



2007 Annual Reports

APPENDIX 1 - MINUTES OF THE 2006 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

APPENDIX 2 - AUDITORS REPORT AND NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Alpaca Canada 2007 Annual General Meeting

Sunday, September 30
Kelowna, British Columbia

AGENDA

- 1) Call to Order and counting of members present
- 2) Approval of the Minutes of the last AGM held November 11, 2006
- 3) Presentation of Administrative and Committee Reports
 - a) Board of Directors Report – Allan Johnson - Vice-President
 - b) Advertising/ Marketing – Casey Dewit - Board Liaison
 - c) Communications – Oona Porter/Stella Beniuk - Board Liaisons
 - d) Fibre/Product – Catherine Simpson - Board Liaison
 - e) Show Committee – Stella Beniuk – Board Liaison
- 4) Presentation of Auditor's Report and Financial Statement
- 5) Appointment of Auditor
- 6) Announcement of newly elected directors
- 7) New Business
- 8) Adjournment



Alpaca Canada 2007 Election Report

In accordance with Alpaca Canada bylaws I put out a call for nominations for candidates to replace the four directors whose terms expire this fall, namely: Edwin Wyatt, Catherine Simpson, Casey Dewit, and James Cole. We received four nomination forms at the office on or before midnight, Monday, July 30, 2007, the last day for nominations to be considered. James Cole tendered his resignation to the board in July effective immediately. James resigned for personal, family and business reasons. Edwin Wyatt did not seek re-election. Catherine Simpson and Casey Dewit decided to let their names stand for re-election along with the two new nominees: Robert Blom and Ken Frost. The four nominees will be declared elected by acclamation at the annual meeting here in Kelowna.

Shortly thereafter we received Oona Porter's resignation effective after the annual meeting on September 30, 2007. Oona resigned for personal reasons and the board regretfully accepted her resignation. After the annual meeting, the new board intends to appoint another member to fill Oona's remaining one year term. If anyone would like to offer their skills and serve on the board, please let one of the board members know.

Respectfully Submitted

Edwin Wyatt,
President



2007 Alpaca Canada Board of Directors Report

We are pleased to report again in 2007 that your board consists of members from coast to coast, a truly Canadian organization. We held our re-organization meeting face to face in Toronto after the annual meeting in November 2006, to elect officers for the next year. We also appointed a board liaison for each of the established committees. Your board has met 16 times by teleconference since the annual meeting in Toronto. There were 3 meetings in 2006 and 13 in 2007 up to the date of writing this report. We held one other face-to-face meeting on April 20, 2007 in Red Deer, Alta. during the Canadian National Alpaca Sale and Futurity for the purpose of brainstorming in preparation for our Business Plan. Paulson Cormier and Associates, the business consultants we hired to prepare our business plan, were present at the meeting.

Following is a summary of your Board's activities during the past year:

The communication committee with some help from the marketing committee contacted alpaca breeders that were former members of CABA and/or the CLAA and had not applied for membership with Alpaca Canada in 2006 to try to find out the reason they were not taking out a membership in Alpaca Canada. The Alpaca Canada website is a work in progress and we have made some changes since the information was first put up on the site. The communications committee published "The Canadian Orgler" twice since the last annual meeting. The Canadian Orgler helps to keep you informed about what your board is doing and other alpaca-related issues during the year. As well, they have prepared and published a tri-fold brochure to promote Alpaca Canada. The brochure is now available to all members.

The Alpaca Canada 2007 Spring Stud Auction raised just under \$20,000 for advertising and marketing opportunities. Partly as a result of the success of the stud auction, we are able to run a CBC television ad campaign all year in 2007. From the stud auction we also set aside 10% of the monies raised for the Canadian Alpaca Research Fund. Dr. Greg Adams has applied for research funding for his Artificial Insemination and Embryo Transplant Project. We were hoping that we could have someone donate a female alpaca that could be auctioned off at the Alpaca Canada Futurity & Select Sale in Orangeville, Ontario on November 9 – 10, 2007, with the proceeds going to assist in the funding of that project. Please let someone on the board know if you would be interested in providing one of your females for this worthwhile endeavor.

The marketing committee has continued with the various established advertising opportunities in order for you to promote your alpaca operations. The website is just one of the opportunities, and includes "Visit a Farm" page and rotating banner ads. The 2007 Calendar and the first Complete Canadian Alpaca Guide were other opportunities they developed and these initiatives will be continued in 2008.

