

## Introducing Lactanet: Integrating Herd Management and Genetic Services

**Guelph, Ontario & Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, Quebec, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019** – Today a progressive new partnership in the dairy industry was announced to come into effect on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019.

CanWest DHI, Valacta and Canadian Dairy Network will work together at the management of the new organization known as ***Lactanet Canada***.

This partnership brings together leading dairy herd improvement organizations responsible for milk recording, genetic evaluations and knowledge transfer in Canada.

“Today is a milestone for our industry”, announced newly appointed Lactanet Chair, Barbara Paquet, “Lactanet is an example of working together across the country, and in different areas of our industry, for the betterment of the Canadian dairy sector”.

Lactanet will leverage the strengths of the founding companies to more fully integrate herd management, genetics and extension into a distinct suite of services for Canadian dairy farmers. In addition, blending the partners’ research and development resources will ensure a strong future for Lactanet.

“By combining key elements of profitable dairy herd management services, Lactanet provides Canadian dairy farmers with tools to help them succeed, while ensuring our global leadership position for both efficient milk production and dairy cattle genetics”, announced newly appointed CEO, Neil Petreny.

The Lactanet name and logo represent innovation and collaboration – a reflection of what the partnership is today, but more importantly, what it will strive to be in the future.



The new organization has a producer-driven governance structure consisting of up to eleven board members. Six of these members are appointed by the organizations that provide dairy herd management services, while one director is appointed by each of Dairy Farmers of Canada, Holstein Canada and Semex Alliance, all of which are also governed by Canadian dairy producers. The Board may also have up to two external members, recommended for their particular expertise.



The Lactanet Board of Directors (from left to right): Mr. Yvon Boucher (QC), Mr. Gert Schrijver (AB), Mr. Tom Pasco (ON), Mr. Pierre Lampron (QC), Mrs. Barbara Paquet (QC), Mr. Matt Flaman (SK), Mr. Ed Friesen (MB), Mr. Korb Whale (ON), Mr. Gilles Côté (QC) and Mr. Harm Kelly (ON).

The team of the three founding partners of Lactanet is comprised of 500 staff members dedicated to providing services to more than 10,000 dairy farms across Canada. The new organization will operate from existing business locations in Guelph, Ontario and Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue, Quebec, and will continue to manage four lab operations across the country.

A website portal has been developed to present Lactanet news and information while linking users back to each partner's respective website. For more information visit [www.lactanet.ca](http://www.lactanet.ca).

***Lactanet is the premier source of information and innovative solutions for dairy farmers and industry partners.***

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