MINUTES CSGA 115th Annual General Meeting Fairmont Chateau Whistler, BC July 8, 2019

The 2019 joint CSGA-CSTA Annual Meeting, *Reaching New Heights*, opened Sunday, July 7th with a golf tournament, family fun run/walk, icebreaker reception and President's reception. At 8:00 am on Monday morning July 8th the meeting continued with a Children and Youth Program, a Companion Program and the Joint CSGA-CSTA Session on Seed Synergy.

Joint CSGA-CSTA Session: Seed Synergy

Seed Synergy Project Update

Panel: Seed Synergy Oversight Committee: Todd Hyra (CSTA), Roy Klym (CSGA-West), Claude Lapointe (CSI), Rod Merryweather (CPTA), Jonathan Nyborg (CSGA East), Morgan Webb (CSAAC)

A session was held on a Seed Synergy Project update where panel members presented an update on their vision, progress and plans towards a single National Seed Organization (NSO). They also introduced Chris Loreto (Toronto) and Conal Slobodin (Ottawa), two of the StrategyCorp consultants responsible for developing the NSO Transition Plan. Chris outlined StrategyCorp's plans for seed sector meetings and data collection this fall, sector consultations next winter, a final Transition Plan road map by April 2020 and NSO implementation by September 2020.

Members' Feedback on National Seed Organization (NSO), to StrategyCorp consultants and the Oversight Committee identified many areas for additional focus and clarification. Members identified an urgent priority should be separation of the very controversial Value Creation discussions from less controversial elements of the Synergy collaboration project. It was noted that harmonizing advocacy and regulatory responsibilities and functions within a single national seed organization may be difficult. The proposed NSO Transition Plan, developed by StrategyCorp consultants, should clearly describe all proposed functions of the NSO and realize that many members may not consider all functions of equal value. Comments were made that the NSO governance model and/or Board needs to truly represent the seed sector stakeholders. Members questioned how Provincial representatives can be utilized best in a single NSO. Members wanted assurance that the Oversight Committee is truly authorized by seed sector stakeholders to proceed with major decisions and that the majority of members are adequately consulted. Finally, comments were made that the practical value of a single National Seed Organization (NSO), to grass roots producers of grains and oilseeds, should be clearly described and effectively communicated.

Seed Regulatory Modernization

Panel: Glyn Chancey (CSGA), Wendy Jahn (CFIA) and Austin Mowat (AAFC)

A session was held on Seed Regulatory Modernization where panel members summarized developments on seed regulatory modernization including Government of Canada policies, CFIA Seed Regulatory Modernization proposals and the Seed Sector Value Chain Round Table. The Government of Canada policies that impact agricultural regulatory reform include the Agri-food and Aquaculture Regulatory Roadmap to identify priority areas for regulatory changes that improve sector efficiency. To improve engagement with ag sectors, AAFC plans to revitalize and broaden the mandates of Value Chain Round Tables. The CFIA has a target of Fall 2021 for introduction of seed regulatory modernization proposals (in Canada Gazette Part 1) expecting those changes to take effect in 2022 when published in Canada Gazette Part 2. Finally, the Seed Sector Value Chain Round Table (SSVCRT), co-chaired by Dave Carey (CSTA) and Liz Foster (AAFC), has been asked by CFIA to develop recommended regulatory changes. This task has been delegated to a new Seed Regulatory Modernization Working Group (SRM-WG) co-chaired by Glyn Chancey (CSGA) and Wendy Jahn (CFIA).

Seed Regulatory Modernization: Identify Pain Points in Canada's Current Seed System

Panel: Krista Erickson (CSAAC), Doug Miller (CSGA), Mike Scheffel (CSGA) and Roy van Wyk (CSI) An additional session on Seed Regulatory Modernization was held where panel members discussed four main categories of different functions of the current seed system, related regulatory requirements and potential changes that could be considered for a 'Next Generation Seed System'. The categories were Research and Development, Market Entry and Commercialization, Production and Processing and Sales and Distribution. Follow-up discussions provided recommendations from experienced professionals for the new Seed Regulatory Modernization Working Group (SRM-WG) of the Seed Sector Value Chain Round Table which has been asked by CFIA to develop recommendations for regulatory changes.

