



QFA Annual General Meeting Highlights

QFA celebrates 60 years

The Quebec Farmers' Association held its annual general meeting at Macdonald Campus of McGill University in Ste. Anne de Bellevue on Friday, Nov. 17. The event, which also formally marked the organization's 60th anniversary, was well attended.

Among the special guests were Kathleen Weil, Quebec's new minister responsible for the English-speaking community, and Geoffrey Kelley, Quebec's minister for Aboriginal Affairs.

A panel discussion focusing on food production, Canada's national food policy, agri-tourism and farm successions was featured during the morning session. The event, moderated by John Buck, the executive director of Huntingdon-based CEDEC, which has offices across the province, provided lively discussion. CEDEC is a leader in economic and entrepreneurial development and community revitalization in English-speaking regions across Quebec.

The panel included Paul Thomassin, associate professor of agricultural economics at Macdonald Campus; Diana Bronson, executive director of Food Secure Canada, the national voice of the Canadian food movement that has been actively involved in lobbying the federal government in developing a national food policy; Scott Ross, director of business risk management and farm policy for the Canadian Federation of Agriculture; and Daniel Sutherland, who co-manages his family farm in Godmanchester, Que., and is business development manager for Farm-to-School, a non-profit that works with communities, farms and schools to empower agricultural, nutritional and environmental youth literacy across the province. He is a graduate of McGill's Macdonald Campus Dip. Farm Management and Technology program (2011) and holds a bachelor's of science degree in International Business Management in Food and Agribusiness from the Royal Agricultural University in England. He also has a certificate in Brazilian agri-business from the Universidade Paulista, in Sao Paulo, Brazil.



What's a 60th anniversary without a cake?



John Buck moderates the panel, which included Paul Thomassin (left), Scott Ross, Daniel Sutherland and Diana Bronson.

