

ALBERTA SHEEP BREEDERS ASSOCIATION REPORT 2019

The Alberta Sheep Breeders Association held the 50th Anniversary of the Sheep Symposium in Red Deer, AB on Oct 2019. This milestone event included a Genovis training workshop which was attended by 17 producers. The Symposium was highlighted by keynote presentations from Dr. Leslie Stubbings from London, England and was well attended by 65 attendees. Three recipients were presented with the Good Shepard Award which is awarded to deserving people who have significantly contributed to the sheep industry. These were Dr. Ileana Wenger and Dan Sinclair of DS Half Diamond Farm, Dr. Chris Clark from Western Veterinary College, Saskatoon, SK. and Albers Lamb & Goat Co. All have been very instrumental in promoting and contributing to the sheep industry and ASBA is very pleased to be able to honour them with the Good Shepard Award.

The Sheep Symposium is a bi-annual event and the next one is already being planned for 2021. ASBA thanks all the sponsors that have attended all the symposiums and provided sponsorship over the past 25 events. It is this support from the industry that allows for events like this to continue. We wish to also thank all the producers that attend and hope that the variety of speakers provides information and knowledge for everyone to gain from.

ASBA awards a \$500 scholarship to a deserving applicant to help fund advanced schooling and the 2019 winner was Abigail Nikkel of Barrhead, AB. This comes from interest proceeds from the Sheila Stephens Memorial Scholarship and is a perpetual scholarship for children or grandchildren from Alberta sheep producers.

ASBA is directed by a dedicated group of volunteer directors who devote many hours to managing the affairs of the association, thank you to all of them for their commitment. Best wishes to all CSBA members in 2020, stay safe and be thankful to be involved in a great industry with so much potential!

Submitted by Glen Parker