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## Wayne Dickieson Named 2015 Recipient of the Dairy Cattle Improvement Industry Distinction Award

Mr. Wayne Dickieson from North Rustico, Prince Edward Island has been selected as the 2015 recipient of the Dairy Cattle Improvement Industry Distinction Award, in recognition of his many years of exceptional involvement in the Canadian dairy industry.

As Chairman of the CDN Board of Directors, Gary Bowers applauded the selection decision stating, "Throughout his career, Wayne Dickieson has made an outstanding contribution to the dairy cattle improvement industry in Canada. Of particular interest is the multi-faceted nature of his involvement including the milk recording, A.I. and breed sectors as well as being a 4-H leader and official judge, all while being employed with the provincial government for over 35 years."



Born and raised in PEI, Wayne Dickieson received his B.Sc. degree in agriculture, majoring in animal science, from Macdonald College of McGill University. Not long after graduating, he started his lengthy career in various positions within the PEI Department of Agriculture, where he eventually became the Dairy Production Specialist. During his active career, he was heavily involved in the A.I. industry serving on the board of directors for the PEI Artificial Breeding Association and the Canadian Association of Animal Breeders, where he was elected President and therefore became closely involved with the establishment of CDN in the mid- to late-1990s. Within the A.I. sector, Wayne Dickieson also served as a director of Eastern Breeders Inc. and, more recently, EastGen.

Early in his career at the PEI Department of Agriculture, Wayne Dickieson also became involved with the milk recording sector. He was pivotal in promoting the Dairy Herd Analysis Service (DHAS) to dairy producers in PEI, which was the predecessor program in Québec that is now offered by Valacta across Québec and Atlantic Canada. Through his role and activities in PEI, he also served as a director on the Canadian Milk Recording Board.

Wayne Dickieson has always been interested in genetics and breed improvement, being a member of Holstein Canada for over 40 years with the Birkentree prefix. Actively involved in the Holstein breed, he was a 4-H leader, official judge, showman, club director, branch secretary-treasurer, and "Birkentree" was a 2007 recipient of the coveted Holstein Canada Master Breeder Award. Most recently, in 2014, Wayne Dickieson was inducted into the Atlantic Agricultural Hall of Fame.

Canadian Dairy Network is the national genetic evaluation centre for dairy cattle and provides services to Canadian dairy producers and member organizations including breed associations, DHI agencies, A.I. organizations and Dairy Farmers of Canada. The award will be presented to Wayne Dickieson during the 2015 Dairy Cattle Improvement Industry Forum on September 23<sup>rd</sup> in Charlottetown, PEI, in advance of the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of CDN the next day.