The show committee has almost finished re-writing the CLASS rules so that we have a more simplified set of Canadian rules under which to show our animals and their fleeces. The new rules will be known as the Alpaca Canada Show System (ACSS) rules. We hope the new rules can be officially approved by the Alpaca Canada board in time to use



Board Report continued...

them for the Alpaca Canada/CNASF National Fleece Show being held in Kelowna, BC in conjunction with the 2007 AC Conference & AGM.

The sponsorship committee is working on a proposal to present to business enterprises in an effort to find a national sponsor for Alpaca Canada. To-date, we have not had any success in our efforts in this regard.

The government relations committee was successful in obtaining \$10,000 in funding from the Diversified Livestock Fund of Alberta (DLFOA) to help with the costs of preparing the Alpaca Canada Business Plan. We are also in the process of applying for another \$18,000 from DLFOA to assist with the cost of hiring a project manager to guide your board in the implementation of the business plan. We also are applying to the Investment Agriculture Foundation of British Columbia for funding for a national fibre strategy proposal. Although application was made in BC, if successful, funds will come from BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Ontario – the five provinces with the greatest concentration of alpacas in Canada. We sincerely appreciate the contributions that the DLFOA has made to our organization. We hope to continue to access government funding to assist with various projects that are vital to the success of the Canadian Alpaca Industry.

The fibre and product committee successfully designed and implemented the first annual Design Competition at Ryerson University School of Fashion Design. Three designs were submitted and two garments were completed and will be showcased at the 2007 AC Conference & AGM. Numerous fibre-related articles were also added to the AC website and a number of changes are planned for the imminent future

In July your board regretfully accepted the resignation of James Cole. James resigned for personal, family and business reasons. James was instrumental in getting our advertising program up and running. He worked tirelessly for Alpaca Canada and his energetic, enthusiastic approach will be sincerely missed by the Board. Oona Porter also tendered her resignation from the board, effective after the 2007 AGM here in Kelowna, BC. Oona resigned for personal reasons. Oona was a valuable member of your board and worked very hard in providing member education and communication. She was instrumental in establishing "The Canadian Orgler" and worked very hard to put together a member newsletter that we can all be proud of. Oona's dedication and work ethic will be greatly missed by the new board of directors. The board will be looking to appoint someone to fill the remaining year of Oona's two-year term after the AGM, so if you are interested in serving on the board please let one of them know.

The Board is grateful for all comments we received regarding Association activities during the year. We would like to sincerely thank all those who have given of their time by serving on our various committees and would like to ask all members for their continued support and involvement during the up-coming year.

Respectfully Submitted, Alpaca Canada Board of Directors
Edwin Wyatt - President; Allan Johnson - Vice President;
Catherine Simpson - Secretary-Treasurer, Stella Beniuk; Oona Porter and Casey Dewit



Alpaca Canada Marketing Report September 2007

The objective of the Alpaca Canada Marketing Committee in 2007 was the:

- Promotion of the alpaca through a national television advertising campaign
- Produce the Canadian Alpaca Guide 2008
- Produce the Alpaca Canada Calendar 2008
- Increase the website traffic, number of information packages and number of leads for the benefit of subscribers, advertisers and the industry

Objectives and actions 2007

Promotion through National Advertising Campaign

The Marketing Committee continued with national television advertising to promote the raising of alpacas and increase public awareness.

Television

Television advertising is the most effective way to reach millions of viewers.

- TV offers the greatest range of advertising qualities by offering sight, sound and motion to generate an emotional response.
- Television has the ability to reach target market audiences quickly.
- Television appeals to more of the consumers' senses than any other medium.
- The average Canadian adult spends over 29 hours per week watching television.

A captivating 30 sec commercial invites viewers to visit the website www.alpacainfo.ca for more information and to find farms to visit.

Airtime was booked with CBC Newsworld from January to October to advertise with daily frequency in CBC Newsworld rotations of:

1. Business Update, morning rotation, Sponsorship logo with 10 sec bill board followed by commercial
2. Politics, afternoon rotation

In addition to the purchased airtime Alpaca Canada received 200 bonus spots featuring the commercial in:

- Country Canada
- Documentary Channel

The 19-week campaign features 655 paid placements reaching an estimated 17,000,000 Adults 35+

Cost: \$ 27,044. 97
Cost/1000 viewers: \$1.58
Plus 200 bonus spots
Total placements: 855
Total reach: ~19,000,000 Adults 35 +



Marketing Committee Report continued...

Canadian Alpaca Guide

Built on the success of the 2007 edition, marketing is busy preparing the Canadian Alpaca Guide 2008.

