



***Meat & Poultry Ontario Celebrates 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at Red Carpet Awards Gala 2021!  
The Academy Awards of Ontario's Meat Industry.***

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**GUELPH, ON – November 25, 2021** – Meat & Poultry Ontario (MPO) celebrated its 40<sup>th</sup> year at the 2021 Red Carpet Gala, held in Waterloo on November 19. The Gala brings together MPO's members to honour the family of people that make up the association and celebrates their commitment to both the organization and Ontario's meat sector.

The evening kicked-off with a special 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary presentation delivered by MPO Executive Director, Franco Naccarato and former Executive Director, Laurie Nicol.

"Tonight, we celebrate the champions of Ontario's meat sector, who have supported our organization for over 40 years. These members are dedicated to building their businesses and contributing to the industry and their communities." says Franco Naccarato. "Tonight is a time to say thank you and celebrate their innovation and accomplishments."

MPO honoured Bramic Sales, Charlies Meat and Seafood, Hayter's Turkey Products, and University of Guelph (Meat Science Laboratory, Department of Animals & Poultry Science) as they received their 10-year membership plaque, followed by Abate Packers, Canadian Butcher Supply, Domingos Meat Packers, Sargent Farms and Townsend Butchers who were honoured for 25 years of loyal MPO membership. For the first time ever, a 40-year membership award was accepted by founding MPO member and commodity partner, Ontario Pork.

The **Meat Industry Achievement (MIA) Award**, which is given to an MPO Business member company or individual that deserves recognition for their achievements in the meat and poultry industry, was presented to King Cole Duck of Stouffville, Ontario.

The **Associate Member Recognition Award (AMRA)** is given to an associate member company that, judged by the membership, is deserving of recognition for their contribution to the association and to the industry. This year Viscofan Canada, Markham, was honored with this distinction.

Since the awards' inception in 1995, MPO has presented only 13 prestigious **Lifetime Member Awards** to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to industry. This year they inducted Richard Halenda, of Halenda's Fine Foods, into that respected club.

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**ABOUT MPO**

Meat & Poultry Ontario (MPO) is the representative voice of Ontario's meat industry. Our members are independent businesses proud to serve the communities they live and work in. The association is comprised of meat and poultry processors, wholesalers, and retailers; industry suppliers; and not-for-profit organizations that support MPO's objectives.

**MEAT & POULTRY ONTARIO**



# Meat & Poultry

## ONTARIO

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Ontario's meat and poultry sector employs 25% of Ontario's food and beverage processing industry — the single largest manufacturing employer in Ontario — and generates \$11.2 billion of the province's \$45 billion food and beverage processing industry revenue.

**For more information:**

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Encl: King Cole Duck (MIA recipient), Viscofan (AMRA recipient), Richard Halenda (Lifetime recipient)

**MEAT & POULTRY ONTARIO**

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