Members' Feedback from the meeting identified that many procedures for seed imports and exports are unduly awkward and should be reviewed to improve efficiency. The Plant Biosafety Office needs to provide a more predictable, clear path to market in order to prevent stifling access to plant breeding innovation in Canada for Plant with Novel Trait's (PNT's), and novelty pre-assessments. Finally, Canada needs clear regulatory guidance on varieties and products derived from gene editing.

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CSGA Opening Business Session

Opening Remarks, President's Report

CSGA President Jonathan Nyborg called the meeting to order, welcomed all to the 115th Annual Meeting of CSGA, reviewed the agenda for this meeting and the Minutes from the 2018 Annual Meeting in Montreal. Jonathan reported on CSGA highlights in 2018-2019 and reminded members to share their thoughts on the Seed Synergy project transition planning with Chris Loreto and Conal Slobodin, the StrategyCorp consultants attending this meeting who are developing a transition plan for a National Seed Organization.

Motion: Eric McLean moved, and Carl Bolton seconded, acceptance of the following Agenda for this CSGA Business Session Annual Meeting. CARRIED

Agenda

- 1. Opening Remarks, President's Report
- 2. Annual and Financial Report
- 3. CSGA Directors' Perspective
- 4. AOSCA Update
- 5. Closing Remarks and Resolutions Committee
- 6. Adjourn

Motion: André Lussier moved, and Dave Wuthrich seconded, acceptance of the Minutes from the 2018 Annual Meeting in Montreal. CARRIED

Annual and Financial Report

CSGA Executive Director Glyn Chancey reviewed the draft 2018-2019 Audited Financial Statements, which were circulated to the meeting, and answered members' questions. On the CSGA budget for 2019-2020 and beyond, he explained that government funding for ongoing Seed Synergy work has not been forthcoming although several applications are underway. The Synergy projects include transition to a national seed organization and single window regulatory modernization (including SeedCert 2.0). Whether CSGA dips into reserves to maintain momentum on all fronts or slows down until additional funding is available, some form of temporary levy may be required. That option would require a Special Members meeting or meetings to secure members' approval.

Motion: Carl Bolton moved, and Daniel Sanders seconded, acceptance of the 2018-2019 Audited Financial Statements for the Canadian Seed Growers' Association (CSGA). CARRIED

Motion: Roy Klym moved, and Tom Jackson seconded, appointment of KPMG as auditors for the Canadian Seed Growers' Association (CSGA) in 2019-2020 at remuneration set by the CSGA Board of Directors. CARRIED

CSGA Directors' Perspective

In this session moderated by Shawn Brook of Issues Ink, a panel of the CSGA Board of Directors asked members directly for feedback on the future changes proposed for CSGA. Introductory comments on the future were provided by directors Peter Boswall ('no longer worried about seed growers losing their

voice'), André Lussier ('rapid change is possible'), Eric McLean, Kevin Runnalls and Laurie Wakefield included: 'beneficiaries should pay', 'rapid change is not only possible but required', 'value creation is important for the entire agri-food value chain', and 'no longer worried about seed growers losing their voice'. When directors asked members for a show of hands, on whether CSGA should invest more, the same or less (than in the past) in the future of the seed sector, an overwhelming majority voted for more.

AOSCA Update

Chet Boruff, Chief Executive Officer of the Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies, provided an update on seed certification in the United States with many historical highlights on AOSCA's 100th anniversary. Chet reminded the meeting of Canada's critical role in the 1919 founding of the International Crop Improvement Association (now AOSCA) and the vital role of many Canadians in AOSCA over the last century.

Closing Remarks and Resolutions Committee

CSGA Past President Kevin Runnalls asked members to submit resolutions, by 22:00h, Tuesday July 9th, to a member of the Resolutions Committee which includes Norm Lyster, Kevin Runnalls and Dave Wuthrich.

