

**Organic Alberta**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**Agenda**

Friday, February 9th, 2018. 12:30 pm – 1:50 pm  
Held in conjunction with the 2018 Central Conference  
Westerner Park 4847A 19 St, Red Deer, AB T4R 2N7

DESCRIPTION:	DOCUMENTS TO REFER TO:	PRESENTER:	ACTION:
12:30 <b>Call to Order</b>		Chair	
12:35 <b>Additions to Agenda – Chair</b>		All	Motion
12:40 <b>Approval of the Agenda – Chair</b>		All	Motion
12:42 <b>Acceptance of Minutes of the last meeting - Chair</b>	Minutes	All	Motion
12:47 <b>Treasurer’s Report</b>	2017 Financial Report	Heather Kerschbaumer	Motion
1:07 <b>Executive Director’s Report</b>		Becky Lipton	Motion
1:17 <b>President’s Report</b>		Tim Hoven	Motion
1:27 <b>Elections</b> -Ask for nominees from the floor (x3) -3 minute presentations by nominees -Election of Board positions (1 North, 1 Central, 1 South, 1 Member-at-large)	Biographies	All	Nominations & Elections
1:42 <b>Other Business – 5 min</b>		Chair	Motion
1:47 <b>Organic Industry Announcements – 5 min</b>		Chair	Motion
1:50 <b>Adjournment – Chair</b>		Chair	

**All Organic Alberta members are invited and welcome to participate!**

## Organic Alberta Board of Directors 2018 Elections

Positions up for election are:

1. One North Region representative (must be certified organic)
2. One Central Region Representative (must be certified organic)
3. One South Region Representatives (must be certified organic)
4. One Member At Large Representative

### Nominations

If you are interested in running, or know someone you would like to nominate, please contact us at 1-587-521-2400 or [info@organicalberta.org](mailto:info@organicalberta.org). Nominations will be accepted up until the beginning of voting on February 9, 2018.

### Voting

For those attending the Annual Meeting, you will vote on the day. If you are unable to attend the Annual Meeting, please vote by proxy by checking off your choice on the ballot below. Please note other nominees may come forward between now and voting at the AGM.

### Who can vote?

Northern – Only those who are certified organic and who reside north of Valleyview

Central – Only those who are certified organic and who reside between Valleyview and Red Deer

Southern – Only those who are certified organic and who reside south of Red Deer

Member at Large - All Organic Alberta members may vote

### Proxy Voting Ballot

If you are unable to attend the Annual Meeting in person, please participate in choosing your Board of Directors by sending us your proxy vote. Tear off this section and mail it to Organic Alberta, Unit #1, 10329-62 Ave NW Edmonton, Ab, T6H 1K9. Questions? Contact us at 1-587-521-2400

#### North Region Ballot (1 position open)

Name	Place an X beside your choice
James Thiessen	

#### South Region Ballot (1 position open)

Name	Place an X beside your choice

#### Central Region Ballot (1 position open)

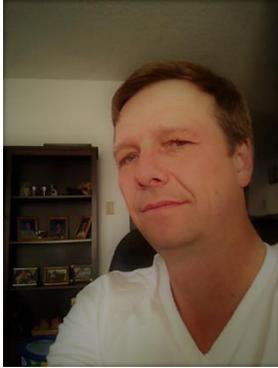
Name	Place an X beside your choice
Dawn Boileau	

#### Member At Large Ballot (1 position open)

Name	Place an X beside your choice
Abbie Stein-MacLean	

## Nominee Biographies

### James Thiessen – Running for the North Region Representative



James has been farming with his dad, Henry Thiessen in the Tomkins area for thirty years. They started with all crown land and cleared the 1000 acres that they now farm, and have another 800 acres to go. They certified organic around 1988, long before organic was popular, with a small producer funded certifying body called PROPA (Peace River Organic Producers Association). They are now in hemp seed production and oats. He is the local farm rep for Hemp Production Services, and a buyer for hemp seed.

### Dawn Boileau – Running for the Central Region Representative



Dawn is a partner and co-owner with Kate Hook at Sunrise Gardens, a Certified Organic market garden and year-round producer of shoots and micro greens. Their 10-acre farm has been in production since 2004 and Certified Organic since 2007. They are located near the town of Onoway, 80 km northwest of Edmonton.

