Larry Doke

Member of the Legislative Assembly
Government of Saskatchewan

First elected to the Saskatchewan legislature in the 2011 provincial election, Larry Doke was re-elected in April of 2016.

Before moving to Metinota, Larry was the owner/operator of Fairview Dodge in North Battleford. He was involved in the North Battleford community by sitting as a board member of the local Chamber of Commerce, spending 12 years on the Parks and Recreation Board and 14 years on the board of the North Battleford Golf and Country Club where he served as its president for two years.

Larry has previously served Saskatchewan as a member of Treasury Board and Investment Board and member of the Standing Committee on the Economy. In 2014, Premier Wall asked Larry to serve as Legislative Secretary to the Minister of Highways. He continues to serve as Legislative Secretary to the Minister of Highways, Board Member to the Crown Investment Corporation, and Deputy Chair of the Public Accounts Committee.

Larry and wife Valerie have two children and five grandchildren. In his spare time, he enjoys restoring muscle cars, golfing, fishing and volunteering in the Metinota community.

Patrick Kole

Vice President Legal & Government Affairs
Idaho Potato Commission

Patrick Kole is the Vice President, Legal & Government Affairs for the Idaho Potato Commission (IPC). Mr. Kole has practiced law for the past thirty-nine years. He has specialized for the last twenty-four with IPC, where he focused, in part, on market access issues, including developing new markets for Idaho® potatoes. Mr. Kole has litigated certification mark cases, registered certification marks in many jurisdictions and developed legislation that amended the Lanham Act. He has testified before the U.S. Congress several times. Mr. Kole manages IPC’s government affairs at the Federal, State and local levels, directs the IPC’s Trademark licensing program, directs IPC’s research and education program and supervises IPC’s IT needs. He has an undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan in Legal Anthropology and a Law Degree from The University of Denver, where he served on the editorial staff of the Denver Journal of International Law and Policy. He has worked for nineteen years in protecting agricultural Intellectual Property Rights which are a key component of agricultural marketing.
Mr. Kole serves on several committees including: the Related Rights Committee, the North American Council, the Geographic Indicators Sub-committee of the International Trademark Association, and has served on the Trademark Legislation Sub-committee of the American Bar Association. He was appointed to the Plant Variety Protection Board of the United State Department of Agriculture.

Speakers:

The Honourable Lawrence MacAulay

Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food

Riding: Cardigan (Prince Edward Island)

Lawrence MacAulay, Member of Parliament for Cardigan, was first elected to the House of Commons on November 21, 1988, to represent Cardigan in eastern Prince Edward Island, and won his ninth consecutive election in October 2015.

Mr. MacAulay's Cabinet appointments have included Solicitor General of Canada, Minister of Labour, Secretary of State (Veterans), and Secretary of State (Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency). He has served as Critic for Fisheries and Oceans and Seniors. In addition, he was Vice Chair of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans.

Mr. MacAulay was born on September 9, 1946, in St. Peter's Bay, Prince Edward Island. Mr. MacAulay was previously a farmer and businessman. He and Frances Elaine O'Connell were married in 1972. They have three daughters: Carolyn, Rita and Lynn.

Pamela Barrow

Vice President of Energy, Environmental & Sustainability

Northwest Food Processors Association

Pamela Barrow is the Vice President of Energy, Environmental & Sustainability for the Northwest Food Processors Association (NWFPA). NWFPA represents 153 food processing companies in Washington, Oregon and Idaho with about 250 production facilities throughout the Northwest as well as over 350 suppliers of products and services to the food industry. Pam joined NWFPA in 2003, and is responsible for energy, environmental and sustainability policy and advocacy and for managing NWFPA’s innovative and nationally-recognized industrial energy program and sustainability program. Previously, she served 13 years as the Executive Policy Advisor, Environmental Affairs Director and liaison to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council for the Pacific Northwest Utilities Conference Committee, an association of electric utilities in Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana. Pam has a B. A. in Anthropology and M.S. in Fisheries from the University of Washington and a Juris Doctorate from Northwestern School of Law, Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon.
Gary Martin

President and CEO
North American Export Grain Association

Gary C. Martin has served since June of 2000 as President and Chief Executive Officer of the North American Export Grain Association (NAEGA,) www.naega.org. Since 2104 he has served as the President of the International Grain Trade Coalition www.igtcglobal.com. In addition, his many industry leadership activities include service as a Co-chair of U.S. Food and Agriculture Dialog for Trade Agreements, and a Co-Chair of the Canada-U.S. Grain and Seed Trade Task Group www.canada-usgrainandseedtrade.info.

