

# Agriview

JULY 2021 | VOLUME 4 | ISSUE 3

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Create Opportunities

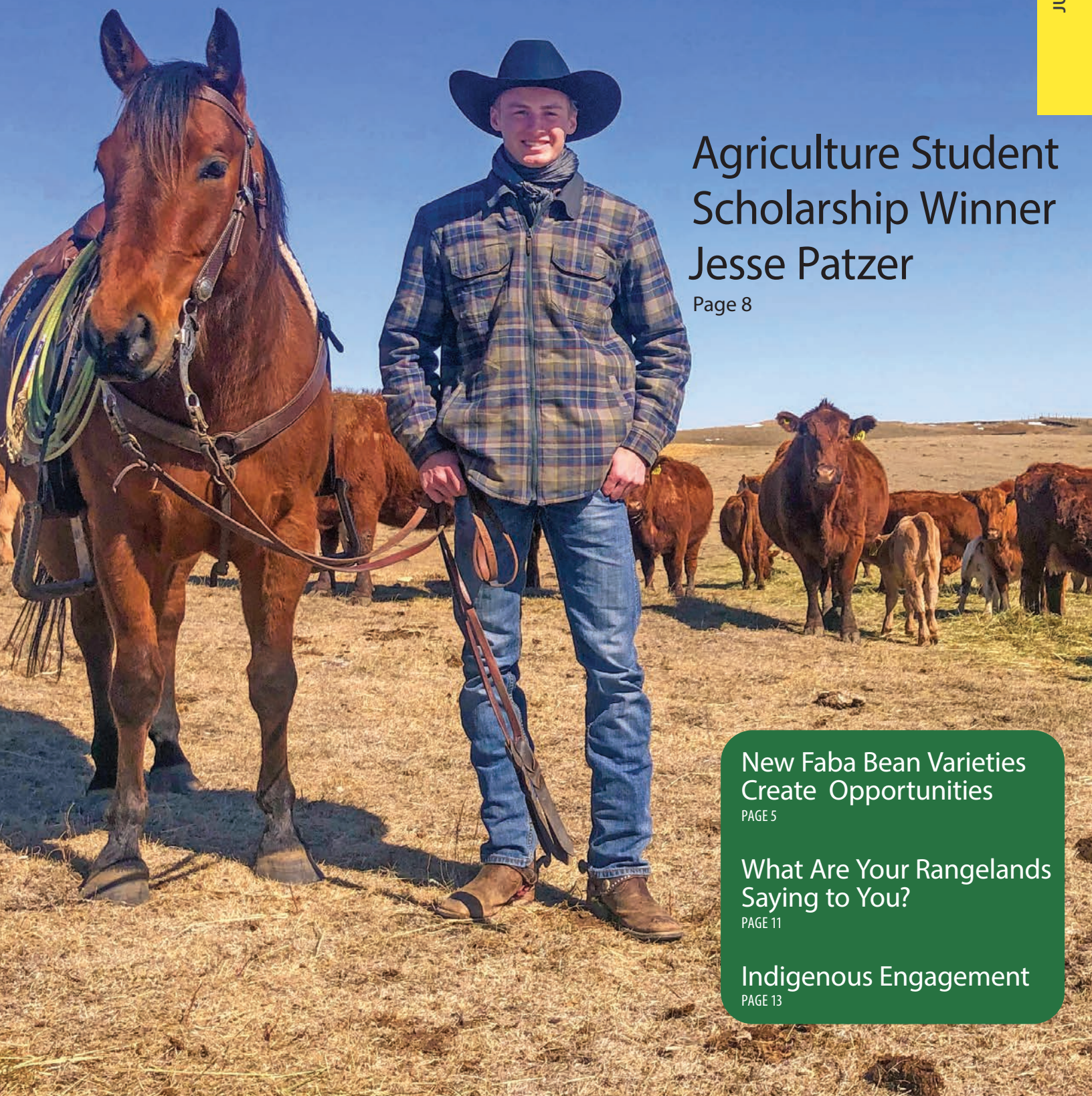
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Welcome to the July edition of Agriview.



With the growing season now in full swing, I hope all Saskatchewan producers had a safe and productive spring. It's been a busy time for many, but the hard work of the spring months lays out a bright future for the primary production and value-added agriculture sectors.

Saskatchewan is home to one of Canada's fastest-growing food manufacturing sectors over the past 10 years and is a leader when it comes to value-added agriculture. The annual Agri-Value Forum, which was held online in May, provided a detailed look at what the next decade of growth in this sector will look like and featured a variety of international speakers, executive leaders and local businesses.

By capturing more value from Saskatchewan-grown commodities, we strengthen the province's economy as a whole. Value-added processing—which doubled in value between 2004 and 2019, from \$2.3 billion to an estimated \$5.6 billion—is a significant component of the government's Growth Plan targets. The Growth Plan targets increasing value-added agriculture revenue to \$10 billion by 2030. We are well underway to meeting these targets, thanks in part to recent major investments in canola processing announced by Richardson, Cargill, Viterra and Ceres Global Ag that will see us achieve our Growth Plan goal of crushing 75 percent of our canola right here at home.

