



# BEEF FARMERS OF ONTARIO 2024 NOMINATIONS PACKAGE



The degree to which Beef Farmers of Ontario (BFO) can provide leadership in responding to industry needs is heavily dependent on the competencies and leadership of the BFO Board of Directors, committee members and BFO representatives to the Canadian Cattle Association (CCA). As a producer-driven organization, elected officials of BFO play a key role in identifying and prioritizing issues to better the Ontario beef sector, and provide direction in developing and advancing solutions to address a variety of issues in the areas of economic sustainability, animal health and welfare, food safety, environment, and domestic and export market development.

BFO is currently calling for nominations for various positions with the BFO Board of Directors, BFO Committees, and CCA representatives. Candidates will be elected at the BFO Annual General Meeting (AGM) taking place on February 21 & 22, 2024 in Toronto.

Nominees for the BFO Board of Directors, BFO Cow-Calf Committee, BFO Feedlot Committee, and CCA positions must be elected as a voting delegate at their home county/district annual meeting. As per the BFO Constitution, current BFO Directors are automatically voting delegates to the BFO AGM. Candidates must be members of BFO in good standing with the association and any concerns with eligibility are referred to the BFO Credentials Committee and the BFO Board of Directors for review.

This package includes further details on positions that are open for election. Those interested in becoming a candidate must complete a [candidate form](#), provide a headshot and submit to [darby@ontariobeef.com](mailto:darby@ontariobeef.com) by no later than February 6, 2024. For more information on anything outlined within this package, please contact a member of the BFO Nominations Committee, which can be found on the last page of this document.

## 2024 POSITIONS FOR ELECTION

### **BFO Board of Director Positions**

- Cow-Calf Director
- Feedlot Director
- Northern Director
- At-Large Director

### **BFO Committee Positions**

- Cow-Calf Committee Members (3)
- Feedlot Committee Members (3)
- Background Member on Feedlot Committee (1)

### **Directors to Canadian Cattle Association**

- CCA Representatives (2)

### **Ontario Beef Youth Alliance**

- Youth Member on BFO Cow-Calf Committee (1)
- Youth Member on BFO Feedlot Committee (1)

BFO Board of Directors elected in 2024 will fulfill a three-year term. Nominees can put their name forward for more than one position, if they meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Must be elected as a voting delegate by their county/district (except current BFO Directors)
- Must complete a [BFO Board of Director Candidate Form](#) and submit to Darby Wheeler by no later than February 6, 2024 (preferred by January 22, 2024)
- Specific requirements for each position open for election include:

**Cow-Calf Director:** Identify as a cow-calf producer

**Feedlot Director:** Identify as a feedlot operator

**Northern Director:** Reside in a region designated as northern Ontario. These include: Algoma, Cochrane, Kenora, Manitoulin, Muskoka/Parry Sound/East Nipissing, Rainy River, Sudbury/West Nipissing, Temiskaming and Thunder Bay

**At-Large Director:** Identify as a cow-calf, feedlot or background producer

## ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

As a BFO Board of Director, you are expected to promote the best interests of the beef industry in Ontario, work collaboratively with other BFO Directors, and work to fulfill the objectives of BFO. The BFO Board of Directors are responsible for providing direction and advocating for solutions to longstanding and emerging issues affecting the Ontario beef sector.

### Candidates Must:

- Have significant experience in cattle production;
- Be familiar with major issues affecting the Ontario beef sector;
- Be active producers in good standing with BFO;
- Have previous involvement in local association activities or in other beef organizations; and
- Have internet and email access to ensure proper communication with staff, other directors, and members.

### Expectations:

- Commit to a minimum of 25 days per year on BFO board-related business or activities, including monthly BFO Board of Director meetings and county and district annual meetings. Board meetings may take place virtually, in-person or in a hybrid format;
- Understand and work within the mandate given to BFO in accordance with the provisions of the Beef Cattle Marketing Act, the BFO Constitution and By-laws and the BFO Policy Manual;
- Stay informed on industry issues and trends to ensure effective and timely contribution to board of director decisions;
- Collaborate with other directors in ensuring that all board decisions and actions are made in the best interests of beef farmers and the Ontario beef sector;
- Provide input and direction on the sound business and financial management of BFO;
- Foster a positive image of BFO and the beef sector for farmers, industry partners, employees and the broader community; and
- As a board, set policies based on BFO's objectives and strategic priorities.