The purpose of the Canadian Alpaca Guide is many-fold:

- Informative package for mail-out for interested people seeking more information
- Inclusive reference for alpaca breeders,
- Professional addition to any farm-marketing folder.
- Excellent marketing tool for alpaca breeders/owners with 1/3 page advertising space
- Mechanism to generate marketing funds

This 96 plus page, coloured, catalogue-style guide contains:

- Editorial content 'About Alpacas' with history of alpacas, alpacas and their care, fiber production, CLAA, CAMCAN, Genetic Evaluation Program, marketing and the tax advantages of alpaca ownership
- List of affiliated businesses such as camelid veterinarians, mills, shearers, sorters/ classers and Canadian Judges
- List of Alpaca Canada Members by region
- Glossary
- 1/3 page advertising for alpaca breeders/owners
- Full page advertising for alpaca related businesses

As of Sept.1, 2007 62 advertising spaces are booked. The guide is going to print in November for distribution in January 2008. The guide will be sent to people requesting more information about alpacas. It will also serve as a membership directory for Alpaca Canada members who will receive a complimentary copy and copies will be distributed at major show events and farm fairs such as the International Plowing Match, Royal Winter Fair. For members not connected to the Internet, the guide provides an excellent opportunity to be profiled with an advertisement.

Canadian Alpaca Calendar

Marketing sold all 12 pages of both the 2007 and 2008 calendars at a cost of \$1,000/ page. The 2008 Calendar is currently being finalized and will be published shortly. The 2008 Calendar makes a great farm package item to give to prospective purchasers. It is a lovely gift for children to give to teachers or to give any person as a little token of appreciation.

Increase the website traffic for the benefit of subscribers, advertisers and the industry

Through the national television advertising campaign the awareness of the fibre producing alpaca is increasing steadily and highlights the symbiotic relationship of advertising and the website. Viewers of the alpaca commercial are channeled to the website to learn more about the fibre producing alpaca. Subscribers to the "Visit a Farm



Marketing Committee Report continued...

Page”, advertisers in the Market Place and banner ad advertisers are exposed to thousands of www.alpacainfo.ca visitors.

Internet marketing is an effective venue to market one’s enterprise/goods. The website www.alpacainfo.ca provides members the opportunity to compete in the market place with:

- Subscriptions to the Visit a Farm page with added benefit of accessing leads generated through the website
- Listing in the Market Place to highlight your farm and businesses
- Advertising with a banner ad
- Listing of stud services of prized herdsire(s) on the Stud Service page
- Listing of real estate
- Classified ads

As of Sept 1, 2007:

- 120 farms subscribe to the ‘Visit a Farm’ page (VAF) (93 farms in 2006); 29% increase
- 13 alpaca related businesses list in the Market place (5 in 2006); 160% increase

Genuine leads created through the website are available for VAF subscribers to make contact directly with these individuals. The leads are posted in the member section of alpacainfo.ca.

The website is monitored monthly to gauge the effectiveness of the national advertising campaign. Please see attached website statistics report from Jan-Aug 2007.

As of Sept 1, 2007:

Visitors:	33,834	(15,513 in 2006)	118% increase
Info packages:	517	(299 in 2006)	73 % increase
Leads:	357	(210 in 2006)	70 % increase

Interesting note: month after month the VAF and Shop Alpaca pages record the second and third highest number of visitors, after the home page.

We would like to thank all members, subscribers, and advertisers who took advantage throughout the year of the many marketing tools, thus supporting the national marketing campaign. The demonstrated increase is encouraging and is helping the national promotion for the purposes of:

- Growing the industry,
- Boost the number of alpaca farmers/ranchers and subsequently
- Increase demand for buying and selling alpacas
- Increase awareness of alpaca fibre

Respectfully submitted
Caecilia Goetze/ Chairperson
Alpaca Canada Marketing Committee



2007 Marketing and advertising opportunities and rates

WEB SITE ADVERTISING - www.alpacainfo.ca

Visit a Farm pages (VAF) + GST

Bundle 1: Listing only	\$120/year	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bundle 2: Listing with web link	\$150/year	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bundle 3: Listing with web link plus banner ad	\$180/year	<input type="checkbox"/>

'Shop Alpaca' pages (retail outlets, mills, etc.) + GST

Bundle 1: Listing only	\$120/year	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bundle 2: Listing with web link	\$ 150/year	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bundle 3: Listing with web link plus banner ad	\$180/year	<input type="checkbox"/>

Herd Sire listing + GST

# 1 List one Herd sire	\$50/year	<input type="checkbox"/>
# 2 List two Herd sires	\$80/year	<input type="checkbox"/>

Classified Ads + GST \$25/two month
*maximum 25 words

ANNUAL ALPACA CALENDAR (deadline: Aug. 30, 2007)

