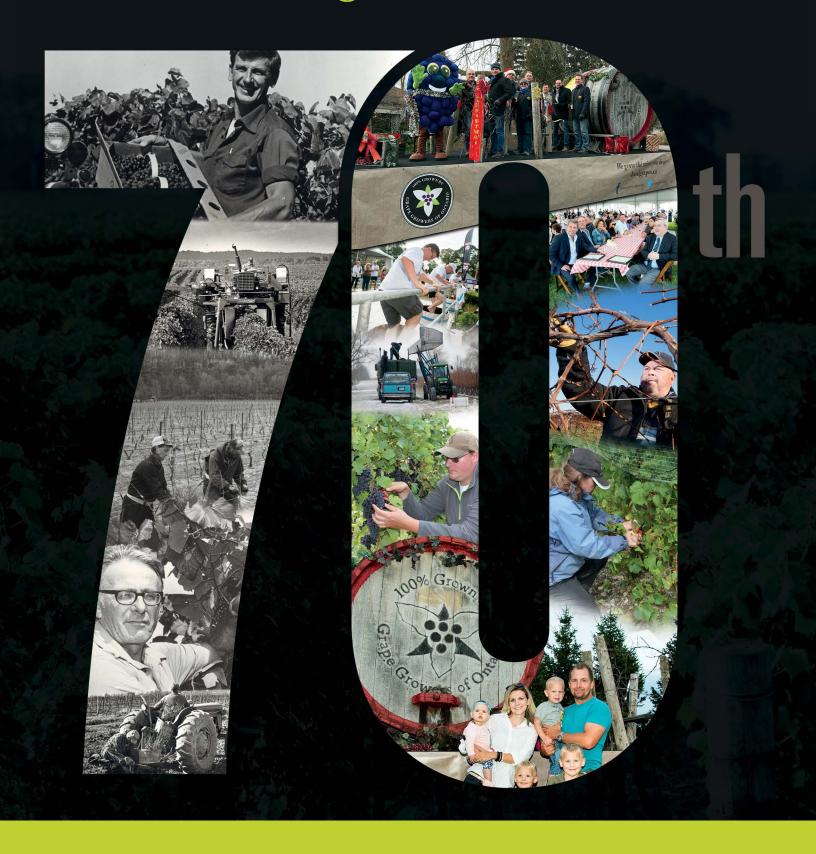
## - Growing into the Future -





## **OUR VISION**

## **OUR MISSION**

Ontario-grown grape products will be demanded at home and recognized internationally.

To achieve sustainable growth and profitability by creating an improved environment for Ontario-grown grape products.

## **OUR VALUES**

### **ACCOUNTABILITY**

We are accountable to the grape growers for decisions made and for the rationale upon which these decisions are made.

### INNOVATION

We support innovation through research, new technology and continuous improvement of services provided to the grape growers.

### QUALITY

We promote quality by developing and setting standards for vineyard management for the grape growers.

### RESPECT

We understand the value of people to our organization's success. As such, we trust, respect and value the opinions of all employees and grape growers.

### RESPONSIVENESS

We are responsive to the needs of the grape growers in a timely manner so that they are supported in their activities which improve their livelihood and economic health.

### SERVICE

We exist to serve grape growers by providing them with current, informative and supportive services in order to maintain and grow the industry in Ontario.

We strive to make clear the true value of our business and promote strong relationships that are crucial to making this industry grow and thrive in a healthy marketplace.

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Year Ending January 31, 2018



## **2017-2018** BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair Matthias Oppenlaender ◆ Vice Chair Bill Schenck ◆ CEO Debbie Zimmerman **Directors** Doug Funk Jr. ◆ Jim Morrison ◆ Steve Pohorly ◆ Robert Peck ◆ Brock Puddicombe Kevin Watson ◆ Erwin Wiens ◆ Scott Wilkins

## GROWERS' DELEGATES

Niagara Peninsula Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association Ontario Federation of Agriculture Canadian Horticultural Council Niagara Grape and Wine Festival Greater Niagara Chamber of Commerce Niagara-on-the-Lake Chamber of Commerce Niagara Region Agricultural Policy and Action Committee Vintners' Quality Alliance F.A.R.M.S. Wine Grape Industry Advisory Committee

Juice Grape Industry Advisory Committee

Ontario Grape and Wine Research Inc.

Steve Pohorly Bill George Jim Morrison Matthias Oppenlaender Bill Schenck Bill Schenck **Erwin Wiens** Bill Schenck Kevin Watson Kevin Watson Matthias Oppenlaender,

Bill Schenck, Kevin Watson, Steve Pohorly Matthias Oppenlaender, Bill Schenck, Jim Morrison, Brock Puddicombe, Doug Funk Jr. Matthias Oppenlaender,

Steve Pohorly



## STAFF

Chief Executive Officer Debbie Zimmerman ◆ Executive Assistant Gillian Williams

Market Analyst Mary Jane Combe ◆ Project Manager Nick Lemieux

Grower Relations Eleanor Hawthorn ◆ Summer Student Jessica Neal-Ellis

## SHARED STAFF

Treasurer Maureen Connell
Office Manager/Accounts Payable Sylvana Lagrotteria

## 2017-2018 GROWERS' COMMITTEE

Matthias Oppenlaender ◆ Bill Schenck ◆ John Fedorkow ◆ Don Forrer ◆ Doug Funk Jr.

Gerald Klose ◆ Glen Koop ◆ Dan Lambert ◆ Jim Morrison ◆ Robert Peck ◆ Steve Pohorly

Brock Puddicombe ◆ Martin Schuele ◆ Albrecht Seeger ◆ Chris Van de Laar ◆ Kevin Watson

Erwin Wiens ◆ Philip Wiley ◆ Tom Wiley ◆ Chris Wismer ◆ Scott Wilkins





### GREETINGS FROM THE HONOURABLE

## JEFF LEAL

I am pleased to contribute to the Grape Growers of Ontario's Annual Report for 2018.

I appreciate the Grape Growers of Ontario's steadfast commitment to Ontario's grape and wine sector. You provide valuable services to the almost 500 growers who sold grapes in 2017 in support of the 17,000 acres of vineyards they cultivate.

The grape and wine sector continues to see remarkable growth. In 2017, grape production alone was worth approximately \$115 million. Additionally, the sale of VQA wines at farmers' markets and grocery stores has fueled an increase in sales and opportunities for the sector. In fact, VQA wine sales in Ontario have grown from \$196 million in 2009-10 to \$332 million in 2016-17 - an increase of 70 per cent! This includes sales through the LCBO and new grocery store sales at just over \$146 million in 2016-17, an increase of \$7.2 million from the previous year.

The 2017 growing season's results were excellent both in terms of quality and volume. Following a challenging summer, perfect fall weather arrived to complete the largest grape crop on record with 87,567 tonnes harvested. I trust the 2017 harvest will result in high-quality wines for consumers to savour.

My ministry enjoys a positive working relationship with the Grape Growers of Ontario, and I am greatly impressed by all that you have achieved in the past year. The Ontario Wine and Grape Strategy will continue to provide the support the sector's growth and prosperity in the year ahead.

Thank you for making Ontario's wine and grape sector such a great success story.

Honourable Jeff Leal Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs



### GREETINGS FROM THE HONOURABLE

### JIM BRADLEY

As the Member of the Legislative Assembly of Ontario for St. Catharines, it is my pleasure to once again welcome everyone to the Annual General Meeting of the Grape Growers of Ontario. Those of us who reside in this province, and particularly those of us who reside in areas where our grapes are grown and our wine is produced, are very much aware of the contribution that the grape and wine industry makes to the economic prosperity of our province, both directly and indirectly.

Those who established the Ontario Grape Growers' Marketing Board over seven decades ago are responsible for the impressive progress that has been experienced in this area and have contributed to the status of Ontario as an internationally acclaimed wine region. By producing high quality grapes, you have ensured that vintners have been able to produce excellent wines which consistently win prestigious international awards. This is a testament to the commitment, capability and knowledge of Ontario grape growers.

Although our growers have had to confront many challenges over the years, the success that has been achieved in the grape and wine industry in Ontario is evidenced by the fact that the industry has grown and prospered, and for this, we are grateful to the Grape Growers of Ontario and your many dedicated members.

With very best wishes for continued success in 2018, I am

Yours sincerely,

Jim Bradley, MPP



### GREETINGS FROM THE HONOURABLE

### LAWRENCE MACAULAY

On behalf of the Government of Canada, congratulations to the Grape Growers of Ontario for another successful year growing top-quality grapes, as well as Canada's economy.

The grapes you grow become the wines consumers love, as well as healthy jams and juices. According to a recent industry report, you're helping Canada's world-class wine industry contribute \$4.4 billion to the economy. Add in over 14,000 jobs, and you have one of agriculture's most powerful engines of economic growth.

