

Canadian Seed Growers' Association

# ANNUAL REPORT

2025–2026



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\* Audited Financial Statements for 2025–2026 and Minutes of the 2025 Annual Meeting are available online at [seedgrowers.ca](https://seedgrowers.ca).

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

*This past year has been one of meaningful progress, continued transformation, and steady momentum for the Canadian Seed Growers' Association and for Canada's seed certification system as a whole.*

Seed sits at the foundation of agriculture, and the responsibility to protect its integrity has never been more important. Across the sector, we continue to see rapid change—advancing technology, shifting policy landscapes, and growing expectations for transparency, efficiency, and trust. Through all of this, CSGA has remained focused on its core purpose: supporting a strong, credible, and modern seed certification system that strengthens Canadian agriculture and supports farmers across Canada.

In 2025–2026, we continued to advance the modernization of Canada's seed system while strengthening the core structures that have supported seed growers for more than a century. Our leadership on Seed Regulatory Modernization (SRM) remained central to this work, as we continued to engage actively with government and stakeholders to advance a vision of a more streamlined, digital, and trusted certification system.

At the same time, we continued to evolve how CSGA operates as an organization. The ongoing development of digital services, improvements to core systems, and governance enhancements all reflect a clear and consistent direction: building a more efficient, transparent, and responsive Association that is ready for what comes next.

Equally important has been the continued growth and engagement of our membership community. The strength of CSGA has always come from its people—our members, our Board of Directors, our committees, and our staff.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to my fellow Board members for their leadership and commitment, to the many individuals serving on CSGA committees for their time and expertise, and to the staff whose professionalism and dedication ensure the day-to-day success of this organization. I am also deeply grateful to our members, partners, and stakeholders across the value chain whose trust, collaboration, and engagement make this work possible.

As I complete my term as President at the July 2026 AGM, I do so with genuine appreciation for the opportunity to serve this organization and this community. It has been a privilege to work alongside so many committed individuals who care deeply about the future of Canada's seed system and who continue to move it forward with purpose.

Looking ahead, CSGA is well positioned to continue building on this momentum. The foundation is strong, the direction is clear, and the commitment across the organization remains unwavering. I am confident in what comes next and in the continued leadership of this Association.

**Glenn Logan**  
President



# MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

*This year marked a period of significant execution for the Canadian Seed Growers' Association, as we moved from planning and design into delivery across a number of key priorities.*

Over the past several years, we have set a clear direction for the organization—modernizing governance, advancing Seed Regulatory Modernization (SRM), and improving how we deliver services to members. In 2025–2026, we saw that work take hold in very practical ways.

Our new membership model is now fully implemented. For the first time, all participants in the seed certification system have a defined pathway to engage directly with CSGA. The immediate focus has been on onboarding new members and establishing the processes, supports, and communications needed to ensure they can participate meaningfully. The next phase of this work will be centred on delivering consistent, tangible value across all membership categories.

We also completed a significant phase of our governance transformation. The structures are now in place, roles are clearer, and decision-making processes are more transparent and accountable. Receiving national recognition from Governance Professionals of Canada for this work was a milestone but more importantly, it confirmed the organization is operating on a stronger, more sustainable foundation.

On the policy front, SRM remained a major area of focus. This year's CFIA pre-consultation process required a high level of coordination and responsiveness. Through targeted outreach, stakeholder engagement, and strong member participation, we ensured that CSGA's positions were clearly understood and reflected in the "What We Heard" report. These efforts have reinforced CSGA's role as a credible and constructive partner in shaping the future of seed certification in Canada.

Operationally, we continued to make steady progress in modernizing how we work. The launch of Blue Tag Solutions marked an important step in expanding service delivery, while ongoing work in AI-supported appraisal of soybean inspection reports is beginning to show real potential for improving efficiency and consistency. Enhancements to core processes, including digital payments and system improvements, are reducing friction and positioning the organization for greater scale.

Taken together, these efforts represent a shift toward a more modern, service-oriented, and execution-focused organization. The systems are stronger, the processes are clearer, and the capacity to deliver is improved.

None of this work happens without people. The progress we've made reflects the efforts of a highly capable staff team, engaged committees, and members who continue to contribute their time and expertise. It has been a privilege to work alongside individuals who are committed not only to their own success, but to the strength of the broader seed system.

This will be my final message as Executive Director of CSGA. After 15 years with the organization, I leave with a strong sense of confidence in where it stands today. The direction is clear, the foundation is solid, and the organization is well equipped for what comes next. Thank you to everyone who has been part of that work.

**Doug Miller**  
Executive Director

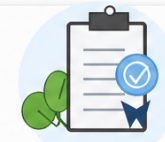


## ABOUT CSGA

### WHAT WE DO

*Since 1904, the Canadian Seed Growers' Association (CSGA) has played a central role in Canadian agriculture, delivering trusted, science-based seed certification that ensures the identity, purity, quality, and traceability of **more than one million acres of seed crops each year**. As the **national authority for seed crop certification**, we establish and manage standards that protect varietal identity and build trust from the field to the global marketplace.*

CSGA is a not-for-profit organization that brings together the full seed certification value chain to uphold and advance the integrity of Canada's pedigreed seed system. Through inclusive consultation, transparent governance, and a shared commitment to quality, CSGA supports a trusted, responsive, and forward-looking seed certification system.



**Certify seed crops to globally recognized standards,** providing assurance of genetic identity and seed quality across the value chain.



**Advance innovation in seed certification** by adopting new technologies and modern practices that improve efficiency, accuracy, and transparency.



**Champion continuous improvement and alignment with international standards** through organizations such as AOSCA, OECD, and in collaboration with the CFIA.



**Provide training, professional accreditation, and support** for growers, plant breeders, and other certified parties across the seed sector.



**Support policies and technologies that future-proof the Canadian seed system,** strengthening competitiveness, and traceability in a changing world.

## WHY WE DO IT

Seed is where agriculture begins. At CSGA, we work in partnership with government to deliver a **public good that benefits all Canadians**, helping to ensure a safe food system and a secure agricultural supply chain.

Certified seed underpins confidence across Canadian farms and food systems. Behind every field of wheat, every pulse shipment, and every new variety is a network of seed growers, plant breeders, seed analysts, and inspectors, and a **certification system that makes that trust possible**.

Seed is the starting point for many value chains, and it plays a critical role in ensuring food production, biodiversity conservation, climate resilience, agricultural sustainability, and economic development. In Canada, those who work in seed are more than producers and professionals—they are **stewards of a system that feeds nations, supports innovation, and strengthens economies**.