1 Calendar page (for 2008 Calendar) \$1000

CANADIAN ALPACA GUIDE 2008 (early bird deadline May 15, 2007)

1/3 page ad space for members *

- ALPACA FARM/ RANCH ONLY	\$275/year with Early Bird deadline May 15	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$300/year after Early Bird deadline	<input type="checkbox"/>
* <i>Discount for Online VAF subscribers</i>	\$250/year with Early Bird deadline May 15	<input type="checkbox"/>
	\$ 275/ year after Early Bird deadline	<input type="checkbox"/>

1/3 page ad for Non Member (farm) \$ 425/year

Full page ad space

FOR ALPACA RELATED BUSINESSES ONLY \$ 750/year

ALPACA CANADA NEWSLETTER 2007

Business card size advertising \$ 25 for each issue
Or \$ 75 for four issues



Communications Committee Report

The Committee's goals are as follows:

1. To facilitate communications among the members of Alpaca Canada and between members and the organization itself, including its Board of Directors, its various committees and its headquarters office in Calgary.
2. To help Alpaca Canada communicate effectively with its members and the general public.
3. To undertake other communications-related projects as opportunities arise.

Membership (east to west)

Oona Porter, AC Board director & Liaison, Nova Scotia
Melanie Hicks (starting August 2007) New Brunswick
Mary Anne Mounce, Committee Chair, Ontario
Lori Dzingala (starting in September, 2006), Ontario
Cathy Merkley, Saskatchewan
Stella Beniuk, AC Board director, Alberta

This Year's Activities

The members of the Committee continue to meet via teleconference; although they did manage one face-to-face meeting at the 2006 AGM in Toronto. The Committee has been somewhat hampered by its small size and has made several attempts to recruit additional members. Their efforts were successful with the addition of a new member from New Brunswick for the up-coming year. Unfortunately, the Committee is losing Oona Porter, who has been a very active member since its earliest days. Unfortunately, Oona cannot continue her work with the Committee, due to personal commitments. Fortunately, Stella Beniuk will continue to liaise between the Committee and the Board of Directors.

The Committee continued to create and publish Alpaca Canada's newsletter, The Canadian Orgler. As most Alpaca Canada members will recall, this name was selected by the Committee and approved by the Board last year. The name was chosen to suggest the purpose of loudly proclaiming the delights and rewards of becoming involved with alpacas. We have had amused and very positive feedback on the title selection. To date there have been three issues of The Orgler. Members of the Communications Committee have collaborated with other to write or arrange for articles to be written by suitably-qualified authors. Ideas for future articles would be very welcome from the



Communications Committee Report continued

membership and anyone who enjoys writing is welcome to contribute an article.

Also during its second year of operation, the Committee prepared reminder letters to members asking them to renew their memberships. Additionally, potential new members were sent letters.

The Committee planned and prepared a small brochure to promote Alpaca Canada. The brochure has recently been printed and will be available to all members.

Following each monthly directors' meeting, the Committee prepared "blast emails" to go out to the membership to keep everyone up to date on developments from the Board of Directors.

Finally, the Committee initiated revisions on the Handbook publication which was originally prepared by CABA about 7 years ago. The original Handbook included pockets for inserting additional material inside the front and back cover with 8 pages of information on alpacas printed in colour on gloss paper. It made a nice package for presentation to farm visitors and for promotional purposes in general. Unfortunately, the printing costs for this type of publication are quite high and the Committee is now preparing insert pages which can be included in a folder which will have a suitable label on it for presentation purposes. The insert pages will be in colour and the folder can be customized for each potential client, as all pages on a wide variety of topics will be separate insert pages. This will be less expensive than purchasing a custom-printed folder with colour pages stapled into the center of it, as was done with the original CABA folder.

Plans and Conclusion

The Committee will continue to oversee and contribute to The Canadian Orgler. The original concept was to publish it twice a year; but depending upon financial resources and interest, it could be three or four times. All committees of Alpaca Canada will have the opportunity to inform the membership of their activities through the Orgler and every Communications Committee member would appreciate any feedback the membership can provide on the issues to date or suggestions for future issues.

The Committee will finalize the Handbook and oversee its publication during the next few months.

Our Committee is working to improve communications between individual members and between members and their organization, Alpaca Canada. We want to hear from the membership about our activities so far. Any member of AC is invited to contact any of the Committee members and, of course, we are always looking for new members.