This year, our Government will help you build on this great achievement through new programs and activities under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership. Powered by \$3 billion in federal-provincial-territorial investments, the Partnership will have a strong focus on innovation, competitiveness and market development to help your businesses beat the competition around the world. It will build on the achievements of Growing Forward 2, which supported innovative projects like processing technology and cool-climate grapes.

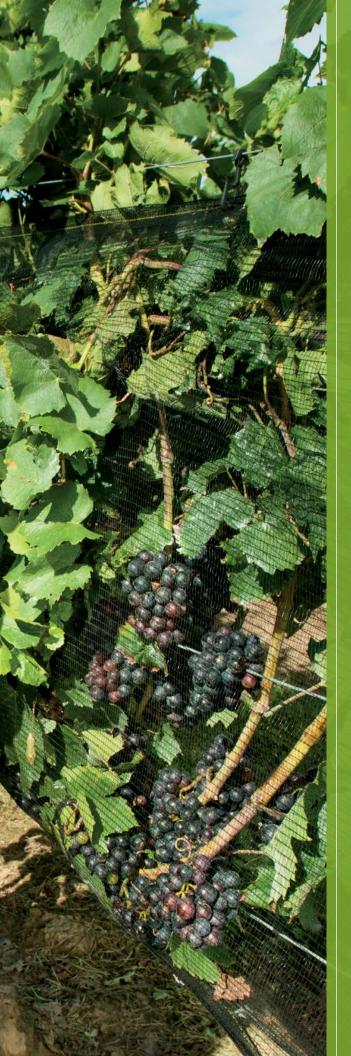
The future of Canadian agriculture has never looked brighter. Global demand is growing for our food and beverages, and that includes the world-class wines and grape products made with great Ontario grapes. I would like to thank the Grape Growers of Ontario for your hard work and commitment to excellence in this important part of Canada's agriculture industry.

I look forward to working in partnership with you in the future to keep the sector the toast of wine-lovers here in Canada and around the world. All the best in 2018!

Hon. Lawrence MacAulay, PC, MP Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food

Laurence M Mulay





## 2017 GRAPE KING

### DOUG WHITTY

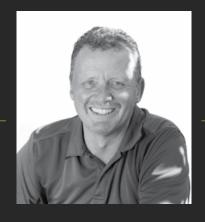
Doug Whitty is a third-generation grape grower in Niagara. His grandfather established Whitty Farms in 1908, and the farm was built upon a foundation of work by many family members including Doug's parents Joseph and Leith Whitty. Doug's uncle, Rodger Whitty, was crowned Grape King in 1983.

Today, Whitty Farms is a diversified agricultural operation including 55 acres of vinifera grapes and has expanded to include 13th Street Winery and 13th Street Bakery, all located on Fourth Avenue in St. Catharines.

Born and raised in Niagara, Doug graduated from Beamsville Secondary School in 1982 and went on to graduate from the University of Guelph in 1986 with a B.Sc. in Agriculture. His wife and business partner, Karen Whitty, has a degree in Biochemistry from McMaster University and worked at Agriculture Canada for 18 years. The Whitty's participate extensively in farm research and host community activities such as the Grapes of Wrath Mud Run in support of Canadian Cancer Society Wheels of Hope program.

Together with their three sons Luke, Benjamin and Thomas, Doug and Karen approach their work in the vineyards with an ethic of stewardship as they strive for harmony, balance and sustainability of the land, vines, the people and the business. Every crop of grapes is produced with a clear focus on making the best wine possible.





MESSAGE FROM YOUR BOARD CHAIR

### MATTHIAS OPPENLAENDER

As the Grape Growers of Ontario celebrated our 70th Anniversary in 2017, it gave us a chance to reflect on our history, but more importantly to look to the future as we focus on growing Ontario's grape and wine industry for the benefit of all our members.

The 2017 season was a roller coaster ride for growers. What started as an average season in the spring, became a challenge due to summer rains and cooler temperatures. Perfect fall weather was the important ingredient that was needed to complete the 2017 harvest as the largest grape crop on record at 87,567 tonnes including 2,028 tonnes of juice grapes and 5,419 tonnes left hanging for Icewine.

The Ontario Wine and Grape Strategy entered into its 3rd year in 2017. Part of the strategy funding was the establishment of metrics and targets to ensure measurable results for grape and wine sales. The industry and government agreed on a set of growth targets for VQA wine sales of \$358 million and 18 million litres and grape sales of \$129 million and 88,000 tonnes by the fiscal year 2019-2020. We are pleased to report that the industry is well on its way to meeting these targets with \$350 million and 18.8 million litres of VQA wine sales and an 87,567 tonne grape crop valued at \$115 million.

Price negotiations proved challenging this year with the initial negotiations suspended from June 27, 2017 until July 28, 2017. These negotiations resulted in final offers being exchanged and preparations made for arbitration. On September 6, 2017 the Grape Growers of Ontario, Wine Council of Ontario and Winery & Grower Alliance of Ontario successfully negotiated a grape price agreement for the 2017 harvest. The agreement recognized the various price categories within the industry, and included an important provision for both processors and producers to actively participate in developing a sustainable industry wide plan following harvest. An initial meeting was held in December with plans to continue discussions in 2018. The Grape Growers of Ontario have formed a new, national not-for-profit organization – Canadian Grapevine Certification Network (CGCN) – with our industry partners in British Columbia, Quebec and Nova Scotia. The organization's mandate is to ensure a sustainable supply of clean propagative plant material for the Canadian grape and wine industry. CGCN is actively working with CFIA and nurseries to establish a clean plant protocol. CGCN is also leading the Canadian Grape and Wine Science Cluster to support national industry driven research, the cluster has submitted an application to Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's AgriScience program under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership. I would like to acknowledge the work of the CGCN Committee and GGO Staff, who have been instrumental in moving this project forward.

Ontario Grape & Wine Research Inc. is also providing support to the Canadian Grape and Wine Science Cluster. OGWRI is supported by the Grape Growers of Ontario, Wine Council of Ontario and Winery Grower Alliance of Ontario to provide long term funding for industry led research. The top research priorities of the organization are Red Blotch, Leafroll and Multi-Coloured Asian Lady Beetle (MALB).

We have lost many members of our grower family in 2017, in particular we also lost a pioneer in the Ontario wine industry with the passing of Dr. Karl Kaiser.

Looking back over our 70 years, the growers can take great pride in what we have accomplished, looking forward and by working together, we are well positioned to grow our industry.

In closing and on behalf of all our growers many thanks to our partners, government and researchers for their on-going support. I would like to also thank and recognize over the past year the dedication of the Board of Directors, Growers' Committee and GGO staff.

Matthias Oppenlaender Chair, Grape Growers of <u>Ontario</u>

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MESSAGE FROM YOUR CEO

### DEBBIE ZIMMERMAN

"The farther back you can look, the farther forward you are likely to see." ~ Winston Churchill

In 2017 we celebrated our 70th Anniversary with a picnic attended by over 250 growers and their families at Staff Farms Ltd. Grape Growers of Ontario was established in 1947 as a united, legislated group of growers, to advocate for our members. The industry has met significant challenges, from the initial NAFTA agreement in 1987 to closure of the Cadbury Schweppes juice grape plant. Through investment, research, and most importantly working together, we have been able to grow a grape and wine industry that is the envy of the country. Building on our foundation with a focus on new trade agreements and being nimble in a changing global economy will keep our industry growing. The Grape Growers of Ontario's commitment to our 500 grower families including more than 180 wineries is a legacy that will continue as together "We grow into the future".

Bill 148, the Fair Workplaces and Better Wages Act, received royal assent from the Government of Ontario, increasing the province's minimum wage to \$14.00 per hour beginning January 1, 2018 and a further increase to \$15.00 per hour on January 1, 2019. The GGO together with other farm organizations, in particular OFVGA, participated in numerous consultations with the Premier including a roundtable at Bill George's vineyards, resulting in an announcement of \$60 million over two years to the edible horticulture sector to assist with the challenges it faces.

With trade negotiations in the foreground this year, GGO contracted an international trade consultant to prepare a report which has been provided to government to address claims being made against the Canadian grape and wine industry by the United States as part of the announced re-negotiation of NAFTA. Canada and the ten remaining countries of the Trans-Pacific Partnership concluded the negotiation of the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement in January 2018.

GGO Board Chair Matthias Oppenlaender and I spent 15 days on a trade mission to China and Vietnam with Ontario Premier Wynne and 98 business leaders, which provided opportunities to better understand the potential of new export markets and forge new partnerships with a goal of shipping more finished wine to two of the fastest growing nations of wine consumers.

The GGO continues to meet with all levels of government on a variety of issues including the new Canadian Agricultural Partnership suite of agricultural policy framework programs, CFIA modernization, and the importance of establishing a domestic rootstock program.