### Abbie Stein-MacLean – Member at Large Position



Abbie is passionate about food in Alberta and finds herself involved at many levels of Edmonton's food scene. She has worked extensively in market development, including facilitating producer-retailer relationships, helping small producers to get their products market-ready, and launching "Local Made Easy", a catalogue of Alberta organic produce for food service buyers. She understands that distribution and logistics continue to pose the greatest challenge for small producers in Alberta. She has worked at The Organic Box since 2011 in various roles, including General Manager.

**Organic Alberta**  
**Minutes**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**Lacombe Memorial Centre, Lacombe, AB**  
**February 17, 2017**

**Call To Order:** President Ward Middleton called the meeting to order at 1:14 p.m.

Recording Secretary – Debbie Miller

**Additions to Agenda:** none

**Approval of the Agenda** – acceptance moved by Trevor Aleman, seconded by Denise O'Reilly. Carried

**Minutes of last meeting** – were distributed prior to and reviewed during the meeting. Motion by David Doerksen to adopt as presented. Seconded by Roselyn Elford. Carried.

**Treasurer's report:** Heather Kerschbaumer reviewed the 2016 financial statements, beginning with the Status of the Organization summary of what is going on. Introduced staff, reviewed our grant situation including both those applied for and those that are in progress. Thank you to everyone who donates or buys memberships. That money is used to leverage additional funds. In 2016 there were 65 friend memberships, 42 corporate, 392 certified organic entities (automatically members). Heather described 2 kinds of expenses – operations and grant. Two kinds of income offset those expenses, grant and operations. We have 4 months total expenses in the bank at the end of 2016. Heather reviewed the financial statements as reviewed by Lionel Larcombe, accountant. Accounts receivable are current. Heather moved to approve financial statements as presented. Seconded by George Futoransky. Carried.

**Executive Director Report:** Becky Lipton. Board sets strategic directions, staff puts together a plan to achieve them. Becky reviewed the current strategic plan.

Greatest accomplishments:

1. Strong team, professional, ambitious, high output.
2. Drawing attention to organics, getting our voice out there.
3. Fundraising, developing new programs (especially grain and young farmers)

Challenges:

1. Too many staff are short term due to short term funding.
2. Providing value to people who are not connected to us (example transitioning members, processors, businesses).
3. Limited capacity for nonfunded programs (example advocacy, regulation).

Becky reviewed activities from 2016. Board has set new strategic directions for 2017:

1. Provincial regulation by May 2019,
2. grow organic industry by 200%,
3. strong wholesale, distribution system,
4. grow OA to \$10M annual budget,
5. deliver strong sector-based programs (processing – grains – livestock).

Motion by Roselyn Elford to accept ED report, seconded by Dawn Boileau. Carried.

**Presidents Report:** Ward Middleton. Discussed growth in last few years, from a 2-person office working out of Becky's house to an office with 10 staff. They are able to do that because of support from people and organizations; we are able to leverage the money and use it to do work.

Ward's term is ending, he has fulfilled the maximum time on board. He strongly urges others to join the board; it is an incredible growth and learning experience. Sustainability of an organization is partially financial. Need board members who understand that, and also people who engage – who care enough to learn about the programs whether or not they relate to their personal sector. Motion to accept Presidents Report – Heather Kerschbaumer, seconded by Tim Hoven. Carried.

#### **Elections:**

##### **Positions and Candidates Declared in Advance:**

Northern Region (2) – Heather Kerschbaumer, James Thiessen

Central Region (1) – Arnold Van Os

Southern Region (1) – Trevor Aleman

Member at Large (1) – Bernie Ehnes

Consumer Rep (1) – Frank Maddock

Ward called for additional nominations from the floor three times. Heather nominated David Doerksen. David declined.

Motion nominations cease: Tim Hoven, seconded by Charles Newell. Carried. Above candidates elected by acclamation.

**Other Business:** none was brought forward

**Organic Industry Announcements:** none were brought forward

**Adjourn:** motion by Roselyn Elford, seconded Trevor Aleman. Carried. 2:10 p.m.