CSGA President Jonathan Nyborg reminded members of upcoming events:
15:30h Mon. July 8: Fireside Chat with marketing guru, Jason Kingsley
18:00h Mon. July 8: Fun Night on Blackcomb Mountain with 'Lumberjack and Lumberjill' show
7:00h Tues. July 9: 'Diversity' Breakfast on the Woodlands Terrace
8:00h Tues. July 9: CSGA Session on Shaping SeedCert 2.0 and the Single Window initiative

Adjourn

This CSGA Opening Business Session was adjourned at 15:00h, to be continued at 8:00h, Tuesday, July 8, 2019.

Joint CSGA-CSTA Session: Fireside Chat with Jason Kingsley

"From Seed to Sprout: Cultivating Creativity and Storytelling"

Jason Kingsley is a bestselling author and provides a marketing guru's personalized communication strategies on the best way to tell the right story.

Joint CSGA-CSTA Joint Family Fun Night

After a gondola ride up to the top of Blackcomb Mountain, members at the Family Fun Night enjoyed dinner, the panoramic mountain view and a Lumberjack and Lumberjill show.

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CSGA Business Session

SeedCert 2.0 - A Road Map

An interactive session was held and moderated by Warren Wilson of Intersol. It began with SeedCert 2.0 overview presentation by CSGA on a technology enabled vision for seed certification in Canada, followed by a seed sector panel discussion and dialogue with the audience, presenters and panelists.

Highlights of the presentation on SeedCert 2.0 by Doug Miller, Managing Director of Certification and Technology Services, and Mike Scheffel, Managing Director of Policy and Standards, provided a simplified explanation of how block chains and other distributed ledger technologies (DLT) actually work, their potential value and some current examples of 'smart contracts'. A vision of how SeedCert 2.0 could expand CSGA's current 'info hub' (SeedCert 1.0) to provide a streamlined end-to-end digital seed traceability system. A report on a 2018 Identity Preserved (IP) Soybean Blockchain Pilot Project. And finally, a progress report on the recent 'Single Window' project activities including a recent variety profile data workshop.

A stakeholder panel comprised of Annie Bergeron (Les Grains Semtech), Jeff Reid (SeCan), Craig Riddell (Riddell Seed Co.) and Kevin Runnalls (Country Aida Farms) provided feedback on how SeedCert 2.0 can help with identify preserved programs to build public trust and reinforce crop producers' social license, help improve variety-specific traceability, improve efficiency by integrating with data management systems of variety distributors and testing labs, and help seed growers continue to lead in Canadian agriculture.

Audience comments on SeedCert 2.0 identified that malt barley producers, for craft breweries, would value this level of traceability, but it was also noted that expanding this to the commodity market is tricky, as traceability value is limited when large volumes go into grain elevators. A member commented on the great potential but cautioned setting up a higher traceability standard that doesn't fetch a premium price from consumers. A member questioned if there is another value-added possibility in selling inspected variety-specific to markets other than the planting seed market.

Joint CSGA-CSTA Intellectual Property Meeting

Government Update on Value Creation Consultations

A session on a Government Update on Value Creation Consultations was held by Carla St. Croix, of the Strategic Integration and Competitiveness Branch of AAFC's Policy Directorate, and Anthony Parker, of the CFIA's Plant Breeders' Rights Office. They reviewed outcomes from their recent consultations, on potential funding models to support future variety development, some preliminary economic impact analyses for wheat and some next steps required.

Key messages from producers at consultations indicated that much more information is required by producers on background, context and especially economic impact analyses (both micro and macro). In addition, more discussion with, and input from, producer organizations is required. It was also noted

that preferred funding model should include producers' input into decision making, especially on the allocation of funds.

Next steps included:

- More economic impact analysis to be done, with a broader scope (including oats, barley and flax if data is available) and more depth.
- Continue consultations with online access for feedback.
- A panel of 11 producers, from across Canada, will review the next round of consultation documents.

Comparison of Value Creation Models and SVUA Pilot in 2020

A session on the Comparison of Value Creation Models and SVUA Pilot was held with Lorne Hadley of the Canadian Plant Technology Agency (CPTA) leading the discussion. Lorne used a chart, included within the member registration packages, to compare the presently proposed models to fund future variety development, End Point Royalties (EPR) and Seed Variety Use Agreements (SVUA). He also outlined potential plans for a pilot project in 2020 to evaluate an SVUA administration system.