In this edition of Agriview, you'll find out about some of the related work and activities being undertaken in support of the value-added sector through our ongoing collaboration with researchers and students at the University of Saskatchewan. Saskatchewan is well-equipped to undertake this important work by virtue of our resource advantages, our potential for innovation, our long-term vision and, most importantly, the many talented and hard-working people who make agriculture what it is in our province.

You will also read a profile of the latest recipient of our Agriculture Student Scholarship that provides encouragement to young people seeking to pursue a career in this dynamic and innovative industry—something we are proud to help enable. There's also information on how range management extension specialists and land management specialists work to ensure the sustainability of our rangelands, and the programs supporting this effort.

The Ministry of Agriculture remains committed to assisting our producers and businesses in the industry in many ways and we're proud to showcase the great work happening every day that helps keep our communities and our economy growing. ■

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "David Marit".

David Marit  
Minister of Agriculture

**Cover:** Hear from Jesse Patzer, the 2021 Agriculture Student Scholarship recipient, on transparency in agriculture. For more information, turn to page 8.



Extension continues to go virtual for summer 2021.  
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## Crop Diagnostic School

*A Virtual Workshop To Advance Your Agronomic Knowledge*

### **Save the date!**

**Where:** Free online event

**When:** July 26 to 29, 2021

Topics will include disease, insects, irrigation, soil fertility, weeds, soil compaction and herbicides.

For more details, call the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377.

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*Saskatchewan* 



# Westside Irrigation Project Moving Saskatchewan Forward

On July 2, 2020, the Government of Saskatchewan announced the Lake Diefenbaker Irrigation Expansion Project. This 10-year, \$4 billion initiative will create up to 500,000 acres of new irrigable land, providing Saskatchewan with the opportunity to diversify into high-value table crops, improve food security and boost regional economic development.

The Government of Saskatchewan has engaged Clifton Engineering Group and their partners Stantec and Associated Engineering to move the Westside Irrigation Project to the next stage of planning and engineering. The Westside Irrigation Project includes the Westside Rehabilitation and Westside Expansion areas.

"As prime consultant, our Saskatchewan-based engineering team has been assessing the potential environmental and socio-economic impacts of the project," said Wayne Clifton, CEO of Clifton Associates. "We are also identifying any mitigative measures and environmental protections that might be required for all local stakeholders and downstream residents."

An important key to the success of the project will be Clifton's extensive consultation, discussion and information sessions with community leaders, key stakeholders and First Nation and Métis leadership.

During the last few months, the Clifton team has performed preliminary work in various areas. In addition to soil testing, ground surveys were done around the existing canals, the Coteau Intake station (Westside Pump Station) and the proposed reservoir north of Conquest.

These preliminary tests will be used to verify existing ground contours, geology, groundwater conditions and to gather soil

samples for canal and pump station design purposes.

This will assist in determining the size of the main canal, understanding how to control canal seepage and laying out the distribution systems needed to provide water to land deemed suitable for irrigation.

The Clifton team will also be documenting the presence of vegetation, birds and wildlife as well as water quality. The environmental information collected will be used to support future planning and approvals.

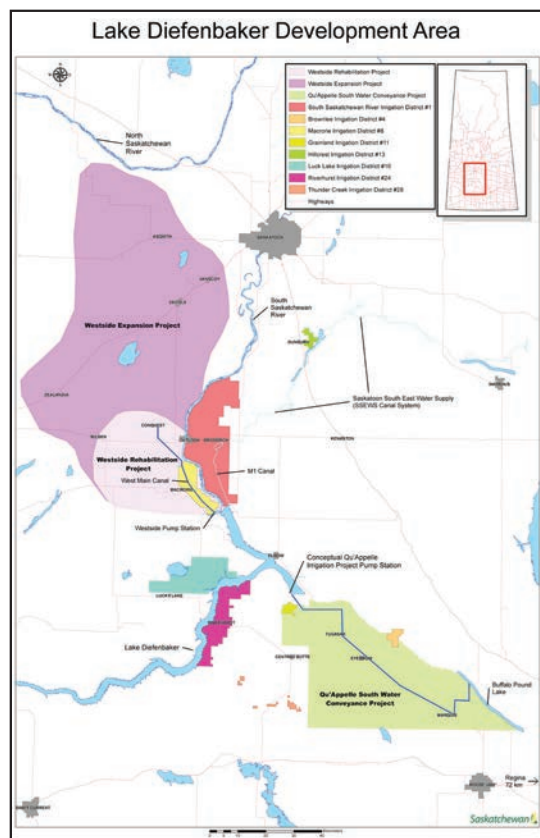
It's not a secret that agriculture is the cornerstone of our provincial economy and culture. According to Agriculture Minister David Marit, this project will not only enhance agriculture in the region, but the entire province.

