

# Plant Canada Report 2003/2004

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**Secretary:** Paul Cavers, [pcavers@uwo.ca](mailto:pcavers@uwo.ca)

## Member Societies and Their Representatives on the Plant Canada Board of Directors

CBA (Canadian Botanical Association) <http://www.uoguelph.ca/botany/cba/>

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Christian Lacroix, [lacroix@upei.ca](mailto:lacroix@upei.ca)

CPS (Canadian Phytopathological Society) <http://www.cps-scp.ca/cps.htm>

Richard Martin, [martinra@agr.gc.ca](mailto:martinra@agr.gc.ca)

Bruce Gossen, [gossenb@agr.gc.ca](mailto:gossenb@agr.gc.ca)

CSA (Canadian Society of Agronomy) <http://www.agronomycanada.com/about.html>

Yousef Papadopoulos, [papadopoulosy@agr.gc.ca](mailto:papadopoulosy@agr.gc.ca)

Gavin Humphreys, [ghumphreys@agr.gc.ca](mailto:ghumphreys@agr.gc.ca)

CSHS (Canadian Society for Horticultural Science) <http://www.cshs.ca/>

Yves Desjardins, [yves.desjardins@plg.ulaval.ca](mailto:yves.desjardins@plg.ulaval.ca)

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CSPP (Canadian Society of Plant Physiologists) <http://www.cspp-scpv.ca/>

Deep Saini, [hs.saini@umontreal.ca](mailto:hs.saini@umontreal.ca)

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CWSS (Canadian Weed Science Society) <http://www.cwss-scm.ca/>

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This year has seen some changes to the membership of Plant Canada. First the bad news - the Canadian Society of Soil Science has withdrawn. As the current president Ed Gregorich explained, their council wanted to retain more flexibility for their society to meet with other Earth Science groups. Now for the good news - the Canadian Society of Horticultural Science has joined Plant Canada. A very warm welcome to this group.

### Brainstorming Session

Representatives from all member societies met in Guelph on June 23, 2004 to discuss a wide variety of issues, some of which will be brought to the next meeting of the Board of Directors for consideration. Minutes of the meeting can be obtained from the secretary, Paul Cavers.

### Most Recent, Past Meeting

In June of 2003, members of the CBA and CSPP enjoyed the Plant Canada meeting in Antigonish, NS. Heartfelt thanks to David Garbary and his team of organizers and volunteers who hosted a splendid meeting with down-east hospitality.

### Future Meetings

**2005 in Edmonton, AB** June 15 – 18, with a possible extension to June 19. Here is some information from the chief organizer, Michael Deyholos.

## **What is Plant Canada 2005?**

Plant Canada 2005 is the first joint meeting of the six Canadian scientific societies listed above. The meeting will be hosted on the University of Alberta campus, which is situated in the heart of Edmonton and serves over 34,000 students. With an expected participation of more than 600 conference delegates, Plant Canada 2005 will be an excellent opportunity to network and to exchange ideas about plant biology.

## **Scientific Program**

The scientific program is designed to highlight Canadian research, to strengthen ties between the memberships of the various scientific societies and to provide opportunities for students to make presentations to a national audience. Three plenary sessions, sixty mini-symposia, and several special evening sessions have been organized to accomplish these goals.

## **Social Program**

With an average June daytime high of 20 C and 17 hours of sunlight daily, where else but Edmonton in the summer? This climate will allow visitors to enjoy long evenings on patios along Whyte Avenue, as well as the conference banquet at Fort Edmonton Park. We have also organized a number of optional excursions to places of cultural or scientific interest, including the Muttart Conservatory, Devonian Gardens, Elk Island National Park, Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Center, and West Edmonton Mall.

## **Membership of Organizing Committee**

Shafeek Ali, CWSS, [shafeek.ali@gov.ab.ca](mailto:shafeek.ali@gov.ab.ca)

Randy Currah, CBA, U of A, [randy.currah@ualberta.ca](mailto:randy.currah@ualberta.ca)

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I am sure Michael (or the organizer from your society) would welcome your ideas for the ambitious conference they are in the process of organizing.

## **2007 in Saskatoon, SK**

Lead organizing group: Canadian Phytopathological Society.

Contact at this time: Richard Martin, [martinra@agr.gc.ca](mailto:martinra@agr.gc.ca)

## **Other Items**

Plant Canada was represented at two meetings of the Agricultural Institute of Canada (AIC) facilitated by the Canadian Agri-Food Research Council. The AIC is moving toward forming an umbrella organization, the nature of which is still under discussion.

The following are available upon request ([cpeterson@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:cpeterson@uwaterloo.ca)).

1. A list of the Plant Canada Board of Directors with mailing addresses
2. Full reports on the AIC meetings of Nov. 15, 2003 (by Paul Catling) and Apr. 24, 2004 (by Carol Peterson)
3. Full report on a meeting with CFBS Nov. 15, 2003 (by Paul Catling)

July 22, 2004

C.A. Peterson