OUR MISSION

To provide research, production knowledge and market development support to Manitoba pulse and soybean farmers.















02.10.21 • VIRTUAL PRESENTATION

OUR UISION

Manitoba farms sustainably producing profitable, quality pulse and soybean crops.



▼ 2020 MPSG BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Chair Calvin Penner – Elm Creek



Vice Chair Melvin Rattai – Beausejour



DirectorHailey Jeffries
– *Brandon*



DirectorBryce MacMillan
– *Marquette*



DirectorBen Martens
– *Boissevain*



DirectorBrendan Phillips
– *Hartney*



DirectorJohn Preun
– St. Andrews



DirectorFrank Prince
– Waskada



Director Garrett Sawatzky – *Altona*



Director Ernie Sirski – *Dauphin*

For 2021, a Call for Nominations to fill three, three-year terms on the MPSG board of directors was advertised. The following nominees submitted their nomination papers for election.

MEET THE 2021 INCUMBENT NOMINEES

Ben Marten – Boissevain

Ben was first elected to the MPSG board in 2014. Together with his family, he operates a grain and cattle farm at Boissevain.

They have added peas to a traditional rotation of wheat, canola and barley. In 1999, they started to grow edible beans and have seen first-hand the advantages of early maturing varieties.

Over the years, Ben has sat on MPSG's research committee, was a representative with both the Grain Growers of Canada and the Prairie Grain Development Committee and most recently served as a director on the Pulse Canada board.

Ben looks forward to serving the membership of MPSG and continuing his involvement on the challenging issues that are important in the pulse industry.

Brendan Phillips - Hartney

Brendan grew up on a farm near Hartney. After graduating from the University of Manitoba with a degree in Agriculture, he returned to the area to farm with his family. He is actively involved in his community serving on several local boards. He and his wife Jaclyn enjoy working alongside each other and raising their children Danica, Harris and Louie on the family farm.

Brendan has sat on various MPSG committees and most recently, with his interest in ag policy, served as chair of the policy committee. He has also represented MPSG on the board of the Grain Growers of Canada.

Brendan looks forward to continuing to represent Manitoba's pulse and soybean growers' interests and feels it is important to bring forward a strong producer voice to work on the challenges facing our industry.

MEET THE 2021 NOMINEE

Bryce Pallister - Portage la Prairie

Bryce comes from a fifth-generation family farm in rural Portage la Prairie.

Many of Bryce's memories, life experiences and lessons in farming have been in the pulse and soybean industry. From riding with his grandpa swathing green lentils, to meeting edible bean growers from all over the world or going through some tough bean harvests that seemed like they would never end, these experiences have been extremely important to his personal growth on the farm.

Bryce looks forward to sharing his knowledge and learning from others while representing MPSG. In his own words, "MPSG has done a great deal for our industry and I'd like to do what I can to help it stay a strong independent voice for our members".

▼ MPSG STAFF



The first named is chair

Executive - C. Penner, M. Rattai, B. Phillips

Governance/HR - B. MacMillan, F. Prince

Policy – B. Phillips, M. Rattai, J. Preun, B. Martens, E. Sirski

Finance/Audit - M. Rattai, J. Preun

Nominating - E. Sirski, B. MacMillan, F. Prince

Communications/Member Relations –

H. Jefferies, B. MacMillan, E. Sirski, G. Sawatzky

Market Development – H. Jefferies, J. Preun, B. Martens

Research – F. Prince, G. Sawatzky, B. Phillips, M. Rattai, B. Martens

U of M Research Agronomist Advisory Committee – F. Prince, J. Preun



Executive Director
Daryl Domitruk
daryl@manitobapulse.ca



Director of Finance and Administration Melissa Denys-Roulette *melissa@manitobapulse.ca*



Director of Communications Toban Dyck toban@manitobapulse.ca



Business Manager Sandy Robinson sandy@manitobapulse.ca



Program Administrator Wendy Voogt wendy@manitobapulse.ca



Production
Specialist – East
Cassandra Tkachuk
cassandra@manitobapulse.ca

▼ 2020 MPSG REPRESENTATIVES

Canadian Grain Commission Pulse Sub-Committee – D. Domitruk

Grain Growers of Canada - B. Phillips

Keystone Agricultural Producers

- General Council C. Penner
- Pulse/Oilseed Sub-Committee B. Phillips
- Commodity Group C. Penner, M. Rattai

