

# CPS • SCP News



CANADIAN PHYTOPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY • SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE DE PHYTOPATHOLOGIE

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## Message from the Executive Board of the CPS

Greetings CPS members,

Record snowfall totals and new temperature records had many of us across the country looking forward to longer days and warmer weather. With spring just around the corner, we hope that you are all looking forward to another busy and productive field season!

The Annual Meeting of the CPS is always a highlight of the summer. We hope that you will join us this summer in Halifax at the Lord Nelson Hotel from June 14-18! This is the first time since 2016 that the CPS annual meeting has been held in Atlantic Canada. The Local Arrangements Committee, led by **Shawkat Ali**, are assembling an exciting program that will include engaging keynote speakers, a skill-building workshop, and interesting sight-seeing opportunities. Registration and abstract submission are now open on the CPS website.

One of the highlights of every CPS Annual Meeting is the presentation of awards that recognize excellence among the

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phytopathological community here in Canada. The deadline for nominations is coming up quickly: nominate your colleagues, and encourage your students to apply, before the nomination deadline on March 31!

The CPS functions thanks to the dedication and hard work of its members. The Nominations Committee has received nominations for vacancies within the Executive Board and Standing Committees. Members will receive an email inviting them to vote for these important roles. Keep an eye on your inbox for your ballot!

CPS webinars have returned! These free webinars, organized by the CPS Webinar Committee (**Maria Antonia Henriquez**, **Rudolph Fredua-Agyeman**, and **Miao (Mindy) Liu**), are a great way to learn about new developments in plant pathology! The first webinar in this new series was held on February 17 and was delivered by **Justin Pahara**, head of AAFC's NanoLab at the Lethbridge Research and Development Center. Our next webinar will be held on April 23. Stay tuned for more details!



## Message du conseil d'administration de la SCP

Bonjour aux membres de la SCP,

En raison des chutes de neige record et des températures extrêmes, beaucoup d'entre nous à la grande attente au pays attendent impatiemment l'arrivée des journées plus longues et des températures plus clémentes. Avec le printemps qui approche à grands pas, nous espérons que vous attendez tous vivement une autre saison sur

To help showcase the exciting things happening within the CPS, and to share timely updates about new findings reported in the Canadian Journal of Plant Pathology (CJPP), we are pleased to share that the CPS has a new social media manager, **Laila Fawaz**. Laila will support the CPS Executive

Board, the CJPP editor-in-chief, and CPS committee heads to support consistent messaging and updates from the CPS. Welcome, Laila!

We hope that all of you are refreshed and energized by the longer days and warmer temperatures as spring approaches. We look forward to seeing all of you in June!

Warm regards,  
The Executive Board of the CPS

le terrain, bien occupée et productive!

La réunion annuelle de la SCP est toujours un moment fort de l'été. Nous espérons que vous vous joindrez à nous cet été **à Halifax, à l'Hôtel Lord Nelson, du 14 au 18 juin!** C'est la première fois depuis 2016 qu'on tiendra la réunion annuelle dans les provinces de l'Atlantique. Le comité organisateur, présidé par **Shawkat Ali**, est

en train de mettre sur pied un programme passionnant qui inclura des conférenciers d'honneur captivants, un atelier sur le renforcement des compétences et des possibilités de visites intéressantes. Vous pouvez dès maintenant vous inscrire et soumettre vos résumés sur le site Web de la Société.

Un des points forts de chaque réunion annuelle est la présentation des prix qui célèbrent

l'excellence au sein de la communauté phytopathologique canadienne. La date limite de dépôt des candidatures approche : proposez la candidature de vos collègues et encouragez vos étudiants à postuler avant la date limite du 31 mars!

La SCP fonctionne grâce au dévouement et au travail acharné de ses membres. Le Comité des candidatures a reçu des demandes pour remplir les postes vacants au sein du conseil d'administration et des comités permanents. Les membres recevront un courriel pour les inviter à voter pour ces postes importants. Surveillez votre boîte de réception pour obtenir votre bulletin de vote!

