



Nuffield Canada Hires ED



Nuffield continues to grow in scholars and mature as an organization. President Kelvin Meadows is pleased to announce that Nuffield Canada has contracted Alan Miller to act as our Executive Director on a part time basis. This contract is

initially for one year and Alan will spend the majority of his time managing the Sponsor/Investor relations as well as media and website oversight. As many of you know Alan has supported Nuffield Canada in several contract roles, most recently helping manage the Triennial this past summer. We welcome Alan to his new role and thank him for his continued interest in supporting Nuffield Canada as we plan for the future.

A Nuffield Epiphany

The following article was written by Wally Doerkerson following the 2014 AGM. He challenges us to bring the best we can be to Nuffield.

It happened while we were having lunch at the food research and development center, somewhere southeast of Montreal. Across the table from me, deeply engrossed in their food and conversation, were 6 strapping young men, all Nuffield scholars, selected in the last 6 years. I leaned toward my left and quietly told another Nuffielder, this one closer to my vintage, look across the table – there sits the future of this organization.

In the two decades from 1981-2000, Nuffield selected 19 scholars. In the last 6 years 17 more have been selected, almost the same number in a third of the time. Often in the past we have talked about reaching critical mass with our group of scholars here. While we may be getting close to that with the “rash” of selections in the last number of years, numbers alone do not tell the story. What this new group of people will need to do to help achieve traction for the future is to get involved and stay involved. If there is a question or three that could be asked of new

applicants which could ascertain that depth of involvement, I am sure the selection committee would be interested in knowing what those questions might be.

From an economic point of view, the 10 years from 1995-2005 were certainly the leanest years in my history. Since then, less than 10 scholars have contributed more than \$150,000, which has been the basis to get us to where we are today. That is the kind of commitment I am talking about. While it is true that not everybody has an equal financial ability to contribute, it is equally true that everybody has the ability to contribute their unique gifts and abilities. That is what I am calling all Nuffielders to do.

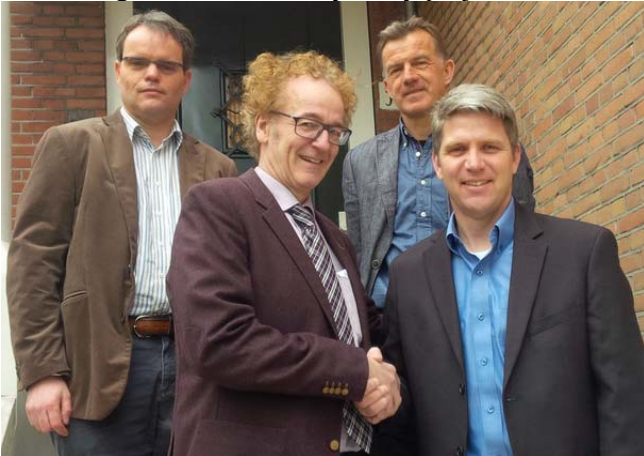
We have gathered so much from our experiences around the world, and many of us would jump at the chance to do another Nuffield. What we tend to forget is that every year, at the AGM, there is a mini-Nuffield conference which would allow us to do exactly that. In addition to this, there is the keeping up with old friendships, and now a huge opportunity to make new ones. I have formed a very good bond with the two gentlemen who went on their travels the two years preceding mine and the two years after. We kid each other, play practical jokes on one another, call each other names, and then settle down to find out how life has treated us in the intervening year. These are the first people I look for at a Nuffield gathering. Speaking of gatherings, one of my inspirations was Joe Linnell, who never missed an AGM while I was there, till ill health forced him to miss the meeting in Charlottetown two years ago. I do not know how many years successively Joe attended, but I will try to beat his record, as this year marked my 25th year without a miss. That is the kind of commitment I am talking about. There are summer picnics to attend, visitors to host, groups to plan a week of activities for plus all the individual interactions that provide vitality for any organization. Until 2000, the AGM had consisted of exactly that; a one day event consisting of a meeting and a banquet with a report, if we were lucky enough to have had a scholar the preceding year. But that year, the idiot hosting, had the nerve to invite a few people to come half a day early and visit a few businesses and have lunch at his chicken cafe. The next year in Halifax, the one day tour was born. So if we want something that is missing, we can take the initiative and do it. As I reported in one of my chairman's reports a number of years ago:

**WE ARE THE PEOPLE
WE HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR**

The Journey Has Begun

April 19th, 2015 Greg Donald Nuffield Scholar

It has been a little over a week since I returned home after being away for 6 weeks attending the Contemporary Scholars Conference (CSC) in Reims, France followed by 5 weeks on my project study tour in Belgium, Netherlands and the United Kingdom. It is hard to believe that this much time has passed as it seems like yesterday I was making plans for this leg of the Nuffield Journey. I have gained and accomplished more than I expected. I met some of the best agricultural leaders in the profession, gained lifelong friendships, became part of the Nuffield global network, broadened my global perspective and learned a great deal about my study project.