As the first link in the agri-food chain, the contributions of Canada's seed sector cannot be overstated. The collective commitment to seed quality, varietal purity, and genetic integrity ensures that crops are robust, diverse, and adaptable. This work supports not only Canadian agriculture, but also the communities and industries that depend on it.

## Our foundation is public trust. You can't buy it — it's earned.

Together, we are driving progress and helping build a strong, resilient future for Canada's seed and agri-food sectors.

Clean, pure seed is fundamental to Canada's reputation as a reliable supplier of consistent, high-quality agricultural products. In a time of climate change, rising global demand, and increasing uncertainty, seed quality and diversity are not just agricultural priorities—they are national ones. That is why we lead with integrity, transparency, and purpose.

### OUR CORE PRINCIPLES

In a rapidly evolving Canadian seed sector, CSGA's Mission and Vision demonstrate a clear and enduring commitment to leadership in seed certification across the agricultural landscape.

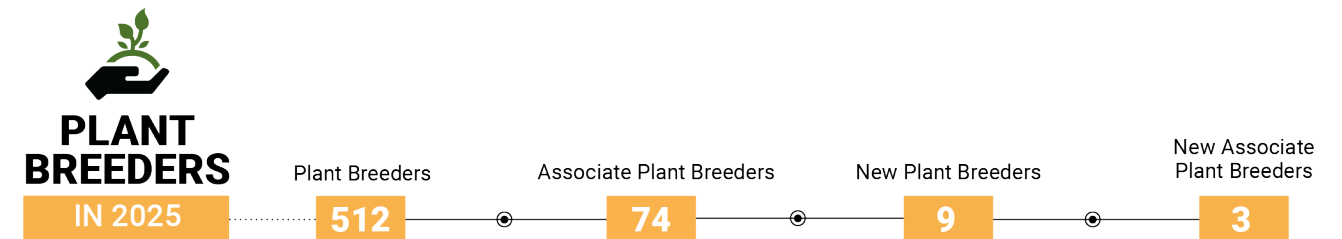
These statements guide our work, support our continued growth, and reinforce our role as a trusted leader in certification and standards-setting. They ensure we remain forward-looking while staying grounded in our commitment to quality, collaboration, and transparency.

## MEMBER DEMOGRAPHICS

CSGA members reflect the full diversity of Canada's seed certification system. From coast to coast, this community includes seed growers, plant breeders, seed analysts, inspectors, graders, and seed sector professionals, all of whom play an important role in maintaining the integrity of certified seed in Canada.

This diversity—across regions, farm sizes, crop types, and professional expertise—is one of the sector's greatest strengths. It drives innovation, strengthens collaboration, and helps ensure Canada's seed certification system remains responsive and resilient in a changing agricultural landscape. Beginning in 2025 and going forward, we are pleased to welcome our new Affiliate and Associate members, whose participation brings new perspectives and strengthens connections across the broader seed value chain at a pivotal time for the system's ongoing evolution.

### CSGA-RECOGNIZED PLANT BREEDERS IN 2025



### CSGA-PLOT PRODUCTION IN 2025



### Annual Plot Totals (2025–2023)

Plot Type	2025	2024	2023	2025 vs 2024 (+/-)
Breeder	879	762	829	+117
Foundation	64	53	74	+11
Probation	52	61	63	-9
Select	1,556	1,560	1,586	-4
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,551</b>	<b>2,436</b>	<b>2,552</b>	<b>+115</b>



### OUR MISSION

Deliver an inclusive and transparent national seed crop certification and standards-setting system that advances collaboration and innovation while upholding the highest standards of quality, trust, and excellence in seed production for the benefit of Canadian agriculture.



### OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Ensure Canada has an agile, transparent, efficient, and effective seed certification system and regulatory framework that fosters innovation, empowers farmers, strengthens collaboration across the value chain, and supports Canada's position as a respected global leader in seed.



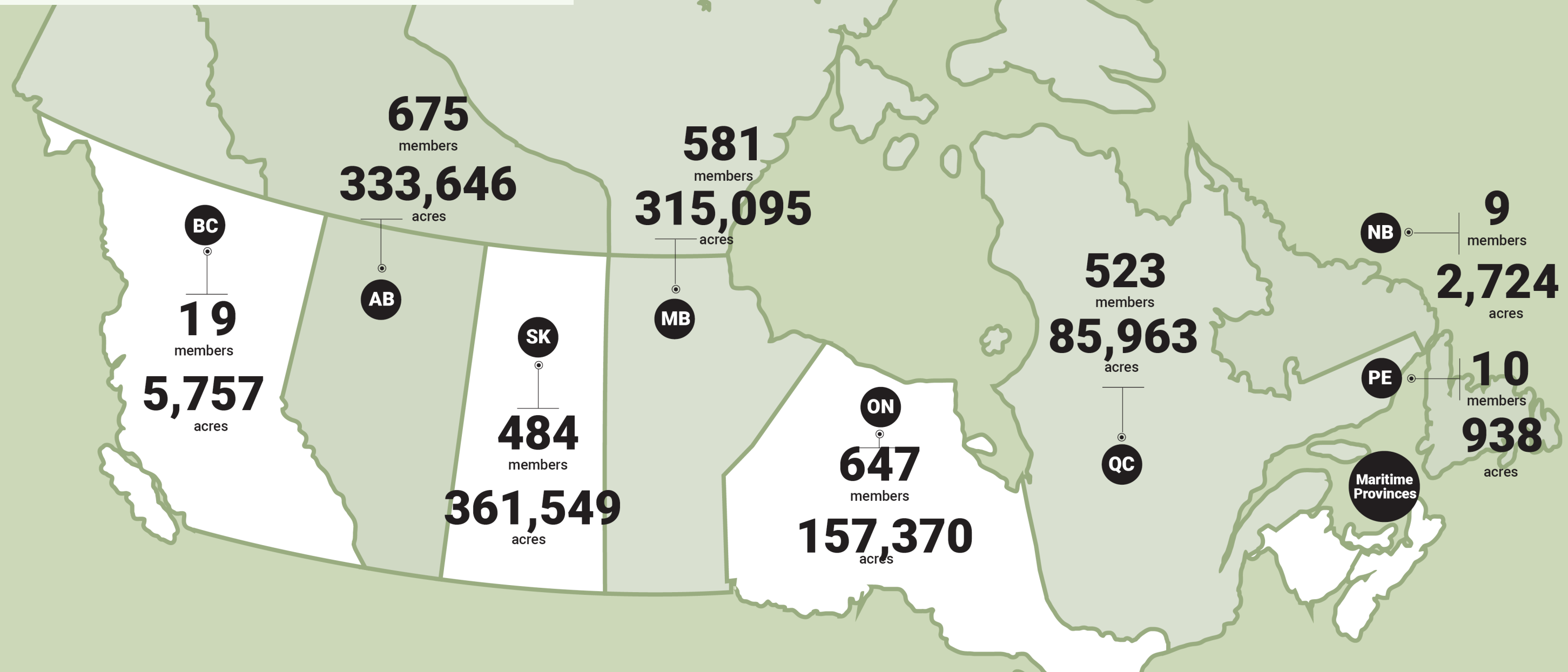
### OUR VALUES

-  Responsibility
-  Integrity
-  Accountability
-  Transparency
-  Collaboration
-  Respect

