October 16, 2013

**WCCA Canadian Organizing Committee**

Conference Call

Attendance: Marla Riekman, Laurie Bowering, Peter Gamache, Josie Van Lent, Sue Hubbs, Glen Shaw.

1. Kelburn Farm

Due to the busing costs and lack of sponsorship to date for the reception the committee discussed other options to going to the Kelburn farm.

* MTS Centre – reception would be more costly and there is no agricultural aspect to an arena in downtown Winnipeg.
* DU site at Oak Hammock – would be a good site however there would be similar busing costs and no sponsor for the reception. Glen will discuss with Paul.
* Convention Centre. It would be good to have participants out of the facility for one evening.
* Kelburn is the most appealing site however without sponsorship from Richardson’s or New Holland it is not a good option as both organization would get fairly high profile without a sponsorship (except for use of the site).
* Museum of Human Rights will not be ready to host a 500 to 700 group.

**Action Items:**

* *Glen to discuss Oak Hammock site with Paul Thoroughgood*
* *Laurie to check busing costs with Five Star Bus Lines*

1. Winnipeg Convention Centre

* Laurie updated the committee on the Convention Centre offering a larger room at the same price for the general sessions.

1. Hotels - Laurie

* 325 traditional hotel rooms have been blocked off
* Dormitory style rooms are available at the U of W and Red River College
* As soon as a final decision has been made to proceed with the Congress contracts to reserve the rooms need to finalized.

1. Canadian Tour – Marla

* The scope of the tour remains the same; 1) Tobacco Creek Watershed research project 2) Visit to 2 farms, one no-till and the other including forages in the crop rotation.
* Tour will be limited to 200 participants (4 buses). Researchers have committed to resourcing the watershed project.
* Cost - $75 for regular and $55 for students

**Action Item:**

*Marla to provide short tour description for the Congress registration page and a full description document that the web page can link to.*

1. Family/social program

* Several options are available – Farm and Food Discovery Centre at the U of M’s Glenlea Research station, Hermetic tour at the Manitoba Legislative building, Assiniboine Park Zoo, the Forks and walking tours of downtown Winnipeg.