Greg (front left) and Dutch Potato Assoc.

If I were to touch on the high point of the experience to date, it would have to be the people I had the pleasure of meeting along the way. Starting with the CSC in France, I left that week with not only **75** Nuffield contacts from around the world, but **75** new friends that share a passion for agriculture. As I continued on my travels to Belgium, Netherlands and the United Kingdom I had the same positive experiences with people. In each country there were particular people that stood out that went over and above to help me set up the right meetings and get the most of my visits. Similarly, the people I visited went out of their way and took their valuable time to explain their business and share their knowledge and experiences. Particularly noteworthy was the hospitality extended by other Nuffielders. I was apprehensive about staying at other Nuffielders at first, but that ended up being one of the best parts of the experience. There is no doubt that most people involved in agriculture have a lot of pride and passion about what they do and their way of life. They are also eager to share their knowledge and experiences and Nuffield is an excellent way to bring us together and accomplish this.

The Nuffield journey has only just begun. It has been a tremendous experience so far and I look forward to the rest of the journey! Follow me

www.gregdonald2015nuffieldproject.weebly.com

A Quest for Information

Becky Parker Nuffield Scholar

On the last day of the Contemporary Scholars Conference in Reims, France we were asked to describe our experience in five words or less. If I had to do the same for the first leg of my Nuffield journey, it would be "exhilarating and inspiring beyond measure."

Following the CSC I departed for the U.K. to pursue my quest for exemplary ways of encouraging young people to pursue careers in the agri-food sector. Throughout Scotland and England I met with organizations such as Scotland Food and Drink Federation, Royal Highland Education Trust, Young Farmers, and Brightcrop. Each of these groups are engaging in some interesting programs and promotional activities to connect young people with information about ag careers. I also had the opportunity to visit with a few post-secondary institutions (Scotland's Rural College and Wiltshire College Lackham) which provided an interesting perspective on how these education providers work with secondary schools to provide taster events and training options which recruit more young people into their ranks.

After two weeks in the U.K. I made my way to Auckland, New Zealand. The meetings in NZ highlighted many examples of commodity group input into ag education. Dairy NZ and Beef and Lamb NZ are very involved in programs which directly target school aged children with messages about the agri-food sector and its career opportunities. There has even been a collaborative organization started which is meant to project a unified voice about careers and training in the sector (Primary Industries Capabilities Alliance). It will be interesting to see how this model evolves over time.

My NZ visit also included some direct observation of a Get Ahead Day and the Agri-Kids/Teen Ag/NZ Young Farmer Contest day (both facilitated by NZ Young Farmers). It was wonderful to see some examples of the program in action, and help to judge the Teen Ag competition (see photo). For more detail on my thoughts so far, check out my blog www.LessonsOfTheLand.com or follow me on twitter @becky_parker_2



Becky interviewing students

A Note from Executive Director

Nuffield Canada has turned a corner in establishing the Executive Director as its first staff position.

I have worked with Nuffield Canada over the past few years coordinating and implementing the CAAP Project and helping the Steering Committee implement the 2014 Triennial. Through these projects I have met many Canadian and International Scholars and have learned much about Nuffield Canada and where it needs to go in the future.

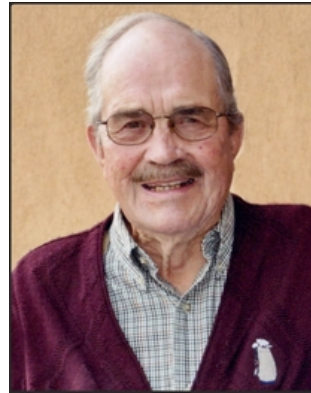
The position is part-time – 1 day a week - so a focused work plan is key to getting results. The Board has identified my key priorities and this is reflected in time allocations. Eighty percent of my time will focus on the pursuit of new sponsors and fundraising for scholarships. Linked to this is the need for refurbishing our website and maintaining its currency in the future as the face of Nuffield Canada. Finally, I will also provide support to the Board in helping to organize the AGM and ensuring any committees meet their deadlines so board meetings can deal with issues in a timely manner.

Seeking sponsors will take a two-pronged approach- the first being to continue down our current path of seeking sponsors for scholarships as we have with Glacier FarmMedia and the Grain Farmers of Ontario. Future targets will focus on farm organizations and corporations with a linkage to agriculture. Anyone with ideas or relationships in place with potential sponsors please connect with me to discuss further. The second prong of fundraising involves establishing a scholarship fund into which donations of various sizes will be placed, and when sufficient funds are available a scholarship is triggered. We hope to build this around some of the principles of the Legacy Fund in Australia. This may not sound like the typical Executive Director's job description and work plan, but it does highlight the current priorities. Over time, with success in establishing more scholarships, the position and its role may grow.

