Canadian Goat Society
La Société Canadienne Des Éleveurs De Chèvres
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REPORT TO MEMBERSHIP

CANADIAN GOAT SOCIETY BOD ZOOM MEETING

October 22, 2026 • 5:00 pm CST (SK time) • 7:00 pm ET

Present: Callum McLeod, Kelly Bidan, Linda Carlson, Susan Frazer, Becky Holvik, Kerry O'Donnell (CGS Secretary Manager)
Guests: Sandy Howell

Absent: Jade Pinel, Arnie Steeves

1. **Call to order –** Meeting called to order at 5:02 p.m. by Chair Callum McLeod.

2. **Changes or additions to the agenda. Approval of agenda**. No additions or changes to the agenda presented. Motion made to approve the agenda as presented. Moved by Kelly Bidan. Seconded by Susan Frazer. None opposed. Agenda approved.

3. Review of Action Items from the October 15, 2026 meeting

Action Items

The action items from the October 15, 2026 meeting were reviewed.

4. **Approval of previous meeting minutes (October 15, 2026)**

Motion to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2026 BOD meeting made by Linda Carlson. Seconded by Kelly Bidan. None opposed. **CARRIED.**

Review of Reports

Office Report – The S/M reported that another animal has been disallowed on an ROA due to inconsistencies related to the identification of the animal. The draft financial statements have been received from the auditor and the S/M held a brief meeting with them earlier today. In speaking with the auditors, it was suggested that the $5000.00 bequeathed to CGS be invested in a separate GIC in order to track interest earned. The S/M shared the current interest rates available at BMO.

MOTION: To invest the $5,000.00 Alpine Endowment Fund principal in a BMO Rate Riser Plus GIC for a five-year term at an annually compounded interest rate of 3.35%, with the principal preserved and only the interest earned available for use in accordance with the terms of the bequest. Moved by Callum

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McLeod. Seconded by: Susan Frazer. None opposed. **CARRIED**.

Financial Report – Monthly bookkeeper reports will be available for the October 29 meeting.

Executive Committee Report (Callum, Kelly, Pier-Marc)

- Nothing to report

5. New Business

Review of costs associated with Milk Recording Programs: The S/M previously circulated Xcel spreadsheets with income versus expenses for both the one day and 305-day milk recording programs. In reviewing results from the 2026 one-day milk recording program the SM noted that increasing the requirements for a *M for the Nigeran Dwarf breed had the intended effect of bringing the percentage of animals earning the award more in line with the Standard breeds (48.6% for ND and 41.6% for standard breeds). The one-day milk test program ran at a very slight profit in 2026 ($222.00). No increase in fees for one-day milk tests was motioned. A review of the 305-day program revealed that this program ran at a loss of approximately $330.00 in 2026. Costs associated with the program were higher in 2026 due to individual *P certificates being generated rather than herd certificates. The S/M reported that the time to create individual certificates is significantly higher than the time to create the previous whole herd certificates. It was questioned if the program would be cost neutral if certificates were eliminated. The S/M offered to cost this out and present the information at the next meeting. Office time was also increased in 2026 due to challenges with Lactanet and reports being generated. It was noted the CGS fees to participate in the program are relatively low ($30.00 for 1-24 animals and $60.00 for 25+ animals). Discussion focused on the high costs members incur through Lactanet and the importance of keeping CGS fees affordable to encourage participation in the program. After discussion, the suggestion was made to possibly considered a tiered fee structure for herds on 305-day test linked to the *P certificates. It was voiced by some that they do not need or want individual certificates, or any certificates at all, as all the information they need/want comes from Lactanet. It was suggested that enrolled herds could pay the base fee up front. At the time the preliminary reports are sent from CGS to the herd owners for their review for completeness and accuracy, the office could then inquire if they would like whole herd certificates, individual animal certificates, or no certificates. Herds wishing certificates would then be invoiced based on the number and type of certificate they desire.

6. Old Business:

Review of costs associated with Type Evaluation program: The Secretary manager previously circulated a second report on the program outlining fee structures in previous years as well as some options for changes in fees to help reduce the large deficit the program runs at. It was again noted that with the relatively low numbers of dairy goats in Canada, the low number of herds who take part, and the geography of Canada itself, it is not possible to provide a program that services everyone in a cost neutral manner. The importance of balancing CGS finances with a member fee schedule that does not diminish uptake in the program was also again noted. The site fee is intended to offset the classifier's travel costs, while the per-animal fee is intended to cover wages. However, the current $300.00 site fee falls very short of covering the cost of getting a classifier to a farm. It was noted that herds with smaller number of animals could help reduce their costs by organizing meets. Instituting a minimum site fee was

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discussed. Members would be required to pay a flat fee that would include a certain number of animals being evaluated for that price. Members with less animals would still be offered the service, however the minimum fee would still apply. It was questioned how many herds typically present less than 10 animals. Between 2023 – 2026 that number ranged from 2 herds to 7 herds. Various price points and animal numbers were discussed with a $500.00 minimum (including up to 10 animals) being favored by the majority. It was noted that at 10 animals, the minimum $500.00 site fee reflects the current pricing in place for the program.

> **MOTION:** To establish a minimum $500.00 site fee for the Type Evaluation program that includes the evaluation of up to 10 animals. Moved by Linda Carlson. Seconded by Becky Holvik. None opposed. **CARRIED.**

- Discussion took place regarding Classifiers wages, the number of current classifiers and classifier training. It was noted that while there is an upfront cost, training more Classifiers (particularly in BC and AB where the majority of herd visits take place) could help decrease costs in the long run. Training an additional classifier in Ontario was also suggested. In regard to wages and expenses, it was noted that the current Classifiers all seem to be quite mindful of keeping expenses to a minimum and arranging efficient travel plans. Classifier training and face to face training were addressed. This came at a cost of $10,700.00 in 2025 (to train 6 individuals). With Classifiers being independent contractors (rather than employees), it was questioned why their training would be paid for in full by CGS. It was noted that CGS Judges are responsible for the full costs of their training in order to maintain a license and that CGS does not subsidize them to do so. Various scenarios were discussed such as; Classifiers paying for their costs in full, CGS paying a portion of the costs, offering a rebate if a contract is offered and accepted and offering a stipend. As no immediate decision regarding training was required, the discussion concluded.

7. Next Meeting: October 29 at 7 p.m. E.T.

8. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn at 6:30 p.m. by Linda Carlson.

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