



**Saskatchewan Beekeepers
Development Commission**

**Welcomes
all Participants
to the
2026 Annual Convention
Michelangelo Ballroom
Delta Hotels Saskatoon Downtown**

Contents:

- **Convention Program**
- **Speakers Bios**
- **Sponsors List and Descriptions**

2026 SBDC Convention Program- All Presentation in Michelangelo Ballroom A

	Thursday November 19, 2026
Time	Presentation
8:00	Registration
8:50	Welcome – Simon Lalonde – SBDC President
9:00	Presentations by Western College of Veterinary Medicine, Honey Bee Health Research Lab, Saskatoon, SK - Moderated by Dr. Sarah Wood
9:00	The link between honey bees and health sciences- Berenice Romero
9:10	Pollen Nutrition in Honey Bees- Pablo Arias Marmolejo
9:20	Evaluating safety and efficacy of fenbendazole as a treatment for nosema disease in Saskatchewan honey bees- Bree Bilton
9:30	Is there fumagillin in your honey after treatment? - Belarmino Lopes Neto
9:40	Beekeeping equipment as a reservoir for <i>Melissococcus plutonius</i> and potential decontamination options - Midhun Jose
9:50	Can adult honey bees carry European foulbrood bacteria? -Yashoda Wickramasinghe
10:00	Oxytetracycline metaphylaxis in Spring decreases prevalence of EFB of honey bee colonies in Ontario -Alvaro de La Mora Pena
10:10	Efficacy and safety of repeated oxalic acid dribble treatment on honey bee health and queen Quality - Serhii Kondratiuk
10:20	Effects of pesticides on fertility of honey bee drones- Marina Bezerra da Silva
10:30	Coffee Break – Sponsored by: Ridgedale Coop
11:00	American Foulbrood in Saskatchewan: research updates and future perspectives -Oleksii Obshta American Foulbrood surveillance questionnaire 2026: Establishing a link between practices and AFB spores counts.
Bee Health: It is all about mites!	
11:30	Insect issues in field crops 2026- James Tansey, PhD Pag, Provincial Specialist, Insect/Pest Management, Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture, Regina, Sk, Canada
12:00	Lunch
1:00	Experience of the Republic of Georgia with the new invasion of Tropilaelaps to the country: actions and impacts- Irakli Janashia, PhD, Professor at Institute of Entomology, Agricultural University of Georgia, Tbilisi. Republic of Georgia.
1:40	Has Varroa become voracious? Varroa and honey bee colony collapse- Stephen Martin, Professor Emeritus, University of Salford, Manchester, UK.
2:20	Linking bee and air studies - miticides and contaminants- Renata Raina-Fulton, Kaila Billay, Kaiqi Zhou, Jessica Pendington, University of Regina, Regina, SK
3:00	Coffee Break - Sponsored by: Ridgedale Coop
3:30	Is varroa resistance a sustainable solution to the varroa: evidence and practices? Stephen Martin, Professor Emeritus , University of Salford, Manchester, UK.
4:10	Bee Health: What is next!? - Geoff Wilson, Saskatchewan Provincial Apiculturist. Livestock, Ministry of Agriculture, PA, SK
4:50	Presentation by SBDC-Tech Adaptation Program, Moderated by Dr. Medhat Nasr Evaluating Economic Traits and Mite Resistance for Bee Stocks in Northern Climates: PollLine Descendant, Saskatraz, and Local Stock. Medhat Nasr, Emilio Tellarini, Francis Idam, Jorja Larson, Alex Wilson, and Grace Vedress, SK Tech Adaptation Program, PA, SK
5:10	Varroa Economic Thresholds: Risks and Opportunities - Navigating the Balance- Emilio Tellarini, Medhat Nasr, Francis Idam, Alex Wilson – SK Trech Adaptation Program, PA, SK
5:30	Day Session Ends, 7:00 pm Cheese and wine