Before assuming the presidency of NAEGA, Gary was a NAEGA Board Director and officer, representing Farmland Industries, Inc. At Farmland, he had several responsibilities including Director of Trade and International Relations, Director of Grain Marketing, and Founder and President of Farmland Graños in Mexico. From 1990 to 1992 Mr. Martin served the Administration of George H.W. Bush at the US Department of Agriculture as Deputy Administrator of Commodity Operations and as an officer of the Commodity Credit Corporation. In the first year of the Clinton Administration, from 1992 to 1993, he served as an advisor to the Special Ambassador to the former Soviet Union at the U.S. Department of State.

Gary earned a B.Sc. in Agricultural Economics, with highest honors, from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. He is also a graduate of the University of Missouri, Institute of Cooperative Leadership, and has graduate studies in International Transactions at the George Mason University. Gary and his wife Denise reside in Ashburn, Virginia USA.

Nellie McAdams

Farm Preservation Program Director
Rogue Farm Corps

A fifth-generation Oregonian, Nellie McAdams grew up part-time on her family's hazelnut farm in Gaston, Oregon, which she is being trained to eventually take over. Nellie is also an attorney licensed in Oregon with a certificate in Natural Resources and Environmental Law from Lewis & Clark Law School in Portland. As Rogue Farm Corps’ Farm Preservation Program Director, Nellie researches and shares information on farmland affordability, farm succession, and permanent farmland protection in Oregon. She also works with partners to develop strategies to help address challenges within these areas. In addition, Nellie consults on issues related to agriculture and conservation and serves on the Boards of the East Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District and the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts.
Frédéric Seppey
Chief Agriculture Negotiator
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

Frédéric Seppey is Canada’s Chief Agriculture Negotiator and Assistant Deputy Minister at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC). His responsibilities include leading the negotiating team for agriculture products in trade fora such as the World Trade Organization (WTO) and bilateral free trade negotiations, technical trade policy matters and Canada’s engagement in multilateral agriculture institutions.

Prior to his current assignment, Mr. Seppey held several management positions with AAFC and at the Canadian section of the Canada-U.S. Regulatory Cooperation Council. During his 20-year career in the Public Service, Mr. Seppey also worked at the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, as well as the Privy Council Office, the Department of Finance and the Treasury Board Secretariat.

Alexis Taylor
Director
Oregon Department of Agriculture

Alexis Taylor was appointed Director of the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) by Governor Kate Brown in December 2016. As Director, she works with the governor and legislature as well as agricultural, conservation, and consumer groups to carry out the state’s agriculture policy. ODA has a three-fold mission of ensuring food safety and consumer protection, protecting natural resources, and marketing Oregon agriculture products around the state, country, and world.

Prior to Alexis’ appointment, she oversaw the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services (FFAS), which is comprised of the Farm Service Agency (FSA), Risk Management Agency (RMA), and Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS). Alexis worked to build new markets across the globe and improve the overall competitive position of U.S. agricultural products in the marketplace. Alexis also led the Women in Ag Initiative that was a driving force in USDA’s mission to support the growing and diverse next generation of farmers and ranchers.

Before joining USDA, Alexis served for various members in the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate, and worked on the 2008 and 2014 Farm Bills.

Alexis served in the United States Army Reserves from 1998 to 2006. During that time, she completed one tour in Iraq with the 389th Combat Engineer Battalion.

Alexis is a graduate of Iowa State University and grew up on her family farm in Iowa, which has been in her family for more than 150 years.