

The Saskatchewan Agriculture Graduates Association (SAGA) proudly represents the interests and accomplishments of graduates from the college and school.



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saskaggrads.com**

Honorary life members for 2023

Dr. Brian Fowler '64 C was raised on a farm near Clair, Sask. He used his participation in 4-H as a springboard to his University of Saskatchewan (USask) education. He earned his BSA with Great Distinction, completed his MSc at USask, then obtained his PhD at the University of Manitoba. As a professor in the Department of Plant Sciences, and one of the first scientists at the Crop Development Centre, Brian spent his career improving winter wheat production, resulting in 18 varieties adapted for the Canadian Prairies. Brian has had a long and significant impact in Saskatchewan, Canadian, and global agriculture with his research concentrated on winter wheat and conservation production systems. His work has been acknowledged, being named a Fellow of the Canadian Society of Agronomy, the American Society of Agronomy, and by his induction into the Saskatchewan Agricultural Hall of Fame in 2018.

Murad Al-Katib is the president, CEO and a board member of AGT Food and Ingredients Inc. A strategic business and financial thinker, Murad founded AGT Foods in 2001, building a Canadian startup into a global multi-billion-dollar value-added pulses, staple foods, and ingredient company. His career began in public service with the Government of Canada and then as a founding director of the Saskatchewan Government's international trade and export development agency, the Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership (STEP). Murad is a passionate advocate of Canadian agriculture, speaking extensively on the opportunities and challenges facing Canada's agriculture sector. Murad has received several prestigious awards including 2020 Globe and Mail "Innovator CEO of the Year".

2023 highlights

John Hauer '84 C is our 2023 SAGA President, and Henry de Gooijer '83 C is our vice-president.

Kayley Harvey '23 was the recipient of the 2022-23 SAGA Undergraduate Scholarship.

There are some great stories in the June 2023 issue of The SAGA. Ken Wasylsynshen

'70 C outlines a typical year for him above the Arctic Circle, plus articles by regular contributors Irene Ahner '65 C and Al Hingston '69 C. All those and more are available at saskaggrads.com.

Harold Chapman '43 C celebrated his 106th birthday and Ozzie Lakness '49 C his 100th this past spring.

College of AgBio grads Laurie Tollefson '75C & '85 MSc, Kevin Hursh '80 C, and John McKinnon '86 MSc & '93 PhD were inducted to the 2023 Saskatchewan Agriculture Hall of Fame (SAHF) in recognition of their contributions to the agriculture industry. As well, former SAGA Presidents Jim Bessel '88 S and Jeff Schoenau '84 C & '88 PhD were inducted into the 2022 SAHF.

2023 reunion

SAGA enjoyed a very successful return to our annual reunion banquet after a two-year hiatus.

A record number of graduates attended the Friday Night Social, hosted by the College of AgBio and SAGA Executive. Various tours were offered, led by Bryan Harvey '60 C, Hamish Tulloch '91 C, Adam Harrison (phytotron manager) and Eric Johnson '82 C.

We enjoyed a much higher than expected turnout for the banquet/mixer. 2022 SAGA President Deanne Belisle '79 C welcomed over 300 grads and guests. Everyone was excited to see their classmates in this special setting once again, and enjoyed the delicious meal provided by the TCU Place chefs. Several of the classes that had to forego the cancelled reunions made up for it this year.

We also witnessed the return of our SAGA Hockey Tournament, held once again in Waldheim, Sask. One of many highlights was the participation of the 1993 C team. Thirty years after their best before date, they won the B side.

Call for volunteers

SAGA has been run by a revolving group of dedicated Ag grad volunteers since its founding in 1935. Each year we need new volunteers to be chairpersons to organize their classmates for our annual reunion. We continually require new volunteers for the SAGA Executive. A mix of new and

old grads on the executive works well, balancing fresh ideas with experience. If you are interested, please reach out. We are looking for Ag grads to organize the banquet, take on membership, and for next year's vice-presidency.

SAGA recognizes and invites ALL degree, diploma and certificate graduates of the College of AgBio to join our alumni association. Please visit saskaggrads.com for more information.

Stay in touch

SAGA has made a few changes to how we send our newsletter electronically. If you have stopped receiving the bi-annual newsletter, please get in touch with us.

We have updated our contact information for members to better reach the SAGA Executive:

General inquiries - contact@saskaggrads.com

SAGA reunion and chairpersons - reunion@saskaggrads.com

SAGA treasurer - treasurer@saskaggrads.com

SAGA membership - memberships@saskaggrads.com

Submit news to The SAGA editors - newsletter@saskaggrads.com

Please note thesaga@sasktel.net has been discontinued.

89th SAGA Reunion Weekend: January 5 and 6, 2024

Jan. 5 4 – 7 pm

Friday Night Social: Ag Building Atrium
Guided tours: Gabfest in ASA Lounge

Jan. 6 7 am – 5:30 pm

SAGA Hockey Tournament in Waldheim, SK

Jan. 6 4 – 9 pm

Banquet – TCU Place, Centennial Halls (Basement)

Jan. 6 9 pm – 1 am

Mixer – TCU Place

Recognition of Years: 1944, 1949, 1954, 1959, 1964, 1969, 1974, 1984, 1994, 2004, 2014, 2019