Growing the market for Ontario grapes and wine remains a focus of the GGO through the We Grow the Wines You Love marketing campaign with funding from GF2 and Greenbelt Local Food Literacy programs. We welcomed Doug Whitty of Whitty Farms and 13th Street Winery as Grape King. Canadian astronaut Colonel Chris Hadfield helped us celebrate Growing into the Future at the annual Celebrity Luncheon. The 2017 Cuvée Vineyard of Excellence Award was presented to Gerald Klose, and Paul Bosc Sr. received the GGO Award of Merit for his 50 years of contributions to the Ontario grape and wine industry.

2017 will be remembered as a milestone in our history with one of the largest crops both in tonnage and in value. I would like to express my appreciation to the entire Board of Directors and Growers' Committee for their leadership, and the GGO staff for their ongoing commitment to the growers.

Debbie Zimmerman

CEO, Grape Growers of Ontario

## YEAR IN REVIEW

The 2017 harvest produced a crop of **87,567** tonnes which includes **2,028** tonnes of juice grapes and **85,539** tonnes of wine grapes, valued at \$115 million.

Grapes "naturally frozen" on the vine produce Ontario's premier Icewine. This year **5,419** tonnes were left hanging for Icewine, which has the potential to produce between **812,000** and **948,000** litres. Temperatures dipped below -8°C in December 2017 for the Icewine harvest.

### Growing into the Future

The Grape Growers of Ontario celebrated our 70th Anniversary, and it couldn't have come at a better time. 2017 was a big year for Ontario and Canada as we celebrated the Sesquicentennial of the Province and the Country.

Over 250 guests joined together to pay tribute to over 70 years of building and growing our grape and wine industry and to celebrate 'Growing into the Future'. Together we celebrated with a photo taken by a drone to link the past and present by re-creating a grape grower family picnic photo from several decades ago.

In addition to the 70th Anniverary picnic, Grape Growers of Ontario continued the celebration at our annual Celebrity Luncheon where we welcomed Canadian Astronaut Colonel Chris Hadfield, who delivered an inspirational message to over 450 guests.









### WE GROW THE WINES YOU LOVE™

GGO has continued with our We Grow the Wines You Love™ branding initiative. Putting a face on growers establishes a dialogue with consumers to encourage them to ask for, and purchase wines made of grapes grown locally. Grape growers craft the primary resource that makes great wines possible. Our proximity, our vineyards and our shared community values gives growers a unique and viable role to play in the promotion of wines made of locally grown grapes. Increased demand for Ontario grape products translates into demand for Ontario grapes.

Marketing activities have been funded in part through the Greenbelt Local Food Literacy Funding and Growing Forward 2, a federal-provincial-territorial initiative.









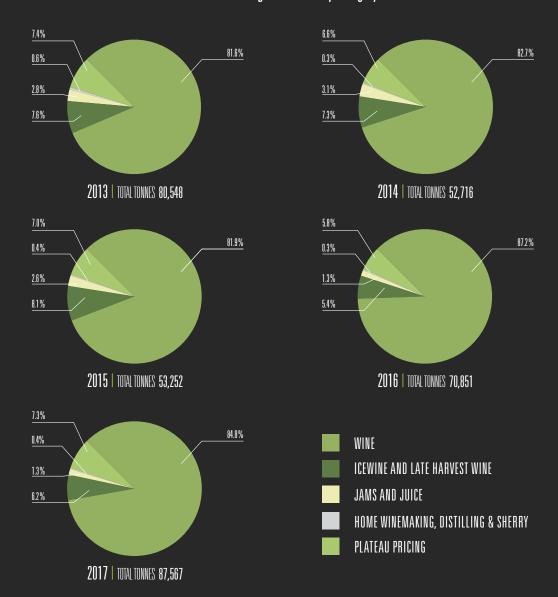


## PRODUCTION

### TARI F I

Table 1 presents the production and disposition of grapes from 2013 through 2017

#### TABLE I — Tonnage Processed by Category



#### **Processing Prices**

A one-year pricing agreement was reached on September 6, 2017 with an average price increase of 0.29% per tonne for classes 5-10f. Prices for grape classes 1-3 were reached on August 21, 2017 and increased by 2.5%. A new class was established for Dornfelder, Petit Verdot was moved into class 10d, Pinot Blanc was moved to class 9d and Semillon was moved to 9e.

#### **Icewine and Late Harvest Grapes**

The minimum price to be paid for all grapes left on the vine to be

used for Icewine is 125% of the price based upon normal harvest at the appropriate sugar level determined by samples taken at regular harvest time.

Late harvest hybrid and vinifera juice at 26°Brix
Hybrid Icewine juice at 35° Brix
Vinifera Icewine juice at 35° Brix
\$ 4.59 per litre
\$ 9.08 per litre
\$ 19.03 per litre

The minimum price established for each class of grapes sold for processing in 2017 compared with the 2016 prices is shown in TABLE II.

## PROCESSING PRICES FOR GRAPES

### TABLE II

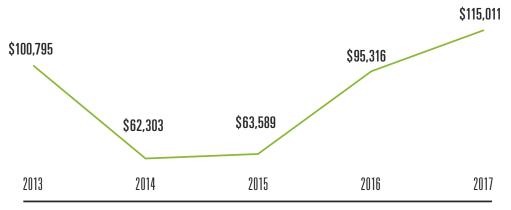
### TABLE II — Processing Prices for Grapes (\$ per tonne)

CLASS	VARIETY	2016	2017	PLATEAU PRICE
1	Concord, Fredonia, Patricia, President, Suffolk Red and Van Buren	\$502	\$515	
2	Niagara and Wiley White	\$477	\$489	
3	Delaware, Elvira, Himrod, Sovereign Coronation, Veeblanc and Veeport	\$576	\$590	
5	De Chaunac and Rosette	\$711	\$713	
5a	Leon Millot and Marechal Foch	\$840	\$843	
5b	Baco Noir, Castel, Chambourcin, Chancellor, GR7, Le Commandant and Villard Noir	\$908	\$913	
5c	Frontenac, Marquette	\$908	\$911	
5d	Experimental Red Hybrid, Florental, Landot, Red Amourensis, Varousset	\$692	\$694	
6	New York Muscat and V64111	\$560	\$562	
7	Aurore, Cayuga White, J.S. 23-416 and S.V. 23-512	\$537	\$539	
7a	Seyval Blanc and Vidal 256	\$653	\$655	
7b	Geisenheim Hybrids, GM 311, GM 318 and GM 322	\$565	\$567	
7c	Experimental White Hybrid, Traminette, V65232 and White Amourensis	\$497	\$498	
9	J. Riesling	\$1,503	\$1,505	\$1,225
9a	Auxerrois, Kerner, Scheurebe and Welsch Riesling	\$1,310	\$1,312	
9b	Chardonnay Musque and Chardonnay	\$1,533	\$1,535	\$1,225
9c	Gewurztraminer	\$1,674	\$1,677	
9d	Pinot Gris, Pinot Blanc *	\$1,718	\$1,723	
9e	Sauvignon Blanc, Semillon**	\$1,692	\$1,695	
9f	Muscat Ottonel	\$1,400	\$1,402	
9g	Viognier	\$1,400	\$1,402	
9h	Aligote, Alsace Muscat, Chenin Blanc, Experimental White Vinifera, French Colombard, Gruner Veltliner, Melon de Bourgogne, Morio Muscat, Ortega, Rieslaner, Riesling Traminer, Savignin, Sylvaner	\$1,334	\$1,336	
10	Gamay and Zweigeltrebe	\$1,322	\$1,326	
10a	Pinot Noir	\$2,001	\$2,010	
10b	Cabernet Sauvignon	\$1,932	\$1,942	\$1,327
10c	Cabernet Franc	\$1,727	\$1,732	\$1,324
10d	Merlot, Petit Verdot ***	\$1,951	\$1,957	
10e	Sirah, Shiraz and Syrah	\$2,240	\$2,247	
10f	Dornfelder****	\$1,414	\$1,550	
10g	Blauberger, Experimental Red Vinifera, Limberger, Malbec, Nebbiolo, Petite Sirah, Pinot Meunier, Sangiovese, St. Laurent, Wildbacher Blau, Zinfandel	\$1,414	\$1,418	
	Distilling	\$125	\$125	
	Sherry	\$300	\$300	

<sup>\*</sup>Pinot Blanc moved to class 9d in 2017 \*\*Semillon was moved to class 9e in 2017 \*\*\*Petit Verdot moved to class 10d in 2017 \*\*\*\* New class established for the 2017 harvest.

## VALUE OF CROP PURCHASED

### TABLE III — Farm Gate Value of Grapes Purchased by Processors



**GROSS FARM GATE VALUE (\$'000)** 



**GRAPE KINGS PAST AND PRESENT** 



2017 Ontario Wine Awards: Matthias Oppenlaender, Chair with Amélie Boury and Michèle Bosc of Château des Charmes, winners of the Grape Growers of Ontario Red Wine of the Year



IceDogs OHL Hockey Game – Grape and Wine Industry Night: Doug Whitty, 2017 Grape King, Gabby Grape and St. Catharines Mayor Walter Sendzik

## LICENCE FEES

### TABLE IV

In the aggregate, licence fees for the 2017-2018 fiscal year represent approximately 1.3% of the total farm gate value of the crop, down from 1.4% in 2016-2017.