Les webinaires de la SCP sont de retour! Ces webinaires gratuits, organisés par le Comité des webinaires de la SCP (**Maria Antonia Henriquez, Rudolph Fredua-**

**Agyeman et Miao [Mindy] Liu**) sont un excellent moyen de se renseigner sur les dernières avancées dans le domaine de la phytopathologie! Le premier webinaire de cette nouvelle série s'est tenu le 17 février et a été présenté par **Justin Pahara**, directeur du NanoLab du Centre de recherche et développement d'AAC à Lethbridge. Notre prochain webinaire se

tiendra le 23 avril. Restez à l'affût pour en savoir davantage!

Pour aider à mettre en

valeur les choses emballantes qui se passent au sein de la SCP et pour partager rapidement les dernières découvertes rapportées dans la Revue canadienne de phytopathologie (RCP), nous sommes heureux de vous annoncer que la SCP a une nouvelle gestionnaire des médias sociaux, **Laila Fawaz**. Laila aidera le conseil d'administration de la SCP, la rédactrice en chef de la RCP et les directeurs des comités qui doivent soutenir de manière cohérente la messagerie et les mises à jour de la Société. Bienvenue, Laila!

Nous espérons que, à l'approche du printemps, vous êtes tous rafraîchis et énergisés par les jours qui rallongent et les températures plus douces. Nous avons hâte de vous voir tous en juin!

Meilleures salutations,  
Le conseil d'administration de la SCP

**«La réunion annuelle de la SCP est toujours un moment fort de l'été. Nous espérons que vous vous joindrez à nous cet été à Halifax, à l'Hôtel Lord Nelson, du 14 au 18 juin!»**



## Society Business

### Report from the CPS Nominating Committee

February 14, 2026

The Nominating Committee has received, reviewed, and endorsed the following nominations for positions on the Board of Directors and Standing Committees following the 2026 Annual Meeting of members.

#### Board of Directors

- **Vice President (1):** Wen Chen; Reem Aboukhaddour; Edel Pérez-López
- **Junior Director (1):** Shawkat Ali; Amy Fang Shi

#### Standing Committees

- **Awards Committee (1):** James Tucker
- **Nominating Committee (1):** Coreen Franke
- **Financial Advisory Committee (FAC) (4):** Rishi Burlakoti

In accordance with the By-Laws, when more than one candidate is nominated for a position, an election by secret ballot is required. This applies to the Vice President and Junior Director positions this year. Nominee introductions from the nomination letters are attached and should also be published in the March CPS News in preparation for voting in early April (two months prior to the Annual Meeting), or for ratification at the Annual Meeting of Members (AMOM).

Each of the Standing Committees has received a single nomination. These candidates will therefore require ratification by the membership at the upcoming AMOM. This will meet the needs of the Awards and Nominating Committees this year, as only one current member on each committee will rotate off following the AMOM.

A challenge exists with the FAC; the four current members-at-large will complete their two-year terms at the AMOM, and only one nomination has been received. The By-Laws require that at least one of the FAC members-at-large be elected, while the remaining members may be appointed by the Board.

**Potential solution:** The Board may consider amending the By-Laws to stagger FAC at-large terms over three years, similar to the change made to the Nominating Committee last year. This approach would allow one member to be replaced each year through nomination or appointment, thereby maintaining continuity and knowledge, given the complexity of financial matters.

For the current year, this issue could be addressed by reappointing the current FAC members-at-large to staggered terms as follows:

- **3-year term:** Andrea Botero-Ramirez

- **2-year term:** Lone Buchwaldt
  - **1-year term:** Mary Ruth McDonald
- This approach would effectively resolve the issue for the current and future years. Please let me know if there are any questions regarding this report.

Submitted by: Gary Peng  
On behalf of the Nominating Committee



## **CPS 2026 Nominations – Provided by the Nominating Committee**

### **To CPS members:**

The Nominating Committee has received, reviewed, and endorsed the following nominations for positions on the Board of Directors and Standing Committees following the 2026 Annual Meeting of members (AMOM).