MCVET - C. Tkachuk

PGDC/PRCPSC – B. Martens, D. Domitruk

Pulse Canada – B. Martens, H. Jefferies (alt)

• Sustainability – F. Prince

Soy Canada - E. Sirski, M. Rattai

Western Canadian Pulse Growers Association

- WGRF B. Dalgarno (MPSG) (term 2019-2023)
- CGC Western Grain Standards Committee E. Sirski (exp. 2021)



Production Specialist – West Laura Schmidt laura@manitobapulse.ca



Agronomist – On-Farm Network Megan Bourns megan@manitobapulse.ca



On-Farm Technician lan Kirby ian@manitobapulse.ca



► SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

TIME	ITEM	PRESENTER	ACTION
8:00 am	Call to Order – Special Meeting	Cal Penner	
8:02 am	Approval of Agenda – Special Meeting	Cal Penner	MOTION to Approve
8:04 am	Meeting Procedures	Cal Penner	
8:05 am	Proposed Amendments to By-Laws	Cal Penner	MOTION to Adopt
8:15 am	Adjourn	Cal Penner	Adjourn

► GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

TIME	ITEM	PRESENTER	ACTION
8:15 am	Call to Order	Cal Penner	
8:17 am	Approval of Agenda	Cal Penner	MOTION to Approve
8:19 am	Meeting Procedures	Cal Penner	
8:21 am	Minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting	Cal Penner	MOTION to Adopt
8:23 am	Nominating Committee Report	Ernie Sirski	
8.25	Auditor's 2020 Report	Alex George	MOTION to Approve
	Appointment of Auditors for 2021	Cal Penner	MOTION to Appoint
8:35 am	SR&ED Presentation	Melissa Denys-Roulette	
8:38 am	Executive Director's Report	Daryl Domitruk	
8:48 am	Research & Production Report	Daryl Domitruk	
8:58 am	Resolutions Committee Report	Ernie Sirski	MOTION to Approve
9:05 am	Outgoing Director Acknowledgement	Cal Penner	
9:07 am	Open Discussion and Questions	Cal Penner	
9:15 am	Other Business	Cal Penner	
9:20 am	Adjourn	Cal Penner	Adjourn

Scientific Research & Experimental Development Tax Credit

Farmers that contribute check-off dollars to MPSG and are in good standing are eligible to claim the federal Scientific Research & Experimental Development (SR&ED) tax credit.

For the 2020 tax year, 34.67% of MPSG check-off qualifies for the SR&ED tax credit.

For more information on the process of claiming the tax credit, please consult your accountant or visit the Canada Revenue Agency website.

The 2001–2020 MPSG SR&ED tax credit rates are available on the MPSG website manitobapulse.ca.