"Fundamentally, irrigation will increase profit margins by improving crop yields and enabling diversification into high valued crops," said Marit. "Irrigation blocks will create the thresholds in both the agricultural productivity and consistency of supply that will be required to motivate food manufacturing companies to invest in Saskatchewan."

In addition to new job opportunities generated through the project, there will also be additional employment opportunities created in the agricultural production and processing sectors.

Overall, the Westside Irrigation Project looks to be a positive initiative on many levels for Saskatchewan.

"We are delighted to be a part of this legacy project that will further reinforce Saskatchewan's position as a leader in global food security while building on the vision made possible by the creation of Lake Diefenbaker a half a century ago," stated Clifton. "This project also allows us to proudly continue the tradition of prairie innovation, applying Saskatchewan talent to deliver a legacy project for the people of Saskatchewan." ■





Shalyn McKenna  
Communications Consultant  
Communications Branch

# New Faba Bean Varieties Could Benefit the Ingredients Market

Interest in new faba bean varieties is growing and there are new varieties being registered for production in Canada. This is a great opportunity for Saskatchewan producers.

According to the Ministry of Agriculture's 2020 Specialty Crop Report, faba bean production in Western Canada was consistent for approximately four years, due to decreased production in competing countries, such as Australia and parts of Europe. However, in 2020, Australia and some Baltic countries increased their faba bean production, leading to challenges for Canada in finding export markets. Canadian exports have made their way to countries across Asia and the Middle East; however, the top export countries are not consistent. Fortunately, recently registered new varieties may potentially provide more stable opportunities at home.

"This opportunity may launch Canadian-grown faba beans into higher levels of demand as a food and food ingredient," Dale Risula, provincial specialist on specialty crops, told Agriview. "Faba beans are a unique crop as they have some of the highest protein levels among pulses, so there are opportunities as a stable, global protein crop."

More Canadians want to buy Canadian-grown food and there is a demand for plant-based protein rising across the globe. These new varieties will help generate opportunities for this crop in the Canadian ingredient market. In order to do that, the pulse must contain a certain gene, that is bred through conventional breeding methods—the marker is known as KASP\_VC1. What does it do and why is it so important? To answer these questions, it's important to understand the chemistry behind certain macronutrients.

The ingredient market is looking for macronutrients including protein, starch and fibre. These are the components that are separated during processing and sold as ingredients to various buyers and processors.

"With this commodity's levels of protein, this could be beneficial," explained Risula. "However, this protein must come from beans with low levels of vicine or convicine."

Vicine, or convicine, are antinutritional compounds that interfere with the body's ability to absorb nutrients, that can lead to individuals getting sick if they eat too many faba beans or other types of broad beans. This disorder is known as favism or

haemolytic anaemia and affects a very low percentage of the population.

As a result of this risk, processors are reluctant to buy protein and other ingredients from processed faba beans, which can impact producers trying to sell this crop. The new faba bean varieties with the KASP\_VC1 gene can alleviate the processors' concerns and open the door for diverse markets for this specialty crop in Saskatchewan. ■





**Michelle Panko, PAG**  
Program Information Specialist  
Programs Branch

# Livestock Producers Find Success With Animal Welfare And Biosecurity Programming

Saskatchewan livestock producers considering new animal welfare and biosecurity equipment and protocols can access funding and support through the Assurance System Producer Program. The program supports cattle, sheep, bison, poultry, swine, bee and goat producers, as well as Crown land pasture grazing associations and cervid producers.

Barry and Karen Knox, cow-calf producers from Briercrest, Sask., have submitted multiple applications through the Assurance System Producer Program.

"The program is an all-around good deal," the Knoxs explained. "The new equipment helps with low-stress cattle handling, our record keeping has improved and we now have a biosecurity segregation pen."

The program is delivered as a rebate and prerequisites include industry-specific training or industry assurance certification (e.g. proAction for dairy) and the completion of a veterinarian or technical assessment of the operation. Rebate funding is available for 50 per cent of the cost of veterinarian assessments, audits and eligible equipment expenses. There is a maximum program rebate of \$15,000 which includes funding from all species on the qualifying operation.

*Barry and Karen Knox became VBP+ certified through program funding.*



For beef producers, two funding streams are available—training and certification. Producers can access the first \$2,500 by completing Verified Beef Production Plus (VBP+) training and having their veterinarian complete an assessment and equipment recommendation report. Once they achieve full VBP+ certification, they can access the remaining \$12,500 in equipment rebate funding. Since the program launch in 2018, over 1,300 producers have received VBP+ training and over 240 operations have been audited and VBP+ certified.

Uptake data suggests producers are finding value in this program, which was designed to increase education, support veterinarian-client-patient-relationships, encourage participation in assurance initiatives and fund equipment expenditures for on-farm animal welfare and/or biosecurity improvements.

