



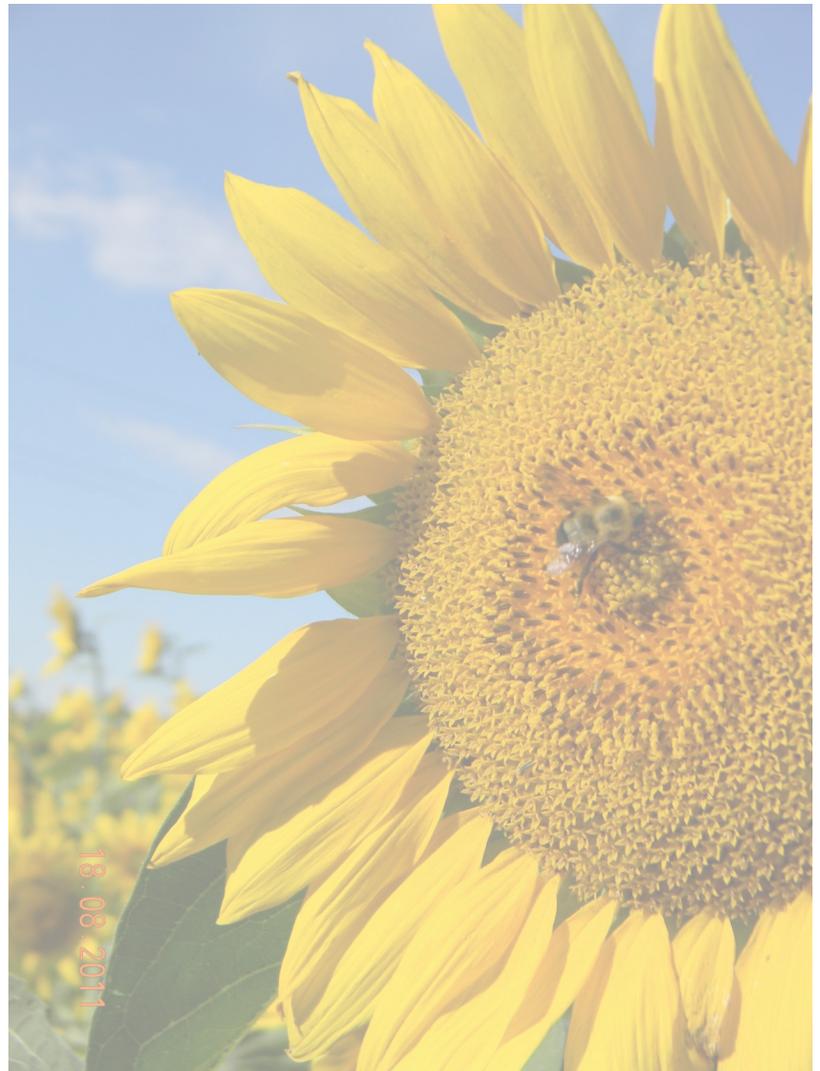
NATIONAL SUNFLOWER ASSOCIATION
OF CANADA

2019 Annual General Meeting

February 13, 2019

Victoria Inn Hotel and Convention Centre

Winnipeg, MB



AGENDA

	Item	Presenter	Action
10:50 a.m.	Call to Order	Mark McDonald	
10:55 a.m.	Minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting	Darcelle Graham	Motion to approve
11:00 a.m.	Financial Report 2018	Dale George	Motion to approve
	Appointment of Auditors	Mark McDonald	Motion to appoint
11:10 a.m.	Board and Executive Director's Report	Darcelle Graham	
11:15 a.m.	Old Business:		
	MB Commodity Organization Amalgamation	Mark McDonald	Discussion
11:30 a.m.	Adjourn		Motion to Adjourn

2018-19 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mark McDonald	President	Virden, MB
Devin Toews	Vice-President	MacGregor, MB
Gilbert Sabourin	2 nd Vice President	St. Jean Baptiste, MB
Gregg Fotheringham	Past President	Reston, MB
Aaron Elskamp	Producer Director	Woodlands, MB
Luc Remillard	Producer Director	St. Joseph, MB
Blair Woods	Producer Director	Elgin, MB
Derek Bunkowsky	Canadian Grain Commission	Winnipeg, MB
Ben Friesen	Processing Industry	Winkler, MB
Shannon Friesen	Sask. Ag and Food	Weyburn, SK
Dane Froese	Industry Development Specialist - Oilseeds	Carman, MB
Khalid Rashid	AAFC	Morden, MB
Darcelle Graham	Executive Director	Carman, MB
Daryl Rex	Agronomist	Carman, MB



National Sunflower Association of Canada

Annual General Meeting
Wednesday, February 14th, 2018
Victoria Inn Hotel and Convention Centre, Winnipeg Manitoba

Call to Order –President Mark McDonald called the meeting to order at 10:58 a.m.