**CSGA SEED GROWERS  
ACROSS CANADA IN 2025**

**2,948 MEMBERS | 1,263,041 ACRES**

**CSGA continues to operate one of the  
world's largest seed crop certification systems.**



# A YEAR OF IMPACT

*In 2025–2026, CSGA delivered a coordinated program of work that advanced the modernization of Canada’s seed certification system, strengthened governance, and enhanced value for members.*

Through policy development, digital systems improvements, governance enhancement, and member engagement, the Association achieved measurable progress toward a more modern, efficient, and trusted organization that is better equipped to meet the evolving needs of Canada’s agriculture sector.



## STRENGTHENING CERTIFICATION SERVICES

CSGA plays a central role in maintaining the strength and integrity of Canada’s seed system, with Certified seed forming the foundation of agricultural success. By assuring varietal purity, quality characteristics, and full traceability back to Breeder seed, Certified seed gives farmers confidence in every acre they plant.

That confidence is built through a robust, multi-generation certification process designed to preserve the genetic integrity and performance traits developed by plant breeders.

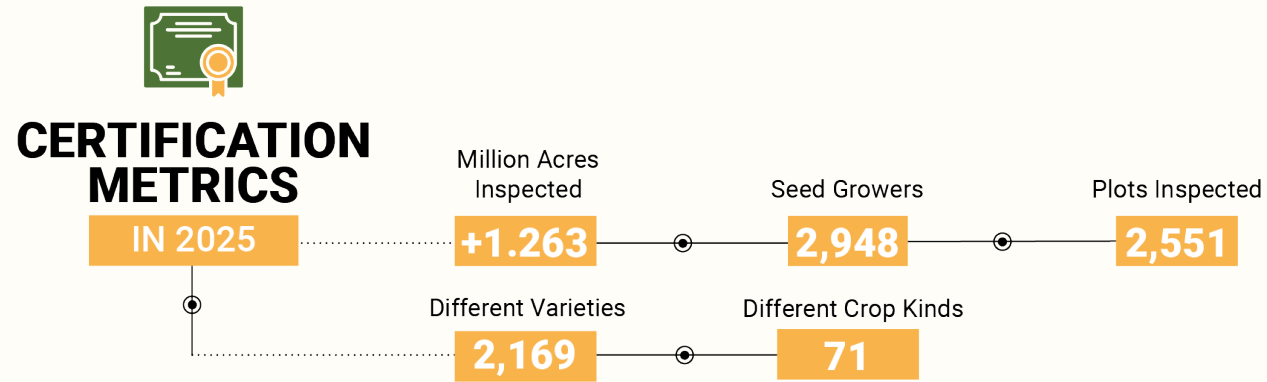
Certified seed is true-to-type—consistently delivering the characteristics farmers expect and the marketplace demands—within a system grounded in national standards, accountability, and trust.

Across Canada, more than 2,900 seed-growers across 2,500 seed-growing enterprises—from family farms to large-scale operations—produce over 70 crop kinds and more than 2,100 seed varieties each season. Supporting this scale requires a certification system that is both rigorous and adaptable.

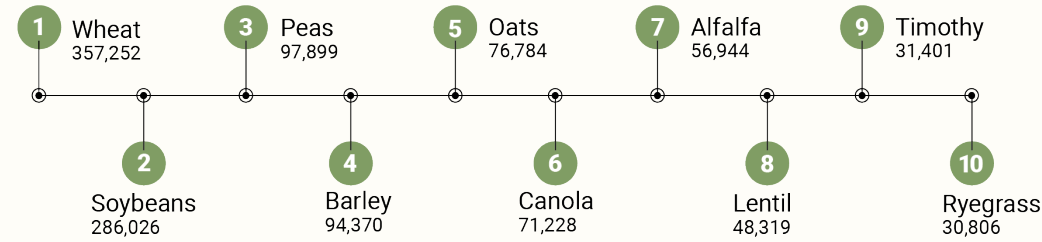
Work continued this year to strengthen the tools and systems that support seed certification services, ensuring they remain efficient, accessible, and responsive to the needs of a growing and evolving sector.



## CROP STATISTICS



## TOP 10 IN 2025

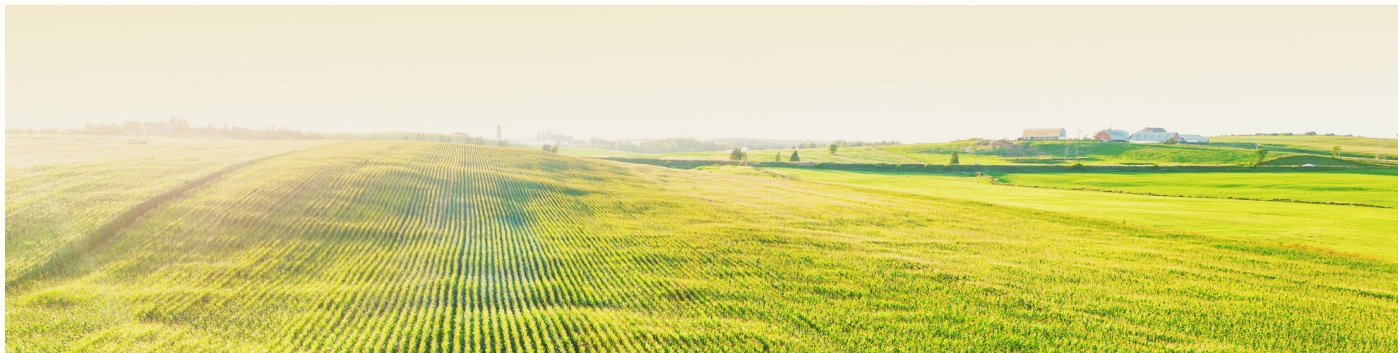


### Increased Acreage from 2025

Ryegrass +97% to <b>30,806</b>	Clover +66% to <b>3,910</b>
Flax +66% to <b>18,214</b>	Minor Crops +46% to <b>1,237</b>
Alfalfa +29% to <b>56,944</b>	Chickpea +29% to <b>12,785</b>

### Decreased Acreage from 2025

Mustard -31% to <b>2,478</b>	Buckwheat -28% to <b>1,032</b>
Barley -9% to <b>94,370</b>	Wheatgrass -5% to <b>5,461</b>
Soybeans -3% to <b>286,026</b>	No Other Decreases!