Fibre & Product Committee Report

Alpaca Canada Conference & Annual General Meeting
Kelowna, BC, 30 September 2007

In keeping with the Conference theme this year, we would like to present our activities and accomplishments in the same manner: namely, "Welcome to the past, the present, and future of the Alpaca Canada Fibre and Product Committee."

THE PAST

The first meeting of the Alpaca Canada Fibre/Product Committee was held on June 6, 2006, where we established our goals and began discussing our plans to meet those goals in a timely fashion. With the inaugural Alpaca Canada Conference being held in just a few months' time, our focus for the first five months was, understandably, our Committee's involvement in and support of the Conference. Between June and November 2006, our Committee organized:

- the first annual Alpaca Canada Fibre Daze workshop, encompassing one and a half days of workshops and information sharing
- the first annual Alpaca Canada Fleece Competition
- the first annual Alpaca Canada Yarn & Garment Competition

As well, we created and established criteria for an Alpaca Canada Student Design Competition, implemented at Ryerson University School of Fashion, beginning in September 2006 and continuing through the spring of 2007, which introduced Canadian alpaca fibre to the designers of tomorrow. The results of this inaugural design competition are on display at this year's Conference.

At the 2006 Conference, we invited Alpaca Canada members for their input into the directions of our Committee's focus, and began the New Year with plans to incorporate these suggestions into the scope of our goals.

Alpaca Canada Fibre and Product Committee Goals

- Connect Alpaca Canada members and inspire enthusiasm in Canadian alpaca fibre
- Educate, motivate and promote the Canadian alpaca fibre industry
- Demonstrate the what, where, when, why and how of alpaca fibre

THE PRESENT

Following the completion of the AC Conference, we continued with our monthly teleconferences, and worked to identify, establish and fine-tune the tasks that we had earlier determined to be critical to meet our goals.

Since the beginning of 2007, we have initiated the following tasks, a number of which have been completed, and others which are still in progress:

- Designed a presentation for introducing alpaca fibre and products to the public. The first presentation was made to textile students at Ryerson University School of Fashion Design, and will form the basis of future "traveling fibre arts showcase" presentations.



Fibre & Product Committee report continued

- Made several additions to the Alpaca Canada website, both for the general public and for members only, which include:
 - “Sharing a Booth -- A Worthwhile Proposition’
 - “Mills -- Points to Consider”
 - Raw Fleece Clearinghouse
 - Yarn Bin (Canadian Yarn Inventory)
- Prepared a Funding Proposal that will contribute to the establishment of a viable fibre business plan
- Began compiling a list of suppliers specializing in hide preparation and a list of tanneries available to alpaca breeders
- Began collecting information on existing and proposed fibre farms
- Pursued the possibility of further sorting/grading course offerings
- Investigated avenues to implement additional sorting and grading course and establish ‘shearing’ as an apprenticeable trade
- Researched costs and tasks involved in producing an Alpaca Canada Fibre colour chart
- Researched contacts and ideas for the International Year of Natural Fibre in 2009
- Began preparation of additions to the website, to include a Fibre Arts Photo Gallery and an events calendar of Fibre Arts Competitions, and a number of articles that will provide much needed information to the novice alpaca owner
- Spearheaded the organization of the Alpaca Canada 2007 Annual Conference/AGM in Kelowna

THE FUTURE

All of the above active and ongoing tasks will be continually worked on until they are completed.

Included in the Fibre and Product Committees’ Goals are powerful words such as “connect, inspire enthusiasm, educate, motivate and promote”. Each one of the tasks we have undertaken, and those that will follow, were set up to meet the criteria of our Goals. Our objective is to motivate alpaca breeders to utilize their annual fibre clip, get it prepared for processing and thus bring it into the market place. Our participation in and contribution to the future of the Canadian alpaca fibre industry is of the utmost importance to all of us on the committee, and we look forward to continuing the momentum created when the committee was struck. We plan to reassess our goals on a regular basis, and adapt to new input, such as the upcoming Alpaca Canada business plan.

Fibre is the product that will drive the industry. We need to get all stakeholders working together to make it a successful venture.

Respectfully submitted,

Alpaca Canada Fibre and Product Committee

Catherine Simpson -- British Columbia -- Alpaca Canada Board Liaison

Barb Eslake -- British Columbia; Caecilia Goetze -- Ontario; Alice Groeneveld -- Alberta

Nancy Harrison -- British Columbia; Kathy Umscheid -- Alberta; Gail Vance -- British Columbia;

Norma Wall -- Ontario



Show Committee Report

Submitted to the Annual General Meeting of Alpaca Canada 2007

Show Committee Roles & Responsibilities

To revamp the "CLASS" show rules and compose new effective and efficient show: halter, composite and fleece rules that can be adopted by Canadian shows committees to unify and set a high standard for the Canadian show system.