Minutes of the Previous Annual Meeting

D.Graham presented the 2017 NSAC Annual General Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: G.Sabourin/G.Fotheringham that the 2017 AGM Minutes be adopted as read. **CARRIED**

Financial Report – Dale George of D.F. Chartered Accountants Inc. presented the 2017 audited financial statements.

MOTION: L.Remillard/D.Toews that the 2017 audited financial statements be adopted as presented. **CARRIED**

Appointment of Auditors

MOTION: L.Remillard/G.Sabourin that D.F. George Chartered Accountant Inc. be appointed auditors for the National Sunflower Association of Canada Inc. for 2018. **CARRIED**

Board of Directors and Executive Director Report

D.Graham presented the 2017 Board of Directors and Executive Director Report.

Other Business

President Mark McDonald presented the MB Commodity Organization Amalgamation report.

R.Krahn expressed concern about a sunflower grower serving on an amalgamated board as there are few growers that grow sunflowers. Additionally, he complimented the NSAC board and staff on the allocation of dollars to research on a small budget.

K.Rashid questioned how sunflowers will be covered in a formal amalgamation structure.

MOTION: L.Remillard/D.Toews that the 2018 Annual General Meeting be adjourned at 11:30 a.m. **CARRIED**

**National Sunflower
Association of Canada Inc.**

Independent Auditor's Report

**Financial Statements
December 31, 2018**

National Sunflower Association of Canada Inc.

December 31, 2018

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George & Associates Chartered Professional Accountants Inc.
Box 567, 113 2nd Street SW
Carman, Manitoba
R0G 0J0

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members
National Sunflower Association of Canada Inc.

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of National Sunflower Association of Canada Inc., which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2018 and the statements of operations, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of National Sunflower Association of Canada Inc. as at December 31, 2018 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.



George & Associates Chartered Professional Accountants Inc.

Carman, Manitoba
February 11, 2019

National Sunflower Association of Canada Inc.

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2018

	2018	2017
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash (notes 2 and 3)	\$ 86,437	\$ 118,962
Investments (note 3)	102,153	151,777
Accounts receivable		
Check-off	20,533	13,633
Trade	14,195	14,195
GST	3,382	5,669
Associations - merger	5,162	33,085
Interest	692	36
Grants		
Federal	35,176	67,963
Provincial	17,264	-
WGRF	7,019	-
Growing Forward	-	12,500
Total Assets	\$ 292,013	\$ 417,820

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

National Sunflower Association of Canada Inc.

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2018

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable		
Trade	\$ 8,001	\$ 12,420
Levy refunds	3,357	379
Unearned grant		
Provincial	-	18,503
WGRF	-	16,468
Employee benefits payable	3,009	4,975
Deferred administration project (note 4)	5,836	10,458
	<u>20,203</u>	<u>63,203</u>
	<u>20,203</u>	<u>63,203</u>
Net Assets		
Reserved net assets (note 5)	100,000	150,000
Unrestricted net assets	171,810	204,617
	<u>271,810</u>	<u>354,617</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u>\$ 292,013</u>	<u>\$ 417,820</u>

Approved on Behalf of the Board:

_____, Director

_____, Director

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

National Sunflower Association of Canada Inc.

Statement of Changes In Net Assets

For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

	Reserved	Unrestricted	2018	2017
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 150,000	\$ 204,617	\$ 354,617	\$ 385,722
Reserved net assets	(50,000)	50,000	-	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	-	(82,807)	(82,807)	(31,105)
Balance, end of year	\$ 100,000	\$ 171,810	\$ 271,810	\$ 354,617

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

National Sunflower Association of Canada Inc.