2026 SBDC Convention Program
All Presentation in Michelangelo Ballroom A

Friday November 20, 2026	
Time	Presentation
	Bee Health and Sustainability Session-2 Sponsored by ADF Program, NIFA, USDA & Strategic Funds Projects
8:30	Beekeeping practices and management in the Republic of Georgia- Irakli Janashia, PhD, Professor, Department of Entomology, Agricultural University of Georgia, Tbilisi. Georgia.
9:00	Report on recent research in China: Varroa and Tropilaelaps investigations (30 min) Stephen Martin, Professor Emeritus, University of Salford, Manchester, UK.
9:30	Exploring Options to Meet Unprecedented Challenges- Richard McConnell, Consultant, DYMAC Risk Management Solutions Ltd.
10:00	Coffee Break - Sponsored by: Ridgedale Coop
10:30	New developed info about Tropilalapis biology in the western honey bees? (Biology, diagnostic and control options- Irakli Janashia, PhD, Professor, Department of Entomology, Agricultural University of Georgia, Tbilisi. Georgia.
11:00	Updates on developing new miticides for mite control: Are we there yet? Medhat Nasr, Jorja Larson, Emilio Tellarini, Francis Idam, Alex Wilson and Grace Vedress, SK Trech Adaptation Program, PA, SK
11:30	Pollinator support and extension In Saskatchewan. . Graham Parsons. SK Agriculture, Prince Albert, SK
12:00	Lunch
1:00	How to make a living on 60 pounds of honey? Albert Devries, Co-owner of Clover mead Bees, St Thomas, Ontario
1:40	AGM Registration
2:00	Annual General Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Presentation • Provincial Apiarist Report- Geoff Wilson – Provincial Specialist in Apiculture, Government of Saskatchewan, Prince Albert, SK • Research Chair in pollinator health: Celebrating a successful industry-academia partnership in SK. Dr. Sarah Wood, Honey Bee Health Research Lab, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, • Director’s Report • Election Results
5:00	Day Session Ends
6:30	Cash Bar and Banquet

2026 SBDC Convention Program
All Presentation in Michelangelo Ballroom A

Saturday November 21, 2026 9:00 a.m.	
Time	Topics and speakers
9:00	Early feeding bees in spring: Is it a good plan to get the bees going in Spring? Emilio Tellarini, Medhat Nasr, Francis Idam, Nuria Morfin, SK Trech Adaptation Program, PA, SK and University of Manitoba.
9:30	Evaluations of newly registered and registered miticides for Varroa management in Saskatchewan: Apivar2, Amiflex, VarroxSan, Formic Mite Wipe, and Formic Pro. Medhat Nasr, Emilio Tellarini, Francis Idam, Jorja Larson, Alex Wilson and Grace Vedress, SK Trech Adaptation Program, PA, SK.
10:00	Coffee Break – Sponsored by: Ridgedale Coop
10:30	Keeping Healthy Bees? – Open Discussion. Geoff, Sarah, Graham, Irakli, Stephen, Emilio and Medhat
12:00	Day Session End - Have a Wonderful Winter Break

To our 2026 Sponsors

The Saskatchewan Beekeepers Development Commission would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our speakers, sponsors and the province of Saskatchewan and Government of Canada who support us throughout the year. This generous support allows the Commission and our members to come together for sharing of ideas and to learn what is new in the industry that benefits all beekeepers provincially and nationally.



Invited Speakers



Dr. Irakli Janashia, Associate Professor at the Institute of Entomology of the Agricultural University of Georgia, Tbilisi, Republic of Georgia. In 2001, he graduated from the Georgian State Zootechnical-Veterinary Academy, qualifying as a general-practice veterinarian. In 2017, he defended his doctoral dissertation in Biology at Tbilisi State University, titled "Study of the Probiotic Potential of Lactic Acid Bacterial Microflora in the Honey Bee (*Apis mellifera*)," and was awarded the academic degree of Doctor of Biology. From 2001 to 2011, he worked as a veterinarian. Between 2011 and 2016, he served as a laboratory assistant at the George Eliava Institute of Bacteriophage, Microbiology and Virology. From 2014 to 2023, he headed the Beekeeping Laboratory at the Institute of Entomology of the Agricultural University of Georgia. Since 2022, she has held the position of Associate Professor at the same university. His research interests encompass honey bee diseases including *Tropilalapis*, microbiology, and biotechnology; he has published scientific papers on these topics in international journals. He is a winner of the Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation's 2019 competition for young scientists in the field of agricultural sciences.