To modify and /or adjust the AC show rules yearly as required.

Committee Members

Carol Poole – Chair

Trudy McCall – Secretary

Jill MacLeod

Jane Tellier

Tracy Banner

Karen Jarvis

Stella Beniuk - Board Liaison

Year's Activities

We are happy to announce the AC show rules which include fleece, halter and composite rules are complete and will be adopted by Alpaca Canada as our official Alpaca Canada Show rules.

After the last AGM, Carol Poole graciously agreed to chair the committee, Jill McLeod agreed to rewrite the first draft from the CLASS rules, and we began the laborious task of producing, updating and simplifying. With Trudy as our secretary the show committee met numerous times over the past year, reworking these rules and spending many hours in serious discussion with input from all committee members. Our challenge was to make a set of rules that:

1. Set a high standard for the Canadian Alpaca Industry.
2. Are helpful and easy for show committees to follow
3. Are easily understood by participants encouraging new people to show.
4. Cover all areas, Halter, Composite, Fleece
5. Are all encompassing and straight forward with no grey areas

The show committees will continue to monitor, modify and/or adjust the show rules annually, as required. We welcome input from committees and participants alike.



Your 2007/08 Board of Directors

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Stella Beniuk

My experience in the alpaca industry began in 1991 when my husband Garry and I purchased our first two pairs of alpacas. Since then we have been actively involved in herd management and marketing our own herd which presently is around 60 animals. We have 3 studs that are co-owned with three local alpaca farms. In the 16 years we have been in the alpaca business, our farm has worked at promoting alpacas through open house weekends, hosting tours from schools, senior's homes, group homes and personal tours. We participate in Ag-tourism as well as take alpacas to community events to promote awareness of the many benefits of raising alpacas, alpaca fibre and products.

I have been involved with many Alpaca organizations including A.L.P.A.C.A., CABA, CLAA and CanCam, served as secretary for A.L.P.A.C.A. from 2000 to 2004 and volunteer with CanCam fibre sort when possible. Additionally, I have initiated and organized alpaca shows with the Strathcona Country Classic and helped in various areas with other local alpaca shows.

It has been my privilege working with the first Alpaca Canada Board of Directors and I am in my 2nd term as a director. During the past two years I have been a liaison with the AC Show Committee and the AC Communications Committee as well. It has been a very busy, interesting and eventful few years.

The Alpaca Industry, as any industry is as strong as the people involved. I am impressed at the enthusiasm, diligence, and industriousness of so many of the alpaca breeders I have met. As our industry grows we will have challenges to meet, but with respect, communication and working together, we will advance and strengthen our Canadian Alpaca Industry to become leaders in fibre production and breeding stock.



Stella Beniuk continued...

I encourage each member to be involved, volunteer in your own way with your own particular talent and your own particular interests. When one association, club or farm succeeds, the industry strengthens and we all succeed. I look forward to working with many of you in the following year.

Robert Blom

Hello, my name is Rob Blom. I have been happily married for 15 years to Sandra. We have 4 children. Sarah, age 10, Amy, age 8, Jonathan, age 6, Kayla, age 4. We live 15 minutes west of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan on 40 acres near the town of Vanscoy. I have worked for the City of Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services for the past 20 years.

We have been involved with alpacas since 2001 when we started boarding some of them. We have had our own alpacas for 3 years and now have 14 Huacayas.

I am interested in promoting Canadian Alpacas internationally and have been watching the debate between the CLAA and Alpaca Canada boards and some of the alpaca owners over Goal #3 with great interest. At this time I don't have a clear idea of which way to go but the CLAA and Alpaca Canada certainly appear to be trying to answer all the questions that have risen and to insure that we have as much information as possible before there is a vote. I like the way the boards are putting out as much information as possible. I think that the answers to questions, in an open forum, are something that I, as a new board member, would like to see continued.

At this time I am participating on the Genetic Evaluation Program Committee. I believe that this program will help every breeder in the country to improve their herd and in turn allow Canadian breeders to be second to none in the world. I will continue to work on this committee and to help to inform breeders of this program and its benefits.

Having worked on a dairy growing up I am quite interested in A.I. And have seen the benefits of a well run program. I am sure that some day embryo transfer technology will hit our country and it would be good for us to be as up to date on any possible changes that we can partake of as they are available. I would like to see some of our Canadian vets get a handle on what is happening in these areas and inform us on whether or not it is beneficial. This may require more input from Canadian breeders in the form of a grant and/or other type of funding. I know Dr. Adams at the University of Saskatoon Veterinary College has stated that the biggest drawback to finding out more about alpacas comes from the fact that they don't have enough "volunteer" alpacas to work with.

