



For Immediate Release

Canadian Young Speakers Announces 2021 Topics and New Competition Format

June 1, 2021, Guelph, Ontario – After a year’s hiatus, Canadian Young Speakers for Agriculture (CYSA) is thrilled to announce that the 2021 public speaking competition will be held in a virtual format.

Typically held at the renowned Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in Toronto every November, CYSA is a national, bilingual competition open to youth ages 11 to 24 with a passion for agriculture, whether raised on a farm, in the country, or in the city. The competition provides a platform for youth to share their opinions, ideas and concerns about the Canadian agri-food industry in a five- to seven-minute prepared speech.

This year, CYSA will invite competitors to upload their speeches to www.cysa-joca.ca between June 1, 2021 and September 30, 2021. The top six entries in each category (Junior and Senior) will be chosen prior to competition day and invited to compete live via Zoom on Saturday, November 6, 2021, for the top three positions in each category.

This year’s topics are:

- How a global pandemic changed Canadian agriculture – or has it?
- What it means to be a woman in agriculture in 2021
- Food waste, food security and food policy: What is agriculture’s/aquaculture’s role?
- Canadian aquaculture: Opportunities in a growing industry
- Does a changing climate mean opportunities or headaches for Canadian agriculture?

“CYSA is delighted to be back,” says CYSA President April Stewart. “While there won’t be the same live event buzz that typically surrounds competition day, the board felt it was very important to adjust our format so that we can continue to offer this exciting public speaking opportunity to Canada’s youth.”

Since the first competition held at the Royal Winter Fair in honour of the International Year of the Youth in 1985, CYSA 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

Watch CYSA's social media channels (Twitter: @CYSAGriculture, Facebook: facebook.com/CYSA.JOCA, Instagram: Instagram.com/cysa.joca) for updates and news about the 2021 competition and other interesting opportunities from industry partners throughout the year.

-30-

For more information, please contact:
Ted Young | CYSA Chair
519-546-5053 or tedyoung@sympatico.ca