Statement of Operations

For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

	2018	2017	Unaudited Budget
Revenues			
Check-off (note 2)	\$ 177,501	\$ 159,474	\$ 165,509
Grants			
Federal	248,149	249,322	-
Provincial	65,861	67,316	-
WGRF	62,588	67,315	-
Membership dues	-	2,000	2,000
Interest	1,864	1,720	500
Miscellaneous	9,557	12,602	-
	565,520	559,749	168,009
Expenses			
Administration			-
Check-off refunds (.5% - 2017)	3,295	787	3,310
Admin - Other	26,872	25,545	25,226
Admin - Merger	989	909	-
Employee salaries and benefits	77,817	46,241	51,135
Membership	1,230	1,532	1,180
Member relations	2,841	(11,439)	7,305
Research	9,357	9,991	3,500
Travel and per diems	6,653	5,570	9,500
DCSH and CSVDI - II	520,546	510,694	84,711
	649,600	589,830	185,867
Non operating income and expenses			
Foreign exchange gains (losses)	1,273	(1,024)	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	\$ (82,807)	\$ (31,105)	\$ (17,858)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

National Sunflower Association of Canada Inc.

Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

	2018	2017
CASH FLOWS FROM (TO) OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	\$ (82,807)	\$ (31,105)
Increase (decrease) in working capital		
Accounts receivable - check-off	(6,900)	7,861
Accounts receivable - grants	21,004	6,959
Accounts receivable - GST	2,287	1,124
Accounts payable - trade	(4,420)	7,320
Accounts payable - levy refund	2,978	(780)
Employee benefits payable	(1,966)	930
Unearned grant revenue	(34,971)	(14,935)
Deferred administration project	(4,622)	3,868
Accounts receivable - interest	(656)	16
Accounts receivable - merger	27,924	(33,084)
TOTAL CASH FLOWS FROM (TO) OPERATING ACTIVITIES	(82,149)	(51,826)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(82,149)	(51,826)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	270,739	322,565
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$ 188,590	\$ 270,739
Cash and cash equivalents consist of the following:		
Cash	\$ 86,437	\$ 118,962
Short term investments	102,153	151,777
	\$ 188,590	\$ 270,739

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

National Sunflower Association of Canada Inc.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

1 Purpose of the Association

National Sunflower Association of Canada Inc. is a member organization committed to represent the interests of the sunflower growers of Canada in matters relating to sunflowers, in areas of research, market development, and liaison. The association is incorporated under the Manitoba Corporations Act as a not-for-profit organization and is exempt under the Income Tax Act under section 149 (1)(e) as an agricultural organization.

2 Significant Accounting Policies

a. Basis of Presentation

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations in Part III of the CPA Canada Handbook. Outlined below are those policies considered significant for the association.

b. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements, in conformity with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reported period. Differences in actual results from prior estimates are taken into account at the time the differences are determined.

The significant items subject to such estimates and assumptions include valuation of accounts receivable.

c. Revenue Recognition

The association follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Check-off revenue and refunds are recognized as unrestricted contributions.

Investment income is recognized as revenue when earned.

Seminar fees are recognized as revenue when the seminars are held.

d. Capital Assets

It is the association's policy to charge capital asset purchases under \$10,000 against operations. Capital items in excess of that amount would be capitalized and amortized over its estimated useful life.

e. Contributed Services

Contributed services or materials, the fair value of which are difficult to determine, are not recognized in the financial statements.

National Sunflower Association of Canada Inc.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

2 Significant Accounting Policies continued

f. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are made up of the general and US bank accounts.

g. Financial Instruments

The association initially measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value. It subsequently measures all its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost.

The financial assets subsequently measured at amortized cost include cash, investments and accounts receivable. The financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include trade accounts payable and accrued liabilities.

3 Cash and Investments

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Cash		
General account - 1.06% - 1.8%	\$ 77,391	\$ 113,185
US account	9,046	5,777
	<u>\$ 86,437</u>	<u>\$ 118,962</u>
Investments		
Guaranteed Investment Certificates		
Redeemable; 1.55%, due July 2019	\$ 102,153	\$ 100,000
Redeemable; 0.45%, due December 2018	-	51,777
	<u>\$ 102,153</u>	<u>\$ 151,777</u>

4 Deferred Administration Project

The association is responsible for the administration of the MCVET project.