Dr. Stephen Martin, Professor Emeritus, University of Salford, Manchester, UK. Stephen has studied social insects (bees, wasps, termites and ants) for most of his career. His areas of specialisation are the 'hornet ecology', 'pest and diseases of honeybees' and 'chemical ecology of ants'. He holds a Chair in Social Entomology in the School of Environmental and Life Sciences at Salford University, Manchester. Prior to that he spent 12 years working at Sheffield University, 7 years with the National Bee Unit and 7 years in Japan conducting research into hornets. Stephen is best known for his work on the Varroa mite a global parasite of honeybees and its association with viruses, especially the Deformed Wing Virus, but more recently his expertise in hornet biology is in demand, both nationally and internationally. His research funded in part by beekeepers aims to understand why some honey bee colonies have become naturally tolerant to Varroa and see if this information can provide beekeepers with a long-term solution to their mite-problem.



Albert Devries, Commercial Beekeeper and Director of Canadian Honey Council for Ontario. Albert is crowner and runs Clovermead Apiaries with approximately 1000 colonies that produces honey, pollen and queens as part of his business. Clovermead business started by the Hiemstra family. Beekeeping is a third career for Albert. He's also made his living as a carpenter and as a hot air balloon pilot. Albert attended the University of Guelph where he obtained his Diploma of Agriculture and his love of bees. For more info, please check the following link.

[Five Guys and a Hobby | Ontario Beekeepers' Association](#)



Dr. James Tansey, Provincial Specialist, Insect/Pest Management, Production Technology Crops and Irrigation Branch, Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture, Regina, SK. He earned both an M.Sc. and Ph.D. from the University of Alberta. His research has included aspects of leafy spurge biological control, mechanisms of cabbage seedpod weevil and cabbage root maggot resistance, and insecticide resistance in, and cultural and chemical control of the Asian citrus psyllid. His doctoral dissertation was nominated for the Governor General Gold Medal Award.

	<p>Richard (Rick) McConnell, DYMAC Risk Management Solutions Ltd.</p> <p>Rick was born to a beekeeping family that, over the years, had operations in Ontario, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. Discovering he's allergic to bee stings took him out of the family business succession plan in a hurry but didn't dim his interest in the industry.</p> <p>He holds a biology degree from the University of Guelph and a master's degree in economics from the University of Alberta. Rick's work experience is diverse; home construction in northern Alberta/NWT, biologist in the high arctic, building ocean-going sailboats, and a 30-year career in agriculture insurance. After starting with the Alberta Hail and Crop Insurance Corporation (later to become Agriculture Financial Services Corporation), he eventually established his own consulting firm "DYMAC Risk Management Solutions" in 2005.</p>
	<p>Dr. Renata Raina-Fulton, Professor and Head of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of Regina in Saskatchewan, Canada. With over 30 years of research experience, she is widely recognized for her expertise in track-level contaminant detection and atmospheric chemistry. Her presentation will also include presentations by her students (Kaila Billay, Kaiqi Zhou, Jessica Pendington) at the Department of Chemistry, University of Regina.</p>
<p align="center">SBDC-Tech Adaptation Program Team</p>	
	<p>Dr. Medhat Nasr, Saskatchewan Bee Tech Adoption Program Lead, Alberta Provincial Apiculturist (Retired). Medhat has spent decades developing alternatives for mite control (formic acid, Oxalic Acid, HopGuard² and Apivar[®]), managing miticide resistance, evaluating integrated pest management (IPM) programs, and breeding quality bees. Medhat was the president of CAPA from 2014-2018. He is a member of the Varroa Resistance and Treatment Team (VRTT) of the Honey Bee Health Coalition-USA. He received numerous awards for his contributions to apiculture in Canada and USA. Medhat earned his B. Sc. and M. Sc. (Entomology) from Cairo University, Egypt. He earned a Ph. D. in Entomology from University of California, Davis, US.</p>
	<p>Emilio Enrique Tellarini Prieto, M. Sc. Agri. Eng., Research Associate, SK Tech Adaptation Program, PA, SK, Emilio obtained his Agricultural Engineering degree from National University of the South (Argentina) in 2022. Also, he worked in the research area of a company dedicated to beekeeping in 2019-2021. During his MSc he investigated the control of <i>Varroa destructor</i> with oxalic acid as well as pollen diet and wild pollinator abundance in intensive agricultural landscapes of Saskatchewan.</p>



Francis Ukanna Idam, B.Sc., Diploma in Agriculture, a MITACS Intern at the Saskatchewan Beekeepers Development Commission. He is originally from Ebonyi State in eastern Nigeria. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Education (Psychology, Guidance and Counselling), from the University of Port-Harcourt Nigeria, a Continuing Care Assistant Certificate, and a Diploma in Agriculture and Food Production, from Saskatchewan Polytechnic. Francis brings a multidisciplinary approach to service, combining agricultural research, and community leadership. At SBDC, he assists with research projects that support honey bee health, and he is actively working towards expanding his own apiary into a commercial operation.