The first rebate for the Knox family was for a new calving/maternity pen and the second was for their VBP+ audit fees. After achieving full VBP+ certification, they accessed additional funding and purchased a segregation pen, crowding tub and alleyway.

Arnold Balicki, Saskatchewan VBP+ program chair, hopes to see more beef producers follow the Knoxs' lead and consider VBP+ certification.

"Ranchers are already doing many of the VBP+ requirements," Balicki said. "The only difference is that the information has to be recorded either on paper or electronically in order to be audited and verified."

In addition to program funding available for equipment rebates, producers are receiving between \$15 to \$18 per head per operation through the Certified Sustainable Beef Program.

"All cattle leaving a VBP+ operation are eligible, provided the VBP+ sustainable chain of custody is maintained," Balicki added. "For example, if you have 120 head that go through the chain, you could potentially receive \$2,100."

The Assurance System Producer program launched in 2018 under the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a five-year, \$388 million investment by the federal and provincial governments. As of March 31, 2021, the program has received 843 applications. The majority of applications have been from beef producers followed by sheep, bison, poultry, swine, dairy, apiculture and goat producers. ■



Visit [www.saskatchewan.ca/CAP](http://www.saskatchewan.ca/CAP) or call toll-free 1-866-457-2377.





**Jamie Shanks**  
Communications Consultant  
Communications Branch

# Partnerships, Growth, And The Next Big Thing - Meet The New Dean Of Agriculture

You can always tell it's spring in Saskatchewan. The birds are chirping, the sun is shining, and Dr. Angela Bedard-Haughn, Dean of the University of Saskatchewan's College of Agriculture and Bioresources, is excited about letters of intent for applications to the Agriculture Development Fund (ADF).

"Spring is a hot season for us, with another flurry later in the summer when full proposals are due," Bedard-Haughn said. "Everyone's talking about 'what's the next big thing?'"

As part of the federal-provincial Canadian Agricultural Partnership suite of programs, ADF provides public and private researchers with access to more than \$14 million in funding for research specific to Saskatchewan and its producers. Successful applicants are chosen on the basis of their research's potential to create growth opportunities or enhance the industry's competitiveness.

"The full proposal stage in August is one of my favourite times of year," Bedard-Haughn explains. "It's just so exciting to see the ideas our faculty come up with and put forward to the ministry."

This is, of course, only one of the many dynamic links between the college and the Ministry of Agriculture. Of the Saskatchewan Growth Plan's 30 Goals for 2030, the college's work is directly related to seven of them.

"A lot of what we're focusing on for the next five years aligns very well with the Growth Plan," Bedard-Haughn points out.

The goal of increasing value-added agriculture exports to \$10 billion, for example, engages with the college's food and bioproducts research teams via provincially-funded research examining the potential of plant-based proteins and starch processing methods — some of which is already being explored commercially.

"I can go through the 30 Goals and honestly say our college touches almost 50 per cent of them in some way," she adds. "For example, there's significant potential for contributing to the growth of Saskatchewan's technology sector through our research in ag tech."

There are already a number of research chairs in the college encompassing plant protein, breeding, carbohydrates, soil nutrient management and soil biology, directly funded by

the Ministry of Agriculture, through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership. A crown jewel of this integrated relationship is the Crop Development Centre which will be celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. The Centre is an excellent success story in which investment in research has led to the best varieties getting into the field and into the hands of producers in Saskatchewan.

What's next? Bedard-Haughn is particularly looking forward to working on the province's planned irrigation expansion project, which will build on the university's partnership with the provincial government at the Canada-Saskatchewan Irrigation Diversification Centre.

"An unique opportunity we have here in Saskatchewan is that we can learn what's happened elsewhere and come up with a really great made-in-Saskatchewan approach to irrigation that maximizes our strengths," she said. ■



*Dr. Angela Bedard-Haughn is the Dean of the University of Saskatchewan's College of Agriculture and Bioresources.*



**Tate Wrubleski**  
Multimedia Communications Specialist  
Communications Branch

# 2021 Agriculture Student Scholarship Winner

As the recipient of the Ministry of Agriculture's 2021 Agriculture Student Scholarship, Jesse Patzer has been awarded \$4,000 to further his post-secondary education at the University of Saskatchewan, where he will be working towards a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture.

Jesse Patzer's roots in agriculture run deep. He's part of a multi-generational family farm that homesteaded just outside of Swift Current in 1910. Today, the Patzer Ranch runs a mixed operation with about 380 Red Angus commercial cattle as part of their cow-calf operation, in addition to 1,200 acres of grain land.

For Patzer, the decision to attend the University of Saskatchewan was simple.

"The University of Saskatchewan is where most of my family studied," he explained. "They are home to one of the best agriculture programs around and I'm really interested in learning about crop science."

Upon completion of his degree, Jesse would like to work as an agronomist, hoping to become involved in the science of plants. Ideally, he'd like to work close to home so he can have the opportunity to work on the family farm.