### **Board of Directors**

- **Vice President:** Wen Chen; Reem Aboukhaddour; Edel Pérez-López
- **Junior Director:** Shawkat Ali; Amy Fang Shi

### **Standing Committees**

- **Awards Committee:** James Tucker
- **Nominating Committee:** Coreen Franke
- **Financial Advisory Committee:** Rishi Burlakoti

In accordance with the By-Laws, when more than one candidate is nominated for a position, an election by secret ballot is required. This applies to the Vice President and Junior Director positions this year. Attached below are nominee introductions from the nomination letters to provide you with necessary information for voting. All nominations/appointments will require the final approval by members at the upcoming Annual Meeting in June.

We thank everyone for taking the time to nominate your colleagues for these CPS positions! If you have any questions regarding the information, please contact Gary Peng at [gary.peng@agr.gc.ca](mailto:gary.peng@agr.gc.ca).

Submitted by Tom Fetch  
Secretary, CPS board

## Nominee introductions

### Candidates for Vice President:

**Dr. Wen Chen:** Dr. Chen has been an active member of CPS since 2015 and has demonstrated dedication, commitment, and leadership during her tenure on the CPS Executive Board from 2019 to 2024, first as Junior Director and later as Senior Director.

Dr. Chen has made proactive contributions to CPS in various capacities. She currently chairs the Virtual Workshop Committee and serves on the Finance Advisory Committee, Website Committee, and the ad hoc committee for the 100-year Celebration of CPS. Additionally, she is a Senior Editor for the Canadian Journal of Plant Pathology and has served on two ad hoc committees, one for negotiating a new publishing contract and another for facilitating open access to the journal.

Dr. Chen's organizational skills and ability to foster scientific exchange and collaboration are further exemplified by her contributions to the Local Arrangement Committees for the 2021 and 2023 CPS-CSACSHS Tri-society conferences. She has also served as a session chair for CPS' Eastern Ontario Regional Symposia. Given her extensive experience, proven leadership, and unwavering commitment to CPS, we are confident that Dr. Chen would be an outstanding candidate for the Vice President position.

**Dr. Reem Aboukhaddour:** We would like to nominate Dr. Reem Aboukhaddour for the position of CPS Vice President. Dr. Aboukhaddour has made sustained and measurable contributions to plant pathology and to our society through leadership, service, and scholarship. She has been an active member of CPS since 2006 and was recognized with the CPS Outstanding Young Scientist Award in 2019.

Over the past five years, she has served two times as president of the Plant Pathology Society of Alberta and successfully organized the meeting for that society (2020 and 2025). She has served as a judge for student poster and oral competitions at our annual meetings and as a member of the CPS Resolutions Committee (2018–2019). Dr. Aboukhaddour has also served as a section editor for the Canadian Journal of Plant Pathology for the past three years.

In service to industry, Dr. Aboukhaddour served on the Prairie Grain Development Committee (PGDC) Disease Committee for six years, including three years as Secretary followed by three years as Chair (last one in 2023).

Internationally, Dr. Aboukhaddour was elected chair for the Wheat Initiative, and organized regular online webinars hosting many researchers from global institutions at a monthly rate. She is also the organizer and chair of the International Leaf Spot Symposium to be held in Banff in May 2026. Dr. Aboukhaddour has served as an editor for Plant Pathology and the

PAG journals, and is an active member of the (Wheat Initiative Crop Health Alliance) WatchA Steering Committee. She also co-organized and chaired a workshop associated with the International Plant Health Conference (ICPP) in Lyon, France, in 2023.

Given her sustained service to the scientific community, students, industry, and professional societies, I strongly recommend Dr. Aboukhaddour for the role of CPS Vice President.

**Dr. Edel Pérez-López:** Edel has been a dedicated member of the CPS since 2018 and has served on the International Cooperation Committee since 2021. He is currently the Regional Representative for Quebec (QSPP). Throughout his service, Edel has demonstrated remarkable contributions to plant pathology as well as strong leadership and commitment to the Society. Based on his experience, dedication, and proven leadership, I have no doubt that Edel Pérez-López would be an excellent CPS Vice-President.