Perspectives on Value Creation - Panel Discussion

An audience interactive session on Value Creation and government consultations with panel discussions with Lynn Jacobsen (Alberta Federation of Agriculture), Gunter Jochum (Western Wheat Growers), Rod Merryweather (FP Genetics) and Laurie Wakefield (CSGA) was held on the Perspectives on Value Creation which was moderated by Warren Wilson of Intersol.

CSGA Annual Awards Ceremony Lunch

At the CSGA Annual Awards Ceremony Lunch, CSGA President Jonathan Nyborg thanked outgoing members of the Board of Directors for their many years of service to CSGA. Kevin Runnalls, the Past-President and Awards Committee chair, then welcomed Bob Rugg of Saskatchewan as the new Honorary CSGA President for 2019 to 2022.

CSGA annual awards include the Honorary Life Award, presented to persons who, by distinguished services to the Association, have contributed to the betterment of Canadian agriculture; and the Robertson Associate Award, presented to members who have fulfilled with utmost fidelity and success their obligation to the Association. Honorary Life Awards were presented to Patti Rothenburger of Manitoba and Brenda Trask of Ontario. Robertson Associate Awards were presented to Ed Hadland of British Columbia, Doug Heaman of Manitoba and Les Trowell of Saskatchewan.

CSGA Business Session

CSGA Modernization and Professional Development

A session on CSGA Modernization and Professional Development was held by Glyn Chancey, CSGA's Executive Director and Caroline Lafontaine, Managing Director of Communications and Client Services. The session was opened with an update on some current CSGA modernization and professional development activities and how to support evolving member and industry needs in this era of Seed Synergy and Regulatory Modernization.

CSGA Membership and Governance will see improvements in the coming year. After reviewing recent legal advice on several ongoing operational challenges, the CSGA Board has decided to clarify the definition of 'seed grower' by supporting an outcome-based policy that is more production system and

business model neutral, explore new professional development pathways for Plot producer accreditation, reform and expand CSGA's recourse (appeal) mechanisms to allow aggrieved parties to present their cases to the appeal body on the same terms as staff (appellants were not traditionally present to make their own case) and continue supporting the priority status of CSGA's professional development initiative.

CSGA Professional Development initiative is well underway with a partnership being made with the Canadian Agricultural Human Resource Council (CAHRC). This partnership will lead to the development pf National Occupation Standards (NOS) for seed production for the categories of Labourer/Worker, Supervisor and Manager, including a validation process, and development of voluntary online eLearning training materials for seed production with curriculum development taking place in 2019 through 2020 and launch of an online learning hub by 2021.

Panel Discussion

Panel: Shannon Bieman (Maitland Lane Farms), Roy Klym (Rolo Farms Ltd.), Portia MacDonald-Dewhirst (CAHRC), Richard Stamp (Stamp's Select Seeds), and Sarah Weigum (Alect Seeds).

Beginning with comments from the following panel and moderated by Warren Wilson of Intersol, the opening presentation was followed by a discussion and dialogue with the audience, presenters, panelists and the CSGA Executive Committee, on the following five questions:

- 1. Do you support the direction of the CSGA Board's recent decision?
- 2. Has the Board gone far enough or too far with:
 - accommodation of different production models?
 - strengthening of the recourse mechanisms?
 - accommodation of different of competency acquisition models?
- 3. Do you have any suggestions on how this policy direction can best be implemented?
- 4. Should it be accompanied by stronger compliance efforts?
- 5. What suggestions do you have on how to attract and develop new seed growers?

Adjourn

This CSGA Business Session was adjourned at 16:00h to be continued at 8:00h, Wednesday, July 10, 2019.

CSGA-CSTA Joint Gala Banquet

After the Gala Banquet, Jamie Clarke, an internationally acclaimed adventurer and business CEO, took the audience on a unique journey where he demonstrated that the power of teamwork, innovative thinking and an entrepreneurial spirit can conquer any goal.

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CSGA Business Session

Opening Remarks

Jonathan Nyborg, CSGA President, opened this CSGA Business session with a welcome to new members of the Board and thanks to retiring directors. He also thanked members who drafted Resolutions and encouraged all to participate in their discussion.