The theme of this year's scholarship application was transparency. Students were given the choice of creating either a video or an essay that explored the idea of transparency in agriculture and how it affects public perception of the industry. Jesse chose to write an essay to convey his message about the importance of transparency.

"Consumers want to know that the food they eat is grown in an environmentally friendly and humane way," he wrote in the essay. "The industry could take the information one step further by informing our youth that the foods they eat are in fact safe and raised in a humane way. Knowing milk comes from cows and wheat is used to make bread is all very important, but consumers need to further understand that the milk they drink and bread they eat is good for them and is produced in a safe manner."

He noted in his essay that there are many good examples of transparency in the industry right now, citing the work of the Verified Beef Production Plus (VBP+) program as one way the beef industry is working towards creating better trust with the consumer.

"People love to gather together around food," Patzer said. "Knowing where that food comes from and that it was produced in a safe and sustainable way is the ultimate goal behind becoming more transparent."

He explained that agriculture awareness starts with educating the youth, suggesting using social media as a way to better engage with young people.

"By adding quick, interesting videos on platforms like Instagram, TikTok and Snapchat that appeal to my generation, the industry might catch the attention of youth and make them interested in learning the rest of the story" he said.

Patzer is optimistic about his future in agriculture and the role he can play in bridging the gap between producers and consumers.

"As a future farmer and rancher, I will spend my life dedicated to growing sustainable and reliable produce that I can be proud of," he explained. "I will also do whatever I can to make my operation more transparent; not hiding anything from the public so they can be assured that Saskatchewan produce is safe."

The Agriculture Student Scholarship is funded through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, a five-year, \$388 million investment by federal and provincial government. ■

*Jesse Patzer with his horse at his family farm just outside of Swift Current, SK.*





# - Jesse Patzer

## This Year's Agriculture Student Scholarship Runner-Ups

These three recipients will be awarded \$2,000 to further their agricultural knowledge at a post-secondary institution in the fall of 2021.

### Jessica Davey, Saskatoon

Jessica Davey's video submission answers the question of what the agriculture industry can do to build transparency. She indicated the importance of listening to all consumers, putting aside biases and judgement and being honest and patient with everyone. She will be furthering her education at the University of Saskatchewan, where she will study Animal Science through the Bachelor of Science in Agriculture program.

### Sarah Whitenect, Saskatoon

Sarah Whitenect's essay submission explores the need to communicate the benefits of modern agriculture. She cited social media, agriculture literacy and open conversation as ways to increase transparency in the industry. She will be furthering her education at the University of Saskatchewan, where she will be studying Animal Bioscience through the Bachelor of Science in Agriculture program.

### Kylidge McNally, Bethune

Kylidge McNally's video submission focuses on the importance of agriculture advocating through honest communication. He explained how important it is for the next generation of producers to actively share their story and engage with consumers. He will be furthering his education at the University of Saskatchewan, where he will be studying Agribusiness through the Bachelor of Science in Agriculture program. ■



## Faces of Farming

The Faces of Farming video series highlights the great work producers are undertaking in Saskatchewan. The series profiles producers from a variety of operations, showcasing what they do and why they do it. These videos help inform the public about the value of agriculture in Saskatchewan, as well as build public trust by providing producers the opportunity to share their story.

In March 2021, we introduced Kim and Jack Hextall. They are fifth generation cattle farmers ranching outside of Grenfell, Saskatchewan. Their operation has been in the family for 139 years.

"The seed was planted for our family in 1882, when our ancestors homesteaded on this land," Kim Hextall explained. "Our children have always been involved in the operation which will keep it thriving for generations to come."



The Hextall's have a true passion for the agriculture industry. They feel a connection to the land and its historical significance. They understand that in order to be sustainable, they have to be willing to adapt, change and put in the work to maintain their success.

You can watch our video highlighting the Hextalls and other Faces of Farming videos on Saskatchewan Agriculture's YouTube channel, along with the rest of the Faces of Farming Series, or on [saskatchewan.ca/sask-ag-now](https://saskatchewan.ca/sask-ag-now) under Public Trust. ■



Shannon Friesen, P.Ag, BSA  
Crops Extension Specialist  
Regional Services Branch

# Extension Goes Virtual Again In 2021

Summer extension season is underway across the province, with Ministry of Agriculture learning events continuing to be held virtually.

A number of exciting events are happening this summer. From Crop Diagnostic School and Agriculture Applied Research Management field days to Pasture School and the brush control project field days, there are many events to look forward to. Our specialists have continued to partner with research centres across the province to offer an inside look at results. In addition to presentations from industry experts, we'll share recent footage and visuals to clearly demonstrate what is being seen in Saskatchewan fields this year.

One benefit of virtual extension is the ability to access these events even after they're over. This ensures you can re-watch presentations and demonstrations of interest. It also means less travel and lower costs to run, with many of our events being offered free of charge. Event formats vary, with presentations ranging from webinars, pre-recorded videos, live videos and downloadable handouts.