	<u>MCVET</u>
Opening balance	\$ 10,458
Contributions for the year	26,250
Expenditures for the year	<u>(30,872)</u>
Closing balance	<u>\$ 5,836</u>

National Sunflower Association of Canada Inc.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

5 Reserved Net Assets

The Board of Directors established the reserve fund in fiscal 2008. All transactions from the reserve fund requires board approval. Reserve funds are to be used to carry out the administrative and research functions as well as to fund any possible future wind down costs of the association. In the current year the Board authorized a \$50,000 transfer from the reserve fund to general funds.

6 Commitments

The association has entered into an agreement with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada under the Diverse Field Crops Cluster for a project entitled, Development of long type Confection Sunflower Hybrids (DCSH). The project is to develop new adaptable confection sunflower hybrids with desirable traits for the Canadian market. The project runs from April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2023, with a fiscal reporting year end of March 31st. Total funding of \$2,644,795 is as follows:

	Federal	Provincial	WGRF	NSAC
2018-2019	\$ 240,750	\$ 78,375	\$ 64,130	\$ 133,900
2019-2020	243,750	78,375	64,130	136,380
2020-2021	246,750	78,375	64,130	139,245
2021-2022	249,750	90,865	64,130	130,490
2022-2023	252,750	90,865	64,130	133,525
Total	\$1,233,750	\$ 416,855	\$ 320,650	\$ 673,540

Provincial funding of \$181,730 for period April 2021 to March 2023 is tentative.

7 Financial Risk

The association is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments. The following analysis provides a measure of the association's risk exposure and concentrations at the balance sheet date of December 31, 2018.

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that the collectors of the levies (purchasers) will fail to remit to the association. The association is not exposed to significant credit risk as remittances are due quarterly and the purchasers are bound to perform such services under the Agricultural Producers Organization Funding Act.

National Sunflower Association of Canada Inc.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

7 Financial Risk continued

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk of being unable to meet cash requirements or to fund obligations as they become due. Trade account payables and accrued liabilities are generally paid within thirty days. This risk is reduced due to the high dollar value of funds on hand.

Interest rate risk

The association is exposed to interest rate risk on its fixed interest rate financial instruments. Fixed-rate instruments subject the association to the fair value risk. The exposure to this type of risk is the result of investments in guaranteed investment certificates. The association is not exposed to price risk as the market price of guaranteed investment certificates do not fluctuate. The association manages exposure by restricting the term of investments to five years or less.

Commodity price risk

Commodity price risk is the risk that revenue will fluctuate due to changes in market prices affecting the dollar amount of sunflower crops sold and in turn the amount of check-off revenue collected.

Board of Directors and Executive Director Report for 2018

Administration

The 2018 growing season started off very dry resulting in delayed or difficult sunflower emergence. Dry conditions continued during July and August with below average rainfall. The dry and hot conditions affected head development and seed fill. Disease was lower than normal, a consequence of the drier conditions. Late moisture in September and October delayed harvest, however the majority of sunflower acres were harvested by the end of October. Sunflower yields ranged across the province, rainfall dependent, with yields between 1800-3200 lbs./acre reported with average to good quality. Sunflower planting in Manitoba fell short of expectation due to lower contract pricing and competitive crops. A total of 43,421 acres were harvested in 2018 with 65% of the acres planted to oilseed. Oilseed acreage has gained a higher percentage in recent years with new market options becoming available for producers. Yields in 2018 hit new records in both oilseed and confection sunflowers. The increase in average yields is a direct effect from minimal disease pressure throughout the production season. Confectionary sunflowers averaged 2,260 lbs./acre and oilseeds average 2,313 lbs./acre.

Levy revenues received in 2018 totaled \$177,501 up from 2017. A total of \$3295 was refunded in 2018 representing 1.9% of growers requesting their total levy refund dollars. The NSAC withdrew \$50,000 from our reserve balance while we awaited funding dollars from our funding partners. In 2018, the NSAC operated with two staff: Daryl Rex, Sunflower Agronomist and Darcelle Graham, Executive Director. In February 2018, the NSAC in conjunction with Manitoba Wheat and Barley Growers Association entered into a Memorandum of Agreement to lead all initiatives associated with Winter Cereals Manitoba Inc.'s day to day operations for an initial period of one year. As of November 2018, both the NSAC and WCMI have agreed to continue the administrative contract until February 2020.

