



# Press Release

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## ONTARIO OUTSTANDING DAIRY WOMEN SERVICE AWARD WINNER SELECTED

**Cambridge, ON** —The Ontario Holstein Branch would like to congratulate Elaine Standeaven of St. Mary's on being selected as this year's recipient of the Ontario Outstanding Dairy Women Service Award.

Standeaven was recognized at the Ontario Holstein Branch's Annual General Meeting, held last month in Cambridge. Established in 2011, and sponsored by the Ontario Holstein Branch, the annual award recognizes the efforts and accomplishments of Ontario women who have devoted their lives to serving, promoting and enhancing the dairy industry.

Award founder, Tara Bullock, along with last year's winner, Heather Parkin, and Branch General Manager, Jason French, presented Standeaven with a rural print and a bouquet of flowers at the recent meeting. Before presenting the award, Bullock spoke of the various qualities that led to the committee ultimately choosing Standeaven from "so many amazing women" nominated this year.

"When judging the applications," Bullock said, "we were looking for someone who had the 'whole package.' We were looking for someone who manages to find the balance between the passion for this business, the dedication she has for her family, and the spirit to serve others within her community."  
According to her nominator, Standeaven rises to the occasion of whatever task she takes on. Her leadership abilities and work ethic – whether related to her own family dairy farm or her local Holstein Club – are second to none, making her a true inspiration to those around her.



Standeaven's list of contributions to the dairy industry is impressive. Over the years, she has been a Dairy Educator, a Director and President of her local Agricultural Society and has been involved in fundraising for a major agricultural venue in her community. Additionally, she has sat as an Executive Director on the National Holstein Convention committee for Perth County and currently acts as Secretary for the Perth County Holstein Club. Her commitment to the 4-H program and the promotion of events for dairy youth has been shown by her work on various show committees, as well as chaperoning the Perth County team at the Classic in Toronto.

L to R: Tara Bullock, Heather Parkin, Elaine Standeaven, Jason French

Standeaven was taken aback when her name was announced, yet thrilled to be selected as this year's winner. She thanked her friends and family for their support over the years and expressed

how wonderful it was to be recognized for something she has enjoyed doing and has felt so natural to her at the same time.

“It is through serving others in this business that we are able to grow, enrich and thrive in the dairy industry,” said Bullock. “This award is meant to thank and acknowledge those women who embody all of these attributes.”