#### **Candidates for Junior Director:**

**Dr. Shawkat Ali:** We would like to nominate Dr. Shawkat Ali for the position of Junior Director on the board of CPS. He is supportive of the nomination and of putting his name forward. Shawkat is a pathologist working with AAFC at the Kentville Research and Development Centre and recently hosted the Atlantic CPS meeting in November 2024. He is an active researcher with an outstanding record and is also an active member of CPS. Please consider the nomination of Dr. Shawkat Ali for the position of Junior Director with CPS.

**Dr. Amy Fang Shi:** Amy has demonstrated exemplary involvement in the Society and a strong commitment to supporting CPS activities and community engagement. Most notably, she played an important role in supporting the organization of past SORA–CPS meetings and successfully organized the annual student poster presentation competitions from 2019 to 2023. Her willingness to step up, collaborate with others, and support Society initiatives reflects both professionalism and genuine dedication to CPS.

Amy recently completed her PhD at the University of Guelph but in her dual role as a student and research associate, she played a pivotal role in securing and allocating research funding for various programs. She has been instrumental in strengthening collaborations between the University of Guelph, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness (OMAFRA), and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC). In addition to her research achievements, Amy has mentored and supervised more than a dozen undergraduate students, many of whom have gone on to pursue graduate studies. Her dedication to student development and academic excellence exemplifies the qualities of an outstanding scholar and leader.

Amy's enthusiasm for plant pathology, combined with her reliability and positive engagement within the Society, make her an excellent candidate for the Junior Director role. We are confident that she would bring valuable perspective, energy, and continuity to the CPS Executive.

#### **Candidate for Awards Committee:**

**Dr. James Tucker:** I would like to nominate James Tucker for the 'Awards committee' – Canadian Phytopathological Society Board and Standing Committee Members. James has

been a long-term member of the CPS (since 2001), has served on the resolutions committee, has participated on local organizational committees when the annual CPS meetings when held in Winnipeg, MB, and is a researcher actively involved in Plant Pathology research. Duties of the Awards committee include: Recommending nominees for all categories of awards specified in by-law 32, except for the Glenn Anderson Lectureship, and invite nominations for the various awards from Society members each year. The Awards Committee will review the nominations, identify award recipients and make recommendations to the Board. The Awards Committee prepares a report for the Board and the Annual Meeting of Members.

#### **Candidate for Nominating Committee:**

**Coreen Franke:** Coreen has been a member of the CPS since 1995 and has served the Society in various capacities, including Regional Rep for CPS-Saskatchewan (2004-2010), as Editor for CPS News (2010-2016), and as Associate Editor for CPS News (2017-present). She works extensively with canola breeders to introduce disease resistance traits into new varieties and is highly knowledgeable in disease management for canola production. Coreen attends CPS annual meetings regularly and has an excellent understanding of the Society and its membership. Her experience, dedication, and long-standing commitment to CPS would make her an outstanding member of the Nominating Committee.

#### **Candidate for Financial Advisory Committee:**

**Rishi Burlakoti:** Dr. Burlakoti has been a CPS member since 2015 and has served on the FAC for the past two years. Given the increasing complexity of the Society's financial matters and recent growth in revenues, continuity on the Committee is particularly important. Dr. Burlakoti's experience and familiarity with FAC operations would be a significant asset to the Society.

Dr. Burlakoti is a Research Scientist at the AAFC Agassiz Research and Development Centre, with expertise in pathogen characterization, disease epidemiology, and disease management in berry, field, and greenhouse vegetable crops in British Columbia. He regularly attends CPS annual meetings and has a strong understanding of the Society's operations. His experience and commitment make him an excellent candidate for continued service on the FAC.