SBDC-Tech Adaptation Program supporting staff for managing bee colonies, assisting in carrying out bee experiments throughout the bee season.



Jorja Larson



Alex Wilson



Grace Vedress

Government of Saskatchewan Specialist



Graham Parsons. Graham has been with Saskatchewan Agriculture since January 2016. He originally started as an Apiculture Intern and now is Saskatchewan's Pollinator Biosecurity Specialist. He deals with support of the honey bee industry through regulation, education and extension. As well he supports the alfalfa leafcutter beekeepers of the province. Other aspects of his work include pollination support for crop producers and habitat and management recommendations in support of managed and wild pollinators. Graham was the Lead Researcher for the SBDC from 2011 to 2015, as well as completing his Masters of Science in Entomology studying honey bee disease and overwintering at the University of Manitoba. Graham lives with his wife and two kids near Prince Albert Saskatchewan where he keeps a few honey bee colonies of his own.



Geoff Wilson. Geoff is the Provincial Specialist, Apiculture in Saskatchewan and is based in Prince Albert. His primary role is to help enhance the beekeeping industry in the province. A combination of working closely with beekeepers, and the roles of regulation, extension and some research gives Geoff a unique insight to beekeeping issues in the province. Geoff earned his B. Sc. (Agriculture) and M. Sc. (Environmental Biology) from University of Guelph, Ontario

WCVM Honey Bee Health Research Lab	
	<p>Sarah Wood, MSc, DVM, PhD, DACVP, Research Chair in Pollinator Health</p> <p>Sarah is a co-foundress of the WCVM Honey Bee Health Research Lab. Sarah is thrilled to serve Saskatchewan beekeepers as the WCVM Research Chair in Pollinator Health. Her research interests include infectious disease and toxicology of honey bees and the role of pollinators in sustainable agriculture.</p>
	<p>Elemir Simko, DVM, DVSc, DACVP, Professor, Department of Veterinary Pathology, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan. Elemir is a co-founder of the WCVM Honey Bee Health Research Lab. Over the past 25 years, Elemir's research interests have included comparative pathology, innate immunity, pathogenesis of infectious diseases and evidence-based diagnostic pathology. Recently, he expanded his research into honey bee health and sustainability of agriculture.</p>
	<p>Serhii Kondratiuk, DVM, MSc Student</p> <p>Serhii obtained his DVM from the Bila Tserkva National Agrarian University (Ukraine) in 2023. His MSc is focused on honey bee health and oxalic acid toxicity during the dribble treatment in summer and winter.</p>
	<p>Oleksii Obshta, DVM, PhD Student</p> <p>Oleksii obtained his DVM from the Bila Tserkva National Agrarian University (Ukraine) in 2020. His PhD is focused on American foulbrood, specifically antimicrobial resistance and whole genome analysis of <i>Paenibacillus larvae</i> and molecular epidemiology.</p>
	<p>Midhun Sebastian Jose, MSc, PhD, Postdoctoral Fellow</p> <p>Midhun obtained his MSc from the Central University of Kerala, India, and Ph.D. from Mahatma Gandhi University, India. Midhun's research expertise is in Microbiology, Probiotics, and bacterial diseases. His current research is focused on the persistence, pathogenesis, prevention and treatment of European Foulbrood caused by <i>Melissococcus plutonius</i>.</p>
	<p>Belarmino Eugenio Lopes Neto, DVM, PhD, Master of Science student</p> <p>Belarmino holds MSc (2012) and PhD (2018) in Veterinary Science from State University of Ceara, Brazil. Belarmino participated in the Mitacs Accelerate program as a postdoctoral fellow at the Honey Bee Health Research Lab between 2024 and 2025, focusing on antimicrobial resistance in AFB isolates in Saskatchewan. His current research focuses on the treatment of Vairimorpha (formerly Nosema) and the analysis of residues in honey.</p>