Nominations Report

Kevin Runnalls, Past President, presented the following nominations for the 2019-20 Board of Directors for member consideration and ratification:

Seed Grower Directors

British Columbia: David Wuthrich Alberta: Scott Horner and Glenn Logan Saskatchewan: Joe Rennick and Laurie Wakefield Manitoba: Eric McLean and Ryan Murray Ontario: David MacKellar and Dale Connell Québec: André Lussier and Martin Provencher Maritimes: Jim Baillie and Peter Boswall

Provincial Ministers of Agriculture Advisors

British Columbia: Lori Vickers Alberta: Mark MacNaughton Saskatchewan: Mitchell Japp Manitoba: Chami Amarasinghe Ontario: Joanna Follings Québec: Djiby Sall New Brunswick: Peter Scott Nova Scotia: Steven Tattrie Prince Edward Island: Steven Hamill

Advisor

Bryan Harvey, Saskatchewan

Executive Committee for 2019-2020

Djiby Sall, Quebec: as Provincial Government representative Dale Connell, Ontario: 2nd Vice President Joe Rennick, Saskatchewan: 1st Vice President Jonathan Nyborg, New Brunswick: President Kevin Runnalls, Ontario: Past President

Resolutions Report

2018 Resolutions

Responses to the following members' resolutions from the 2018 CSGA Annual Meeting in Montréal were reviewed:

Resolution #1 – 2018 AGM

WHEREAS: A lot of effort went into making the 2018 CSGA Annual Meeting in Montreal, Quebec a success; and

WHEREAS: Numerous organizations provided funds to assist with the financing of the Annual Meeting THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That CSGA extends thanks to all the speakers, special guests, members of the local organizing committee, staff and all level of sponsors for their efforts and contributions to the 2018 CSGA Annual Meeting in Montreal, QC and to provide a list of those in the Annual Report.

Response to Resolution #1

All those who contributed to the 2018 CSGA Annual Meeting in Montreal, Quebec, were thanked by CSGA.

Resolution #2 – 2018 AGM

WHEREAS: It is the Canadian Seed Growers Association's mission to represent and support its Members and advance the seed industry.

AND WHEREAS: It is important to the success of Members to have their contact information listed under the varieties they have available in the provincial seed guides and CSGA's online Pedigreed Seed Locator.

AND WHEREAS: Carryover seed stocks are not currently listed under the existing system.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Canadian Seed Growers Association develop a system in which Members can enter their carryover seed variety and pedigree, accompanied by a legitimate crop certificate number in order to be listed on the CSGA Pedigreed Seed Locator and in provincial seed guides.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the carryover seed listing system be available in time to have carryover seed listed in 2019 provincial seed guides.

Response to Resolution #2

This service was offered to members in 2018-2019 through a CSGA form available in CSGA's Members' Area. The form provides a vehicle for members to self-declare carryover seed, and requires a valid crop certificate number for CSGA validation purposes. Carryover seed is posted in CSGA's online Pedigreed Seed Locator, and made available to provincial seed guide publishers.

2019 Resolutions

Members were reminded that their voting cards are required for resolution votes and the following member's resolutions from this 2019 CSGA Annual Meeting were presented and discussed:

Resolution #1

WHEREAS: A lot of effort went into making the 2019 CSGA Annual Meeting in Whistler, British Columbia a success; and

WHEREAS: Numerous organizations provided funds to assist with the financing of the Annual Meeting THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That CSGA extend thanks to all the speakers, special guests, members of the local organizing committee, staff and all level of sponsors for their efforts and contributions to the 2019 CSGA Annual Meeting in Whistler, BC.

Moved by: Dave Wuthrich; Seconded by Jonathan Nyborg CARRIED

Resolution #2

WHEREAS: Canadian Seed Growers Association has membership of over 3,000 members, mostly individual or family farms;

AND WHEREAS: Certified seed is the foundation of progressive agriculture;

AND WHEREAS: All the royalties to be collected in any of the Value Creation models will be fully funded by the Seed Growers and Commercial Growers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the CSGA membership receive at least 2/3 (66.67%) of the positions at the governing table of the newly created Seed Synergy organization.