### TABLE IV - Licence Fees per Tonne by Class and Variety (including R & D fee of \$2.05)

CLASS	VARIETY	2016	2017
1	Concord, Fredonia, Patricia, President, Suffolk Red and Van Buren	\$7.00	\$7.00
2	Niagara and Wiley White	\$7.00	\$7.00
3	Delaware, Elvira, Himrod, Sovereign Coronation, Veeblanc and Veeport	\$7.00	\$7.00
5	De Chaunac and Rosette	\$15.45	\$14.75
5a	Leon Millot and Marechal Foch	\$16.65	\$15.80
5b	Baco Noir, Castel, Chambourcin, Chancellor, GR7, Le Commandant and Villard Noir	\$17.25	\$16.35
5c	Frontenac, Marquette	\$17.25	\$16.35
5d	Experimental Red Hybrid, Frontenac, Landot, Lucy Kuhlman and Red Amourensis	\$15.30	\$14.60
6	New York Muscat and V64111	\$14.10	\$13.55
7	Aurore, Cayuga White, J.S. 23-416 and S.V. 23-512	\$13.90	\$13.40
7a	Seyval Blanc and Vidal 256	\$14.95	\$14.30
7b	Geisenheim Hybrids, GM 311, GM 318 and GM 322	\$14.15	\$13.60
7c	Experimental White Hybrid, Traminette, V65232 and White Amourensis	\$13.55	\$13.05
9	J. Riesling	\$22.60	\$21.10
9a	Auxerrois, Kerner, Scheurebe and Welsch Riesling	\$20.85	\$19.55
9b	Chardonnay Musque and Chardonnay	\$22.85	\$21.35
9c	Gewurztraminer	\$24.15	\$22.50
9d	Pinot Gris, Pinot Blanc *	\$24.55	\$22.85
9e	Sauvignon Blanc, Semillon **	\$24.30	\$22.65
9f	Muscat Ottonel	\$21.65	\$20.30
9g	Viognier	\$21.65	\$20.30
9h.	Aligote, Alsace Muscat, Chenin Blanc, Exp. White Vinifera, French Colombard, Gruner Veltliner, Melon de Bourgogne, Morio Muscat, Ortega, Rieslaner, Riesling Traminer, Savignin, Sylvaner	\$21.10	\$19.75
10	Gamay and Zweigeltrebe	\$20.95	\$19.70
10a	Pinot Noir	\$27.10	\$25.15
10b	Cabernet Sauvignon	\$26.45	\$24.60
10c	Cabernet Franc	\$24.60	\$22.95
10d	Merlot, Petit Verdot***	\$26.65	\$24.75
10e	Sirah, Shiraz and Syrah	\$29.25	\$27.05
10f	Dornfelder****	\$21.80	\$21.45
10g	Blauberger, Experimental Red Vinifera, Limberger, Malbec, Nebbiolo, Petite Sirah, Pinot Meunier, Sangiovese, St. Laurent, Wildbacher Blau, Zinfandel	\$21.80	\$20.40
	Distilling	\$5.50	\$5.50
	Sherry	\$7.75	\$7.75

Note: 2017 Vertically Integrated Tonnage licence fee rebate is \$2.00 per tonne. \*Pinot Blanc moved to class 9d in 2017 \*\*Semillon was moved to class 9e in 2017 \*\*\*Petit Verdot moved to class 10d in 2017 \*\*\*\*New class established for the 2017 harvest.

## PRODUCTION OF PROCESSED GRAPES BY VARIETY

### TARLE V

		INDLL				
TABLE V — P	urchases by Processors by Variety (in tonnes)					
Classes	Variety	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
1	Concord, Fredonia, etc.	1,692	1,460	1,256	1,143	1,491
2	Niagara and Wiley White	1,024	702	602	636	535
3	Sovereign, Coronation, etc.	4	2	4		2
SUB-TOTAL	(Labrusca)	2,720	2,164	1,862	1,779	2,028
5	De Chaunac and Rosette	398	312	322	259	240
5a	Leon Millot and Marechal Foch	1,220	872	853	923	819
5b	Baco Noir, Chambourcin, etc.	5,191	3,492	4,765	4,464	5,282
5c	Frontenac, Marquette	185	88	132	189	380
5d	Exp. Red Hybrid	85	75	107	104	85
6	New York Muscat and VG4111	20	18	14	13	12
SUB-TOTAL	. (Red Hybrids)	7,099	4,857	6,193	5,952	6,818
7	S.V. 23-512, Aurore, etc.	279	286	293	167	138
7a	Seyval Blanc and Vidal 256	17,741	13,686	15,226	16,291	22,686
7b	Geisenheim Hybrids	1,504	813	939	1,013	1,089
7c	Experimental White Hybrid	35	18	17	41	69
SUB-TOTAL	. (White Hybrids)	19,559	14,803	16,475	17,512	23,982
SUB-TOTAL	- (Hybrids)	26,658	19,660	22,668	23,464	30,800
9	J. Riesling	9,444	7,941	6,684	8,764	11,642
9a	Auxerrois, Kerner, etc	330	109	123	229	318
9b	Chardonnay Musque and Chardonnay	11,304	6,898	6,801	9,772	11,406
9c	Gewurztraminer	1,781	849	691	1,982	2,222
9d	Pinot Gris, Pinot Blanc *	2,325	1,461	1,346	3,064	3,627
9e	Sauvignon Blanc, Semillon**	2,592	1,107	843	2,291	3,439
9f	Muscat Ottonel	214	179	216	404	507
9g	Viognier	110	60	72	158	154
9h	Aligote, Alsace Muscat, Chenin Blanc,	452	211	208	337	183
	Exp. White Vinifera, etc					
SUB-TOTAL	. (White Vinifera)	28,552	18,815	16,984	27,001	33,498

10	Gamay and Zweigeltrebe	2,267	1,405	1,386	1,724	1,889
10a	Pinot Noir	2,850	1,749	1,303	2,957	3,295
10b	Cabernet Sauvignon	4,055	3,106	2,434	3,193	3,650
10c	Cabernet Franc	6,755	3,951	4,102	5,547	5,998
10d	Merlot, Petit Verdot***	5,468	1,438	1,989	4,071	5,231
10e	Sirah, Shiraz and Syrah	853	267	313	677	791
10f	Dornfelder****	89	50	84	105	99
10g	Blauberger, Experimental Red Vinifera,					
	Petite Sirah, Pinot Meunier, Sangiovese	281	111	127	333	288
SUB-TOTAL	(Red Vinifera)	22,618	12,077	11,738	18,607	21,241
SUB-TOTAL	Vinifera	51,170	30,892	28,722	45,608	54,739
TOTAL Hybri	id & Vinifera	77,828	50,552	51,390	69,072	85,539
GRAND TO	TAL	80,548	52,716	53,252	70,851	87,567

The Grape Growers of Ontario, together with the Honourable Dave Levac, Speaker of the Ontario Legislative Assembly, hosted the 39th Annual Legislative Wine Tasting event at Queen's Park. The two wines chosen as the official wines of Ontario's Legislative Assembly for 2018 are: Sandbanks Winery, 2016 Sleeping Giant Foch-Baco Noir Reif Estate Winery, 2016 Pinot Grigio



Sandbanks Winery: Honourable Dave Levac, MPP, with Christine Michael of Sandbanks Winery



Reif Estate Winery: Honourable Dave Levac, MPP, with Steve Neuhof of Reif Estate Winery

<sup>\*</sup>Pinot Blanc moved to class 9d in 2017 \*\*Semillon was moved to class 9e in 2017 \*\*\*Petit Verdot moved to class 10d in 2017 \*\*\*\* New class established for the 2017 harvest.

## TABULATION OF GROWERS WITH PRODUCTION

### TABLE VI

The number of growers with production registered with the Grape Growers of Ontario in 2017 decreased by 0.6% from 490 in 2016 to 487 in 2017.

TABLE VI — Number of Growers with Production Registered with the Board

		2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
District 1	Niagara-on-the-Lake and Niagara Falls	172	178	186	190	188
District 2	St. Catharines, Fort Erie, Pelham, Port Colborne, Thorold, Wainfleet and Welland	38	34	35	36	34
District 3	Town of Lincoln	151	141	148	147	145
District 4	Wellington and Hamilton, Grimsby and West Lincoln	21	19	18	18	15
District 5	Brant, Chatham-Kent, Essex, Elgin, Haldimand, Lambton, Middlesex,	36	15	23	37	38
District 6	Prince Edward and all other geographic areas not included in Districts 1 to 5	51	52	46	62	67
TOTAL		469	439	456	490	487



**2017 GGO Award of Merit Recipient Paul Bosc Sr.:**Matthias Oppenlaender, Chair; Michèle Bosc, Paul Bosc Sr, Amélie Boury and Miguel Fongalvo



Grape Growers of Ontario host Premier Wynne: Honourable Jim Bradley, MPP; Lesliann George, Katelyn George; Will George; Bill George, Vice Chair, Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association; Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario; Matthias Oppenlaender, Chair

## WINE SALES IN ONTARIO

### TABLE VII

Table VII below shows the five-year history of wine sales in Ontario. Total wine sales in Ontario grew by 2.3% to 197.5 million litres in 2017. Ontario (VQA & NON-VQA/ICB) wine sales increased by 3.6% to 83.9 million litres. Imported wine sales increased by 1.3% to 113 million litres, while out-of-province wine sales in Ontario deceased by 5.3% to 0.65 million litres.

