

January 2022 Board Meeting Highlights

1. The Canadian Angus Association Board of Directors held a hybrid meeting on January 24 & 25, 2022 with some directors on site at Angus Central and some attending by Zoom.
2. The 2021 year-end statistics were presented:

	2021	2020	2019
Registrations	56,717	55,612	56,003
Transfers	18,706	19,353	17,852
Memberships	2,500	2,334	2,410
ACE enrollment—members	93	84	76
ACE enrollment—cows	2,732	2,504	2,486
Weaning weight submissions	61,464	58,462	45,909
Yearling weight submissions	22,847	20,491	19,525
Angus GS tests	4,649	3,909	1,828
Parent verification tests	23,406	22,880	22,154

In 2022, 111 members and 3,507 cows are enrolled in ACE.

We have also seen steady growth in the number of members using AngusNOW with 1,742 registered users in 2022, up from 1,510 in 2021 and 1,058 in 2020. It was interesting to note that even with this increase in users, in 2021 CAA staff still performed the majority of transactions.

3. Retroactive to January 1, 2022, animals classified as open, recipient or donor will not be charged the \$65 ACE fee for the calendar year in which they are designated such. However, if the cow remains in inventory and later has a calf, the \$65 ACE fee will be assessed. No reinstatement fee will be assessed for that calf.
4. The board discussed and supported an initiative to conduct a short member engagement survey. Members will receive more information on the survey, expected to launch by the end of February.
5. In recognition and consideration of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting uncertainties over in-person events and potential gathering and travel restrictions, beginning in 2022, the following changes will be made to the Gold Show program:
 - Standardization of classes at all shows, regardless of the number of entries
 - Winners will be determined based on total points in top three events and
 - The requirement to attend shows in two provinces will be removed.More details on these changes will be announced in the spring prior to the start of the 2022 show season.

6. The board of directors confirmed the national show rotation for the next four years as:
 - 2022—Toronto, ON: Royal Agricultural Winter Fair
 - 2023—Edmonton, AB: Farmfair
 - 2024—Regina, SK: Agribition
 - 2025—Open for bids
7. The board has committed to educating members about their role and how it differs from regional association boards and other industry boards. There is an article on page 70 of Angus Life describing how the CAA board operates (https://issuu.com/canadianangusassociation/docs/angus_life_2022_final_for_issuu). In addition, the board's code of conduct, conflict of interest and information on in-camera sessions will be provided to candidates nominated for the board of directors before an election is held to help ensure candidates understand the requirements of the position before committing to serving a term.
8. Due to upcoming price increase for DNA services from Neogen the following fee adjustments will take place on June 1, 2022:
 - Cost of parentage verification tests will increase from \$18 to \$20
 - Cost of genetic testing will increase from \$22 to \$23
 - Cost of freemartin test will increase from \$65 to \$70
9. CAA has partnered with a local marketing company to offer a new selection of Angus branded merchandise. Visit www.cdnangus.ca/buyers-sellers/merchandise to see some of the first new items available. More stock will be added.
10. Last summer, CAA invited members to suggest individuals for nomination to the Canadian Agricultural Hall of Fame. The board reviewed the submissions and will move forward with a formal nomination.
11. Research priorities in 2022 include female fertility, continued development of the BETSY camera program, commercial genomic testing, genomic advancements and the next phase of the High Immune Response (HIR) project. Members can expect to see regular updates in the monthly Angus Advisor newsletter.
12. As information has become available about gene editing taking place in other countries, the board requested a presentation on gene editing to learn more about the technology and its implications. Directors will continue to learn more about the technology to ensure that they fully understand gene editing and how it may impact members. At this time, the focus is on education and learning, not on taking a position in favour of or opposed to the technology. Members will have the opportunity to learn more at the Annual National Convention in June.