## 2025 CERTIFIED SEED ACREAGE BY CROP KIND AND PROVINCE

Crop Kind	PE	NS	NB	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	2025	2024	Change (+/-)*	
Alfalfa						9,376	25,984	21,584		56,944	44,102	12,842	
Barley	403		431	5,709	2,027	9,410	30,026	45,964	399	94,370	103,603	-9,234	
Bean					2,542	1,403	380	49		4,374	3,670	704	
Birdsfoot trefoil						2,709	100			2,809	2,585	224	
Bromegrass						609	1,469	2,725	1,525	6,328	5,837	491	
Buckwheat				600		432				1,032	1,437	-405	
Canary seed							3,013			3,013	2,488	526	
Canola					94		5,885	65,248		71,228	60,905	10,322	
Chickpea							10,809	1,976		12,785	9,908	2,877	
Clover						825	2,485	600		3,910	2,350	1,560	
Faba bean				18		399	2,940	3,513		6,870	6,347	523	
Fescue							6,685	3,126	3,956	787	14,554	12,119	2,435
Flax							2,624	12,218	3,372	18,214	10,987	7,227	
Hemp				270	234	393	724	1,645		3,266	3,099	168	
Hybrid corn					13,289					13,289	12,063	1,226	
Lentil						250	37,207	10,862		48,319	42,239	6,080	
Mustard							1,068	1,410		2,478	3,574	-1,096	
Oats			1,200	9,727	2,879	24,581	26,459	11,543	395	76,784	68,745	8,039	
Peas	154			546		14,540	46,722	35,191	745	97,899	93,713	4,186	
Rye	16		33	600		1,880	374	3,232		6,135	6,127	7	
Ryegrass	51					15,712	5,427	9,396	220	30,806	15,657	15,149	
Soybeans	60	0	469	52,489	118,337	114,268	403			286,026	294,300	-8,273	
Timothy						9,623	5,021	15,877	880	31,401	30,253	1,148	
Triticale				102	290	330	270	5,266		6,258	5,805	453	
Wheat	254		591	15,900	17,625	98,214	136,831	87,290	546	357,252	333,825	23,427	
Wheatgrass						385	2,448	2,369	260	5,461	5,764	-303	
Minor crop					52	448	160	577		1,237	849	388	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>938</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,724</b>	<b>85,963</b>	<b>157,370</b>	<b>315,095</b>	<b>361,549</b>	<b>333,646</b>	<b>5,757</b>	<b>1,263,041</b>			
<b>2024</b>	<b>1,144</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,682</b>	<b>81,991</b>	<b>168,772</b>	<b>295,252</b>	<b>319,864</b>	<b>307,711</b>	<b>4,933</b>		<b>1,182,349</b>	<b>80,692</b>	
<b>Change (+/-)*</b>	<b>-206</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>3,972</b>	<b>-11,402</b>	<b>19,843</b>	<b>41,684</b>	<b>25,935</b>	<b>824</b>	<b>80,692</b>			

## SHAPING STANDARDS FOR A MODERN CERTIFICATION SYSTEM

### Modernized Standards Policies

CSGA remains committed to an efficient, transparent, and inclusive seed crop certification system, supported by a modern and responsive standards development process. Through a collaborative, science-based approach, CSGA standards continue to evolve in step with industry needs, regulatory priorities, and international best practices.

Multi-stakeholder participation and transparency are foundational principles guiding the development and review of CSGA standards.

CSGA introduced a Provisional Standards Policy to provide clarity and direction for staff and stakeholders in developing certification requirements for new crop types, as well as accommodating new techniques or procedures to assess varietal purity and identity.

This policy framework is designed to facilitate innovation—enabling the production and commercialization of emerging crop types and the exploration of new methodologies—while managing expectations regarding achievable levels of varietal purity. Provisional requirements are grounded in the best available evidence and, where appropriate, informed by the experience of official seed certification agencies in other jurisdictions.

### Evolving Certification Standards

Over the past year, CSGA made meaningful progress through targeted consultations on our standards. A pre-consultation on the mechanical purity of cereal seed crops informed the development of proposed revisions for stakeholder consultation. Consultations resulted in updated hemp isolation requirements, and the removal of the *Report of Plot Production* (Form 50).

These initiatives reflect CSGA's ongoing commitment to simplifying processes, improving clarity, and ensuring standards remain practical and relevant within today's production environment, while continuing to uphold the rigorous requirements that protect seed quality, purity, and confidence in the certification system.

### Regulatory Services Committee and Crop-Specific Working Groups

This work is supported by a structured and inclusive governance model led by the Regulatory Services Committee and informed by crop-specific and ad hoc working groups. These groups bring together technical expertise from across the seed value chain—including growers, seed companies, plant breeders, inspectors, seed analysts, and government partners—ensuring standards development reflects both scientific rigour and real-world application.

The **Cereal Working Group** reviewed previous land use requirements for cereals and small grains. The proposed updates are expected to streamline requirements, provide greater flexibility for crop rotation, and better reflect modern production practices, supporting improved sustainability outcomes.

With support from the **Hemp Working Group** and an ad hoc subgroup focused specifically on hybrid hemp, CSGA developed provisional standards for hybrid hemp—the first standards of their kind among seed certifying agencies.

A **Select Seed Working Group** was also established to conduct a comprehensive review of post-inspection certification requirements for Select status seed in cereals, small grains, pulses and soybeans.

This work aims to modernize Select seed requirements by enhancing transparency, consistency, and traceability, while also advancing a model for a more digitally enabled certification system.

### International Harmonization

CSGA continues to align its standards development activities with international frameworks through active participation in forums that support harmonization and reinforce confidence in Canadian seed systems.