Table VII — Wine Sales in Ontario (by Volume, '000s litres)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% Change 2016 to 2017
VQA Sales in Ontario**	15,917	16,048	16,442	17,929	17,889	-0.2%
Non-VQA/ICB Sales in Ontario	48,904	51,470	56,640	63,048	66,034	4.7%
Ontario VQA & Non-VQA/ICB Wine Sold in Ontario*	64,821	67,518	73,082	80,997	83,923	3.6%
Imported Wine Sold in Ontario	101,812	105,033	108,565	111,481	112,954	1.3%
Out-of-Province Sales in Ontario	418	386	482	684	648	-5.3%
Total Wine Sold in Ontario	167,051	172,937	182,129	193,142	197,525	2.3%
VQA Sales Outside Ontario**	1,456	1,402	1,418	1,597	2,407	50.7%

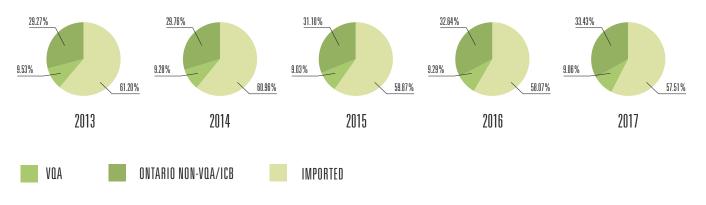
Ontario Wine Sold in Ontario for 2016 has been revised by LCBO

Fiscal Year April 1 to March 31 (statistical data provided by the LCBO)

## MARKET SHARE OF WINE SOLD IN ONTARIO

### TABLE VIII

TABLE VIII — Market Share of Wine Sold in Ontario (by Volume)



<sup>\*</sup> Includes sales through LCBO, Winery Retail Stores, Direct Delivery to Licensees, embassies, airlines and industrial sales

<sup>\*\*</sup> VQA figures from VQAO Annual Report – March 31, 2017



## BLENDING MATERIALS IMPORTED INTO ONTARIO

### TABLE IX

TABLE IX shows the quantity of blending grape product imported into Ontario over the last five years. The Ontario Wine Content and Labelling Act (WCLA) required a winery that uses imported grapes or grape product to use an average of 40% or more of grapes grown in Ontario up to March 31, 2014. The requirement of 25% Ontario grape content in a bottle of wine continues to be in effect. Wine imported for blending purposes decreased by 9% from 33.1 million litres to 30.3 million litres.

### TABLE IX — Blending Materials Imported into Ontario

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Wine (litres)	24,188,300	21,909,911	29,701,499	33,108,056	30,279,644
Concentrate (equivalent tonnes @165 litres per tonne) *	6,136	3,868	52		
Grape Juice (equivalent tonnes @750 litres per tonne) *	922	905	1,331		

Statistical data provided by LCBO

## IMPORTATION OF WINE

### TARLE X

TABLE X presents the quantity of importation of wine categories from 2013-2017. The total imports of wine categories in Canada increased 1.3% from 329.2 million litres in 2016 to 333.6 million litres in 2017. The importation of sparkling wine increased by 11.5% in 2017.

### TABLE X — QUANTITY OF IMPORTATION OF WINE CATEGORIES ('000 LITRES)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Aperitif	825	702	730	700	643
Champagne	1,050	1,195	1,283	1,386	1,470
Miscellaneous wines	12,807	8,542	9,137	8,817	9,112
Port	1,764	1,623	1,546	1,530	1,461
Sherry	588	535	524	481	469
Sparkling wine (includes crackling table)	8,726	9,777	11,340	12,975	14,473
Still wine	280,369	291,219	297,183	301,243	303,968
Vermouth	2,234	2,134	2,104	2,075	2,015
TOTAL	308,363	315,727	323,847	329,207	333,611

Statistical data provided by Association of Canadian Distillers and Canadian Vintners Association.

<sup>\*</sup>The volume of concentrate and grape juice imported into Ontario for blending is not available for 2016 or 2017

## IMPORTATION OF WINE

### TABLE XI

TABLE XI shows the volume of still table wine by country of origin imported into Canada from 2013-2017 inclusive. In 2017, total importation of still table wine into Canada increased by 0.9% from 301 million litres in 2016 to 304 million litres in 2017. Italy has replaced the United States as the largest importer into Canada for 2017.

TABLE XI - IMPORTATION OF STILL TABLE WINES BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN ('000 LITRES)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Australia	42,219	40,335	40,636	40,970	40,520
Eastern Europe	615	452	447	461	373
France	51,107	49,705	48,545	48,350	49,959
Germany	4,670	4,409	4,240	4,057	3,896
Italy	56,683	56,958	57,476	57,629	59,783
Portugal	5,883	6,731	7,329	7,960	8,459
South Africa	8,016	7,953	7,843	8,365	8,316
South America	41,857	40,337	40,544	41,538	39,885
Spain	15,650	18,132	18,844	19,227	20,305
United States	45,337	55,870	59,635	60,077	57,717
Other Countries	8,332	10,337	11,644	12,608	14,754
TOTAL	280,369	291,219	297,183	301,242	303,967

Statistical data provided by Association of Canadian Distillers and Canadian Vintners Association.



Roundtable discussion with Honourable Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Debbie Zimmerman, CEO and fellow Ontario Agricultural Leaders



## **CROP INSURANCE**

### TABLE XII

Data included in TABLE XII below was supplied by Agricorp, the Corporation responsible for delivering Crop Insurance Programs and providing the statistical history of the Grape Crop Insurance Program, 2013-2017 inclusive. The number of accounts decreased by 0.4% in 2017. In total 17 claims were made in 2017 which valued just under \$5 million.

### TABLE XII — Crop insurance

	No. of Accounts	No. of Claims	Total Premiums * \$'000	Total Claims \$'000**	Premiums less Claims \$'000
2013	276	20	4,549	275	4,274
2014	276	198	5,146	10,587	-5,441
2015	279	179	4,830	7,670	-2,840
2016	268	48	5,670	622	5,048
2017	267	17	4,953	135	4,818

Crop Insurance data for 2016 has been adjusted

## MEMBERSHIPS AND SPONSORSHIPS

The Grape Growers of Ontario is a contributing member and/or sponsor to a number of agricultural and trade organizations.

The organizations supported in the 2017/2018 year include:

Membership	Amount
Agricultural Adaptation Council	150
British Columbia Grape Growers Association	150
Canadian Horticultural Council	12,326
Farm & Food Care	250
Greater Niagara Chamber of Commerce	323
Grimsby and District Chamber of Commerce	274
Lincoln Chamber of Commerce	270
Niagara on the Lake	125
Ontario Agricultural Commodity Council	1,000
Ontario Federation of Agriculture	500
Ontario Fruit & Vegetable Growers' Association	25,000
Oregon Wine Growers	691
President's Council	300
St. Catharines Club	420
TOTAL	41.779

<sup>\*</sup> Total grower and government premiums

<sup>\*\*</sup>Claims data refers to approved claims only - Data is as of January 23, 2018 and is subject to change

Sponsorships	Amount
Brock University – Triggs Lecture Series	1,000
Essex Pelee Island Coast Winegrowers Association	10,000
Grape King	2,500
Grape Stomp	425
Niagara Grape and Wine Festival	22,500
Niagara Peninsula Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Association	950
Official Guide to Wineries of Ontario	4,950
Tony Aspler Ontario Wine Awards	3,000
Prince Edward County Winegrowers Association	8,000
Race Kit Event – Niagara Running Series	1,500
TOTAL	54,825

## PROMOTION EXPENSES

### TABLE XIII

In 2017-18, the Grape Growers of Ontario continued to engage consumers and industry through social media: Facebook, Twitter, Youtube and Instagram. The GGO continued with a series of activities such as Celebrity Luncheon, Grape Stomp, Grape King Parade Float, and Legislative Wine Tasting. Congratulations to Gerald Klose on receiving the Cuvée Vineyard of Excellence award. The GGO continues to be a proud sponsor of the Niagara Grape and Wine Festival.

