



# Seeds Canada: Board of Directors

<b>Annie Bergeron</b>	Annie is the current CEO/General Manager of Les Grains Semtech, Quebec’s full-service seed processor. In her 16 years with Semtech, Annie has built a wealth of experience managing seed crop production and processing, warehousing and provides close oversight of Semtech’s quality assurance programs. Reporting to the Board of Directors, Annie manages all aspects of Semtech’s operations including finance, HR, business development and strategy, and remains actively involved in all activities from seed crop contracting right through to seed logistics and export. In her free time, Annie commits considerable time to the agricultural industry and local community through participation in numerous associations. Annie also manages Semtech’s Accredited Seed Crop Inspection Service, the largest in Quebec. She graduated from university in HR and continues her education through correspondence in Business Management. Annie lives in St. Pie, QC, is married and a mother to 4 boys.
<b>Philippe Charlebois</b>	Upon finishing his schooling in the agricultural and management field, Phil worked for 11 years for La Coop Fédérée. In 2011, Phil joined Semican as Sales Manager. He then worked on developing a sales staff for Eastern Canada and the United States. He provided sales oversight on Semican products which includes cereals, forage seeds, soybean and forage inoculants. The last 10 years were marked by significant growth and expansion. Semican is one of the only privately own seed company in eastern Canada, with a distribution channel in Eastern Canada and the USA and its own research farm and breeding program on cereals and conventional soybean. Semican also has some activities in Europe and Asia. In 2018, Phil took the role of general manager. In June 2019, Phil made the acquisition of Semican with 3 colleagues and accepted the CEO’s position. Phil lives on the south shore of Quebec City and has one son, Laurent. He is an active member of the Canadian Ski patrol during the winter Season.
<b>Georges Chaussé</b>	Georges leads the seed division at Sollio Agriculture, which is based in Longielle, Quebec. He has a degree from the Agri-Food Institute of St Hyacinthe, Québec, and an MBA from École des Sciences de la Gestion de l’UQÀM, Montréal. He started his career in the seed industry as a local sales rep in a coop in Joliette, Quebec and has held senior roles at the Canadian International Development Agency and La Coop Fédérée. Georges has served as a member of CSTA since 1999 and was elected to CSTA’s Board of Directors in 2013. He also served as the President of the Association des Marchands de Semences du Québec (AMSQ) from 2007 to 2019.
<b>Chris Churko</b>	Chris has been involved in the Canadian agriculture industry for the past 24 years. He graduated from the University of Saskatchewan College of Agriculture and spent his early career in management roles in ag retail, grain procurement and agricultural finance. In 2009, Chris joined the Viterra Seed team as the Product Manager for Cereals and Special Crops where he managed the pipeline, production and provided sales oversight of Viterra’s open pollinated seed products, including small grains and niche oilseeds. In 2014, Chris took on the role of General Manager of Alliance Seed, a grain company owned, joint venture focused on the production and marketing of