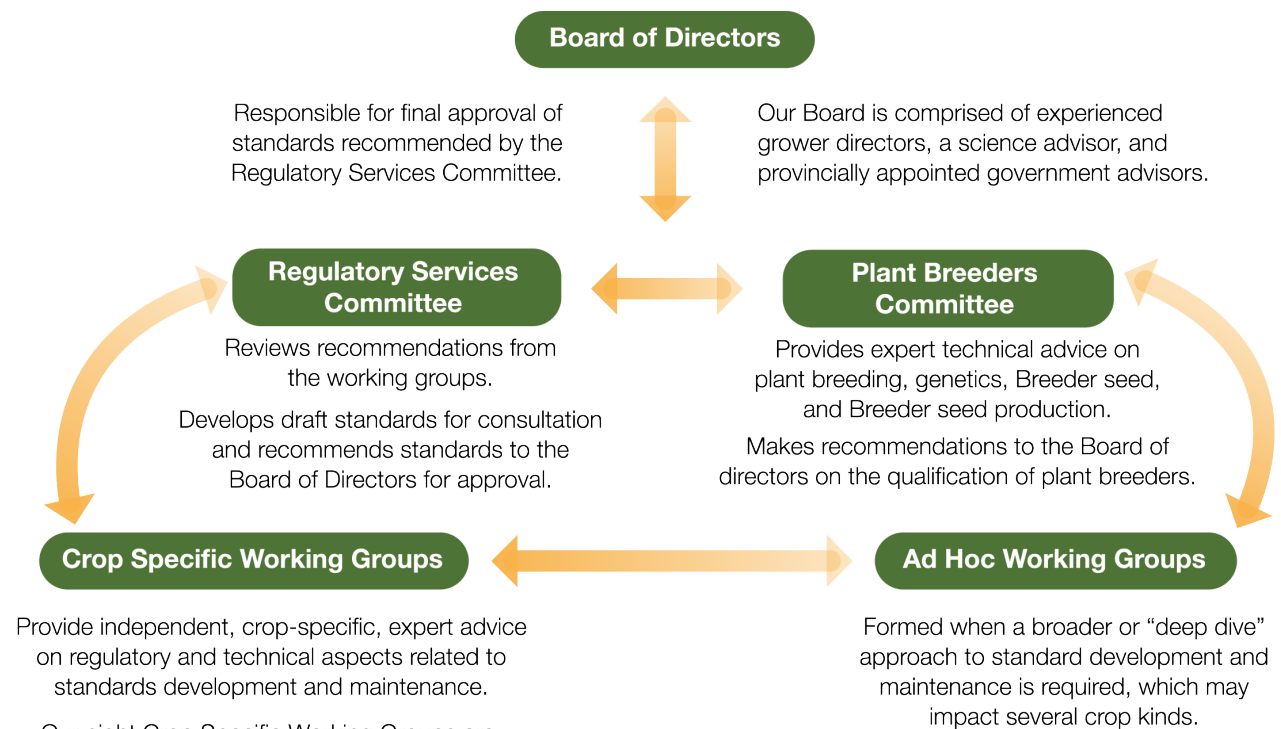
With support from CSGA, the Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies developed standards for nuclear male sterile hybrid wheat. These standards are expected to serve as a foundation for Canadian standards, supporting the anticipated introduction of NMS hybrid wheat seed production in Canada in the coming years.

### Plant Breeders Committee

The Plant Breeders Committee provides expert technical advice on matters related to plant breeding and genetics. It offers recommendations on Breeder seed and Breeder seed production, as outlined in the *Canadian Breeder Seed Requirements*, and, where appropriate, on seed and seed crop certification standards established in the *Canadian Regulations and Procedures for Pedigreed Seed Crop Production*, known as Circular 6. The Committee also advises the Board of Directors on the qualifications and recognition of plant breeders.

In 2025, the Committee initiated a review of the Quality Management System requirements for plant breeders. This work aims to evaluate alternative approaches to the current audited QMS model for mitigating risks associated with Breeder seed production, while maintaining the integrity and reliability of the certification system.

Collectively, these efforts ensure that Canada's seed crop certification standards remain robust, credible, and forward-looking—supporting a system that is trusted by producers, recognized by international partners, and competitive in global markets.



Our eight Crop Specific Working Groups are:

- Canola**
- Cereal**
- Corn**
- Forage and Turf**
- Hemp**
- Mustard**
- Pulses**
- Soybeans**

### Who They Are

Our Regulatory Services Committee and Crop Specific Working Groups are comprised of technical experts, including seed growers, seed companies, variety developers, plant breeders, seed analysts, seed crop inspectors, the CFIA, and provincial government representatives.

## LEADING SEED SYSTEM MODERNIZATION

CSGA remained actively engaged in the Seed Regulatory Modernization (SRM) process led by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), contributing to national policy development and advancing a vision for a strong, trusted, and sustainable seed certification system within Canada's evolving regulatory framework that continues to support confidence in Canadian seed.

A key focus this year was the CFIA's SRM pre-consultation process, which generated 400 submissions nationally. CSGA played a significant role in supporting participation, with 135 members and stakeholders (34% of those engaged through our campaign) contributing through a coordinated form letter initiative. This helped ensure support for CSGA's vision of a future seed system were strongly reflected in the national discussion.

Of the 52 CFIA policy proposals, CSGA's analysis and submissions reflected the following alignment with consultation outcomes:

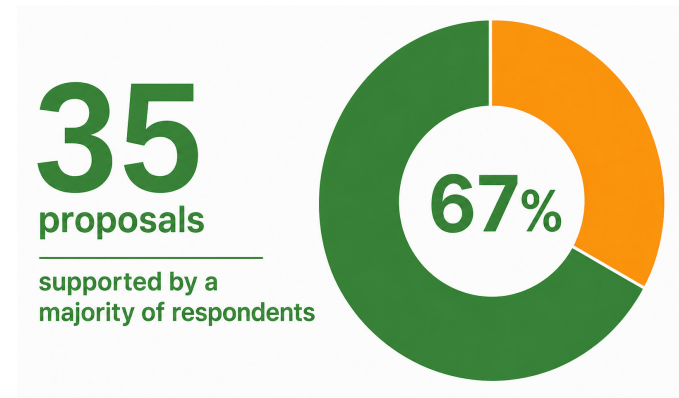
- 35 proposals (67%) supported by a majority of respondents
- 12 proposals receiving mixed responses
- 5 proposals not supported

To help explain and build support for CSGA's positions on CFIA's Seed Regulatory Modernization proposals, CSGA developed a detailed analysis of all 52 proposals using a Green-Yellow-Red-Light framework.

Podcasts and video content further supported the analysis by making complex policy issues more accessible and clearly outlining CSGA's rationale.