	<p>Yashoda Wickramasinghe, BVSc, MSc. Student</p> <p>Yashoda obtained her BVSc from the University Peradeniya, Sri Lanka in 2022. Her MSc is focused on European Foulbrood Disease, specifically laboratory rearing and infection of young honey bee larvae with the causative agent of EFB and examining the potential of emerging adult bees to act as carriers of the disease.</p>
	<p>Alvaro De la Mora is a Postdoctoral fellow at the Honey Bee Research Lab, at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan, Canada</p> <p>Dr. Alvaro received a Ph.D. degree from the University of Guelph, Canada in 2024, and he has a M.Sc. degree in Animal Production. He has nearly 18 years of international experience in honey bee management, research, apiculture, teaching, outreach, lab techniques, diagnosis of honey bee diseases, and production of hive products. He is author of a book for beekeepers on how-to make mead. He has taught courses in apiculture and trained producers and students. Therefore, he has collaborated with different researchers at diverse research institutions, that has resulted in several scientific publications.</p>
	<p>Bree Bilton, BSc (BMI), MSc Student</p> <p>Bree obtained her BSc. from the University of Saskatchewan in 2025, majoring in biochemistry, immunology, and microbiology. Her current MSc. research focuses on prospective treatments for Nosema disease (<i>Vairimorpha cerenae/apis</i>), including comparing the effects of prophylactic and curative treatment on honey bee health.</p>
	<p>Juan Pablo Arias Marmolejo, BSc, MSc student</p> <p>Pablo holds a BSc in Biology from Universidad del Valle, Colombia. In 2024, he participated in the Mitacs Globalink Research Internship at the Honey Bee Health Research Lab, where he worked on the detection of American foulbrood (AFB) in bottom-board debris samples from honey bee colonies in Saskatchewan. He returned to Canada in 2026 to pursue an MSc. His current research focuses on pollen nutrition and dietary diversity in honey bees, with particular emphasis on how seminatural and high-agricultural environments may influence honey bee nutrition and colony health.</p>
	<p>Berenice Romero joined the Honey Bee Health Research Group at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine in June 2026.</p> <p>Dr. Romero obtained her PhD in Plant Sciences from the University of Saskatchewan in 2024. Following her graduate studies, Berenice joined Louisiana State University's Department of Entomology as a postdoctoral researcher to gain further experience working with plant-insect and plant-insect-pathogen interactions in agricultural ecosystems. Berenice has extensive experience working with different insect species to answer questions about fundamental and applied research, which has helped her easily transition into her current position at the Honey Bee Health Lab. Her current research focuses on using honey bees as an animal model for studying human diseases affecting behaviour, morphology, and cognition such as the Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder (aka FASD).</p>



Marina Bezerra da Silva, DVM, Ph.D. Student, Department of Veterinary Pathology, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Saskatchewan.

Marina obtained her DVM from the University Federal of Uberlandia (Brazil) in 2019. Also, she did a residency in veterinary anatomic pathology at the University of Paulista State (UNESP) – Brazil in 2020 - 2021. Her Ph.D. is focused on reproductive toxicopathology in honey bee drones.

The 2026 American Foulbrood (AFB) questionnaire

The WCVL Honey Bee Health Laboratory is excited to announce enrollment of beekeeping operations for the 2026 American Foulbrood (AFB) questionnaire. This questionnaire is part of our ongoing AFB honey surveillance study and will help us finalize a three-year surveillance period (2023-2026).

This questionnaire will help us to discover whether there are any beekeeping management practices that are commonly associated with:

1. the persistence of AFB spores in beekeeping operations;
2. the presence of antibiotic-resistant AFB spores in beekeeping operations.

The survey will cover basic and advanced beekeeping management methods, including but not limited to:

- colony management (both honey-producing and nucs),
- equipment rotation,
- general management practices throughout the season (e.g., spring to spring).

Participation in the questionnaire is voluntary and highly encouraged. Expected completion time: 15-20 minutes after the morning coffee break on Thursday, November 19th, 2026 (11:00-11:30).

The research team will ensure the confidentiality of all data and results. We will share preliminary results with the beekeepers in early March 2027.