### TABLE XIII — Promotion Expenses

Promotion	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018
Promotions, Sponsorship & Public Relations	430,942	148,813	173,618
Miscellaneous – Wines	2,208	6,544	6,185
SUB-TOTAL	433,150	155,357	179,803
Grape & Wine Festival and Grape King's Crowning	26,903	26,879	21,835
International Cool Climate Chardonnay Celebration	20,000	20,000	10,000
TOTAL	\$480,053	202,236	211,638

## 2017 WEATHER REPORT



The 2017 season had near normal growing degree day (GDD), similar to 2011 in Niagara and Prince Edward County and 2013 GDD in Lake Erie North Shore. LENS received normal precipitation for

the season while Niagara and PEC accumulated well above normal seasonal rainfall. The biggest weather impact in 2017 was the wet spring conditions across all appellations and the above normal temperatures during the winter and fall months.

The year started off warmer than last year with average temperatures from January and February being between 3-5°C above normal, while March returned to more seasonal temperatures. There were fewer Icewine hours in January and February but with the frequent Icewine hours in December 2016, many had already completed Icewine harvest. The 2016/2017 three month accumulations totalled between 118 and 180 Icewine hours, compared to 2015/2016 accumulations between 151 and 198.

April saw temperatures increase to 2°C above normal in all appellations. May temperatures dipped below normal once again.

Temperatures between June and August were variable with Niagara West having above normal temperatures while Niagara East, PEC and LENS were experiencing cooler starts to the summer. By August, PEC was half a degree above normal and LENS was 2.6°C below normal. September saw temperatures turn around in 2 appellations and in all 3 appellations by October with temperatures being 2-4°C above normal. November saw the return of more variable temperatures with Niagara East, West and PEC above normal temperatures and all appellations below normal by the end of the year.

Above normal April temperatures opened the growing season with an above average GDD accumulation. The cool summer temperatures slowed down the accumulation but the late season heat in September and October provided a boost to the GDD pushing the season accumulation above normal.

The 2017 growing season saw above normal rainfall in Niagara and PEC. April started off the growing season above normal with the constant rains continuing into May. Prince Edward County rainfall in May was 150 mm above normal and June was nearly 100 mm above normal. Lake Erie North Shore saw a few rain showers in May but had normal accumulation in June. July had variable showers in Niagara and PEC.

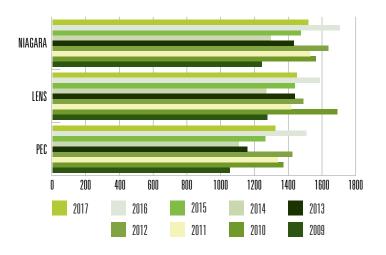
The months of August and September had below normal accumulation with September being the driest month, 40-50 mm below in Niagara and PEC. The season ended with the return of above normal precipitation in Niagara and Prince Edward County in October.

The year wrapped up with LENS December average temperatures 2.5°C below normal, while PEC and Niagara were 1.2 to 1.8°C below December average temperatures. The last week of December experienced a cold snap with day time highs only reaching -8°C to -12°C consecutively across all appellations. Icewine hours began to accumulate early in December with a range of 86 and 106 hours in Niagara East, 79 and 94 hours in Niagara West, 103 and 114 hours in PEC and 88 and 104 hours in LENS.

This season provided some challenges throughout the entire year, including little to no Icewine hours in January and February and a wetter than normal growing season. Despite these challenges, quality yields were achieved by the many practiced viticulturalists and winemakers across the Ontario appellations.

For more detailed weather data, management tools and weather reports throughout the year, visit vineinnovations.com - sponsored the Grape Growers of Ontario.

#### Seasonal Accumulation of Base 10°C GDD



#### 2017 Monthly Rainfall Deviation from Normal



## ONTARIO GRAPE AND WINE RESEARCH INC. (OGWRI)

The objective of OGWRI is to enhance the profitability and sustainability of the Ontario grape and wine industry through directed and coordinated financing of research and development activities. Matthias Oppenlaender is Chair, and the Board of Directors has representatives from GGO, Wine Council of Ontario, and Winery and Grower Alliance of Ontario. A technical committee establishes annual research priorities and reviews research project proposals. The top research priorities for OGWRI in 2017 were: Red Blotch, Leafroll and Mutli-coloured Asian Lady Beetle (MALB).

In 2017 OGWRI administered the Research and Innovation Development Initiative under the Marketing and Vineyard Improvement Program. Funding from Year 3 went towards the following projects:

- Mitigation and infestation of multi-coloured Asian lady beetle in Ontario vineyards
- Refinement of Crop Estimation and Accuracy Using Dormant Bud Sampling
- VineAlert
- Weather Innovations
- Investigation into impacts of MOG on aroma compounds for red wine cultivars
- Insight 2018

OGWRI is also supporting the Canadian Grape and Wine Science Cluster by providing the industry contribution for Ontario led research activities proposed in the AgriScience Cluster application. A funding decision from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada is expected in Spring 2018.

All completed projects and information on current projects can be found on the Ontario Grape and Wine Research Inc.'s website: www.ontariograpeandwineresearch.com

## MARKETING VINEYARD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (MVIP)

The Marketing Vineyard Improvement Program (MVIP) is an application based, cost-share program funded by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs to assist eligible growers to transition to higher demand grape varieties and improve grape quality in line with the industry varietal plan. Agricorp is delivering the vineyard improvement component of the program.

Intake 2 of the MVIP-PSC program was fully subscribed to by growers and provided support for investment in vineyard innovation.

Growers are investing in a variety of improvements including:

- 4.5% Wine grape and vine removal
- 4.0% Land preparation
- 12.8% Vine trellis system
- 0.1% Consultation with viticulture expert
- 34.6% Improved viticulture practices
- 31.3% Reducing cold injury
- 9.6% Improved irrigation
- 1.8% Pest management
- 1.2% Improved weather sensing

## CANADIAN GRAPEVINE CERTIFICATION NETWORK

The Canadian Grapevine Certification Network (CGCN) was formally incorporated in February 2017. The CGCN is the culmination of a collaborative effort between the Grape Growers of Ontario, British Columbia Wine Grape Council, Association des vignerons du Québec and the Grape Growers Association of Nova Scotia. The objective of the CGCN is to advance the Canadian grape and wine industry by ensuring a sustainable supply of certified propagative grapevine material.

The CGCN, led by Chair Hans Buchler and Vice Chair Bill Schenck, has actively engaged with CFIA, researchers and nurseries across the country in order to work toward the common goal of ensuring Canadian growers and wineries have access to clean grapevine material. One of the first orders of business for the CGCN is to establish an industry Certification Committee, who will recommend certification standards to the CGCN Board in 2018.

In addition to working toward a certification program the CGCN has also led the Canadian Grape and Wine Science Cluster under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership AgriScience program which is administered by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

## CROP PROTECTION REPORT

In 2017, the grape industry obtained registration of a number of pesticides through the efforts of Jim Chaput, Minor Use Coordinator, OMAFRA, and Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA). Dr. Wendy McFadden-Smith, OMAFRA, assisted with various pest management issues including those related to minor use registrations and represented grapes at the Minor Use Priority Setting Workshop in Gatineau to highlight priorities for grapes. Wendy also represented the grape industry at the Fruit Technical Working Group which is responsible for the inclusion of products in Publication 360 "Guide to Fruit Production".

Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB) is an invasive insect that has been shown to cause taint in wine when present in sufficiently high numbers in other grape growing regions. BMSB was trapped in fairly high numbers in areas adjacent to vineyards in Niagara, but there was no evidence of activity in fruit collected at harvest.

Spotted wing drosophila (SWD) activity started much earlier than usual in 2017 and populations continued to increase throughout the season as development is favoured by moderate temperatures and regular rainfall. No SWD were reared from grapes that were sampled and incubated.

Diazinon and Sevin XLR are no longer registered on grapes. Polyram (metiram) is currently proposed for phase-out. There is a proposal to extend the re-entry periods of Captan which will make its use unfeasible in grape production. Publication of the results of this review is targeted for March 2018. The cancellation of all uses of Quintec is also being proposed.

Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) is currently re-evaluating many pesticides including Agri-Mek, Aliette, dimethomorph (Forum and Zampro), Elevate, Ferbam, Flint, Folpan, fludioxonil (part of Switch), Gavel, mancozeb (Manzate, Penncozeb, Dithane), Nexter, Rovral, Imidan, Vangard, difenoconazole (part of Inspire Super and Aprovia Top) and most of the synthetic pyrethroids (group 3). These products are at different stages of review with target dates of publication of final decisions ranging from spring of 2018 to fall 2020. The decisions could range from something as innocuous as ensuring proper personal protective equipment to cancellation of uses. Neonicotinoid insecticides are also under review for their potential impact on pollinators and aquatic organisms. PMRA is proposing a 3-5 year phase-out of insecticides containing imidacloprid (Admire and Alias) and the active ingredient of Clutch is also under special review. The GGO has provided input to the PMRA to try to ensure that we retain these fungicides and insecticides as crucial tools for pest management.

