

2021 MCIA Annual Meeting Board Director Nominee Information

Current Members of the MCIA Board of Directors

Chairman

Kurt Flegel, Benson, Minnesota (District 3)

Vice Chairman

Bob Ehlers, Barrett, Minnesota (District 2)

Secretary

Duane Dahlman, Cokato, Minnesota (Category C)

Treasurer

Darius Thiel, Wendell, Minnesota (District 2)

Directors

Brad Barth, Goodridge, Minnesota (District 1)

Brent Benike, Baudette, Minnesota (District 1)

Matt Bohn, Breckenridge, Minnesota (Related Industry)

Nancy Jo Ehlke, University of Minnesota, Saint Paul

Nat Forster, Hastings, Minnesota (District 3)

Grant Mehring, Fargo, North Dakota (Related Industry)

Denise Thiede, Saint Paul, Minnesota (Related Industry)

Nominees

Nancy Ehlke

ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

Category B: (1-year term) Nominee from the University of Minnesota

Nancy Ehlke is a professor and plant breeder in the Department of Agronomy and Plant Genetics at the University of Minnesota. She has been a member of the department faculty since 1986 and is nationally recognized as a plant breeder working on forage legumes, turf grasses, and native plant species. She is also a fellow in both the American Society of Agronomy and the Crop Science Society of America. In addition to her administrative and teaching responsibilities, Nancy leads research and outreach activities in northern Minnesota with the grass and legume seed producers. She received her Ph.D from Pennsylvania State University. She has been an MCIA board member since 2006.

Kelsey Anderson

ANDERSON SEEDS, ST. PETER, MINNESOTA

Category A: (3-year term) Nominee from District 3A

Kelsey Anderson is the fourth generation to be involved in Anderson Seeds of St. Peter, Minnesota. Working with her father Peter and Uncle Neal, she has been involved in various aspects of the family seed corn business. She currently serves as sales and office manager, which includes outgoing and incoming wholesale and retail seed sales. Kelsey is a graduate of South-Central College, North Mankato with a degree in applied science in agribusiness.

Her work experience outside the family business includes conducting IRM audits and small grain field inspections for MCIA, seed testing work at BioDiagnostics, and serving as a crop scout during a summer internship with a local cooperative. Kelsey has been a 4-H volunteer at the local and state level for many years. She is also active in the Nicollet County Farm Bureau, serving as chair of the Young Farmers and Ranchers, and she serves as the secretary of the local corn/soybean growers' organization.

Kelsey resides in Gaylord. In addition to the many hats she wears in the family business, she also raises market beef and maintains a very small direct marketing business. In her free time, she enjoys embroidery and quilting.

Rodney Moe

MOE FAMILY FARM, WALTHAM, MINNESOTA

Category A: (3-year term) Nominee from District 3A

Rodney Moe and his wife Colleen farm near Waltham, in Southeastern Minnesota, growing corn, soybeans, oats and alfalfa. They have grown certified soybean in the past and more recently have participated in MCIA's Noxious Weed Seed-free Forage and Mulch Certification Program.

The Moe family was named the 2018 Conservationist of the Year by Mower County Soil and Water Conservation District. Rodney has been involved in variety of conservation programs and practices, including nutrient-management planning, cover crops, strip tillage, and native grass buffers. Rodney serves as a director on the Minnesota Corn Promotion Council and is active in other community organizations. As a hobby he enjoys collecting toy tractors.

Nat Forster

REMINGTON SEEDS, INC., HASTINGS, MINNESOTA
Category A: (3-year term) Nominee from District 3B

Nat Forster has served the past three years as a member of the MCIA Board of Directors representing District 3. He is employed by Remington Seeds of Hastings. Nat's introduction to the seed industry was through an internship at the Mycogen Seeds production facility in Hastings, during the summer of 2000. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls with a bachelor's degree in agronomy. Following graduation, he took a full-time position at the Mycogen Seeds production plant in Hastings, working mainly with soybean seed production.