Exploring Options to Meet Unprecedented Challenges

Project Executive Summary - DRAFT

Richard McConnell

The Canadian Honey Council (CHC) project “Finding a Better Path Forward – Cultivating Solutions to Challenges Facing the Beekeeping Industry” has entered the last six months of its 18-month time frame. Its objective is to determine if there is sufficient funding within the industry to meet challenges.

Initial feedback from beekeepers suggests two broad priorities – bee health and industry promotion/ marketing. A majority of those surveyed thought funding is adequate for bee health, but more needs to be done to promote Canadian natural honey and identify adulterated honey imports – two “top of mind” issues in light of recent US tariffs on Canadian honey. All interview participants supported some form of levy on imported honey.

The project examined three options to address challenges, namely:

- better coordination but no more funding – *current 0.16/hive allocation*;
- better coordination with more funding from beekeepers – *proposed 0.32/hive allocation*; and
- increased funding through a Promotion and Research Agency (PRA) – *levy on honey imports*.

To be proactive, the industry should consider a revenue stream incorporating import levies similar to the US National Honey Board.

In Canada, PRAs operate under the guidance of the Farm Products Council (FPC) of Canada. Currently, three PRA entities exist – one for each of the beef, pork and hemp industries. An import levy can only be assessed on a commodity by a national PRA.

Three main principles govern the establishment of a PRA: i) it cannot be an industry lobby group; ii) any import levy has to be matched with an equivalent domestic levy on Canadian products; and iii) the domestic levy can fund any promotion and research initiative but an import levy has to be directed to “generic promotion and research” – not just Canadian.

This project is not intended as a PRA application. However, an industry background paper was prepared for FPC that outlines some elements required of an application to get feedback on the adequacy of the document to support an application, a proposed “domestic levy” mechanism based on a per hive assessment similar to provincial beekeeping association membership structures, and the scale(size) of beekeeping operations required to indicate support to establish a PRA.

Funding for the PRA could be a combination of new financial support from beekeepers (domestic levy) plus an import levy, OR a realignment of existing provincial association funds as “seed money” to facilitate an import levy, OR a combination of the two.

If deemed appropriate by FPC, a \$1 to \$1.50 per hive levy could be equivalent to a one-cent per pound import levy. A one cent per pound import levy might generate \$250,000 to \$300,000 annually depending on the amount of honey imported.

Provincial beekeeper association Boards will be asked if they support the idea of proceeding with a PRA application, *knowing that a decision to create a PRA is not binding until the application process is complete, which might take 3 to 4 years*. Board members will rely on feedback from beekeepers in their provinces.

Platinum Sponsors:



From Hives to Honey began in the mid-1990's, when it was recognized that there were few locations in Western Canada to purchase beekeeping equipment. In 2003 Dan joined the original company, working with commercial beekeepers to provide quality, cost effective equipment; the business again grew in 2021 when Simon joined forces. In 2014, both Simon and Dan purchased the original company, and we are continually striving to provide the best beekeeping advise and equipment to the honeybee

industry. Our new name From Hives to Honey Beekeeping Ltd. was launched in 2024, our entire team is proud to work hard, ensuring that From Hives to Honey remains a trusted name for beekeepers everywhere.

Gold Sponsors:



ALLIANCE

PRECISION WOODEN HIVEWARE

At Alliance, we craft precision wooden hiveware that gives bees a natural home and beekeepers complete confidence.

For over 40 years, authenticity has been our measure. It shows in our people, our products, and the way we work. Because precision isn't just millimetres – it's trust. From the hum of the factory floor to the care in every customer call, our focus is the same: protecting bees, keepers, and the environment we all depend on.



Bartel Bee Co. Limited (briefly BHF Sales Ltd.) brings three generations of commercial beekeeping and importing expertise to apiaries across North America. Spun off from [Bartel Honey Farms Inc.](#) to focus exclusively on live bee distribution and specialized equipment, the company imports premium tube packages and queens from [Arataki Honey](#) in New Zealand, alongside traditional 1 and 1.5kg box packages from Chilean producers like South Bee SPA, Chilean Export Bees, and Cooperativa Sur Andina. In addition to managing biosecure live bee lines, they serve as the official North American representative for **EZYLoader** hive lifters supplying six distinct models of the industry's quietest, most feature-rich hive lifters to save beekeepers time, money and physical strain and are the creators of the Canadian-crafted [Talon Hive Tool](#)—a rugged, forged carbon-steel tool designed with a deeper bevel and a versatile cleaning hook to make hive work easier on your hands and gear. Whether you are scheduling your next shipment of package bees, ordering replacement queens, or upgrading your infrastructure with any of the six EZYLoader models or a Talon tool, the Bartel Bee Co. family is ready to help set your operation up for seasonal success