BFO Cow-Calf Committee members elected in 2024 will fulfill a two-year term. Members of the committee are expected to undertake duties and review policy matters of relevance to the cow-calf sector. The committee provides a forum for discussion on issues related to the cow-calf sector, and members of the committee will advise on issues and provide recommendations to the BFO Board of Directors.

## Eligibility

- Must be a voting delegate elected at your respective county/district annual meeting
- Identify as a cow-calf producer
- May not serve more than four consecutive terms

## BFO Committee Positions for Election

Three (3) cow-calf member positions are open for election. Interested candidates must complete and submit a [BFO Committee Candidate Form](#) to [darby@ontariobeef.com](mailto:darby@ontariobeef.com) by no later than February 6, 2024 (preferred by January 22, 2024). The candidate form can be found on the BFO website.

## Responsibilities of Cow-Calf Committee Members

- Discuss sector issues, review projects and policy positions relevant to the cow-calf sector
- Promote and provide information on BFO programs and services to farmers across Ontario
- Support BFO policies and strategic direction

## Time Commitment

Members of the committee can expect to participate in at least four committee meetings per year, and may be invited to attend other BFO-related events. Committee meetings may take place virtually, in-person or in a hybrid format.

## Membership of the Cow-Calf Committee

The committee consists of twelve members: three BFO Board of Directors representing the cow-calf sector; six members representing the cow-calf sector elected at the BFO AGM; one background member elected at the BFO AGM; one youth member elected by the Ontario Beef Youth Alliance; and one feedlot member who is appointed by the BFO Feedlot Committee.



**NOMINATION DEADLINE - FEBRUARY 6, 2024**  
**ELECTION DAY - FEBRUARY 21, 2024**



BFO Feedlot Committee members elected in 2024 will fulfill a two-year term. Members of the committee are expected to undertake duties and review policy matters of relevance to the feedlot sector. The committee provides a forum for discussion on issues related to the feedlot sector, and members of the committee will advise on issues and provide recommendations to the BFO Board of Directors.

## Eligibility

- Must be a voting delegate elected at your respective county/district annual meeting
- Identify as a feedlot producer
- May not serve more than four consecutive terms

## BFO Committee Positions for Election

Three (3) feedlot member positions and one (1) background member position on the BFO Feedlot Committee are open for election. Interested candidates must complete and submit a [BFO Committee Candidate Form](#) to [darby@ontariobeef.com](mailto:darby@ontariobeef.com) by no later than February 6, 2024 (preferred by January 22, 2024). The candidate form can be found on the BFO website.

## Responsibilities of Feedlot Committee Members

- Discuss sector issues, review projects and policy positions relevant to the feedlot sector
- Promote and provide information on BFO programs and services to farmers across Ontario
- Support BFO policies and strategic direction

## Time Commitment

Members of the committee can expect to participate in at least four committee meetings per year, and may be invited to attend other BFO-related events. Committee meetings may take place virtually, in-person or in a hybrid format.

## Membership of the Feedlot Committee

The committee consists of twelve members: three BFO Board of Directors representing the feedlot sector; six members representing the feedlot sector elected at the BFO AGM; one backgrounder member elected at the BFO AGM; one youth member elected by the Ontario Beef Youth Alliance; and one cow-calf member who is appointed by the BFO Cow-Calf Committee.



**NOMINATION DEADLINE - FEBRUARY 6, 2024**  
**ELECTION DAY - FEBRUARY 21, 2024**



**Canadian  
Cattle  
Association**

Candidates for the Canadian Cattle Association (CCA) representative positions must be directors of the 2024 BFO Board of Directors or members or alternate members of the 2024 Advisory Council. Four (4) individuals represent Ontario on the CCA Board of Directors with the BFO President and Vice-President being automatically appointed. An election is held each year at the BFO AGM to elect the other two (2) representatives for a one-year term.