▶ 2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

February 12, 2020 | Victoria Inn Hotel and Convention Centre, Winnipeg, MB

ITEM	AGENDA ITEM	PRESENTER
1	8:00 am – Annual General Meeting called to order	C. Penner
2	Agenda MOTION: That the agenda for the February 13, 2019 Annual General Meeting be approved as presented. • J. Preun / Seconded: M. Rattai – CARRIED –	
3	Meeting Procedures	C. Penner
4	Minutes of the 2019 AGM MOTION: That the minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting be adopted as circulated. • Moved: E. Sirski / Seconded: E. Scheurer – CARRIED –	C. Penner
5	Nominating Committee Report and Confirmation of Directors On behalf of the Nomination Committee chair, H. Jefferies, B. Phillips read the committee report. The committee reported that the terms of the following four directors expire as of this meeting: Bryce MacMillan, Frank Prince, Melvin Rattai and Ernie Sirksi. All four submitted their nomination papers and have agreed to let their names stand for re-election. Since no other names were submitted to the Nomination Committee, members are elected by acclamation to four, three-year terms (2020–2023). Introduction of returning board members.	B. Phillips
6	Auditor's Report MOTION: That the 2019 audited financial statements be adopted as presented by Alex George of George & Associates Chartered Professional Accountants Inc. • Moved: J. Preun / Seconded: B. Michaleski – CARRIED –	A. George
7	Appointment of Auditors MOTION: That George & Associates Chartered Professional Accountants Inc. be appointed auditors for the Manitoba Pulse & Soybean Growers for 2020. • Moved: M. Rattai / Seconded: B. Phillips — CARRIED —	C. Penner
8	SR&ED Presentation M. Denys-Roulette presented the 2019 SR&ED eligible claim.	M. Denys- Roulette
9	Executive Director's Report F. Labelle presented the Executive Director's report.	F. Labelle
10	Research and Production Report D. Domitruk presented the 2019 research and production report.	D. Domitruk
11	On-Farm Network Presentation and Discussion M. Bourns reported on the On-Farm Network and discussion followed.	M. Bourns
12	Resolutions Committee Report On behalf of the Resolutions Committee chair, H. Jefferies, B. Phillips read the committee report. The committee reported that resolutions could not be received from the floor per the MPSG by-laws and that no resolutions were submitted prior to the December 1, 2019 deadline. The board brought forward the following two resolutions to its members. 1. In 2020, MPSG will act as an agent on behalf of its producer members in all matters relating to Scientific Research & Experimental Development (SR&ED). • Moved: J. Preun / Seconded: B. MacMillan – CARRIED – 2. Be it resolved that all acts, contracts, and payments, made, done, and taken by the directors and officers of the Association, be and are hereby approved, ratified, sanctioned and confirmed. • Moved: B. Michaleski / Seconded: J. Preun – CARRIED –	B. Phillips
13	Open Discussion and Questions	C. Penner
14	Other Business There was no other business to report.	C. Penner
15	Adjourn 8:47 am MOTION: M. Rattai that the 2020 Annual General Meeting be adjourned. – CARRIED –	C. Penner





MESSAGE FROM BOARD CHAIR

Calvin Penner, Chair

WHAT A DIFFERENCE a year can make. Last year at this time, we were dealing with the hangover from the harvest that wouldn't end. It turns out that the excess moisture from last fall was a needed reserve for us on the farm this summer.

It wasn't very long ago the markets didn't have much reason to be optimistic. The world seemed to have a huge surplus of grain and prices were stagnant at best. Trade wars and elections seemed to always throw a shadow over agriculture and our established markets. I hope you weren't like us and sold most of your crop at what seemed like decent prices and missed the market run on soybeans. As I write this, at the beginning of January, soybean prices are in the teens. I hope that there will continue to be strong markets for a while.

The question now is, how much new crop should we defer and what will be a good price? The fight for acres among the principal crops could be promising for some of the smaller crops. Time will tell, but we certainly live in interesting times.

Speaking of interesting times, we will be holding our AGM virtually this year. We look forward to your input and questions. We certainly would like to be able to chat in-person at CropConnect, but that will have to wait for another year.

I would also like to thank François Labelle for the direction and guidance he gave MPSG during his tenure here. His knowledge of the pulse industry proved to be very valuable. I would also like to thank Daryl Domitruk for his leadership as we continue to be a research and extension-focused organization.

One of the ongoing discussions we have had as a board is what MPSG's involvement should be in ag policy. While we continue to be primarily a research and extension association, we are working with our industry partners who have policy analysts and budgets to do policy work.

Staff continues to work closely with Roquette and MERIT, staying up to date on their progress as their facilities come online and their grower contracts become available. MPSG values these connections to the protein industry. We see ourselves as an information resource for these companies as well as a conduit through which they can have access to Manitoba's pulse and soybean farmers. Rest assured, we ensure your interests are represented each and every time we interact with these large companies.

Our staff has had to change the way they do their work, which means that they work from home and don't drive together when going to research sites. I would like to thank them for being adaptable and continuing to do a great job.

MPSG's On-Farm Network takes questions that farmers have about production practices and researches those practices with the help of the farmer. The replicated trials take the variability out of the trials. Our staff can take the data and compare it to similar trials across the province and also compare it to past years.

It is valuable to me as a farmer to have an independent expert third party looking at what is happening on my farm and give me their educated opinion and not try to sell me something.