#### The following are new product registrations for 2017:

Fungicides: Actinovate, Aprovia Top, Cosavet, Property, Vegol Crop Oil Insecticides: Kopa insecticidal soap, Entrust, Succe



Grant Thornton LLP 80 King Street Suite 200 St.Catharines, ON L2R 7G1

T +1 905 682 8363 F +1 905 682 2191 www.GrantThornton.ca

### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

#### To the Members of Grape Growers of Ontario

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Grape Growers of Ontario, which comprise the statement of financial position as at January 31, 2018, and the statements of operations and unrestricted net assets, restricted net assets, and cash flows for the year ended January 31, 2018 and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

#### Management's responsibility for the financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the organization's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the organization's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Grape Growers of Ontario as at January 31, 2018, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year ended January 31, 2018 in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

St Catharines, Canada February 28, 2018 Chartered Professional Accountants Licensed Public Accountants

Grant Thornton LLP

### STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS - YEAR ENDED JANUARY 31

Revenues	2018	2017
Licence fees	\$ 1,880,344	\$ 1,620,885
Vertically integrated rebate	(40,986)	(33,506)
Appropriation for research and development	(359,818)	(289,930)
	1,479,540	1,297,449
Government and industry funding for research projects	93,148	98,464
Government and industry funding for promotional projects	139,328	130,678
Interest and other income	103,609	97,510
	1,815,625	1,624,101
Expenses	·	
Directors' fees and honoraria	92,618	79,840
Salaries and benefits (Note 3)	558,267	542,620
Travel	56,378	54,162
Meetings and conventions	24,791	19,795
Office supplies and expenses	42,851	42,660
Postage	6,961	7,923
Telephone	20,986	17,111
Dues and subscriptions	22,191	20,771
Professional fees (Note 4)	175,333	114,306
Utilities and maintenance	23,317	20,253
Building insurance and property taxes	12,837	12,636
Amortization	16,158	16,862
Assessment O.F. & V.G.A.	25,000	25,000
Research and other projects (Note 5)		
Grape Growers funding portion	69,788	76,464
Government and industry funded portion	93,148	98,464
Promotional projects (Note 5)		
Grape Growers funded portion	179,803	182,236
Government and industry funded portion	134,357	126,003
Professional development	1,663	-
Maintenance agreements	22,545	10,673
Labour issues coordinating committee	5,000	5,000
Bad debts (recovery)	(1,462)	1,588
Expense recoveries from other associations	(32,424)	(32,098)
	1,550,106	1,442,269
Excess of revenues over expenses	265,519	181,832
Unrestricted net assets - beginning of year	1,189,971	1,092,802
Transfer to operational reserve		(84,663)
Unrestricted net assets - end of year	\$ 1,455,490	\$ 1,189,971

### STATEMENT OF RESTRICTED NET ASSETS - YEAR ENDED JANUARY 31

Research and promotion fund	2018		2017
Revenues	\$ -	\$	_
Expenses			
International cool climate chardonnay celebration	(10,000)		(20,000)
Grape Growers promotion trade mission	(38,178)		_
NAFTA modernization consulting	(15,000)		_
Deficiency of revenues over expenses	(63,178)		(20,000)
Fund balance - beginning of year	509,714		529,714
Fund balance - end of year	\$ 446,536	\$	509,714
Operational Reserve			
Fund balance - beginning of year	\$ 2,000,000	\$	1,915,337
Transfer from unrestricted net assets	-		84,663
Fund balance - end of year	\$ 2,000,000	\$	2,000,000
Growers contributions			
Revenues	 455.077	<b>.</b>	111 100
Growers fees	\$ 175,266	\$	141,438
Expenses	(0.1.1.1.0)		(4.40.450)
Contributions to OGWRI	(214,419)		(140,450)
(Deficiency) excess revenues over expenses	(39,153)		988
Fund balance - beginning of year	 616,448		615,450
Fund balance - end of year	\$ 577,295	\$	616,448
Processor contributions			
Revenues	 		
Processors fees	\$ 184,552	\$	148,492
Expenses			
Contributions to OGWRI	(214,419)		(140,450)
(Deficiency) excess of revenues over expenses	(29,867)		8,042
Fund balance - beginning of year	548,514		540,472
Fund balance - end of year	\$ 518,647	\$	548,514
Total Ontario Grape and Wine Research Fund	\$ 1,095,942	\$	1,164,962

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION - JANUARY 31

Current  Cash  Guaranteed investment certificates (Note 6)  Accounts receivable (Note 7)  Contributions receivable (Note 5)  Prepaid expenses	\$	1,586,089		
Guaranteed investment certificates (Note 6)  Accounts receivable (Note 7)  Contributions receivable (Note 5)	\$	1,586,089		
Accounts receivable (Note 7) Contributions receivable (Note 5)			\$	1,290,523
Contributions receivable (Note 5)		3,539,675		3,651,822
		207,492		48,594
Prepaid expenses		10,138		57,195
		23,158		55,231
	\$	5,366,552	\$	5,103,365
Long-term				
Due from related parties (Note 8)		112,959		122,259
Investments (Note 9)		191,867		191,867
Property and equipment (Note 10)		16,992		7,656
		321,818		321,782
	\$	5,688,370	\$	5,425,147
Liabilities				
Current	\$	452,248		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 11)	•	<u> </u>		\$ 349,122
Government remittances payable		205,488		174,763
Deferred revenues		32,666		1,200
Deferred contributions (Note 5)	<u>_</u>		Φ.	35,415
	<u>\$</u>	690,402	\$	560,500
Net assets				
Unrestricted				
Invested in other entities		191,867		191,867
Available for operations		1,263,623		998,104
	<u>\$</u>	1,455,490	\$	1,189,971
Restricted				
Research and promotion fund (Page 4)		446,536		509,714
Operational reserve (Page 4)		2,000,000		2,000,000
Ontario Grape and Wine Research Fund (Page 4)		1,095,942		1,164,962
		3,542,478		3,674,676
	\$	5,688,370	\$	5,425,147

On behalf of the board

Makias Openhander Director

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

### STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS - YEAR ENDED JANUARY 31

Increase (decrease) in cash	2018	2017
Operating		
Excess of revenues over expenses for the year	\$ 265,519	\$ 181,832
Research and promotion fund deficiency of revenues over expenses	(63,178)	(20,000)
Ontario Grape and Wine Research Fund		
Growers (deficiency) excess of revenues over expenses	(39,153)	988
Processors (deficiency) excess of revenues over expenses	(29,867)	8,042
Amortization	6,418	3,859
	139,739	174,721
Changes in non-cash working capital		
Accounts receivable	(158,898)	(4,473)
Contributions receivable	44,308	51,551
Interest receivable	(79,666)	(62,808)
Prepaid expenses	32,073	11,490
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	103,126	9,009
Government remittances payable	30,725	59,094
Deferred revenue	(1,200)	1,200
	110,207	239,784
Investing		
Repayments from related parties	9,300	474
Purchase of property and equipment	(15,754)	(7,184)
Purchase of guaranteed investment certificates	(2,673,550)	(1,031,259)
Proceeds of guaranteed investment certificates	2,865,363	1,015,730
	185,359	(22,239)
Increase (decrease) in cash	295,566	217,545
Beginning of year	1,290,523	1,072,978
End of year	\$ 1,586,089	\$ 1,290,523

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - JANUARY 31, 2018

#### 1. Nature of operations

The Grape Growers of Ontario is a board which operates under the Farm Products Marketing Act, established for the purpose of marketing and promoting Ontario grapes for processing. The board is a not-for-profit organization incorporated without share capital under the laws of Ontario, and is exempt from income taxes under the Income Tax Act.

#### 2. Significant accounting policies

The financial statements were prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations in Part III of the CICA Handbook and include the following significant accounting policies:

#### Financial instruments

Measurement

The board initially measures its financial assets and liabilities at fair value, except for certain non-arm's length transactions.

Financial assets or liabilities obtained in related party transactions with a person or entity whose sole relationship with the board is in the capacity of management are accounted for in accordance with financial instruments.

The board subsequently measures all of its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost.

Financial assets and liabilities measured at amortized cost include cash, guaranteed investment certificates, accounts receivable, contributions receivable, amounts due from related parties, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, government remittances payable, deferred revenue and deferred contributions.

#### Impairment

Financial assets measured at cost are tested for impairment when there are indicators of impairment. Previously recognized impairment losses are reversed to the extent of the improvement provided the asset is not carried at an amount, at the date of the reversal, greater than the amount that would have been the carrying amount had no impairment loss been recognized previously. The amounts of any write-downs or reversals are recognized in excess of revenues over expenses for the year.

#### **Fund accounting**

The board follows the deferral method of accounting for government and industry contributions and reports using fund accounting.

The board follows the restricted fund method of accounting for grower contributions. Revenues and expenses related to marketing operations and administrative activities are reported in the operating fund. Revenues and expenses related to research activities are reported in the research fund. Fees and payments collected from growers and processors and contributed to Ontario Grape and Wine Research Inc. (OGWRI) are reported in the Ontario Grape and Wine Research Fund. The operational reserve fund reports the net assets which have been restricted by the board as an operational reserve.