BEE SUPPLIES

Bee Maid Bee Supplies has been a trusted source for Canadian beekeepers for decades, with retail locations in Winnipeg, MB, Tisdale, SK and Spruce Grove, AB, as well as a convenient on line e-store. We are dedicated to supporting beekeeping operations of all sizes by providing a full range of quality products, including hive tools, protective equipment, frames, supers, feed, mite control, medications, queens, and live package bees. Our commitment to excellence ensures that customers receive not only the supplies they need but also knowledgeable service and reliable support to help their operations succeed.



Howland's Honey is a 3rd generation beekeeping operation located in the Saskatchewan Parkland, one mile south of Good Spirit Lake Provincial Park. Founded in 1976 by Wink Howland, Howland's is currently owned and operated by his daughter Sasha Howland and her husband Danny Wasylenchuk. Managing over 1,000 honey production hives, nucleus and queen rearing stock, Howland's produces 100% pure Saskatchewan honey and beeswax products. Howland's Honey is available for purchase at a variety of Saskatchewan retail locations including Costco, Co-op, Old Fashion Foods and Canadian Tire in addition to direct farm pick-up and options for shipment across Canada.

Gold Sponsors Continued:



Mann Lake Ltd. An employee-owned, full line beekeeping manufacturer and supplier all your beekeeping needs. **Four locations:** Minnesota, California, Texas, and Pennsylvania to choose from.



At NOD Apiary Products, we take our cues from nature to develop solutions for beekeepers that are effective, sustainable, and safe. With over 25 years in the apiculture industry, our team is dedicated to honey bee health.



Ridgedale

Ridgedale Co-op was founded in 1940 is a different kind of business – we're truly local. Your local Co-op was built by you and built for you. Each Co-op in Western Canada is independent, so it offers the products and services needed by the communities it serves."



Vita Bee Health (Canada) is a mite control and honeybee health specialist. It is the world's largest dedicated supplier of honey bee health products to the honey and pollination industries.

With a rigorous and ethical approach to research and development into honeybee health, Vita has no commercial interests in crop pesticides or crop breeding that may be harmful to honeybees.

With headquarters in the UK, offices in Italy, Canada, USA and Russia, partners across the globe, Vita researches, develops, and manufactures a range of honeybee health products. These products are marketed internationally through a network of 60 distributors in 50 countries.

Silver Sponsors



AgroGene Solutions is biotech company helping beekeepers protect their colonies through innovative, non-invasive diagnostics. Our testing service detects major honeybee pathogens and assesses hive health, giving beekeepers actionable insights to make informed management decisions, prevent disease, and improve colony health.

Silver Sponsors Continued



Dancing Bee Equipment - is your one stop shop for all your beekeeping and candle making supplies. As Canada's largest beekeeping supply manufacture and retailer, all of our woodenware is 100% Canadian made. Our experienced staff provide best practice recommendations and a level of customer service you won't find any where else.



Joe's Wax Works is a full service wax rendering company. We render all types from cappings to frames and slumgum. We will also buy wax at competitive prices.
Contact: Joe Edwards 306-873-1463



Founded in 1982, Véto-pharma is a French pharmaceutical laboratory specializing in animal health. Our teams of experts work daily to develop, produce, and market innovative solutions to support professionals in the sector. With its own research center dedicated to bees, Véto-pharma places

innovation at the heart of its activity.



Joan's Beeswax Candles is located on my farm 2 km north of downtown Hague, SK. I have worked with beeswax since 2010. I apprenticed with a former beeswax candle maker for one year before buying the business July 2011. I am a juried member of the

Saskatchewan Craft Council. I am proud to say I purchase only Saskatchewan beeswax, directly from the beekeeper. - Gwen Fehr. (Gwen supplies the gift baskets for the SBDC convention presenters and fills the air with that heavenly beeswax aroma in the display area!)