All of the recordings available from this past year's virtual events are available at [saskatchewan.ca/sask-ag-now](https://saskatchewan.ca/sask-ag-now). These recordings are free to view and are available any time. For example, in the spring, ministry specialists held a webinar series focused on mental health in agriculture. The recordings are now available on our website. They provide a brief overview of mental health while also providing techniques to identify warning signs and strategies for producers and others to make positive changes.

In addition to extension events, we share agronomic videos, tips and tricks on our social media channels during the growing season. Follow Saskatchewan Agriculture on Facebook and Twitter or search #SkCorralTalks and #SkCropWalks on social media.

While we've adapted to the challenges of COVID-19 with online events, the ministry plans to introduce in-person events as public health regulations allow. Specialists look forward to providing these opportunities face-to-face and hands-on in the future, when we are able to safely do so. ■



*Crops extension specialist in the field filming for Crop Diagnostic School.*

For more information:

- Visit [saskatchewan.ca/agriculture](https://saskatchewan.ca/agriculture) for our events calendar.
- Follow @skagriculture on Facebook and Twitter.
- Follow Saskatchewan Agriculture's YouTube channel.
- Contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377 or [aginfo@gov.sk.ca](mailto:aginfo@gov.sk.ca).





Jamie Shanks  
Communications Consultant  
Communications Branch

# What Your Rangelands Are Saying To You—And What It Really Means

For someone like Range Management Extension Specialist Cassandra Schroeder, our prairie grasslands are a standing-room-only universe crammed with life.

"It takes some time to really appreciate what's out there—for instance, how plants function and adapt to survive in their environment," Schroeder explained. "They can tell you about where they're living."

Grasslands have a lot to say: a healthy native pasture in good condition, for instance, can contain as many as 150 plant species that tell a story about climate, herbivores and grazing management or even stories of invasion by non-native weed species. There's still much more than meets the eye.

"There's what you see on top of the ground, but then there's an entire world under the ground like bacteria, fungi, insects... it's an interesting puzzle," Schroeder said.

Such diversity enables the kind of biological stability, strength and resiliency that benefits not only wildlife and livestock, but also the people whose livelihoods rely on it—and even others who've never seen it yet for themselves. Schroeder and her colleagues at the Ministry of Agriculture are committed to helping Saskatchewan ranchers unlock this complex puzzle to maintain our unique and vibrant ecosystem and, ultimately, economic well-being.

Range management extension specialists are a wealth of science-based information and provide expertise on such topics as invasive weed management, grazing rotations, carrying capacity, rejuvenation, brush management, forage species and other technical questions ranchers might have regarding the lands they care for. On agricultural Crown (public) lands, land management specialists provide much of the same advice to lessees of public lands across the province to ensure sustainable and integrated land use. This is in addition to administering lease agreements, answering public land inquiries and monitoring the use of public lands.

The ministry offers a variety of programs through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership (CAP), a five-year \$388 million investment by the federal and provincial governments. Our programs help land managers of both public and private lands to ensure these resources are being managed in a sustainable way. These include:



Range Management Extension Specialist Cassandra Schroeder puts another piece of the biodiversity puzzle into place in a typical Saskatchewan pasture.

- The **Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program** to develop secure and sustainable agricultural water sources;
- The **Farm Stewardship Program** which aids producers in implementing beneficial management practices that enhance sustainability and resiliency;
- The **Assurance System Producer Program** to increase participation in biosecurity and animal welfare initiatives;
- The **Agricultural Skills and Knowledge** program for primary agriculture producers and value-added processors; and
- The **Invasive Plant Control Program** to help pay for costs of controlling prohibited and noxious weeds (administered by the Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities).

The ministry's agriculture programs specialists and agri-environmental specialists can assist producers with questions related to these programs. For more information on these programs, please visit [saskatchewan.ca/CAP](https://saskatchewan.ca/CAP).

What is the plant life across Saskatchewan saying about sustainable biodiversity in your pasture—and what can you do about it? To find out and learn more about the rangeland management services that may be helpful to you, visit [saskatchewan.ca/agriculture](https://saskatchewan.ca/agriculture) or call the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377. ■



**Raul Avila, AAg, M.Sc**  
Plant Health Technician  
Crops and Irrigation Branch



**Alireza Akhavan, AAg, PhD**  
Plant Disease Specialist  
Crops and Irrigation Branch

# Reporting of Clubroot Infected Canola Fields

To manage clubroot, it's important to take a proactive and science-based approach. By doing so, Saskatchewan producers can help prevent yield loss and the spread of clubroot to new areas of the province.

Saskatchewan's clubroot monitoring program includes surveys, volunteer soil testing and volunteer reports of disease symptoms.

Reporting canola fields with clubroot symptoms is key to understanding the spread and severity of the disease in Saskatchewan. In 2020, almost half of the fields with visible clubroot symptoms (eight out of 18 positives) were found through reports made by producers and agrologists, highlighting the importance of industry involvement in clubroot monitoring.