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	<p>high performing cereal and pulse varieties with a direct link to end user quality needs. In 2019, Chris accepted the role of CEO with FP Genetics, one of the country’s largest seed grower owned companies whose mission is to provide market-leading pedigree seed and related services to its customers. Chris has been involved in the many agricultural and seed related initiatives and working groups and has held director positions with the Regina Branch of the Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists, SeCan Association, and is the current Chair of the Canadian Plant Technology Agency (CPTA). In his free time, Chris operates a grain farm near Melville, Sk, and is an avid fisherman, or at least likes to share stories about the “big one” that always gets away.</p>
<b>Brent Collins</b>	<p>As Head of Canola Seeds, NA – BASF, Brent is responsible for establishing the strategic direction of BASF’s industry-leading InVigor canola business for both the Canadian and U.S. markets. Brent has more than 25 years of experience in agriculture, with a background in agricultural engineering, coupled with a master’s degree in agronomy and crop science. Serving as a board member of the Canadian Seed Trade Association(CSTA) and an active representative for BASF with the Canada Grains Council (CGC), Brent lends his extensive expertise to help drive the future of seed research, production and marketing for Canada, and is a go-to source for the key product innovations that will continue to drive the industry forward.</p>
<b>Dianne Gilhuly</b>	<p>Dianne is a seed analyst with more than 35 years of experience and a founding partner and President of Kent Agri Lab (KAL), a germination and purity lab offering testing of all crop kinds at national and international levels. Working under Quality Management systems, Dianne has developed expertise in identifying, evaluating, and mitigating risks. She has administrative experience with excellent leadership skills, allowing her to work collaboratively with others towards achieving common goals. Dianne is a member of The Canadian Seed Institute (CSI), Commercial Seed Analyst Association of Canada (CSAAC) and the Society of Commercial Seed Technologists (SCST) for 25+ years and has served as President on both the CSI and CSAAC Boards of Directors. Dianne grew up in SW Ontario on the family farm where she developed her passion for agriculture. Dianne and her husband Jack reside in Sarnia, Ontario and enjoy visits from their 3 married children and grandchildren.</p>
<b>Ellen Sparry</b>	<p>Ellen joined C&amp;M Seeds in 1994 as Genetics Manager for the company's research and development program. She assumed the role of General Manager in 2015 and today continues to direct C&amp;M Seeds towards its primary focus of providing industry leading and innovative cereal genetics to Eastern Canada. Born and raised on a farm in central Ontario she is a graduate of the Ontario Ag College, University of Guelph, and has 30 years experience in agricultural research. Prior to C&amp;M Ellen was Assistant Breeder with King Agro Inc's canola program. Along with her daily activities at C&amp;M, Ellen is actively involved in the Ontario Cereal Crop Committee coordinating the Provincial cereal trials. She also acts as secretary of the Wheat Technical Committee and currently sits on the board of the Canadian Seed Trade Association and represents CSTA on the International Seed</p>



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	Federation Board and Field Crops committee. Ellen was granted CSGA Associate Plant Breeder Status in 2014.
<b>Eric McLean</b>	Born and raised on a farm, Eric was taught that everyone has a story to be told. Attending university made him realize the power of relationships and the bond between those privileged to make their living in agriculture. After a brief three years in the feed business and realizing that his family farm would not be able to include him in its operation, Eric began his career at JS Henry & Son Ltd. He learned quickly of the benefits of certified seed production from Cam Henry, who would become his mentor and father-in-law shortly after when he married Marnie. Together Marnie and Eric transitioned the seed farm from modest acres and production into Western Manitoba’s largest family owned seed business. The business has grown from 3,000 acres and processing 150,000 bushels annually, to a thriving agribusiness and 6,500 acres stock seed farm that contracts around 20,000 acres and processes 750,000 bushels annually. To accommodate such growth, many infrastructure improvements had to be made over the last 20 years including new seed conditioning facility, scale, sheds, and a significant increase in storage. Much of this was a product of anticipating the introduction and success of western soybeans and adapting to the growing market first before all others in the west.
<b>Holly Gelech</b>	Holly is a seed industry professional who exhibits elevated management skills in strategic planning, account management, collaboration, leadership and understanding of the Canadian seed industry. Applies clear, focused communications during executive decisions and operational activities. Contributes to industry initiatives such as CSTA’s Diversity and Inclusion Working Group, CSTA’s International Committee (secretary) and Alberta Minister’s Roundtable for Fusarium Management (2017, 2018). Cultivates food production knowledge as Community Garden volunteer leader (2 years). Long tenured business positions within a CFIA accredited seed laboratory (12 years) and a leading western Canadian seed company (14 years). Managed growth of seed laboratory top line, including ASCIS accreditation and direct service delivery of LSCI inspections (Section 2 & 3, Plot). Partner ownership of BioVision Seed Labs until 2017 (4 years), currently known as SGS Canada Inc. Executed seed multiplications contracts with seed growers, coordinated processing through Approved Conditioners, managed supply chain, and utilized Canada’s Seeds Act and Provincial Pest Acts to strike procurement decisions.
<b>Monica Klaas</b>	Monica has been employed by local, municipal, and provincial governments in various capacities, as well as multi-national crop input corporations and most recently, not-for-profit organizations. Monica grew up on a small farm near the Alberta/Montana border receiving much hands-on farm experience hauling grain, tending livestock, moving irrigation pipe, and even hoeing 2 acres of carrots. Monica received her formal education at Olds College, graduating with honors from the Horticulture Program with a greenhouse major. Currently Monica is the General Manager for Alberta Seed Processors Association, a role including, but not limited to finance,



