



**For Immediate Release**

### ***Feeding the Human Spirit – Celebrating the Legacy of Dr. Tim Henshaw***

**Guelph, Ontario** - EastGen is pleased to continue celebrating the legacy of the late Dr. Tim Henshaw with this year's presentation of the *Feeding the Human Spirit Leadership Award*. The 2024 award was presented to **Dr. Rob Swackhammer of Rockwood, Ont.**, by EastGen President Amanda Jeffs on November 5<sup>th</sup> during the TD Canadian 4-H Dairy Classic show held at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, Toronto, Ont. Dr. Swackhammer is a large animal veterinarian who owns and operates Upper Grand Veterinary Services with offices at Guelph and Arthur. Dr. Swackhammer is also known for his contributions to youth and 4-H such as performing calf health checks for EastGen youth shows and at the TD Canadian 4-H Dairy Classic.

The award was created in 2023 to recognize a leader/mentor of agricultural youth who emulates the qualities of Dr. Henshaw. A skilled veterinarian, educator and communicator, Dr. Henshaw was highly respected for his integrity and widely known in the agricultural industry and beyond as a leader, mentor, and someone who inspired youth to challenge themselves. He was highly supportive of people throughout his community and recognized for his giving of self and generosity of spirit.

To quote one of his nominators for the 2024 award - "Rob's commitment to the future of the dairy industry is unparalleled. From future producers to future veterinarians, researchers, AI technicians and more, Rob actively seeks to nurture their passion for participation in the industry. A pillar of his business is to support these individuals and is evident by his financial and volunteer support of youth events including dairy shows and 4-H activities."

"Dr. Henshaw was highly respected for his integrity and widely known in the agricultural industry and beyond as a leader, mentor, and someone who inspired youth to challenge themselves. Tim used to say, 'Leaders help others not because it's their job, but because it's their purpose.' Dr. Rob Swackhammer embodies Dr. Tim's qualities and is a very deserving recipient of the award," said Brian O'Connor, EastGen General Manager.

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The attached presentation photo may be reproduced without credit. Here is the accompanying outline:

From left: EastGen General Manager Brian O'Connor; EastGen President Amanda Jeffs who made the 2024 *Feeding the Human Spirit Leadership Award* presentation to Dr. Rob Swackhammer (centre); Jane Henshaw, wife of the late Dr. Henshaw; and their son Jarrett Henshaw.

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## **About**

EastGen offers a complete line-up of dairy, beef, and goat genetics as well as advanced reproductive solutions to more than 8,500 farmers in Ontario, New Brunswick, PEI, and Newfoundland & Labrador. At EastGen, we challenge ourselves to constantly advance the dairy industry and we are accountable to farmers first. To learn more about EastGen visit: [www.eastgen.ca](http://www.eastgen.ca)