Reporting clubroot findings in a field in a timely way will help you proactively manage clubroot, keeping pathogen levels low and reducing yield loss.

There are multiple ways to report clubroot symptoms.

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture  | Agriculture Knowledge Centre  | 1-866-457-2377   |
|   | Plant Disease Specialist  | <a href="mailto:plantdisease@gov.sk.ca">plantdisease@gov.sk.ca</a>                     |
| SaskCanola  | Miki Miheguli   | 306-975-0273 or <a href="mailto:mmiheguli@saskcanola.com">mmiheguli@saskcanola.com</a> |
| Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities (SARM) Plant Health Officers | <a href="https://sarm.ca/programs/cap-phn">https://sarm.ca/programs/cap-phn</a> |  |
| Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation                                       | <a href="mailto:customer.service@scic.ca">customer.service@scic.ca</a>          | 1-888-935-0000   |

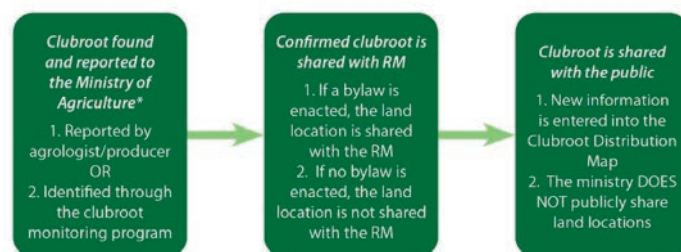
*Note: All clubroot reporting is reported in confidence to the Ministry of Agriculture to manage.*

When you call to report clubroot, you will be asked to provide several details, including the location of the symptoms, the rural municipality (RM) in which it was found, as well as the legal land

description. You will also be asked, if possible, about any past history of clubroot in the field, the variety of canola grown, a field crop rotation history, and any photos you have of the symptoms. These details are valuable and can be used to identify clubroot risk factors and guide research decisions. Specific information about crop location is kept confidential.

All the clubroot reports are confidential and specific land locations will only be shared with the appropriate RM if they have a clubroot bylaw enacted. The results of the clubroot monitoring program, including ministry surveys, volunteer soil testing and all external reports of clubroot to the program, will be used to update the Saskatchewan Clubroot Distribution Map. This map raises awareness and encourages proactive clubroot management.

Of course, it's not enough simply to collect data about clubroot. Reporting the findings from the clubroot monitoring program is an important part of helping stop the spread of clubroot.



SARM plays an important role in clubroot monitoring and prevention. The organization contracts Plant Health Officers through the Plant Health Network. They are located across the province and work closely with producers and RMs to manage clubroot.

"Our Plant Health Officers share knowledge on the crop disease with both RM officials and the producer," said SARM President Ray Orb. "This helps build a better understanding of the life cycle and implications of clubroot." ■

**FOR  
MORE  
INFO**

Call the Agriculture Knowledge Centre, toll-free at 1-866-457-2377.





Brittany Compton  
Communications Consultant  
Communications Branch

# Connecting with Indigenous People in Saskatchewan

As part of Saskatchewan's agriculture community, we are all stewards of the land. Indigenous traditions and practices are part of our heritage. Even the name of our great province comes from the Cree name for the Saskatchewan River "Kisiskatchewanisipi" or "swift-flowing river." With the largest First Nation land base in Canada, Saskatchewan's Next Decade of Growth includes building and strengthening relationships with Indigenous people in our province.

In April 2020, the Ministry of Agriculture hired Kallie Wood as its first Senior Indigenous Advisor. Wood is Nakoda Cree from Carry the Kettle First Nation and growing up, she had family and many friends in the agriculture industry. Although she didn't live on a farm, she spent many springs and summers at the dairy, butchering chickens, milking cows and in the field helping with seeding and harvest.

"I have always had an interest in the land, it brings you into connection with Mother Earth," Wood said. "It is our legacy for many generations to come."

In her role, Wood draws on her background to build relationships, identify opportunities and help facilitate agriculture initiatives with Indigenous people in Saskatchewan. Her objective is to help bridge the gap between non-Indigenous and Indigenous people.

"I was very excited to see the vision the ministry has when it came to Indigenous engagement," Wood explained. "Everyone has been so eager and passionate about making a shift when it comes to communicating and interacting with Indigenous people."

A major focus for Wood is being the main point of contact for First Nations and Métis communities to help identify and

support opportunities for Indigenous people in the agriculture sector. She regularly offers support and guidance for inquiries ministry specialists receive regarding bison and cow/calf operations, greenhouse development, vegetable production and crop expansion in First Nations and Métis communities.

Wood is working closely with stakeholders and government on the development of the Irrigation Expansion Project and will be involved in engaging Indigenous communities and Tribal Councils in discussions about the project.