## Call for Nominations: CPS Awards

**CPS Members: Nominate a deserving colleague for a CPS Award!**

**Students: Apply for CPS Scholarships and Student Travel Awards!**

The Canadian Phytopathological Society is proud to recognize achievements of its members. Please consider nominating a colleague for one of the CPS Awards listed below:

- Honorary Member
- Fellow
- Outstanding Research
- Outstanding Young Scientist
- CPS Education Award
- Achievements in Plant Disease Management
- Career Recognition Award

Full descriptions of each category are posted on the CPS web site at <https://phytopath.ca/about-cps/cps-awards/>. For each application, please combine materials into a single file (except for references for student awards) and send to the CPS Awards Committee at [cps.awards@gmail.com](mailto:cps.awards@gmail.com).

We also encourage graduate students to apply for:

- CPS Student Awards Graduate Student Scholarships (three awards at \$1500 each)
- Graduate Student Travel Awards (three awards at \$1000 each).

**The deadline for submission of all applications is March 31, 2026.**

Send nominations and applications to the CPS Awards Committee at [cps.awards@gmail.com](mailto:cps.awards@gmail.com). Please combine all materials into a single file for each application, and use the last name of the nominee (or applicant if for student award) to start the filename including target award name. For Best Student Presentation Awards, only a single presentation (whether oral or poster) will be considered per student. When submitting abstracts for the student presentation award, please indicate which one is being used in competition, and also send a copy of that abstract to [cps.awards@gmail.com](mailto:cps.awards@gmail.com).



## Meetings

### 2026 CPS Annual Meeting: See you in Halifax!

Registration is now open for the 2026 CPS Annual Meeting! Please visit the CPS website to sign up and submit your abstract!

<https://phytopath.ca/events/2026-cps-annual-meeting/>



**Canadian Phytopathological Society (CPS) Annual Meeting 2026**

Canadian Phytopathological Society  La Société Canadienne de Phytopathologie

**June 14 -18, 2026, Lord Nelson, Halifax, NS, CANADA**

**The Lord Nelson Hotel & Suites**



## People

### Congratulations to Brennon Kirk!

Congratulations to Brennon Kirk on successfully defending his M.Sc. thesis at the University of Alberta on September 22, 2025. His thesis, “Laser Microdissection of *Plasmodiophora brassicae* Resting Spores and Virulence Stability of Single-Spore Isolates,” explored a novel laser microdissection technique for single-spore isolation and examined the stability of isolates during repeated host passages. This technique offers a faster and more precise method for establishing isolates.

Brennon’s interest in plant pathology began as a summer student with Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation at the Crop Diversification Centre – North research station. After earning a B.Sc. in Biological Sciences from the University of Alberta in 2016, he worked with Corteva Agriscience on canola resistance breeding. He served as a clubroot inspector for Leduc County and, following his Master’s, now works as a technician in the Plant Pathology Program at the University of Alberta.

Submitted by Stephen Strelkov and Sheau-Fang Hwang



**Brennon Kirk** (third from left) with his examination committee (left to right): Carol Frost, University Examiner; **Andrea Botero-Ramírez**, Supervisory Committee Member, MacEwan University; **Sheau-Fang Hwang**, Co-Supervisor; **Stephen Strelkov**, Supervisor; and **Rudolph Fredua-Agyeman**, Exam Chair. Congratulations, Brennon, on successfully defending your M.Sc.!



## Congratulations to Emilee Storfie!

Congratulations to Emilee Storfie on successfully defending her Ph.D. thesis at the University of Alberta on January 26, 2026. Her thesis, “Applied and Molecular Perspectives on *Plasmodiophora brassicae* and its Resistance-Breaking Pathotypes,” focused on identifying novel resistance-breaking pathotypes and characterizing putative effectors, representing a significant contribution to the canola industry, particularly for breeding clubroot-resistant cultivars.

Emilee’s work on the foliar application of salicylic acid also provides valuable insights to guide future integrated management strategies. Her research delivered the first transcriptomic profiling of pathotype 3A, identifying a core secretome and characterizing proteins that function as high-confidence virulence factors. She earned her B.Sc. in 2017 and M.Sc. in 2020 from the Department of Environmental and Life Sciences at Trent University. Emilee has recently begun a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Alberta.