The CCA Board of Directors consists of producers representing nine provinces and all sectors and stages of beef production, and act as the national voice at the federal and international levels on matters related to the Canadian beef industry.

Interested candidates must complete a [CCA Candidate Form](#) and submit to [darby@ontariobeef.com](mailto:darby@ontariobeef.com) in advance or submit to a BFO staff member before 1 p.m. on Wednesday, February 21, 2024 at the BFO Annual General Meeting. The candidate form can be found on the BFO website.

## ONTARIO BEEF YOUTH ALLIANCE

In an effort to further engage with Ontario's next generation of beef farmers and to increase youth participation within BFO, members of the Ontario Beef Youth Alliance (OBYA) have the opportunity to elect candidates to BFO's standing committees at our AGM for two-year terms and as non-voting members.

At the 2023 BFO AGM, the Ontario Beef Youth Alliance elected a representative to the BFO Research Committee for a two-year term. Prior to the 2024 BFO AGM, the OBYA will elect one representative to the BFO Cow-Calf and one representative to the BFO Feedlot Committees for two-year terms. The election will be conducted online and will take place in advance of the BFO AGM. Interested candidates must complete and submit a [OBYA Candidate Form](#), which can be found on the BFO website and submit to [darby@ontariobeef.com](mailto:darby@ontariobeef.com) by no later than February 6, 2024 (preferred by January 22, 2024).

The BFO Cow-Calf and Feedlot Committee members are expected to undertake duties and review policy matters of relevance to the respective sectors. The committees provide a forum for discussions on issues related to the cow-calf and feedlot sectors, and members of the committees will advise on issues and provide recommendations to the BFO Board of Directors.

### Eligibility

- Must be between the ages 18-35 as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025
- Must be a check-off paying member in good standing as per BFO membership guidelines (includes those who have purchased memberships)
- Must be actively engaged in the raising of cattle and have a keen interest in the Ontario beef sector
- Are not required to be a voting delegate from their local association at BFO's annual general meeting
- Successful candidates can only serve as a youth committee member for a maximum of one term of two-years

## **Per Diem and Expenses**

Those elected as a BFO Director, BFO Committee Member, CCA Director, and/or OBYA representative can claim per diems and expenses in relation to participation in BFO meetings or other BFO activities, as per BFO's Elected Officer Remuneration Policy.

## **BFO AGM and Election Process**

The 2024 BFO Annual General Meeting will be held on February 21-22, 2024 at the Delta Hotels by Marriott Toronto Airport & Conference Centre. Voting in the elections of BFO Board of Directors, BFO Cow-Calf and Feedlot Committees, and BFO representatives to CCA will take place on February 21. The election for the OBYA representative on the BFO Cow-Calf and Feedlot Committees will take place prior to the BFO AGM.

For elections where two individuals are nominated, the individual receiving the majority of votes will be declared as elected. For positions that have multiple candidates for election, voting delegates will vote by ranked ballot. The first individual to receive over 50 per cent of the votes cast will be declared as elected.

## **Our Commitment to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility**

BFO is committed to advocating for diversity, equity and inclusion in the agriculture sector, which includes ensuring our nominations practices are inclusive and accessible. We strongly encourage people from all kinds of diverse backgrounds to consider running for a leadership position with BFO. Should you require any accommodation measures to fully participate in our nominations process, please let us know and we will work with you to meet your accessibility needs. Information received relating to accommodation measures will be addressed confidentially.

## **BFO Nominations Committee**

For further information about what's involved for the various positions open for election, please feel free to connect with a member of the BFO Nominations Committee. If you have any questions about how to become a candidate, please contact Darby Wheeler, BFO Policy Advisor by email at [darby@ontariobeef.com](mailto:darby@ontariobeef.com) or by phone at 613.360.4020.

Committee Chair, Kim Jo Bliss - 807.275.9706

Don Badour - 613.762.2161

Jack Chaffe - 519.301.3034

Joe Dickenson - 519.312.0454

Don Hargrave - 519.375.1500

Jairus Maus - 519.353.4062

Jason Reid - 807.476.7048



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