

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

Annual VFO Board of Director's Award winner announced *Recognizing dedication and service to the veal cattle industry*

Guelph, ON (March 10, 2022)—Veal Farmers of Ontario (VFO) was pleased to announce this year's VFO Board of Director's Award winner at its recent virtual Annual General Meeting held March 9, 2022.

The VFO Board of Director's Award recognizes the contributions that many make to help the VFO Board achieve their goals. This year, Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) Ernie Hardeman was recognized for his involvement in the veal cattle industry.

"MPP Hardeman has worked to protect farmers, farm families and their businesses with the passing of the *Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act, 2020* and with his ongoing support of Ontario agriculture and in particular, veal farmers," says Pascal Bouilly, VFO Chair.

MPP Hardeman has been an advocate for Ontario farms over the years as an MPP, Minister of Agriculture, and Opposition Agriculture Critic. He was responsible for introducing Bill 156, which resulted in the passing of the *Security from Trespass and Protecting Food Safety Act, 2020*. This important legislation protects Ontario's food supply chain, from farm to table, without infringing on the right to peacefully protest.

"I want to thank Veal Farmers for this honour. Farmers and their families should feel safe in their own homes and I am happy that through this legislation we have been able to increase their peace of mind," says MPP Hardeman.

"We thank MPP Hardeman for his dedication and commitment to the Ontario veal sector, he is truly deserving of this recognition," says Bouilly.

Veal Farmers of Ontario is a farmer-run organization that represents the interests of Ontario's veal farmers, providing leadership to promote industry growth and viability through collaboration, innovation, marketing, and education.

-30-

For more information contact:

Jennifer Bullock, Communications Manager
jbullock@vealfarmers.ca
519-824-2942