I am pleased to be on board, and appreciate the opportunity. For the past 7 years I have operated an agricultural strategy consultancy, and this position represents one of my current assignments. Having a mix of projects on the go allows me to adjust my time and focus on projects at key times. I look forward to working with you to grow Nuffield Canada. You can contact me, Alan Miller at 902-940-4957 or alan@nuffield.ca

Scholars Report at AGM

Gayl Creutzberg, Clayton Robins and Vince Blake, all scholars from 2013 presented their topics at the AGM. Their reports will be available on our website at www.nuffield.ca. If you do not access the internet and would like a hard copy of the executive summary please contact our secretary, Rod Bradshaw



We Lose 1959 Scholar

Nuffield Canada has lost another of its senior members with the passing of Connor Lawrence Edwards on April 19, 2015. Our sympathies to his loving wife Bernice and children.

Larry was owner operator of Greybanks Ranch in Three Hills Alberta for forty years.

He served his country in WW2 as a Commissioned Officer, with the Canadian Air Force.

Over his life time made many contributions to agriculture and his community including Olds College, Board of Governors - Vice Chairman (6 years); President - Alberta & Canadian Associated Milk Foundations; Horseman - raised, trained, rode, & showed American Saddlebred Horses since 1943; recipient of Award both in Canada and U.S.A. for ASH Associations for promoting the breed; Volunteer for 8 1/2 years at the Centennial Centre for Mental Health & Brain Injury (7 1/2 years with his beloved Boxer dog).

Save the Dates

Nov 25, 26, 27 with optional tour 28th

In Regina in conjunction with the Farm Business Management conference. This the week of Agribition.

Details are yet to be finalized
More information as details firm up.

Chairman's report

Greetings. It is good to see that Spring is arriving, all be it slowly in some areas. It has been a busy time since the fall AGM and much has transpired in that time frame. The board has embarked on an aggressive plan to expand and enhance Nuffield Canada through the hiring of a part time Executive Director and a renewed commitment to fund sourcing as well as committee support for scholars. We are also committed to supporting Nuffield International by hosting one of the Global Focus tours passing through Western Canada this summer. The hosting group will coordinate this tour with our Western summer picnic so as to allow more interaction with alumni and new scholars. As of 2016 the Board has committed Nuffield Canada to host two GFP tours each year with one to be supported in Western Canada and the other in Eastern Canada.



Colin (l to r) Becky, Greg with Kelvin

This past March I represented Canada at the Contemporary Scholars Conference held in Reims France. Sarah Singla and her team did an admirable job of hosting this conference with over 120 attendees representing all of the scholar countries as well as invited guests from India, Mozambique and Brazil. A total of 75 scholars were brought together to learn more about French agriculture and each other to prepare them for their two years of learning. Colin Hudon, Becky Parker and Greg Donald did a superb job of participating and representing Canada at a very well run and informative event. This was also the first year that the Dutch contingent was officially part of the Nuffield family, as well Ms Cecilia Fialho of Brazil was the very first recipient of a Nuffield International scholarship with the scholarship being supported by TIA-CREFF Global Agriculture. TCGA is part of a large USA based pension fund with farming interests in Brazil, Australia and the USA. The next CSC will be held in Ireland in March of 2016.

As many of you are already aware our Canadian AGM is held in late November and is our opportunity to come together and renew our friendships while introducing new scholars and hearing the reports of current ones. As we move forward and expand the role that Nuffield Canada intends to play in Canadian agriculture I see the necessity to have the AGM play a more substantial role in helping us pull in and inform our interested investors and potential

new scholars. To further this initiative there is a commitment by the board to bring forward the AGM planning to allow both scholars and alumni to better schedule their attendance. The intent is to have the AGM details out to all interested parties by late June/early July. While we are still in negotiations I can tell you that the 2015 AGM will be held in Saskatchewan in the third week of November with a likely location in Regina. There are some interesting opportunities for this years program to be held, not only in conjunction with the Canadian Western Agribition but also with another interested party that sees great synergies with our group. I will be back to you with a final date and cost package in the near future and look forward to your attendance.

In closing it has been a year of change for our organization and I would like to thank all of the board and committee members for their hard work and support of this program. We will continue to work with our scholars and alumni to strengthen and improve our program to everyone's benefit.

Kelvin Meadows Chairman

Using International Website

We encourage all Canadian scholars to have an updated account on the Nuffield International website. This is where the database resides which makes up the scholar directory given out every year to all the new scholars. It is also used by other scholars when travelling, or wanting to contact other scholars.

Visit www.nuffieldinternational.org

If you haven't signed up for an on-line account, please contact Karen Daynard, and she will set you up with a login and password.

For people who already have a login and password, Nuffield International is implementing new security measures for tougher passwords. You will need to change your passwords to include:

- Min 8 characters
- At least one capital letter
- At least one lower case letter
- At least one number
- At least one special character

For scholars completing their final report: Once your report is completed, please send the final approved document as a pdf to Karen Daynard (kdaynard@sympatico.ca). Karen will then ensure they are posted on both the Canadian and the International Nuffield websites.

Karen is also able to post events on the Nuffield International site, so if you have an upcoming Nuffield gathering and wish it to be open to international guests, please let her know.