



**For Immediate Release**

## **Canadian Young Speakers for Agriculture Announces 2020 Topics, Seeks Board Members**

*January 29, 2020, Guelph, Ontario* – Canadian Young Speakers for Agriculture (CYSA) is pleased to announce the topics for their 2020 competition:

- How can we fill the talent pipeline in Canadian agriculture?
- What impact will the emerging micro-food processing industry have on agriculture?
- Aquaculture: The challenges and solutions of developing, funding and marketing an emerging food source
- Climate change: Can the family farm manage and capitalize on this shift?
- Lessons learned over the last 25 years of agriculture – and how we can apply it to the next 25.
- Should the agriculture industry fund and support opportunities for youth development?
- How to create ecosystem markets that reward Canada’s farmers for environmental stewardship.

CYSA is also launching a new competition this year: The business presentation is designed to emulate the real workplace experience of presenting an idea to a group of stakeholders. Contestants will be required to research, analyze and summarize an issue and “pitch” their results as a team to a panel of judges. More information will be available soon at [www.cysa-joca.ca](http://www.cysa-joca.ca)

CYSA is currently seeking applications for board membership for the 2020-2022 mandate. Interested parties should submit their résumé and cover letter detailing why they wish to join CYSA Inc. and include any relevant qualifications and experience. Board membership is a voluntary role with no remuneration. Applications will be received up to noon on Tuesday, February 11, 2020, by email at [tedyoung@sympatico.ca](mailto:tedyoung@sympatico.ca) or at the following address:

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Each year CYSA's renowned public speaking competition is held at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair (a Platinum sponsor of CYSA) in Toronto. The competition is open to youth ages 11 to 24 with a passion for agriculture whether raised on a farm, in the country or in the city.

Canadian Young Speakers for Agriculture is a national, bilingual competition that provides a platform for participants to share their opinions, ideas and concerns about the Canadian agri-food industry in a five- to seven-minute prepared speech.

Since the first competition held at the Royal Winter Fair in honour of the International Year of the Youth in 1985, it has gone on to become the premier public speaking event in Canada for young people interested in agriculture, with more than 1000 participants over the years. For more information about CYSA visit [www.cysa-joca.ca](http://www.cysa-joca.ca)

Watch our social media channels (Twitter: @CYSAAgriculture, Facebook: facebook.com/CYSA.JOCA, Instagram: Instagram.com/cysa.joca, and YouTube: search cysajoca) in the coming weeks for event photos and presentation videos.

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For more information, please contact:  
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