I look forward to working with the Alpaca Canada board members and all the committee members and alpaca owners during my term on the board. I hope I can help to keep the good work the previous board has started and the new work to come going in the professional manner we have seen thus far. Many thanks to the board members who are leaving for their hard work and dedication in starting Alpaca Canada off on the right foot.



Casey Dewit

Casey was born in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. When he was a young boy his family immigrated to Canada and settled in Whitby, a small town near Toronto. He completed all of his secondary school education there graduating with an honours science and technology diploma specializing in drafting and electronics. He then entered the Computer Science program at York University in Toronto after which he completed his education at Durham College in Business Administration.

His first job experience came when he was sixteen. He began work as a clerk at a local hardware store and has been working ever since. He started full time work as a design draftsman in the engineering department of Lasco Steel in Whitby. In 1974 he was employed by Harold R. Stark Ltd., a mechanical contractor in Oshawa. He started as a project co-coordinator and eventually became estimator/project manager and then General Manager.

In 1985 he became a partner in Hyten Mechanical, a contracting firm in Cobourg, Ontario. He left there in 1992 to help his friend Jack Williamson re-structure his commercial thermal insulation business. The three years he spent there were at the height of asbestos abatement and removal. Together they successfully more than tripled the company's sales volume.

In 1995 he began a new company called Airco Sheet Metal. It is the largest sheet metal ventilation contracting company east of Toronto. Airco fabricates and installs commercial and industrial ductwork in new schools, colleges, office buildings and factories.

During the past thirty years Casey has served on the Board of Directors of the Durham Construction Association, completing two terms as President.

In 1972 he met his best friend and wife Lillian. They have lived in various communities in eastern Ontario and have always had a love for rural life. In 1990 they purchased their 100 acre farm in the village of Centreton near Cobourg. They leased their land to various farmers for hay and pasture but in 2001 began thinking about alternative farming.

Their curiosity about alpacas led them to attend the second annual Alpaca Ontario halter show. Soon after, they purchased their first four bred female alpacas from Sandy Ridge Alpacas. They currently maintain a herd of around 30 hucaya and suri CLAA registered alpacas.

Casey's many interests include photography, music, golf and woodworking. He also likes to go fishing at his northern Ontario camp with family and friends. Prior to alpaca ranching, he traveled extensively through out Canada, the United States, Mexico, South America and the Caribbean. He now enjoys spending most of his free time working around the farm.



Ken Frost

- eight years in the huacaya alpaca business
- CLAA member since 2000
- number of alpacas (97)
- number of boarded alpacas (18)
- number of registered alpacas (55 - F) and (21 - M)
- number of llamas (5)

BIOGRAPHY

Ken Frost was born in 1962 , Glasgow Scotland. He immigrated with his family at the age of 4 to southern Ontario (Belleville). Ken had a rural upbringing, his family ran small businesses rather than a farm. He was gainfully employed at the age of 11. Ken put himself through Wilfred Laurier University as a carpenter (physics and computing degrees – graduated in 1983).

Currently a father of two small boys, Ken works as a construction coordinator in Vancouver B.C. Ken and wife Gail (who is originally from Ontario) moved out to B.C. in 1994. The alpaca farm is in the Okanagan region of B.C.

ELECTION PLATFORM

The newly formed Alpaca Division is a result of much work, with much work still ahead for Alpaca Canada. Ken offers an east-west outlook, as he has lived in both parts of the country. Unity in the Canadian alpaca business is the key.

A previous treasurer on the board of Association of Canadian Film Crafts People, Ken has experience dealing with small details while keeping the big picture in mind. One of his best personality traits is the ability to listen and to consider both sides of the situation.....(He has been known to walk “in” the “out” door in order to solve a problem). Having observed the alpaca business through some of its growing pains, Ken feels now is the time for him to get involved and he is looking forward to it.

Allan Johnson

My wife, Bev, and I own and operate Golden Prairie Alpacas on our farm at Claresholm, Alberta.

I was raised on the family farm at Claresholm and graduated from Claresholm High School. I then enrolled in Olds School of Agriculture (Olds College), graduated, returned to the farm and farmed there for twelve years. I had a mixed farming operation – cattle, hogs and grain.

In 1972 I decided to move my family to Calgary where I was self-employed in marketing chemical products and hardware to the industrial and agriculture sector. I entered the



Allan Johnson continued...

financial services business in 1977 selling personal insurance products and investments. I have been self-employed in this area since.