At the same time, SRM engagement reinforced CSGA's broader modernization agenda. This includes advocating for a more streamlined and responsive seed certification system, supported by a digital single-window approach to improve efficiency, consistency, and accessibility. It also reflects CSGA's ongoing focus on reducing administrative burden, improving system agility, and ensuring certification standards continue to evolve with science, technology, and market needs.

Together, these efforts position CSGA as an active and valued participant in shaping a modernized seed system that is transparent, evidence-based, and aligned with the long-term competitiveness of Canadian agriculture.



## ADVANCING DIGITAL INNOVATION

Work continued this year on strengthening the tools and systems that support seed certification services.

### Launch of Blue Tag Solutions

A key milestone this year was the launch of Blue Tag Solutions, a new subsidiary created to pilot innovation for the seed and grain sector.



Blue Tag's first project is a collaboration with ZoomAgri. Focused on training AI models using images of pedigreed Canadian wheat varieties, this initiative is designed to demonstrate how image-based artificial intelligence can:

- Support seed certification activities
- Reduce the cost and complexity of seed testing
- Strengthen identity preservation and value-added opportunities linked to certified seed
- Enhance traceability and market confidence for Canadian crops

Blue Tag Solutions has been intentionally structured to remain independent from CSGA's core certification mandate, ensuring clear separation between regulatory functions and innovation activities.

CSGA also advanced exploratory work in the application of digital tools and automation within certification systems, including early-stage artificial intelligence applications to support the appraisal of soybean crop inspection reports. These initiatives are intended to improve consistency and support more efficient service delivery over time.

Collectively, these initiatives reflect ongoing efforts to modernize certification services and improve operational efficiency while maintaining system integrity.



## STRENGTHENING TRUST, GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

CSGA continued to strengthen governance systems and reinforce organizational accountability throughout 2025–2026.

The Association achieved **Ag Data Transparent certification**, reinforcing its commitment to responsible data governance and transparency in the use of digital tools within the certification system.



Governance modernization efforts continued, building on previous structural and policy changes, including enhanced membership participation and updated Board governance frameworks.



CSGA's governance transformation was recognized with a Governance Professionals of Canada (GPC) Award for Organizational Governance. Judges highlighted:

- Modernization of governance tools, policies, and Board resources
- Clearer roles and strengthened accountability at every level
- A successful national consultation and By-law amendment that broadened membership across the seed certification community
- A collaborative process engaging members, branches, and stakeholders

## SUPPORTING AND ENGAGING OUR STAKEHOLDERS

Stakeholder engagement remained a core focus in 2025–2026, supported through consultations, communications, and direct participation in policy and operational initiatives.

CSGA engaged members and stakeholders on key issues including SRM, hemp isolation requirements, and other regulatory matters affecting the seed sector. Structured communications and feedback mechanisms provided clear opportunities for input into decision-making processes.

Engagement also continued through in-person outreach and relationship building. In November, CSGA and its regional Branches hosted a government reception with more than 125 agricultural and policy stakeholders, featuring remarks from MP Sophie Chatel and Senator Mary Robinson. The event raised the profile of the seed sector, fostered dialogue, and strengthened government-industry relationships.

The **Seed Scoop newsletter, e-blasts, and growing social media engagement** continued to support strong, consistent connections with members and stakeholders.

Together, these efforts reflect CSGA's commitment to being a responsive, accessible, and value-driven organization that engages partners across the system in shaping the future of Canada's seed system.



## OUR MEETINGS

*The Canadian Seed Growers' Association held its 2025 Annual General Meeting from July 3–5 in Victoria, British Columbia, bringing together more than 160 delegates and family members for one of CSGA's most well-attended AGMs in recent years. The AGM also marked an important milestone as the first held under CSGA's updated membership structure, with Regular, Affiliate, and Associate members participating in discussions shaping the future of Canada's certified seed system.*

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SUMMARY

President Glenn Logan opened the meeting by reflecting on the Association's progress over the past year and recognizing the contributions of members, committees, Board Directors, and staff.

Executive Director Doug Miller presented the annual report, highlighting key organizational activities including regulatory engagement, operational modernization, digital service improvements, member engagement, and the continued evolution of CSGA's governance and service delivery.

Managing Director, Policy and Standards Mike Scheffel provided an overview of recent and proposed updates to seed crop certification standards, reinforcing CSGA's commitment to quality, transparency, and continuous improvement.

Under the theme of innovation and sector leadership, the AGM program featured speakers and discussions focused on the forces shaping seed production. The Bridging Policy & Power panel explored how policy decisions are made and how seed sector stakeholders can help shape them. Delegates also heard presentations on drone innovation in hemp inspection, agricultural economic trends and risk outlook, artificial intelligence in agriculture, and the economic impact of Crop Development Centre programs. National and international regulatory perspectives were featured through updates from AOSCA and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency on certification system developments and Seed Regulatory Modernization.

Keynote presentations brought a broader lens to the conversations. Mike Downie, documentary filmmaker and co-founder of the Gord Downie & Chanie Wenjack Fund, spoke about the importance of storytelling and sharing the experiences, values, and perspectives that shape communities. David Coletto of Abacus Data offered insight into shifting public attitudes, political dynamics, and consumer behaviour, providing timely

context for seed growers navigating changing expectations and policy landscapes.

Delegates also participated in a practical social media workshop focused on helping growers and businesses connect more effectively with customers.

Members considered three proposals submitted through the member-to-member process. All three were approved for further investigation by the Board and staff: encouraging Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada to continue its involvement in plant breeding and variety development; engaging with AAFC on the Canadian Forage Seed Project; and reviewing regional stewardship of breeder and foundation seed for public forage varieties. Members also unanimously approved a 4.63% inflationary adjustment to CSGA service fees, effective February 1, 2026, to support the long-term sustainability of certification services.

Board elections were confirmed for all seed-producing regions, with Directors continuing to serve in Alberta–British Columbia, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, and Quebec, and Nicholas McCardle joining as the newly elected Director for the Maritimes. Trent Whiting was also welcomed as the new Affiliate Director. Glenn Logan and Shannon Bieman continued into the second year of their terms as President and Vice-President, respectively, with Dale Connell serving as Past President. Advisors appointed by Provincial Ministers also continued their service.

Beyond the business sessions, the AGM offered many opportunities for connection and community. Delegates and families took part in salmon fishing, golf, sailing, a tour of Butchart Gardens, companion and children's programming, and a Family Fun Night at Church & State Winery. These activities helped create a welcoming atmosphere and reflected the strong sense of community that defines CSGA's annual gathering.