In 2018, the National Sunflower Association of Canada along with the Manitoba Corn Growers Association, Manitoba Canola Growers, Manitoba Flax Growers and Manitoba Pulse & Soybean Growers invested in the licensing of new software for administration of levy collection. In collaboration, the five commodity groups entered into a 5-year agreement with the licensee of the software, Alberta Barley Commission. The five groups are already seeing efficiencies with data entry and working with other Manitoba commodity groups in terms of technical support and assistance.

Manitoba Commodity Organization Amalgamation Proposal

In May 2018, the NSAC once again signed onto a Memorandum of Understanding with five other Manitoba commodity organizations to explore amalgamation. At the end of July 2018, the steering committee consisting of directors and staff from the five grower organizations met in Carman, Manitoba to review details on an updated proposal examining amalgamation and a model that did not include legal amalgamation. After reviewing both options, and following additional discussions after the July meeting, the Manitoba Corn Growers Association (MCGA), Manitoba Flax Growers Association (MFGA), National Sunflower Association of Canada (NSAC) and the Manitoba Wheat and Barley Growers Association (MWBGA) signaled they will continue to explore a potential amalgamation with the commitment to consultation and allowing membership to make the decision. In November 2018, Winter Cereals Manitoba Inc. (WCMI) joined the discussion and become part of the steering committee. Mark McDonald and Gregg Fotheringham continue to sit on the Steering Committee as the NSAC representatives.

The steering committee comprised of directors and staff from the MCGA, MFGA, NSAC, MWBGA and WCMI with the assistance of consultant Rob Hannam of Synthesis Agri-Food Network addressed many of the concerns heard from members through the January 2018 consultation period and at the annual general meetings in February 2018. The farmer directors from the five Manitoba grower organizations released an updated proposal in December 2018 to amalgamate into a new not-for-profit organization focused on research, communication and market development. The updated proposal is available at the following temporary website: www.mbcrops.ca.

The five associations want to hear from farmer members over the next year, with a vote to amalgamate planned for each organizations' annual general meetings in February 2020.

The five organizations want to ensure members have all the necessary information prior to the vote in 2020. The updated proposal includes information on the governance, organization structure, legal process and timelines to amalgamate. One of the largest changes made from the original proposal is the governance structure of the proposed new organization which includes four crop committees made up of 34 farmer delegates that will focus on the research and market development specific to each crop type.

On January 15 and January 29, 2019, the steering committee hosted online webinar meetings for members to learn more about the updated proposal. The webinars were recorded and are available for viewing if farmers were unable to participate on those days. Directors of the five organizations also encouraged farmer members to attend the organization's annual general meetings at the CropConnect Conference on February 13 and 14, 2019 to receive updates on the amalgamation proposal and to gather feedback. Additional information will be released throughout 2019, including by-laws of the potential new organization and the amalgamation agreement resolution.

Feedback from farmer members is welcomed and encouraged to any of the directors and staff of the five organizations, and through email directly to Rob Hannam at rob@mbcrops.ca.

Research

In 2018, the Board of Directors allocated 86% of check-off dollars towards sunflower research reflecting a total investment of \$153,305. The research investment is allocated towards developing best management practices, developing new hybrids for our Canadian climate while meeting international demands and ensuring that you are producing the most profitable crop. The total value of our research investment has been leveraged with the following funding partners AgriInnovation Program (AIP), Agri-Food Research and Development Initiative (ARDI) and the Western Grain Research Foundation (WGRF). Therefore, the total value of our research program for 2018 is \$529,903.

Confection Sunflower Development Initiative

In March 2018, the NSAC wrapped up the five year funding project on Confection Sunflower Variety Development Initiative with the objectives to develop an adaptable confection sunflower hybrid with the desirable seed types for our Canadian market. The variety development project requires plenty of oversight and management to ensure successful trials. This funding program concluded on March 31, 2018.

Development of Long-Type Confection Sunflower Hybrids

The NSAC applied for continued funding towards the confection sunflower variety development program for an additional five years through the Diverse Field Crops Cluster. The Diverse Fields Crops Cluster is an agri-science cluster that supports the research and development of high-potential emerging crops: flax, camelina, canaryseed, sunflower, hemp, quinoa and mustard. On January 15, 2019 Minister Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) announced over \$13 million in funding from AAFC through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership's AgriScience Program. This investment, combined with industry contributions of nearly \$11 million, brings the value of the cluster to over \$24 million. The NSAC was approved for matching funding over the five years at a total of \$2.467 million dollars towards our variety development project. Manitoba Agriculture through the CAP—Research & Innovation project will provide \$235,125 over three years (must re-apply in 2021) and \$320,650 from Western Grain Research Foundation.