MPSG's commitment to research remained strong in 2020. The organization has allocated about \$6.7 million to research projects since 2018.

For the most part, these funds are leveraged with federal and provincial government funds under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership(CAP). We also jointly fund research with other grower groups as well as the Western Grains Research Foundation. In total, we have leveraged just under \$19 million.

The Agronomist-in-Residence research program at the University of Manitoba is one of our major research investments. MPSG's funding commitment allows the university to conduct applied research into basic production issues for pulse and soybean farmers. This work, along with the On-Farm Network, helps fill the gap between academic research and farm application of research results.

Please go to the MPSG website for more information and we look forward to seeing you in the future.

Sincerely,

Calvin Penner





MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Daryl Domitruk, Executive Director

IN SUMMARIZING 2020, I'll first deal with the obvious and tell you that, like our members, MPSG rolled with the pandemic punches and carried on with most of our usual services to pulse and soybean growers. The board and staff implemented operational protocols and contingency activities that kept everyone safe and productive through the seasons.

Despite the challenges, crop-wise, 2020 was an improvement over 2019. This helped with field activities such as crop surveillance and on-farm tests. Field research at universities and AAFC also benefited from improved crop conditions. However, in some cases, research was curtailed due to pandemic restrictions.

Of course, virtually all in-person extension was cancelled. A tip of the cap goes to our fellow researchers and extension professionals who, under trying circumstances, really delivered with alternative approaches to research and extension. 2020 showed we are among a community of truly dedicated partners.

A disappointing crop and low soybean prices in 2019 sent MPSG into 2020 with a degree of caution regarding our balance sheet. On the staffing side, we set aside the role of extension coordinator in favour of recruiting a production specialist for western Manitoba. We continue to operate our extension program with two qualified agronomists – one in the east and one in the west. The east-west team approach helps us keep a closer watch on crops and build more familiarity with our members and their farming conditions. In addition, with the retirement of François Labelle, I assumed the role of executive director. We chose to leave vacant my former position as director of research and production and fold those responsibilities into the executive director function. The upshot is as of the end of 2020, MPSG was operating somewhat leaner but with a sharpened focus on our goals and priorities. With our focus contained to three major crops, we were able to find efficiencies and adjust staff assignments on a continuous basis. Fortunately, MPSG's skilled and dedicated staff embrace this way of doing business. With them, we will continue to move with our members through the up and down world of pulses and soybeans.

Despite a reduced headcount, the board's desire for a slightly deeper dive into policy has been implemented. With discussions advancing on business risk management and a variety of regulations, we've mostly been working with our sister

organizations in Manitoba and with Grain Growers of Canada, Pulse Canada and Soy Canada nationally to ensure the pulse and soybean voice is heard.

In some circles, at least, it is starting to be recognized that pulses and soybeans offer Canada a unique value proposition. Our country is more wealthy, healthy and sustainable because of the unique properties of pulses and soybeans. We must continue to carry this message into the centres of power to achieve recognition and the best outcomes for our growers.

The biggest challenge for MPSG is communicating with growers. Our members' time and attention is the most sought after commodity in the entire ag business. It's a competitive field. In 2020, we spent a lot of time on communication strategy to ensure we're never too far from the minds of our members. In the end, we kept to our formula of simple mediums (our magazines are still delivered to your mailbox as well as your inbox) filled with timely, relevant and pitch-free crop production knowledge. The pandemic has thrown the communications game wide open. Frankly, we don't know what mediums will work in the future. However, we're sure we'll only be expanding on our underlying purpose of providing objective science-based production advice.

Entering 2021, it's already apparent some of the challenges of 2020 continue to linger. If 2020 did anything, it left us prepared to move forward. And so, with tasks before us such as maintaining government's commitment to research, contributing climate change solutions and adaptations and spurring economic recovery, we're ready to have our members' backs as they move forward in farming.

Sincerely,

Daryl Domitruk

PhD, PAg



RESEARCH AND PRODUCTION REPORT

Daryl Domitruk, Executive Director

IN 2020 DESPITE the constraints imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, MPSG continued to invest in research to solve production challenges and uncover opportunities for pulse and soybean growers. Research was complemented by a significant extension and communications program..