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	<p>governance, organizational excellence, and marketing. She is very fortunate to maintain a small agronomy contract with the Western Winter Wheat Initiative- a division of Ducks Unlimited Canada. In this position Monica promotes winter cereals as a sustainable crop choice for Alberta farmers. Industry collaboration has also been a highlight, as Monica spent 2 terms (6 years) on the council of the Alberta Institute of Agrologists (AIA). When Monica is not working, she is maintaining a yard and garden at the large acreage near Claresholm that she shares with her husband Dan, 4 cats, 3 horses, &amp; 2 dogs.</p>
<b>Jeff Loessin</b>	<p>Jeff assumed responsibilities for the Canadian Corn, Soybean, Cereal and Forage Seed marketing in October of 2017, defining and developing the 3-year and long-range marketing plans for these key seed crops for the Pioneer and Brevant brands for Corteva in Canada. In this role, Jeff interacts with global leadership, leads the Canadian crop team, and works with product development to advance germplasm into the product line-up. In this role, there is also oversight of the annual plan and a responsibility to work within the broader seed industry to actively promote the adoption of regulations, practices, etc. that maintain and build the industry's ability to operate and support farm customers in growing profitable crops. Raised on a farm outside of Radisson, Saskatchewan, Jeff received his Bachelor of Science in Agriculture from the University of Saskatchewan in 1992 and gained work experience in the crop inputs retail sector and with an equipment manufacturer prior to joining Dow AgroSciences in 1998. He has held several roles in sales and marketing including General Manager for Dow Seeds, Canadian Commercialization Leader for the Enlist Weed Control System, and Portfolio Marketing Leader for graminicides and pre-seed herbicides in Canada. Jeff is a Certified Crop Advisor and a member of the Ontario Institute of Agrologists. Jeff and his family moved to London, Ontario in August 2015 after living in Calgary, AB for 16 years. He maintains his connection to the farm by helping on the family farm operation whenever he can get home to Saskatchewan – especially during harvest.</p>
<b>Jeff Reid</b>	<p>Jeff is the General Manager of SeCan, Canada's largest distributor of Certified seed. As General Manager, Jeff is responsible for ensuring that the evolving vision of SeCan's Board of Directors translates into operational programs that promote the success of SeCan's over 600 member seed growers and processors across Canada. Jeff has spent the past 33 years in the seed industry in various roles - from research and development, to sales and marketing management - working in every major Canadian field crop.</p>
<b>Jim Wilson</b>	<p>Jim and his wife Norleen operate a grain farm in the Darlingford, MB area. Established in 1974, they produce pedigreed cereals and soybeans and commercial canola. They also owned and operated Wilson Seeds Ltd., a registered seed establishment, processing and retailing pedigreed seed from 1993 to the fall of 2019. Jim received his Chartered Accountant designation in 1974 and worked in public practice until 1993. In 2007, Jim received the designation of Chartered Director (C. Dir.), having completed the requirements of The Directors College through McMaster University. Jim is</p>



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	<p>currently Vice-Chair of Canterra Seeds Ltd. and Chair of the Manitoba Agricultural Service Corporation. He previously held positions on the boards of SeCan, the Canadian International Grains Institute (CIGI), Agricore United, Agricore Co-operative, Manitoba Pool Elevators, and the Canada Grains Council. Jim serves as project coordinator for the local Canadian Foodgrains Bank project and enjoys travelling in the winter months.</p>
<b>Nick Sekulic</b>	<p>Nick was born and raised in the northwestern Alberta farming community of Rycroft/Spirit River. Completed a Bachelor of Commerce Degree with a Major in Finance in 1987 from the University of Calgary. His early career was in the information technology sector, followed by a management and instructional role in post-secondary education. He has had a lifelong involvement in agriculture, having grown up on a mixed farm and will be planting the 30th consecutive crop in 2020. Nick is married to Caroline, with three children.</p>
<b>Quentin Martin</b>	<p>When the family farm was incorporated decades ago, as the youngest member, Quentin developed leadership skills in a collaborative environment. Blessed with the opportunity to explore university education, Quentin eventually obtained both a BSC Ag and a BA, or as he likes to say, “Two degrees...One Celsius and one Fahrenheit!” Through significant evolution of the farming operation and nearly four decades including seed production and processing, Quentin has learned to embrace change. His years of experience on boards of directors of numerous organizations have given him the opportunity to engage in and encourage consensus decision making based on collaboration. This included merger and amalgamation activity. He is excited to be part of this multi-generational change in the leadership of the seed industry and helping to move the work of so many good people to completion.</p>