The AGM concluded with the annual Awards Gala, recognizing individuals for outstanding contributions to Canada's seed sector. Art Gorda (Alberta) and Dr. Peter Pauls (Ontario) were honoured with the CSGA Honorary Life Award; André Lussier (Québec), Ron Markert (Alberta), Jonathan Nyborg (New Brunswick), and Joe Rennick (Saskatchewan) received the Robertson Associate Award; and Dr. Pierre Hucl (Saskatchewan) received the Clark-Newman-Clayton Award. The meeting closed with an invitation to the 2026 AGM, which will be held in Whitehorse, Yukon, from July 3–5, 2026.

# OUR PARTNERS

CSGA prioritizes partnerships to deliver on our mandate and achieve our strategic priorities.

## AOSCA, OECD SEED SCHEMES

### The International Harmonization of Seed Standards

One of CSGA's core roles is to ensure that Canadian seed certification standards are aligned with international requirements to ensure that seed trade is not negatively impacted.

- **Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies (AOSCA):** CSGA is a recognized leader within AOSCA, whose member jurisdictions include 44 U.S. states as well as Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Chile, New Zealand, and South Africa. CSGA staff hold leadership roles across the organization, including the Board of Directors, the Certification Requirements and Standards Council, the Advisory Committee, and several commodity committees. In 2025, CSGA Executive Director Doug Miller was elected President of AOSCA.
- **Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Seed Schemes:** CSGA continues to support the CFIA and represent Canada within the OECD Seed Schemes, an international forum of 64 participating countries that sets globally recognized standards for varietal seed certification. The 2025 Annual Meeting provided an opportunity for participating countries to discuss shared priorities, advance technical alignment, and support continued harmonization of international seed certification and trade standards.

## CANADIAN FOOD INSPECTION AGENCY (CFIA)

### Business Continuity and System Improvements

As co-regulators of Canada's seed certification system, CSGA and the CFIA work together to ensure effective delivery and oversight of certification services. This strong partnership is maintained through regular meetings held throughout the year.

## CANADIAN FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE (CFA)

### Seed and Agriculture Policy Development

CSGA's membership in the CFA continued to provide an effective forum for developing common policy positions with many of Canada's leading farm organizations on issues ranging from seed regulatory modernization and sustainability to the Grocery Code of Conduct. CSGA has also been actively engaged with the CFA through its Seed Sector Committee.

## CANADIAN GENERAL STANDARDS BOARD (CGSB)

### Organic Certification Standards

CSGA participated in the Canadian General Standards Board (CGSB) technical committee on organic certification standards as it reviewed proposals for revisions to the national standard.

## CANADIAN ROUNDTABLE FOR SUSTAINABLE CROPS (CRSC)

### Responsible Grain Code of Practice

CSGA supports CRSC's mission to provide a national forum for coordinating and communicating the sustainability of Canada's grain production.

## HEALTH CANADA (HC)

### OFFICE OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

### New Hemp Varieties

CSGA is an original member of Health Canada's Interdepartmental Working Group, which meets twice a year to recommend new hemp varieties for addition to the List of Approved Cultivars that are eligible to be grown in Canada.

## SEEDS CANADA

### Collaboration to Advance the Seed Sector

Seeds Canada and CSGA are Canada's predominant seed organizations, playing different but complementary roles in advancing the seed sector. Seeds Canada is an important seed sector partner, and CSGA holds an Affiliate membership in the organization.

# OUR FINANCIAL UPDATE

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

The Association closed the fiscal year ending January 31, 2026, in a sound and stable financial position, reflecting the Association's ongoing commitment to prudent stewardship of member resources. Total assets stood at \$4,180,002, compared to \$3,905,044 in the prior year – an increase of approximately \$275,000, or 7%, demonstrating continued organizational growth and financial resilience.

Current assets totalled \$1,782,615, made up of primarily cash and cash equivalents of \$1,237,257. While cash decreased from the prior year (\$1,685,753), this reflects a deliberate reallocation into short-term investments of \$200,000, a new position established during the year. The Association continued to grow its investment portfolio. Long-term investments increased to \$1,759,604, up from \$1,444,367 in 2025, which is a gain of over \$315,000. Combined with the new short-term investment position, total invested assets reached nearly \$2.0 million.

The deferred pension asset increased to \$520,882, from \$387,814 in the prior year. The increase was largely attributed to an increase in the fair value of plan assets, rather than a reduction in CSGA's pension obligations. It highlights the high standards applied to the management of our employee benefit packages.

Total net assets grew to \$3,549,283, compared to \$3,273,640 at January 31, 2025, an increase of \$275,643. The internally restricted reserve remains at \$2,000,000, in keeping with Board policy. Unrestricted net assets increased to \$1,474,471, from \$1,181,311, reflecting the Association's positive operating results for the year.

## STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

The Association concluded the fiscal year ended January 31, 2026, with a surplus of \$205,151, compared to \$197,290 in the prior year. This positive result is largely due to higher than expected investment returns and the increase in the deferred pension asset, but also reflects continued efforts to reduce or contain costs.

Total revenue reached \$4,283,872, an increase of \$306,303, or approximately 8%, over the prior year's \$3,977,569. Total expenses for the year were \$4,078,678, compared to \$3,762,042 the prior year. The increase of \$316,636 was driven primarily by higher general and administrative costs. This reflects the full cost of delivering CSGA's programs, staffing and governance functions during the year.

It is important to note that the revenue and expense figures include Branch fees and the CFIA inspection assessments, which totaled just over \$800,000 for the year. These pass-through items are funds that CSGA collects and remits back to the Branches and the CFIA. While required for reporting purposes, they do not reflect CSGA's operational revenue or expenses and can inflate the organization's perceived financial footprint by approximately 20%. When excluded, the financial results provide a clearer view of CSGA's core operations—characterized by a shrinking revenue base and growing cost pressures tied to inflation and the delivery of essential services.

CSGA's financial statements are available in **Appendix A**, and the complete audited Financial Statements for 2025–2026 are available online at [seedgrowers.ca](http://seedgrowers.ca).