#### Revenue recognition

The Grape Growers of Ontario has the authority to collect licence fees under the provisions of the Farm Products Marketing Act. Fees are recognized as the crop is received, weighed and graded by processors and collection is reasonably assured.

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - JANUARY 31, 2018

### 2. Significant accounting policies (continued) Amortization

Property and equipment which are shared with other marketing boards are capitalized by Grape and Tender Fruit (Ontario) Limited. The amortization charge for property and equipment is reported according to the cost sharing arrangement by each benefiting board.

Property and equipment which are used exclusively by The Grape Growers of Ontario are capitalized by the board. Amortization is recorded for property and equipment that it owns and carries in its financial statements.

#### Investments

Investments in joint ventures and significantly influenced investees are accounted for using the equity method.

The equity method is a basis of accounting for investments whereby the investment is initially recorded at cost and the carrying value, adjusted thereafter to include the investor's pro-rata share of post-acquisition earnings of the investee, computed by the consolidation method. Profit distributions received or receivable from an investee reduce the carrying value of the investment.

Investments in the subsidiaries are accounted for using the cost method.

The cost method is a basis of accounting for investments whereby the investment is initially recorded at cost; earnings from such investments are recognized only to the extent received or receivable.

#### Property and equipment

Property and equipment are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost less accumulated amortization. Amortization is provided over the estimated useful life of the asset using the following methods and rates:

Computer hardware 30% Declining balance
Computer software 100% Declining balance
Furniture and equipment 20% Straight-line

The estimated useful lives of property and equipment are reviewed by management and adjusted if necessary.

The company tests for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that its carrying amount of an item may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognized when the carrying amount of the asset exceeds the sum of undiscounted cash flows resulting from its use and eventual disposition. The impairment loss is measured at the amount by which the carrying amount of the long-lived asset exceeds its fair value.

#### Use of estimates

Management reviews the carrying amounts of items in the financial statements at each statement of financial position date to assess the need for revision or any possibility of impairment. Many items in the preparation of these financial statements require management's best estimate. Management determines these estimates based on assumptions that reflect the most probable set of economic conditions and planned courses of action.

These estimates are reviewed periodically and adjustments are made to excess of revenue over expenses as appropriate in the year they become known.

Items subject to significant management estimate include the allowance for doubtful accounts and amortization.

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - JANUARY 31, 2018

_	_			
3.	Sa	laries	and	benefits

	2018	2017
Total salaries and benefits	\$ 642,588	\$ 631,914
Recoveries:		
Project management	(40,921)	(45,894)
Ontario Grape and Wine Research Inc.	(43,400)	(43,400)
	\$ 558,267	\$ 542,620
4. Professional fees	2018	2017
Audit	\$ 15,553	\$ 15,346
Legal	60,517	16,474
Industry consulting	99,263	82,486
	\$ 175,333	\$ 114,306

### 5. Contributions for research and other activities

	F	(Deferred) Receivable Contributions ebruary 1, 2017	С	Government/ Industry contributions Received aid) 2017/18	Government/ Industry Expenses 2017/18		Grape Growers of Ontario Portion 2017/18	(Deferred) Receivable Contributions January 31, 2018
Research and other Projects: Pesticide initiatives	\$	(19,692)	\$	_	\$ _	\$	- \$	(19,692)
Grape Mealybug Research		(4,643)		-	-		-	(4,643)
GF2 Enhance efficiency of grape & wine industry by cloud technology		24,762		74,200	49,438		49,437	_
OMAFRA – Grape cover crops		8,867		11,164	8,597		-	6,300
GF2 – Strategic Planning – State of the Industry		-		11,953	11,953		12,128	-
GF2 – Mapping Niagara Region vineyards using drone GPS technology		-		23,160	23,160		7,723	_
		9,294		120,477	93,148		69,288	(18,035)
Non-grant funded research						_	500	
GGO portion of research activities						\$	69,788	

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - JANUARY 31, 2018

### 5. Contributions for research and other activities (continued)

	(Deferred) Receivable Contributions	Government/ Industry Contributions Received	Government/ Industry Expenses	Grape Growers of Ontario Portion	(Deferred) Receivable Contributions January
Dramatianal projects	February 1, 2017	(Repaid) 2017/18	2017/18	2017/18	31, 2018
Promotional projects:					
Greenbelt Food Literacy Program	-	8,781	12,619	12,618	3,838
GF2 – GGO marketing plan	580	3,425	2,845	2,845	-
GF2 – Grape Growers 70th anniversary	-	41,050	41,050	41,050	-
GF2 – Grape Growers brand project implementation	22,986	27,581	4,595	4,905	-
Celebrity Luncheon	(11,080)	70,499	73,248	-	(8,331)
	12,486	151,336	134,357	61,418	(4,493)
Non-grant funded promotion				118,385	
GGO portion of promotional activities				179,803	
	\$ 21,780				\$ (22,528)
Comprised of:					
Contributions receivable	\$ 57,195				\$ 10,138
Deferred contributions	(35,415)				(32,666)
	\$ 21,780				\$ (22,528)

#### 6. Guaranteed investment certificates

The board has guaranteed investment certificates that mature in 2018 and earn interest between 1.83% and 2.00% (2017 - 1.25% and 2.85%).

#### 7. Accounts receivable

	2018	2017
Accounts receivable	\$ 220,928	\$ 50,182
Allowance for doubtful accounts	(13,436)	(1,588)
	\$ 207,492	\$ 48,594

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - JANUARY 31, 2018

### 8. Related party transactions

The Grape Growers of Ontario exercise significant influence over Ontario Grape and Wine Research Inc. (OGWRI), an entity incorporated to perform research and development activities related to the grape and wine industries. Transactions with OGWRI, include recovery of salaries (disclosed in note 3) and contributions to research projects (disclosed in the statement of changes in internally restricted net assets).

The Grape Growers of Ontario is related to Grape & Tender Fruit (Ontario) Limited (GTFOL), a jointly controlled enterprise who operates the marketing boards' shared offices and who owns the shared land and building.

The Grape Growers of Ontario's proportionate share of GTFOL is as follows:

	2018	2017
Assets	\$ 330,263	\$ 342,691
Liabilities	138,416	150,844
Net assets	\$ 191,847	\$ 191,847

Expenses include a \$121,801 (2017 - \$137,974) charge for the board's share (50% (2017 - 50%)) of management operation costs incurred during the year by GTFOL. These amounts are recognized in the form of allocated rent payments at the exchange amount by the board, and represent the board's share of the revenue and expenses of the joint venture.

Amounts due from / to related parties:

	2018	2017
GTFOL	112,959	\$ 122,259
Trade payable with GTFOL	3,018	3,218
Trade receivable with GTFOL	-	224

#### 9. Investments

	2018	2017
Grape & Tender Fruit (Ontario) Limited		
94 common shares (47% interest)	\$ 47	\$ 47
1,918 special shares (40% interest)	191,800	191,800
Ontario Grape and Wine Research Inc.		
20 common shares (50% interest) 20 \$ 191,867	20	
	\$ 191,867	\$ 191,867

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - JANUARY 31, 2018

#### 10. Property and equipment

	Accumulated		Net Bo	ook Value
	Cost	Amortization	2018	2017
Furniture and Equipment	12,568	2,514	10,054	-
Computer hardware	15,049	8,111	6,938	7,656
<u>'</u>	2,505	2,505	-	-
	30,122	13,130	16,992	7,656

The Grape Growers of Ontario's portion of amortization for property and equipment carried on its balance sheet for 2018 was \$6,418 (2017 - 3,860.)

#### 11. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities

	2018	2017
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 118,022	\$ 112,834
Grading fees payable	334,226	236,288
	\$ 452,248	\$ 349,122

#### 12. Financial instruments

The board is exposed to various risks through its financial instruments. The following analysis provides a measure of the board's risk exposures and concentrations at January 31, 2018:

#### Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. The board's main credit risks relate to its accounts receivable. The board provides credit to its growers in the normal course of its operations.

#### Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or expected future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Market risk comprises three types of risk: currency risk, interest rate risk and other price risk. The board is mainly exposed to interest rate risk.

#### (i) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The board is exposed to interest rate risk with respect to its fixed rate guaranteed investment certificates. Given the composition of financial instruments, the board is subject to a fair value risk.

#### 13. Comparative figures

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified from those previously presented to conform to the presentation of the 2018 financial statements.



# **2017** GRAPE KING

### DOUG WHITTY

Doug Whitty was crowned Grape King on September 13th, 2017 at 13th Street Winery in St. Catharines, ON.

#### ADDRESS 1634 South Service Road, St. Catharines, Ontario L2R 6P9 Phone: 905.688.0990 Fax: 905.688.3211

Email: info@grapegrowersofontario.com Web: www.grapegrowersofontario.com www.localgrapes.ca

**f** grapegrowersofontario

@grapegrowersont

@grapegrowersont



