

Agricultural Institute of Canada Foundation

1996 President's Report

The year 1996 has been a year of modest success for the Agricultural Institute of Canada Foundation. While the dollar value of contributions has declined in general, the Foundation has continued to contribute to a large number of worthy projects that meet its objectives.

The administrative and financial support of the AIC office, and the work of our Administrative Coordinator, Brenda Trask, PAg, have been greatly appreciated.

Much of the success of the Foundation in the past two to three years must go to our Past President, Dan Rose, PAg, who was the recipient of an AICF plaque for his service. We were pleased when Dan agreed to become Secretary of the Foundation.

It gives me great pleasure to acknowledge the second installment of \$10,000 in 1996 from the Royal Bank of Canada, as part of its \$50,000 commitment to the Foundation.

The \$1,000 donations received from the Ontario Institute of Agrologists, the Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists, the Canadian Agricultural Economics and Farm Management Society, and the Farm Credit Corporation contributed to the Foundation's success. Other Institutes and Societies have purchased quantities of The Trail Blazers of Canadian Agriculture. In addition, individuals have donated to the Foundation. All this support is truly appreciated.

The boost that AICF received in Lethbridge when nearly \$5,000 was raised in the auction of paintings and the AIC '97 sweater, hats, etc., was very encouraging. An annual event at AIC Conferences, I know that many are looking forward to another auction at AIC '97. Sale items have already been delivered to Nova Scotia. This activity not only raises the profile of the Foundation but of the whole agrologist network.

The AICF received letters of thanks from several conferences it supported in the past year and is frequently listed at the top of sponsors lists. The following organizations and/or projects are some that received financial assistance in 1996:

Agricultural Biotechnology International Conference '96 in Saskatoon;

International Organization of Science and Technology Education Symposium, hosted by the Agriculture in the Classroom Program of Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development;

Agrologist-in Residence Program at the University of Guelph;

Agriculture in the Classroom;

Advanced Agricultural Leadership Program; and

Hogs: Not Just Canadian Bacon production done in British Columbia.

In addition, the Growing Alberta program was granted \$10,000; AICF donated \$10,000 to the Ontario Farm Animal Council to nationally publish the Food for Thought booklet; and the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair was acknowledged for its contribution to public agricultural education with a Rural Roots painting for its new office.

The Foundation's 1996 scholarship program awarded \$4,500 to students in all disciplines at Canada's eight agricultural faculties.

At the July 1996 meeting, the AICF Board of Governors passed a Plan for Continued Success. At the core of this plan is a fundraising campaign that will ensure a minimum of \$150,000 a year is raised to support AICF programs.

Ken Shipley, PAg, of the FLA Group, a professional Ottawa fundraiser, has been contracted to guide the Foundation in an Annual Major Gift Campaign. This activity is ongoing and I am sure we can count on participation from all members.

Committees will bring reports to the August 1997 meetings of the AIC and AICF on how the Dr. Leonard S. Klinck Lecture series can be modified for the future, and how organizations can become patrons of the AIC Foundation.

The AICF Executive of Alan Bentley, PAg, President; Resby Coutts, PAg., Vice-President; Dan Rose, PAg, Secretary; Lorne Yeo, PAg, Treasurer; Clint McLean, PAg, Chair Education Committee; Terry Kremeniuk, Chair Priority Planning Committee; and Executive members Don Young, PAg, Larry Rosevear, PAg, have worked hard to keep the AIC Foundation a strong and important organization.

I thank all Governors of the AICF for their support and welcome George Arnold, PAg, representing the Ontario Institute of Agrologists, along with Alan Fredeen, PAg, representing the Canadian Society of Animal Science to the Board.

The Foundation is counting on your continued involvement and support in 1997.

Alan Bentley, PAg

