening of *Common Ground* with a discussion on regenerative practices in Newfoundland and Labrador moderated by Rosalie Gillis-Madden, Farmers for Climate Solutions

**Sustainability CEUs: 2**

## PARALLEL SESSIONS

### A. FRUIT & VEGETABLE

**A.1.** Using the Lean System on a Vegetable Farm, Ben Hartman, Clay Bottom Farm

**A.2.** Nitrogen Management in Greenhouses and more, Talia Plasket, Perennia

**A.3.** Agronomist Updates from Cavendish Agri Services and Truro Agromart, Shelly Woodworth and Terry Prescott

### B. BEEF & SHEEP

**B.1.** Managing your Priorities in Livestock Health, Dr. Beverly Dawe, Chief Veterinary Officer

**B.3.** Innovations on Fencing and the Forage Cropping System Cedric MacLeod, Macleod Agronomics

**B.2.** Setting up your Rotational Grazing Plan, Rosalie Gillis-Madden, Farmers for Climate Solutions

### C. APICULTURE & BEE HEALTH

**C.1.** Meet and Greet with the Provincial Apiculturist, Paige Marchant

**C.2.** Provincial Apiculture Update and The Basics of a Queen Rearing Program, Paige Marchant, Provincial Apiculturist, Government of NL

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