Submitted by Stephen Strelkov and Sheau-Fang Hwang



**Emilee Storfie** (second from left) with her examination committee (left to right): **Sheau-Fang Hwang**, Exam Chair; **Stephen Strelkov**, Supervisor; **Boyd Mori**, University Examiner; and **Gavin Chen**, Supervisory Committee Member. **Dr. Mark Belmonte**, External Examiner, University of Manitoba, and **Dr. Leonardo Galindo González**, Supervisory Committee Member, Adjunct Professor, and Scientist with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, participated remotely and are not pictured. Congratulations, Emilee, on your successful defense!



## Congratulations to Dilini Adihetty!

Congratulations to Dilini Adihetty on the successful defense of her Ph.D. thesis at the University of Alberta on January 27, 2026. Her thesis, titled “Fungicide Sensitivity, Virulence Diversity, and Host Resistance of *Cochliobolus sativus* in Western Canadian Barley,” provided important insights into the characteristics of the Canadian *Cochliobolus sativus* population, the causal agent of spot blotch in barley. Dilini was co-supervised by Drs. Stephen Strelkov and Kelly Turkington.

She completed her B.Sc. in Molecular Biology and Plant Biotechnology at the University of Kelaniya in Sri Lanka, followed by an M.Sc. in Plant Science at the University of Alberta in 2018, where she studied auxin transport during early pea fruit development. She is currently a Research Associate at Western Crop Innovations in Lacombe, Alberta, conducting applied cereal disease research to support prairie crop production.

Submitted by Stephen Strelkov and Sheau-Fang Hwang



**Dilini Adihetty** (third from left) with her examination committee (left to right): **Sheau-Fang Hwang**, Supervisory Committee Member; **Kelly Turkington**, Co-Supervisor, Adjunct Professor, and Scientist with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada; **Stephen Strelkov**, Supervisor; and **Malinda Thilakarathna**, University Examiner. **Rudolph Fredua-Agyeman** (not pictured) chaired the exam. **Dr. Brian Steffenson**, External Examiner, University of Minnesota, participated remotely and is not pictured. Congratulations to Dilini on successfully defending her thesis!



## Young Scientists' Corner

**Xinmei Xu**

Zhejiang A&F University



I was born in Lishui, China, a mountainous region. Nature was inseparable from my childhood. I grew up swimming in rivers, catching cicadas, and helping my family care for our orchard. One of my most vivid memories is following the frass trails on plum trees with my father and tracing the tunnels to dig out longhorn beetle larvae. After removing them, we disinfected and wrapped the wounds on the trunk. My father would jokingly suggest roasting the larvae and sharing them as a snack. Those simple yet genuine moments quietly clarified my passion.

After entering university, I chose Forest Protection as my major decisively. During my undergraduate studies, field practice related to plant diseases and forest insects further deepened my interest in forest protection. At the same time, I led a team to screen functional microbial strains from bamboo forest soils and studied their roles in improving nutrient use efficiency and regulating soil microbial communities. The project received two provincial awards and further strengthened my interest in promoting plant health through microbial approaches.

During my master's studies, I shifted my focus to plant pathology. While isolating endophytic fungi from subtropical tree species, I discovered a strain of *Schizophyllum commune* that emitted a distinctive odor resembling a mixture of durian and apple. Its volatile compounds were able to inhibit the growth of plant pathogens without physical contact and showed effective fumigation control against postharvest citrus green mold. This experience further amazed me at the interaction mechanisms among organisms in nature.

From October 2024 to October 2025, supported by the China Scholarship Council, I went to the Faculty of Forestry at the UBC in Canada to conduct an academic exchange under the supervision of Richard Hamelin. At the beginning of this journey, I attended the CPS meeting in Vancouver as an audience member. The following year, I completed my first poster presentation at the CPS national meeting. The transition from listener to presenter was deeply meaningful to me. During that year, whether in field investigations, laboratory work, or research discussions, I was inspired by the researchers' genuine passion and dedication.