Moved by: Ed Lefsrud; Seconded by Kevin Runnalls AMENDED

After extensive discussion on the extent of personal, vested interests of seed growers and the importance of their strong voice in a National Seed Organization, and the importance of CSGA's showing trust, not mistrust, in merger negotiations with Synergy project partners, the Mover and Seconder of Resolution # 2 accepted the following amended version of Resolution # 2.

Resolution #2 - Amended

WHEREAS: Canadian Seed Growers' Association has membership of over 3,000 members, mostly individual or family farms;

AND WHEREAS: Certified seed is the foundation of progressive agriculture;

AND WHEREAS: Seed growers have a personal and vested interest in the seed industry; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the CSGA Board maintain the recognition of CSGA membership size both in terms of membership numbers and financial contribution representation on the new Board of a National Seed Organization.

Moved by: Shannon Bieman; Seconded by Joe Hickson CARRIED

Resolution #3

WHEREAS: It was revealed by CSGA management that CSGA spent close to \$500,000 on Seed Synergy in 2018 – in nine months;

AND WHERE AS: CSTA is primarily responsible for advocacy and CSGA is responsible for the Canada Seeds Act, with the primary purpose of CSGA being the quality control, in a third-party role, to produce seeds of excellent quality;

AND WHERE AS: The seed growers of Canada need a separate strong voice to maintain the quality and improve the efficiency and application of the CSGA;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That CSGA members not be required to spend more funds in 2019 for CSTA advocacy, as the spending of these funds increases the seed basis cost to seed purchasers and make pedigreed seed less competitive with grown from non pedigreed seed.

Moved by: Tom Jackson; Seconded by Ed Lefsrud TABLED FOR NEXT YEAR

After a brief discussion, in which several members opposed the proposed restrictions on CSGA's financial management flexibility, the Mover and Seconder of Resolution #3 requested **Resolution # 3 be Tabled**.

Resolution #4

WHEREAS: The board of CSGA has asked for comments and ideas about Seed Synergy; AND WHEREAS: As the industry moves forward and any proposed model must be achievable, affordable and acceptable to the CSGA membership;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the board of CSGA consider the model proposal of CSGA, CSI and CSAAC join together and have memorandums of understanding with CSTA, CPTA and Crop Life.

Moved by: Carl Bolton; Seconded by Ron Markert CARRIED

Several members suggested Resolution #4 should be tabled until Transition Plan recommendations are received this fall from the StrategyCorp consultants. The Mover and Seconder of Resolution #4 agreed and emphasized that this Resolution #4 was simply direction to CSGA, from members at their Annual Meeting, for both the StrategyCorp consultants and the Board to consider this fall and winter in their Transition Plan development and decisions.

Member to member session

CSGA members had the opportunity to discuss priority issues in a closed member to member session.

Adjourn

On a motion by Dave Wuthrich, seconded by Tom Jackson, this CSGA Business Session of the Annual Meeting, on Wed., July 10, 2019, was adjourned.

Joint CSGA-CSTA Biotechnology Meeting

Challenges with the PNT System

A session was held on the Challenges of the PNT System by Claudio Feulner, Regulatory Affairs and Policy Coordinator with CSTA. Claudio outlined several issues involved with improving the Plants with Novel Traits (PNT) regulatory system. Included in his presentation were Canadian plant breeder survey results, examples of Plant Breeding Innovation (PBI) products not commercialized in Canada and development of the global regulatory framework.

Transparency

The focus of an update from Krista Thomas, Director of Plant Innovation with Canada Grains Council, was on government and value chain signals for transparency of plant biotechnology products and a grain trade perspective on voluntary industry solutions.

Solutions

Ian Affleck, Vice-President of Plant Biotechnology with CropLife Canada, outlined key elements of the Technical Working Group's work plan including novelty opinion process and revised guidance: 'Am I Novel?', tiered risk assessments and removal of pre-market requirements for conventional breeding.

CFIA Perspective

Heather Shearer, Plant Biosafety Office National Manager with Canadian Food Inspection Agency provided the CFIA perspective on the workplan of the Technical Working Group.

Adjourn

This Joint CSGA-CSTA Biotechnology Meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon, Wednesday, July 10, 2019.