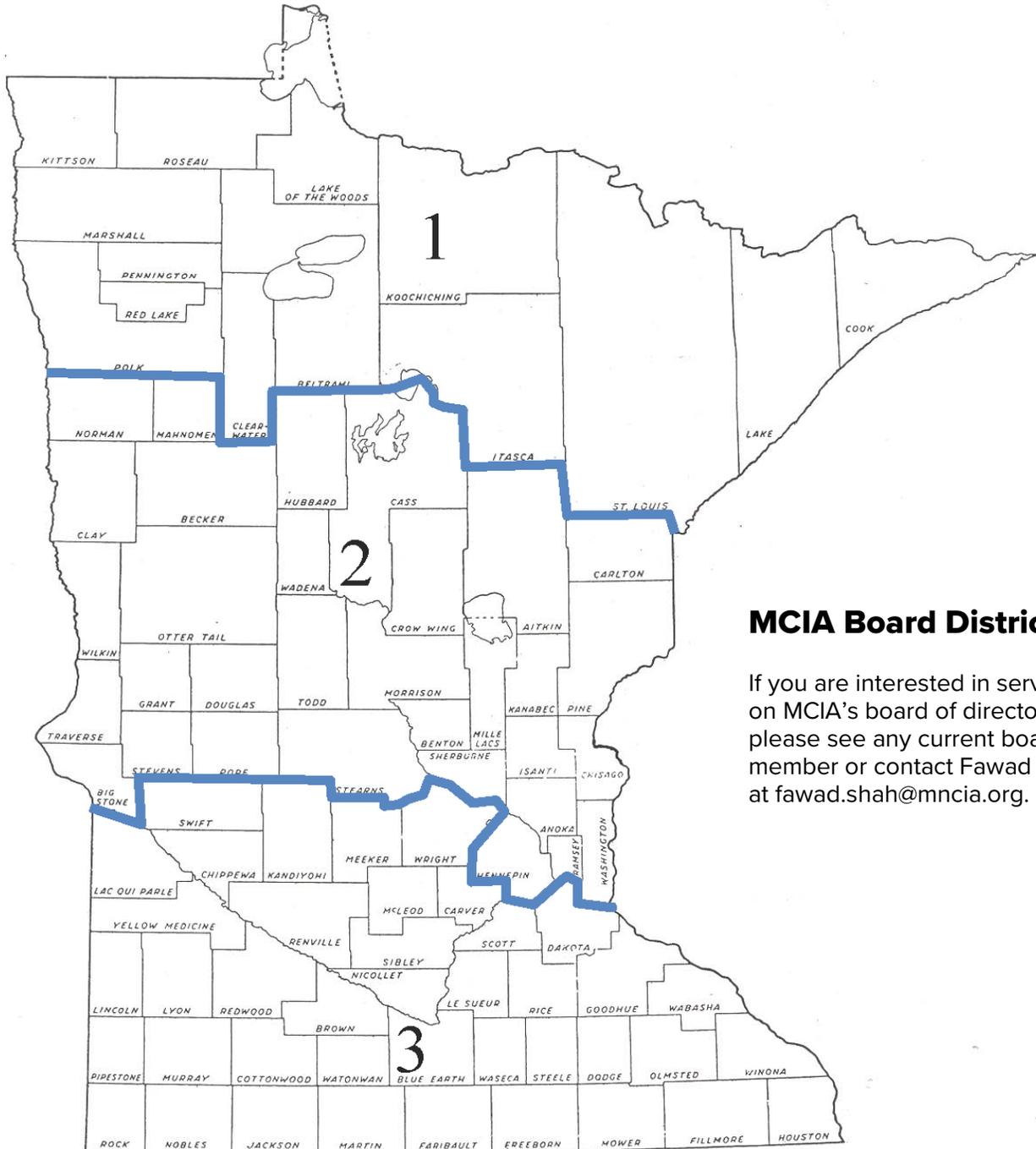
In June 2002, Remington Seeds purchased the Hastings seed facility from Mycogen, and Nat was hired by Remington Seeds. Remington was focused only on seed corn production. He was promoted to location manager at the Hastings site in July 2014. Over the years, Nat has worked with the steps needed to certify seed corn and has served on the MCIA Agronomic Standard Committee since 2015. Nat is a member of the Rosemount Research and Outreach Center Advisory Committee. In his free time, he enjoys the outdoors, gardening, hunting, and spending time with his wife Cassie and two children Chase and Morgan.

Denise Thiede

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA
Category A: (3-year term) Nominee from Related Industry

Denise Thiede has served on the MCIA Board for the past three years as a Related Industry representative. Denise is the section manager for the seed, noxious weed, hemp, and biotechnology programs at the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA). A Minnesota native, Denise earned a biology degree from St. Olaf College, a master's in plant biology from University of Illinois, and a Ph.D in ecology and evolutionary biology from Michigan State University. She has had responsibility for the Seed Regulatory Program at MDA since 2017.

As the seed control official in Minnesota, Denise has represented MDA at the Association of American Seed Control Officials meetings and interacts with the USDA Seed Regulatory and Testing Division. She also collaborates with University of Minnesota Extension Agronomists to limit the spread of Palmer amaranth in Minnesota. Denise is a professional member of the Society of Commercial Seed Technologists, with many years of experience providing seed testing services to the seed industry. She is familiar with seed certification, having collaborated with MCIA for many years.



MCIA Board Districts

If you are interested in serving on MCIA’s board of directors, please see any current board member or contact Fawad Shah at fawad.shah@mncia.org.