

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

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NIAGARA FRONTIER COMMUNICATOR

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Message From The President

A lot has happened so far this year with the Niagara Frontier Conference. Our annual Educational and Training Seminar took place in Niagara Falls New York in May. Many of our members became involved as volunteers in ensuring that this event ran smoothly. Thanks to all who helped out and to their organizations who supported their involvement! Also in May, the Niagara Frontier Conference supported the Food Forum for Industry and Government in Southwestern Ontario (FFIGS) Educational Workshop in Ingersol, Ontario. This is a full day of seminars on current topics and emerging technologies in food safety presented by leaders in Industry, Government, and Academia. If you have not had the

opportunity to attend, it is well worth it!

Looking forward to the remainder of the year, plans are underway for our next two meetings (more inside)...



NFC President Brett Wales (3rd from right) accepts the CASA incentive award with other conference officers.

Finally, I would like to encourage all of our members to consider taking on a role as a conference

officer. Two of our long standing officers have decided to open their positions to others, again, see more on page 2!

Finally, I would like to share something that all members of the NFC should be proud of. We are one of the smallest conferences in numbers, but one of the few, if not the only one, to offer scholarship money to our members from funds that we raise! Proceeds from our 50/50 draws etc. help build funds that are periodically awarded to members and their families/friends towards educational endeavors. Congratulations to all of you for supporting this initiative. Looking forward to seeing you at our next meeting!
Brett

We Are Listening!

In an effort to better respond to the needs communicated by our members, we are once again trying to arrange for the regular publication of a Newsletter to be distributed to our members. We aim to publish this Newsletter quarterly with information about upcoming meetings, happenings

between events, and information of general interest to our members. In order to capture the essence of what our members want, we are inviting you to submit articles or ideas that we can be included. This Newsletter is for you, so have your say...share something you think your col-

leagues will be interested in! We are also looking for an editor who can help your conference officers put this together on a regular basis. If you have experience, let me know...better yet, if you are willing to learn, let me know. Please contact me at: Brett.Wales@inspection.gc.ca

Upcoming Meetings...Save The Date!



Even at the Annual Seminar, nobody wants to sit up front!

“We will definitely miss them as officers, but I have also been warned that both Susan and Bill intend to remain as active members in our conference!”

Please make time in your schedule to attend our upcoming meetings/training sessions. Our fall meeting is being organized by representatives of the Niagara County Department of Health and will take place in Niagara Falls, NY on September 26, 2013. This event will feature a tour of the Culinary Institute of Niagara Falls, 28 Old Falls St, Niagara Falls, NY 14303. Tour of the facility will start promptly @ 10:30 AM with a private lunch and business meeting to follow in the

Savor Restaurant.

Our annual Holiday Meeting and Training Seminar is being planned for December 6th. This meeting will once again be organized by representatives at New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets and promises to be very informative. Once again, we will do our incentive draws and hold elections. More details will follow once we have confirmed initial plans.

Important Dates:

Fall Meeting 2013

September 26, 2013
10:30am at the Culinary Institute of Niagara Falls

Holiday Meeting 2013

December 6, 2013

NFC Board Position Openings

After many years of serving the members of the Niagara Frontier Conference, Bill Dodge and Susan Smith have decided to resign their positions and give other members the opportunity to serve our membership. Both Bill and Susan have served in capacities that have benefited all of our members. We will definitely miss them as officers, but I

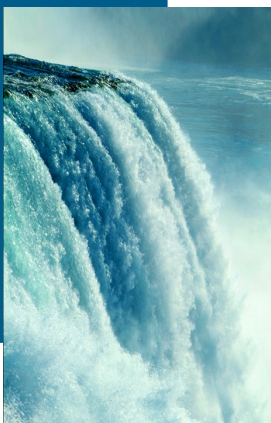
have also been warned that both Susan and Bill intend to remain as active members in our conference! The next time you see either at one of our meetings, please join the rest of your conference officers in thanking them for their dedication and time over the years!

With these new vacancies, you are presented with an oppor-

tunity help fill these positions. Please consider serving your local conference as either Vice President or Treasurer. If you would like information about what is involved and how you can help fill that role, please send me an e-mail at: Brett.Wales@inspection.gc.ca Elections will take place at the Holiday Meeting in December.

