

## OSMA Congratulates Menzies on receiving Carl Block Award



*For immediate release*

**November 26, 2014**– Guelph, ON – The Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency (OSMA) congratulates Dr. Paula Menzies, from the University of Guelph, on receiving the Carl Block Award. The award, presented at the Canadian Animal Health Coalition’s Annual General Meeting, recognizes Menzies’ contributions to the sheep industry and animal agriculture as a whole.

“Paula’s contribution to the sheep industry is lengthy and worthy of recognition” says Dennis Fischer, Chairman of OSMA who went on to say that “she has dedicated herself to the health of small ruminants through research and producer and veterinary education.” Dr. Menzies is a full professor in the Department of Population Medicine at the Ontario Veterinary College where she also conducts clinical practice, research, teaching and graduate level training. She is also a Diplomat in the European College of Small Ruminant Health Management and the Vice President of the International Sheep Veterinary Association.

Dr. Menzies is responsible for the development of health management programs for sheep including the Ontario Maedi Visna Flock Status program, the Ontario Sheep Health program, the Handbook for the Control of Internal Parasites for Sheep and Goats and a course for udder health for dairy sheep and goats. Responding to the need of producers to have access to veterinarians who are well versed in small ruminant health, Dr. Menzies helped form the Small Ruminant Veterinarians of Ontario.

The award was named in honour of Carl Block, a cattleman whose tireless dedication to Canadian agriculture and commitment to animal health will long be remembered. He was the first chair of the Canadian Cattle Identification Agency-the agency responsible for administering the national cattle identification program. He was also a Director of the Canadian Cattlemen’s Association, the inaugural chairman of the Canadian Animal Health Coalition and a former President of the Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association.

The Canadian Animal Health Coalition (CAHC) was formed in 2002 following an early life as an informal coalition of organizations with an interest in animal health issues in Canadian flocks and herds. Since that time, the organization has flourished as a project based organization addressing issues of concern to industry and government through projects funded by industry and government.

The Ontario Sheep Marketing Agency (OSMA) is a producer organization representing all aspects of the sheep industry in Ontario. Established in 1985 under the Ontario Farm Products Marketing Act, OSMA’s mission is to enhance producer returns and provide consumers with premium lamb and sheep products by encouraging Ontario sheep producers to provide quality, year-round product through advocacy, industry capacity, research and development and market development.

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