RESEARCH

Each year, MPSG's research committee confirms the direction and outcomes that guide the development and funding of new projects. Again in 2020, the committee's decisions were brought to government, university, college and other public laboratories to develop projects that when extended to growers, advance their knowledge of pulse and soybean production.

Research investments targeted escalating production costs along with improvements to yield and crop quality. Improved soil health and the capture of new markets rounded out the list of primary research targets. Whatever the research topic, MPSG projects continue to be conducted at scales ranging from laboratory experiments to small-plot field studies to farm-scale trials conducted by MPSG members.

On-Farm Network

In 2020, the On-Farm Network conducted 58 trials across all major agricultural regions of Manitoba. Twelve topics were covered in dry



edible beans, soybeans and peas. On-farm trials were repeated over soil types, crop varieties and farm equipment types, allowing MPSG members to objectively assess the performance of crop inputs and agronomic practices under real farm conditions. On-farm trials complement small-plot research by subjecting small-plot results to farm-scale conditions.

Agronomist-in-Residence (AIR)

The AIR research program is a between MPSG and the University of Manitoba. AIR focuses on improving pulse and soybean profitability by bridging the



collaboration

gap between academic research and practical agronomic recommendations. This requires the Agronomist in Residence to perform both small-plot and on-farm research. In 2020, the fourth year of the program, 12 trials were conducted addressing 13 applied research topics.

Market Development

Research in pulse and soybean production is augmented by efforts to expand markets. Membership in Pulse Canada enables MPSG to access that organization's expertise in market development, human nutrition and pulse crop utilization. This provides guidance to research that directly supports market expansion. Recent growth of markets for plant protein are opening new opportunities for growers of pulses and soybeans. In addition, research into the health attributes of these crops has placed pulses and soybean front and centre in the minds of health-conscious consumers at home and abroad.

New Research Projects

In 2020, MPSG committed \$515,000 to eight new projects with a total value of \$1,914,000. MPSG's funds were complemented by \$1,030,000 from the Canada-Manitoba Canadian Agriculture Partnership and by \$368,000 from other partners including the Western Grains Research Foundation. 2020 marked the second year of a partnership between MPSG, Manitoba Agriculture and Resource Development and pea processor Roquette. Investment by Roquette in pea fractionation has increased demand for locally grown yellow field peas. To assist MPSG members in capitalizing on the opportunity to deliver peas to Roquette, a series of collaborative research and extension projects are being undertaken over three years.

PROJECTS APPROVED FOR FUNDING IN 2020

Enhancing yield and marketable quality

Investigation of pea crop rotation length and sequence for sustainable protein production in Manitoba

U of M

Improving soil health

Beneficial practices for soil and water quality, excess		
water management and drought resiliency in an		
undulating soil-landscape in southwestern Manitoba		

Agri-Earth Consulting PBS Water Engineering

Understanding how soil health affects corn and soybean yield and protein and how those effects vary by factors the grower can and cannot control

AAFC

Reducing the economic impact of pests

neducing the economic impact of pests			
The next generation of prairie herbicide-resistant surveys and surveillance	weed AAFC		
Effect of the frequency of soybean in the crop rota on Rhizobium and the soil Microbial Community	utions U of M		
Development of improved diagnostic tools for pathogens of soybean	BU		
Assessing the effects of wood ash as a soil amendr to control clubroot and on the growth and yield of wheat, canola, soybeans and field peas in northwe Manitoba soils	f New Era Ag		
Evaluation of biological crop protection products	MPSG MPSG		

Expanding markets

Evaluating feeding value of western Canadian soybean for layers, pullets, broilers and swine

U of M

AAFC – Agriculture and Agri-Food

BU – Brandon University

MPSG – Manitoba Pulse & Soybean Growers

U of M – University of Manitoba

continued ➤

PRODUCTION EXTENSION

Extension of knowledge gained through research is an essential activity for MPSG. Extension is accomplished in the following ways:

- Development and distribution of guides, fact sheets and apps.
- In-person and web-based extension events.
- Evaluation of crop varieties at multiple locations across the province.
- In-season scouting by MPSG production agronomists.

Guides and Fact Sheets

Five guides and fact sheets were developed, updated and printed in 2020. All print copies were laminated for durability. Pest scouting guides for pea, dry bean and soybean were released. Production guides for pea and soybean were also updated to include new information.

