



Dear Colleagues:

The Prairie Grain Development Committee (PGDC) executive and I invite you to attend the 2022 PGDC Virtual Annual Meeting held March 1-3, 2022.

The PGDC executive is disappointed to announce that our 2022 meeting will be fully virtual. We wish that we could be together for an in-person meeting, and recognize the important interaction across the value chains and industry that occurs at PGDC. We were looking forward to resuming our in-person meeting, and the great value it provides to seed development. As such, we have been fortunate to roll forward our hotel contracts to meet at the Banff Centre in 2023 and at the Delta Bessborough in Saskatoon in 2024.

The primary reason for not holding an in-person meeting is that too many members are prevented from travelling by their employer travel policies (>30%). The secondary reasons include: the large number of members being prevented from attending by employer policy would require PGDC to implement a hybrid approach, especially due to the effect on key people and the loss of too many voting members and breeders who would be presenting lines; a number of key people (Chairs, Secretaries) cannot attend based on employer travel policies, which compromises in-room moderation of discussion; last-minute illness could mean that key people who were supposed to be in-room cannot be, which could compromise the ability to run the in-person part of the meeting (either they are stuck in their hotel room, or they couldn't travel to the site); possibility of further variant evolution, outbreaks, or other complicating factors

Again, we will be using the Zoom platform for our 2022 meetings and voting. We are bringing back the plenary session for 2022, but unfortunately the reception will be deferred until we can gather again in-person.

We look forward to your attendance at the 2022 meeting and encourage you to register as soon as possible. The PGDC still has costs associated with planning the annual meeting, even though we are operating virtually. **Registration will open on Monday, December 6th and close on February 11, 2022. There is one registration fee of \$150.** You can register at:

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/pgdc-annual-meeting-tickets-219442005947>

Unfortunately, we cannot accept registrations after February 11th as significant time is required to prepare voters lists and ensure that all Recommending Committee meeting attendance plans are finalized. Also, please ensure you register for the correct meetings as you will only receive links to meetings you register for.

More information about the meeting is available online at www.pgdc.ca. On the home page you will find general information about the meeting. The site's menu includes the "Annual Meeting" section where you will find more detailed information and links to the on-line registration form and meeting agenda.

Please forward this note to others who may be interested in attending. New guests are welcome. They may submit their registration and then their name will be sent for approval to the Secretary and/or Chair of the Recommending Committee they wish to observe.

Sincerely,

Sheri Strydhorst

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