After returning to China, I obtained my master's degree in Forest Protection in January 2026. I'm currently preparing for government positions related to forest ecological monitoring and conservation. I hope to continue safeguarding that touch of green, as it was what first guided me onto this path.



## Publications

### ISPP - International Newsletter on Plant Pathology



The International Society for Plant Pathology promotes the world-wide development of plant pathology and the dissemination of knowledge about plant diseases and plant health management. News and announcements from all on any aspect of Plant Pathology are invited for the Newsletter.

**Editor: Daniel Huberli**

e-mail: [ispp.nl.editor@isppweb.org](mailto:ispp.nl.editor@isppweb.org)

Members of Associated Societies of ISPP can receive e-mail notification of Newsletter updates by joining the ISPP mail list.

<http://www.isppweb.org/newsletter.asp>

#### **ISPP Newsletter 56 (1) January 2026**

- ISPP President's greetings for 2026
- Dual-mode CRISPR system enables simultaneous on and off gene control
- Arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi boost plant resilience by remodelling the plant-pathogen membrane interface
- Expected effects of a global transformation of agricultural pest management
- Common mycorrhizal networks facilitate plant disease resistance by altering rhizosphere microbiome assembly

- How harmful bacteria hijack our crops
- Disrupting 'communication' with plants could limit soybean cyst nematode infections
- Bacteria rewire digestive systems to turn plant waste into power
- Switch On, Switch Off: The Dynamic Defense of a Deadly Plant Disease
- Current Vacancies
- Acknowledgements
- Coming Events

#### **ISPP Newsletter 56 (2) February 2026**

- Ancient Oomycete honors Sophien Kamoun
- Deep in the Dolomites, a University of California Berkeley professor and his service dog carry the Olympic flame
- What makes plant-wilting *Ralstonia* bacteria so deadly
- Global variation in plant-beneficial bacteria in soil under pesticide stress
- Root-knot nematode *Meloidogyne incognita* uses secondary metabolite-mediated soil microbiome shifts to locate host plants
- An innovative pipeline to analyse plant pathogens
- Researchers pioneer molecular modeling for new fungicides

- Desperate race to resurrect newly-named zombie tree
  - Plant microbiota: War and peace under the surface
  - Current Vacancies
  - Acknowledgements
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- ISPP Newsletter 56 (3) March 2026**
- Call for bids to host the 14th International Congress of Plant Pathology, ICPP2032
  - Women in plant pathology: Protecting crops and supporting farmers
  - Call for submissions to Food Security: Genetic transformation of crop plants for disease management and food security
  - Q&A: How can microbiome science solve problems in agriculture?
- How does a parasitic nematode infect a wide variety of plants?
  - Engineered endophytic microbiomes boost crop health and suppress soilborne diseases
  - The five senses: How do plant pathogens know they found their host?
  - Deep learning empowers genomic selection of pest-resistant grapevine
  - Moving biopesticides through plants opens new opportunities
  - Scientists discover new species of fungus in 407-million-year-old plant fossil from Scotland
  - Current Vacancies
  - Acknowledgements
  - Coming Events



## Entomological Society of Canada



The *Bulletin* has been published quarterly by the Entomological Society of Canada since 1969. It provides information on the activities of the Society and its members, research and employment opportunities, matters of wider scientific importance and book reviews.

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## Submission Deadline for the June 2026 Issue of CPS-SCP News

**PLEASE NOTE:** The submission deadline for the June 2026 issue of CPS-SCP News is **May 29, 2026**. If you send photographs for publication in the CPS-SCP News, please ensure that you indicate that all individuals appearing in the photographs have given permission for their photographs to appear in the newsletter. Photographs will not be published if permission has not been obtained from the individuals involved. In addition, photographs must be accompanied by a caption, and must be of suitable quality for printing. Photos that do not meet these guidelines will not be printed. Please send photos as separate attachments rather than embedding them in Word or PDF files.