# OUR STANDING COMMITTEES

## EXECUTIVE

Glenn Logan\*  
Shannon Bieman  
Dale Connell  
Peter Scott

## AUDIT AND RISK

Roy Klym\*  
Shannon Bieman  
Carl Bolton  
Glenn Logan  
Peter Scott

## INTERBRANCH COORDINATION

Roy Klym\*  
Colleen Acres  
AJ Armstrong  
Chris Barker  
Kelly Chambers  
Jean Dumont  
Leigha Beckwith  
Sarah Weigum  
Tim Montague  
Nick Petruic  
Jennifer Seward

## REGULATORY SERVICES

Shannon Bieman\*  
Stéphanie Cormier  
Janice Duguid  
Simon Ellis  
Kimiko Epp  
Milad Eskandri  
Bryan Harvey  
Joe Hickson  
Wendy Jahn  
(or designate)\*\*  
Philippe Lemaître  
Rick Love  
André Lussier  
Ryan Murray  
Lori Oatway  
Marc-Antoine Paquet  
Lynnell Pomedli  
Morgan Webb  
Joel Wenaus

## APPEALS

Ryan Murray\*  
Ian Bodnaryk  
Dale Connell  
Gabriel Provost  
Christina Rowan\*\*  
Peter Scott  
Matt Struthers  
Chelsea Tomlinson

## AWARDS

Carl Bolton\*  
Andrew Ayre  
Roy Klym  
Gabriel Provost  
Chelsea Tomlinson

## GOVERNANCE

Glenn Logan\*  
Andrew Ayre  
Carl Bolton  
Roy Klym

## PLANT BREEDERS

Bryan Harvey\*  
Kirstin Bett  
Helen Booker  
Annie Claessens  
Bruce Coulman  
Janice Duguid  
Greg Gingera  
Rale Gjuric  
Robert Graf  
Michel McElroy  
Istvan Rajcan  
Tom Warkentin

\* Chair  
\*\* Official Observers

## OUR PEOPLE

# OUR BOARD

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The CSGA Executive Committee is comprised of the President, Vice-President, the immediate Past President, and a Provincial Government Advisor.

### DIRECTORS

CSGA is governed by a Board of Directors drawn from its members. CSGA's By-laws ensure that at least one Director is nominated from each seed-producing region.

### ADVISORS

The Board is supported by nine Provincial Government Advisors, each appointed by their respective provincial Minister of Agriculture and one Academic Advisor. As official advisors to CSGA and Branch Boards, our Provincial Government Advisors provide important governance and policy development input.

#### Executive Committee



**GLENN LOGAN**  
President



**SHANNON BIEMAN**  
Vice President



**DALE CONNELL**  
Past President



**PETER SCOTT**  
Provincial Government  
Advisor

#### Directors

**Andrew Ayre**, Manitoba

**Shannon Bieman**, Ontario

**Ian Bodnaryk**, Saskatchewan

**Carl Bolton**, Ontario

**Roy Klym**, Saskatchewan

**Nicholas McCardle**, Maritimes

**Ryan Murray**, Manitoba

**Lori Oatway**, Alberta

**Marc-Antoine Paquet**, Québec

**Gabriel Provost**, Québec

**Chelsea Tomlinson**, Alberta

**Trent Whiting**, Affiliate Director

#### Advisors

**Dr. Bryan Harvey**  
(OC, SOM, FAIC, DSc, PhD, PAg),  
Academic Advisor

**Abdelkader Errajraji**, Ministère de  
l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et  
de l'Alimentation du Québec

**Krista deMilliano**, Alberta Ministry  
of Agriculture and Irrigation

**Joanna Follings**, Ontario Ministry  
of Agriculture, Food and  
Agribusiness

**Amy Sangster**, Nova Scotia  
Department of Agriculture

**Brenna Schilds**, British Columbia  
Ministry of Agriculture and Food

**Peter Scott**, New Brunswick  
Department of Agriculture,  
Aquaculture and Fisheries

**Matt Struthers**, Saskatchewan  
Ministry of Agriculture

# OUR STAFF

<b>DOUG MILLER</b>	Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer
<b>CAROLINE LAFONTAINE</b>	Chief Operating Officer
<b>PAM COLES</b>	Managing Director, Finance and Administration
<b>MIKE SCHEFFEL</b>	Managing Director, Policy and Standards
<b>GAIL HARRIS</b>	Standards Manager
<b>TANIA CALVERLEY</b>	Communications and Engagement Manager
<b>NICK FRASER</b>	Technology Manager
<b>DRAGAN ERAK</b>	Business Systems Developer
<b>BRIANNA CHOUINARD</b>	Certification Manager
<b>EMMANUEL FONDI</b>	Policy and Certification Officer
<b>JACKIE PRIDHAM</b>	Programs and Certification Officer
<b>ALEX BOUMA</b>	Certification Officer
<b>MELANIE FARAH-ROY</b>	Client Services Manager
<b>MEAGAN LEBLANC-MONTREUIL</b>	Client Support Officer
<b>BENJAMIN HUNTJENS</b>	Client Support Officer
<b>RANDY PREATER</b>	Special Advisor

# APPENDIX A

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Statement of Operations

Period ended January 31, 2026, with comparative information for the year ended January 31, 2025

	ACTUAL 2026	ACTUAL 2025
<b>Revenues:</b>		
Acreage fees	\$ 1,794,079	\$ 1,685,995
Membership fees	588,685	571,075
Client service fees	542,617	577,958
Branch acreage and membership fees	718,230	674,251
Plot fees	182,500	190,280
Assessment for CFIA inspections	82,870	57,151
Annual General Meeting Revenue	176,259	10,750
Investment and other revenue	198,632	210,109
	<b>4,283,872</b>	<b>3,977,569</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
General and administrative expenses	3,277,579	3,029,977
CFIA inspections	82,870	57,814
	<b>4,078,678</b>	<b>3,762,042</b>
<b>Excess of revenue over:</b>		
Expenses before the undernoted	205,194	215,527
<b>Other income (expense):</b>		
Loss on disposal of capital assets	(43)	(18,237)
<b>Excess of revenue over expenses</b>	<b>\$ 205,151</b>	<b>\$ 197,290</b>



### Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year ended January 31, 2026, with comparative information for 2025

	INTERNALLY RESTRICTED	INVESTED IN TANGIBLE CAPITAL AND INTANGIBLE ASSETS	UNRESTRICTED	2026	2025
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 92,329	\$ 1,181,311	\$ 3,273,640	\$ 2,463,067
Excess of revenue over expenses	-	-	205,15	205,151	197,290
Remeasurements related to pension liability	-	-	70,492	70,492	613,283
Purchase of tangible capital and intangible assets	-	21,939	(21,939)	-	-
Amortization of tangible capital and intangible assets	-	(39,413)	39,413	-	-
Loss on disposal of tangible capital and intangible assets	-	(43)	43	-	-
<b>Balance, end of year</b>	<b>\$ 2,000,000</b>	<b>\$ 74,812</b>	<b>\$ 1,474,471</b>	<b>\$ 3,549,283</b>	<b>\$ 3,273,640</b>



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