97th Annual Educational and Training Seminar

97th annual ETS held in Niagara Falls, NY

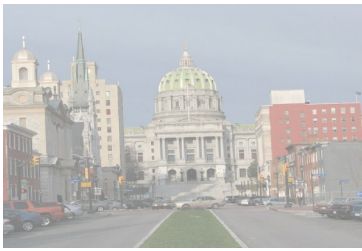


The 97th Annual CASA Educational and Training Seminar (ETS) took place this year from May 6-9 in Niagara Falls, NY. Attendees were treated to not only a program filled with topics of importance, but

also spectacular weather and natural scenery. A broad range of topics were discussed, many serious, some were humorous to help the message stick. Presentations are now available on the main CASA website (www.casafdo.org). The NFC Chaired the Planning Committee, and received very

positive feedback from those present. It was our own conference members who volunteered to help in what ever capacity they could that were responsible for this event running as smoothly as it did. Thank you to all who helped, your efforts and commitment to the NFC are appreciated!

2014 Annual Educational and Training Seminar Announced!



Initial details have been announced regarding the 98th Annual Educational and Training Seminar. This event is scheduled for May 12 – 15, 2014 in Grantville, PA. Please visit the CASA website frequently to get

Seminar in Grantville, May 2014

information as it becomes available. Rooms fill fast, so please consider booking earlier. Feedback from this years event has already been reviewed

and applied to capitalize on some great suggestions from this years participants. Also keep in mind that there is often funding available from CASA to help offset expenses associated with this annual event.

98th Annual Educational and Training Seminar

May 12-15, 2014

Grantville, PA

“NFC holds steady with 30 members paid for 2013.”

CASA Summer Board Meeting

On July 29-31, 2013, Executive Board Representative Blake Ireland Travelled to Hershey, PA to participate in the CASA Board Meeting. The Review of the 2013 ETS was finalized and feedback was used in planning events and agenda items for the 2014 ETS. Financial and membership reports were reviewed. NFC holds steady with 30 members paid for 2013. In an ef-

fort to increase involvement of associate members, there is an initiative CASA wide to reach out to the industry.

The FDA grant that has been so helpful in allowing more members attend the annual seminar was also discussed. The necessary paperwork is being completed applying for funding this year. Please visit the CASA website for information.

Additional topics covered:

- Updates to the CASA Policy and Procedures manual were discussed.
- Marketing initiatives to promote CASA were discussed.
- Scholarship Committee was identified.
- Responsibilities of Executive Board Members were reviewed.

Meeting Attendance

With the announcement of upcoming meetings, we thought it was a good time to discuss with members a challenge we have encountered in the past. When our training seminars are planned and booked, venues are more and more often asking for commitments of numbers. These are non-refundable commitments. We put deposits down on anticipated attendance, and confirm

numbers shortly before the event. If we get RSVP's from 25 members, we confirm for that number to ensure enough food is prepared. If only 20 people show up, the NFC still has to pay for those who did not attend. In order to provide you with a good value, we keep the margins tight and don't generally run these to make a profit. We do understand that things pop up last

minute, especially with what we do, and these will always be unavoidable. We are just asking that if you have confirmed your attendance, please let us know as soon as you are aware that you are unable to make it.



NFC sometimes has to pay for empty seats.



[CASA Main Page](http://www.casafdo.org/index.cfm)

www.casafdo.org/index.cfm

[Niagara Frontier Conference Link](http://www.casafdo.org/niagara/niagara.cfm)

<http://www.casafdo.org/niagara/niagara.cfm>

Educate, Partner, Protect

Niagara Frontier Conference Officers Contacts

President:

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Member Profile

NFC: Blake Ireland has been a fixture within the CASA organization for many years serving in capacities ranging from Local Conference Officer through CASA President. Although Blake has retired from a long career as a public servant, he continues with his active involvement in CASA as Past President and NFC Executive Board Representative. In our first installment of the member profile series, we asked Blake what being a part of CASA has meant to him.

Blake: "CASA membership has been a valuable asset for me. I have had the opportunity to meet some wonderful people and share my food regulatory experiences with those who have the same interest and dedication in carrying out their duties on the Canadian and American sides of the

border. The networking and contacts made with various groups within CASA has allowed one to work with a very large team of professionals. Not only does this make the work exciting but forms a partnership that will last forever. It allows one to achieve excellence through collaboration. It most certainly has played an



Using his sense of humor, Blake introduces a speaker at the 97th ETS.

important role in the professional update of one's knowledge in protecting the public on food safety issues."

NFC: Thank you Blake for your time in discussing your CASA experiences. Thanks also for your involvement over the years with CASA and your local conference. We look forward to seeing you at the upcoming meetings.

What does being part of CASA mean to you? Please send your thoughts to any of your conference officers (above) and you may be featured in an upcoming issue!

Editors note: Thanks to Mike Rashti/ Jack Welte, Carol Kerley-Rimmer, and Yin Lee for the photo's used in this issue!