

### Goodbye to M. René Mongeau, agr. [\(read more\)](#)

At the 2016 Annual General Meeting in Montreal was our last opportunity to hear René Mongeau at the AAC Board table. He transferred his passionate commitment to the group: *“I leave the national table but the idea of no longer representing the agrology profession is far from my mind. Seven years with you have allowed me to strengthen my arguments for promoting the importance of the profession. I intend to share my vision at every occasion and remind anyone who listens that “agrologists feed the world.”*

On behalf of the board, David Lloyd honored René as the outgoing chair of AAC: *“René will be remembered as a collaborator, a peace maker and one who promoted inclusive participation by all AAC board members. His encouraging friendly nature allowed AAC board members to engage in equal and recognized representation”.*

The board welcomes Guillaume LaBarre, General Manager of OAQ, as the new delegate from l'Ordre.

### AAC Officers and Committee Chairs [\(http://agrologistscanada.ca/about-us/our-team/\)](http://agrologistscanada.ca/about-us/our-team/)

At the conclusion of the AGM, the following directors were unanimously elected as **AAC Officers: David Lloyd-AIA, Chair; Al Scholz-SIA, Vice-Chair; Jim Weir-MIA, Secretary-Treasurer.**

**Al Scholz** was nominated new chair of the Operations Committee. Committee members are: Gary Bishop-NLIA, Laurie Eagles-NSIA, Guillaume LaBarre-OAQ and David Lloyd.

2017 Meeting Calendar		
Operations Committee 2017 (Tentative)		Board Meetings 2017
December 13, 2016	July 11	February 16
February 7	Sept 12	June 15
March 21	Oct 31	September 27-28 (AGM-Tentative)
May 30		November 16

The Communications Committee will be chaired by **Terry Kingsmill-OIA**, and members are: Gary Bishop, David Lloyd and Jim Weir.

### 2017-2022 Business Plan

Since the year of incorporation (2012), AAC has matured, board members and provincial institutes have acquired more knowledge of national and provincial issues faced by the agrology profession. A governance structure and a part time general manager are in place to ensure sound operations and project management. In the renewed Business Plan, the board realigned its mission and direction under three strategic objectives to: 1) Competency based approach to the practice of agrology 2) Recognition and promotion of the agrology profession and 3) Governance and national presence. Upon the renewed engagement of member institutes in a Memorandum of Understanding (M.O.U.) to adopt a **National Standard for Entry to Practice in the Agrology Profession in Canada**, the key objective for 2017 will be recommendations on a National Entry-to-Practice Education Standard and an implementation plan over the next 3 to 5 years.

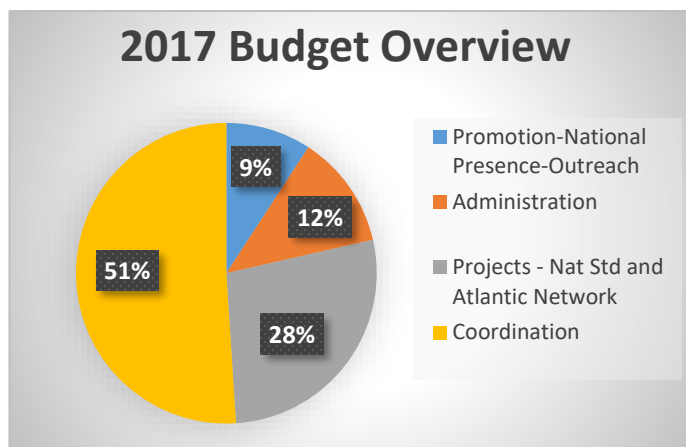
### 2017 Action Plan and Budget Forecast

In 2017, five (5) key projects are on the dashboard for the General Manager and AAC project teams:

- 1) **National Education Standard:** An Ad-hoc Committee comprised of representatives of each provincial institute will be tasked to assist Agrologists-Agronomes Canada and perform a review of and

information about the entry-to-practice education standard. Outcomes will be recommendations on the national education standard and options for implementation.

- 2) **Atlantic Network:** Continue to support the four (4) Atlantic Institutes in the development and adoption of a 3Yr Plan to advance the agrology profession in the Atlantic Region;
- 3) **Promote the National Education Standard:** Upon completion of the national standard project, launch a promotion campaign to inform target audiences; (membership, Academia, provincial Governments, Labor Mobility Coordinators);
- 4) **National Presence with stakeholders:** Participate at national consultations and tables about agriculture and environment issues and be known as the voice of agrologists in Canada;
- 5) **Student Outreach Program:** Launch a pilot project in partnership with selected institutes and universities to evaluate best practices on how to engage students in adopting the value of their future professional designation.



### Atlantic Network Project: For Advancing the Agrology Profession in Atlantic Region

The project Steering Committee was officially created at the end of July 2016. Members are: Gary Bishop, President Elect-NLIA; Stéphanie Cormier, President-NBIA; Michael Devanney, Councillor-NSIA; Earl Pickard, Chair-PEIIA. Laurie Eagles-NSIA acts as the Project Lead with Suzanne Laplante in support.

In September, a management consultant, Simeon Roberts, was hired to develop recommendations for advancing agrology in the Atlantic. He interviewed representatives of each institute and did a thorough review of the institute's status. (ie: Acts, Bylaws, Processes, membership evolution, etc...). At a face-to-face meeting on October 21<sup>st</sup> in Bible Hill, NS, the committee shared views on the future of the profession and the findings of the consultant. They were able to clearly identify areas of cooperation that would benefit each institute and their membership such as: continuous professional development, education credentials assessment tools, administrative functions.

On November 25<sup>th</sup>, the consultant will table a draft strategy for the creation of an Atlantic Agrology Network. The steering committee will review the strategy on December 5<sup>th</sup> in Moncton, NB, then committee members will bring the proposed strategy back to their councils and members to seek their engagement. Meanwhile, Laurie is assisting the committee members in presenting the project their council to ensure consistency and understanding. The project is progressing on schedule and on budget.

### News at a glance

#### Agriculture and Agri-food Canada (AAFC) consultations on Growing Forward 3

David Lloyd participated as the AAC Chair in the last round of consultations on November 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Ottawa. It was an excellent opportunity to represent AAC and open doors with national representatives of the agricultural community in Canada. Results of the consultations can be found on the AAFC website.

#### Atlantic Agrology Workshop – December 6<sup>th</sup> in Moncton, NB.

Registrations are open until November 30<sup>th</sup>. On AAC website: <http://agrologistscanada.ca/wp-content/uploads/Registration-Atlantic-Agrology-Workshop-Dec-6-2016.pdf>.