During this time I remained involved in agriculture, retaining ownership of the farm. Bev and I decided to return to the farm and began looking for a livestock opportunity we could incorporate with the farm.

Eleven years ago we discovered alpacas and spent several months doing research. We were impressed with alpacas and the potential of the industry. Nine years ago we purchased eight huacaya alpacas and have increased the size of the herd to fifty-five, breeding to upgrade the quality of both fiber and animal.

Bev and I are the sole owners of our alpacas. We are not involved with any other partners nor do we have joint ownership of any other alpacas.

I am still involved in the financial services industry and do not feel that this or any other commitments or involvements I have would compromise my position as a board member.

When entering the alpaca industry we were excited with the potential we saw for the business. This has not changed. Regardless of the difficulties experienced in the past, I believe the future is very bright for the alpaca business in Canada. The proper foundations have been laid and we must build on this, learning from what has happened and moving the business forward. I believe we need to develop all aspects of this industry to benefit all involved and with proper planning it can be brought to its full potential. I am convinced that the best days of this industry are ahead.

I have served two years on the board of the Canadian Alpaca Breeder's Association and two years on the board of Alpaca Canada.

Catherine Simpson

I, along with my partner Jim Dales, own and operate Kensington Prairie Farm in Langley, BC. Since initially purchasing 17 alpacas in 2001, our farm has grown to 40 animals. In addition to alpacas and a small apiary business, Kensington Prairie Farm also breeds, shows and sells Registered Polled Herefords. We also operate a 'farm-gate' store featuring 'artisanal' honey, preserves and alpaca products produced from our own alpacas and from other alpaca producers in BC and Alberta.

My education and previous employment experience has proven useful in assisting me to effectively perform my duties as an Alpaca Canada Board member. I graduated from Simon Fraser University in 1992 with a BA (Communications) and Post-Baccalaureate Diploma in Education. For the next 10 years, I developed, administered and managed provincially and federally-funded education and training programs. In 1997, I enrolled



Catherine Simpson continued...

as a part-time graduate student at the University of Victoria in the School of Public Administration. My decision to pursue a Masters Degree was born out of my desire to play a role in changing government welfare policy to better reflect the needs of both recipients and taxpayers. With the purchase of alpacas in 2001, I found myself yearning for a less stressful life. In December 2002, I left government services but continued to write funding proposals and develop training programs for non-profit organizations on a contractual basis. I ceased performing contract work when I was elected to the AC Board in the fall of 2005.

Over the past six years, I have been engaged in a variety of volunteer activities within the alpaca industry. In January 2005, I was elected to the Canadian Alpaca Breeders Association Board of Directors and assumed the position of Secretary. My penchant for analysis has led to the developed of several industry-related survey instruments (electronic and print) – a printed survey for the Canadian Camelid Fibre Co-Operative to help determine the level of marketplace interest and awareness of alpacas and alpaca products; and, an electronic survey on behalf of CABA to determine the future of Alpacafest. In 2005, I assumed the duties of Halter Show Manager at Alpacafest and organized the alpaca composite show at the Chilliwack Fair.

My decision to stand for re-election to the Alpaca Canada Board of Directors stems from my continued interest in and commitment to growing the Canadian alpaca industry. From my perspective, it doesn't matter if one promotes and champions the industry locally, regionally or nationally, the point is that we all need to do our part. Locally, I try to attend as many fairs and venues as possible, showcasing and selling alpaca products from a variety of farms. Depending on space allocation and venue, I often bring two alpacas for educational purposes. I continue in my role as Treasurer with the Fraser Valley Llama and Alpaca Club and showcase alpaca products in conjunction with club activities. Regionally, Jim and I try our best to attend and participate in various alpaca shows throughout BC and Alberta. We also endeavour to attend the CLAA Annual General Meeting and, of course attend the AC National Conference.

In my initial AC statement of candidacy (fall 2005), I identified two areas I thought AC should focus upon. They included: (1) growth of the Canadian alpaca industry, both domestically and internationally so as to ensure long-term sustainability; and (2) development of an integrated Canadian alpaca fibre industry. I do not stand alone in my desire to see these two goals realized. Most Canadian alpaca producers together with AC Board members and AC Committee members have identified and articulated the need to embrace and work toward the realization of these goals. Our challenge both collectively and individually, is to maintain our course and not lose momentum and enthusiasm. We need to stand together, communicate more effectively, articulate our concerns and celebrate our successes. I am honoured to continue in my elected role as a Director on the Alpaca Canada Board and look forward to speaking with and meeting more AC members in the next two years.

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Simpson

