



June 2020 Board Meeting Highlights

1. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Canadian Angus Association cancelled the 2020 Annual Convention scheduled for June 10–14 in Moncton, New Brunswick. Instead the 2020 AGM was held on June 11 via a virtual platform and the Board of Directors held orientation for new directors and conducted their June meeting online. Plans are to hold the 2022 Annual Convention in Moncton, New Brunswick.
2. All current, retiring and incoming directors participated in an orientation session on board governance and policies. A board committee has been working with an independent contractor to make the board's policies easier to understand so the board can focus on future vision for the Association.
3. Following the CAA virtual AGM on Thursday, June 11, George Baxter (Alberta), Ryan Currie (Quebec) and past president Trevor Welch (Maritimes) officially retired from the board. New directors Greg Pugh (Alberta), David Sample (Quebec) and Ronnie Ford (Maritimes) officially joined the board. Shawn Birmingham assumed the role of president, Bob Hahn moved into the role of past president and Sheldon Kyle was chosen as president elect.
4. The new CAA balanced index project remains on track. A board committee will be reviewing the initial results and future strategies over the next few months.
5. CAA has introduced a new form to help clarify the difference between open access semen and breeder sire authorization. Breeder sire authorization is restricted to 10 breeders or fewer. Once 11 breeders are authorized to use a sire, the animal is considered open access and subject to the same rules and fees as open access sire authorization.
6. With restrictions on travel and gatherings due to COVID-19, the Board of Directors suspended their new practice of contacting members for feedback on Association programs and services as the Business Development Team has been doing similar work this spring. Directors intend to resume their member engagement strategy in late summer or early fall. Each director will contact four randomly assigned members from across the country and will ask for input and feedback.
7. The 2020 budget reforecast was presented and discussed. Budget savings due to field service restrictions and cancellation of events such as Convention will be reinvested in members. One of those investments is a mid-year member mailing. The Angus Life Mid-Year Review will be a small publication mailed to all member households focusing on updates on events, highlights from the spring, research updates, deadlines and timelines for fall. Members can expect to receive their copy in the mail at the end of July. The publication will be sent to members only and will not include any advertisements.

8. The Board of Directors has the responsibility to select auditors for the Canadian Angus Association. The current contract with KPMG ended following the completion of the 2019 audit. The Board conducted a bid process and has awarded the new audit contract to MNP.
9. Due to uncertainty about fall events, the Board has not set future meeting dates. Although all directors have now mastered the art of Zoom calls, including allowing the camera and muting and unmuting, their preference is to meet in person.
10. At the virtual AGM on June 11, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan was announced as the location of CAA Convention 2021.
11. Alberta is officially in Stage 2 of the province's relaunch strategy. The CAA office remains closed to visitors and as many staff as possible continue to work remotely to minimize the risk of exposure. We are accepting limited appointments for members who require in-person assistance and have implemented a visitor protocol that adheres to Alberta Health Services recommendations and guidelines.