In 2018, material from the project was tested in 9 trials; 3 of which were in larger scale, field strip trials. The 2018 nursery included the 3 advanced lines selected from the 2017 nursery in addition to 132 new preliminary hybrids. The 3 advanced lines were also tested in the Variety Performance Trials (VPT), with the better 1 being tested in larger field trials with producers. It was a dry start to the spring season causing some variability in emergence, especially with the larger seeded confectionary types. The season was a warm one. Harvest was slowed up with late fall rain and snow. In the end 12 selections were made from the 2018 trials based upon the data that was collected. Seed type, test weight, maturity and yield were just a few of the data used to make the selections.

Plans are already underway for the Canadian trials for 2019, with the winter nursery in bloom now in Chile. There will be 90-100 new preliminary hybrids; 12 selected hybrids moving into the Advanced Yield Trials (AYT); 2-3 hybrids being tested in the Variety Performance Trials; and 1 hybrid will be tested in a larger field scale trial. About 1/3 of the new preliminary hybrids will be fixed with double resistant genes for Downey Mildew and Rust. All the material will be herbicide tolerant.

Oilseed Sunflower Crush Study

The NSAC continued its partnership with the Manitoba Agri-Health Research Network (MAHRN) in 2018. The focus in 2018 was to continue to explore the opportunity for sunflower protein milk. The global protein ingredients market represents a multi-billion dollar industry, dominated by dairy-based ingredients. Food processors are shifting towards a growing demand for vegetable proteins and seeking alternatives to soy and wheat proteins because of allergy and gluten concerns. Sunflower meal contains up to 39% protein and unlike many other plant proteins, does not contain antinutritive factors.

Sunflower Variety Performance Trials

The Manitoba Sunflower Variety Performance Trials (VPT) is organized and conducted by the National Sunflower Association of Canada (NSAC) in co-ordination with Manitoba Agriculture. This was the 12th year that the NSAC has coordinated the trials, which continue to serve as an important tool for sunflower growers with regional third-party performance data on various varieties. The hybrids tested in the trials are actively being pursued by sunflower breeding companies in Manitoba and may be in the experimental stage or registered under the Canadian Food Inspection Agency. In 2018, the NSAC coordinated the VPT in four locations across the province: Melita, Carberry, Marquette and Rossendale. The trial results are available on NSAC's website and featured in the Seed Manitoba guide.

Manitoba Sunflower Surveillance Survey

Together with the Manitoba Corn Growers, the National Sunflower Association of Canada, revived the Manitoba Sunflower Surveillance Survey. In 2018, a total of 11 fields were signed up and surveyed. 12 bi-monthly newsletters were sent throughout the growing season providing grower members and industry with a better understanding and response system to crop limiting factors by accessing timely, independent and professionally gathered agronomic information.

Communication and Grower Events

The NSAC updated growers on their activities throughout the year through various communication methods such as email newsletters, website and twitter. The NSAC website continues to be up-to-date, outlining our current events and announcements via www.canadasunflower.com. NSAC's main connection to members is through the CropConnect Conference, grower field days and interactions at various agriculture events.

The NSAC co-hosted a workshop the day before the CropConnect Conference on February 13, 2018 which focused on farm succession. The half-day workshop brought together over 100 attendees and was a great lead in to CropConnect.

On July 25, 2018, the NSAC co-hosted Crops-A-Palooza along with the Manitoba Canola Growers, Manitoba Corn Growers, Manitoba Flax Growers, Manitoba Oat Growers, Manitoba Pulse and Soybean Growers and the Manitoba Wheat and Barley Growers. The event was held at the AAFC site in Portage la Prairie and hosted over 375 attendees that offered interactive learning in a hands-on format with the best research and agronomy extension professionals. Plans are underway for the 2019 Crops-A-Palooza to be held at CMCDC in Carberry, MB in July 2019.

Policy

NSAC continues to be active through participation in numerous federal and provincial meetings. The NSAC met with the Minister of Agriculture, actively participates on the Special Crops Value Chain Roundtable Table meeting, facilitated the Manitoba Commodity Organization Amalgamation administration. The NSAC continues to maintain a strong relationship with our counterparts in the USA and annually attends the Research Forum to connect with sunflower researchers and industry representatives.