Regional Variety Testing

In 2020, MPSG continued an extensive variety evaluation program in dry edible bean, soybean, pea and faba bean. The program conducted 49 trials, including 22 soybean trials at 12 locations, 16 dry bean trials at six locations, nine field pea trials at nine locations and two faba bean trials at two locations. In each crop, the varieties tested represented all market classes available to Manitoba growers. In dry beans, separate trials were conducted for narrow- and wide-row production. Soybean varieties were grouped according to their adaptation to eastern or western growing regions as well as by maturity zone. Separate tests were conducted for herbicide-tolerant and conventional varieties of soybean. Testing was conducted in close association with Manitoba Agriculture and Resource Development and the seed industry. Results from the 2020 field season will be utilized by growers ahead of seed purchases for the 2021 crop. Results were again published in the Pulse and Soybean Variety Guide and Manitoba Seed Growers' Association's SEED Manitoba.





Extension Events



With the exception of the annual Getting it Right event in January, all in-person extension events were cancelled due to COVID-19. Getting it Right was held in Portage la Prairie, attracting 75 growers.

Topics ranged from soybean cyst nematode to market access issues to cover cropping and wireworm seed treatments.



In place of in-person extension, MPSG increased the number of bean reports issued in 2020. Ten reports were published in-season and instead of concluding after harvest, reports have continued to be issued monthly during the winter. *The Bean Report* has over 1,300 subscribers. Information contained in the



reports was gathered from staff observations of over 119 pulse and soybean fields. MPSG agronomists surveyed these fields in collaboration with government partners. Crops were examined for root, stem and foliar pathogens as well as for insects such as pea leaf weevil. Results were used to detect the emergence and spread of pests and to judge the general efficacy of pest control practices.

continued ➤



Research and Production Report continued



Unaffected by COVID-19 was growers' use of the MPSG Bean Smartphone App. The app provides various smartphone-based tools to help with fungicide applications, harvest loss assessment and many other critical steps in pulse and soybean production. In 2020, the app was installed on smartphones 351 times and recorded over 950 sessions.



The On-Farm Network annual appreciation dinner, was also cancelled due to COVID-19. In its place, MPSG distributed trial results to growers via online video and a results booklet was mailed to each participant prior its release to the general public.



BECOME PART OF THE ON-FARM NETWORK



→ By farmers, for farmers

All On-Farm Network (OFN) research is based on these important principles:

- 1. Participatory Actively engages farmers in the research process.
- 2. Precise OFN trials produce robust and statistically sound data.
- 3. **Proactive** Results from the OFN guide management decisions, aiming to improve productivity and profitability of the farm operation.

HOW IT WORKS

Your fields, your farm, your findings*

- Let us know what kind of trial you are interested in or what kind of agronomy question you have.
- Tell us when you are ready to establish your trial (e.g., at seeding or spraying, depending on trial type) and provide us with basic agronomic information for the field.
- Tell us when you are ready to harvest.
- Use the results to guide future management decisions for your farm.

WE

- Design an easy-to-implement trial to investigate your question.
- Provide support to ensure smooth trial establishment.
- Collect data and observations throughout the season.
- Provide harvest support and our weigh wagon, to get accurate harvest results (or you can use your grain cart if it has an appropriate scale).
- Compile the observations and data into a short report of trial results.

WHAT IT DOES FOR YOU

Farm productivity and profitability, optimized

- The OFN empowers you to evaluate agronomic and economic outcomes of management decisions on your farm, in your fields, under your growing season conditions, using your own equipment.
- As a participant, you become a part of a larger network of research across years and regions, which can be used to investigate bigger picture questions.

PULSE AND SOYBEAN TRIAL TOPICS

- Residue management
- Row Spacing
- Seed treatment
- Dry Bean N Fertility
- Inoculants
- Biologicals
- Seeding rate
- Fungicides

Have a different trial idea? Let us know!



To participate in the trials, contact

Megan Bourns • 204.751.0439 • megan@manitobapulse.ca or sign up at manitobapulse.ca/on-farm-network

^{*}You must be a member in good standing with MPSG to participate.



