

Strategic Plan Update

Nova Scotia Institute of Agrologists

1. Define in more detail, the practice of agrology and supporting areas of practice

We are currently tied to the definition of Agrology as outlined in our Act, i.e. “practicing agrology” is “teaching or demonstrating the science or art of agriculture or advising or conducting scientific experiments and research in relation thereto as a chief occupation”.

Each Institute in Canada has its own definition of agrology but most encompass the broader, accepted definition which incorporates environmental sciences. For example, Agrologists are referred to as university graduates who advise, teach, investigate or publicize the sound principles and practices of agriculture, or, The study of the science or art of agriculture and associated natural resources, including related life sciences, environment/ecology, business and food systems.

Action: Council is committed to modernizing our Act. This process is underway and we will keep members up to date on our progress.

2. Heighten awareness of the role of NSIA and the profession of Agrology

- New banner
- High quality promotional material which was sent to agricultural employers in the province
- Commitment to attend tradeshow and promote the profession
- Agrology Club is active
- Communications Committee conducted a survey of membership to determine their priorities going forward
- Program Committee continues to organize high quality, high profile events
- Have met with provincial government departments
- Regular meetings with Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture



*Progress is
being made*



Our Strategic Plan was completed in 2010. This Strategic Plan describes NSIA's mission, vision and the three year goals with a commitment that it was to be reviewed and updated. Outcomes and achievements, as measured against the Strategic Plan goals were to be reported to the membership annually. This document serves to provide a brief update on progress made and a report on Council priorities for the coming year.



Action: All committees of council have been tasked with writing Terms of Reference and work plans for the coming year. Work plans should detail activities that contribute towards achieving goals as outlined in the strategic plan.

3. Build alliances within the agricultural sector and with provincial Agrology Institutes and other professional organizations

- Council has agreed that our involvement with Agrologists Canada and the Atlantic Agrology Workshop, program committee events with the NSFA council of leaders and regular meetings with agricultural employers, all help build alliances with industry.

Action: We will continue to develop partnerships with stakeholders, continue our commitment to the national body, attend trade shows and promote the profession.

4. Define more clearly the educational requirements of Professional Agrologists

- The Education Standard Working Group developed an Educational/Work Experience Assessment tool which is used by council to review new applicants

Action: The Membership Committee is tasked with developing a policy around entrance requirements and the review process.

5. Support the development of a national Accreditation process

- It was agreed that this goal will be removed from the list based on our vote at the January 2014 meeting where we agreed that we no longer support an accreditation process based on the Montreal Accord.

Action: The membership committee will consider the above national accreditation process when developing the membership policy.

6. Make Professional Development mandatory for Professional Agrologists

- Goal is complete.

Action: The PD committee is tasked with developing a policy around our PD program.

7. Establish a regulatory compliance policy and process and ensure supporting resources are in place

- We are building a regulatory compliance fund

Action: The Executive is developing a regulatory compliance policy.