*The ministry's Senior Indigenous Advisor, Kallie Wood*

Wood is also the Saskatchewan lead for the Prairie Region-First Nation Engagement Partnership Project, along with representatives from Manitoba and Alberta. This project will engage land-based First Nation communities located in the three provinces to help identify current levels of agriculture and agri-processing sector participation, interests and future prospects.

Her influence is already moving the ministry forward. She has been helping ministry staff understand First Nations and Métis culture and traditions to help build better relationships with Indigenous farmers. She also meets with other government Senior Indigenous Advisors to discuss inclusivity, communication and opportunities for Indigenous people, such as internships, post-secondary prospects, food security and creating an environment of self-sufficiency for all.

Her overall goal is to create a community of connection, collaboration and communication. "We are one humanity," Wood explained. "It is not us, or them, it is we. We are stronger together." ■

# Wildlife Damage Compensation Program Available

## The Wildlife Damage Compensation Program

The Wildlife Damage Compensation Program is available to all Saskatchewan producers who suffer crop or livestock losses due to wildlife. No sign-up is necessary. The program is administered by Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation (SCIC); however, producers do not have to participate in SCIC programs, Crop Insurance, AgriStability or Livestock Price Insurance, to file a claim. Up to 100 per cent damage compensation is available without any cost or premium.

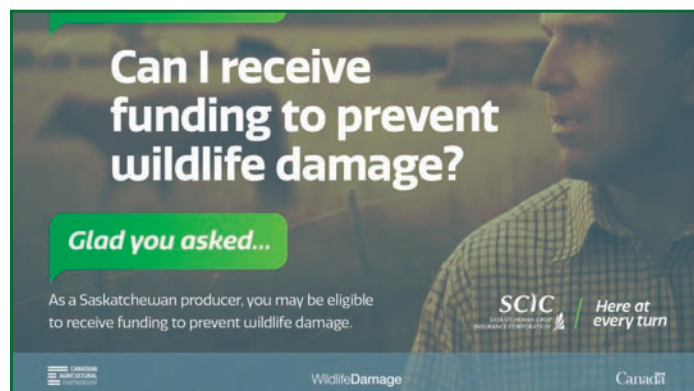
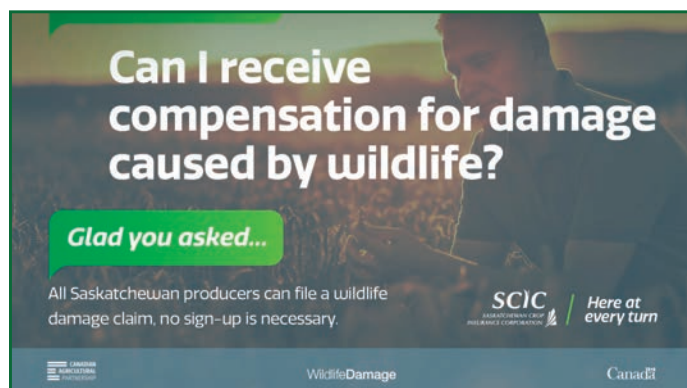
SCIC coordinates qualified hunters and trappers with RMs and landowners to investigate sightings and take appropriate action.

## Predation Compensation

Compensation is available for the death or injury of livestock due to predator attacks. Notify SCIC as soon as damage is discovered. If a predator has attacked your livestock, take photos of the area and preserve evidence of the loss. Record evidence such as bite marks, broken bones, blood or predator tracks. An adjuster may need to complete an inspection to determine if there is sufficient evidence of wildlife damage.

## Crop Damage and Predation Prevention Funding

Saskatchewan producers have access to funding for prevention measures against predator attacks on livestock and wildlife damage to crops and feed supplies. SCIC can help you with prevention methods such as stacked forage fencing, guardian dogs and hiring predation specialists. Producers should contact SCIC to discuss available options.



Under the Wildlife Damage Compensation Program, Saskatchewan producers could be eligible for the following:

## Crop Damage Compensation

Compensation for wildlife damage to crops, stacked forage or alternate grazing fields is available. Damage caused by white-tailed deer, mule deer, antelope, elk, bears, moose, bison, ducks, geese, beavers, blackbirds, gophers and sandhill cranes or other non-domestic species is covered. All seeded crops are eligible for wildlife damage compensation. It is important to notify SCIC upon damage to crops or prior to harvesting, feeding or grazing any damaged crop so an adjuster can assess the damage. Producers should notify SCIC as soon as damage is discovered on stacked bales, silage, sod farms, tree nurseries or market gardens.

## Feral Wild Boar Control Program

Under the Feral Wild Boar Control Program, Saskatchewan producers have access to compensation for crop and livestock damage caused by wild pigs. If you see a wild pig, report it to SCIC immediately by calling 1-888-935-0000 or 1-833-PIG-SPOT.

## Farm Inspection Procedures to Help Keep Everyone Safe

Often, a field inspection is required to finalize a crop damage claim or assess a predation attack. While we navigate these unprecedented times during COVID-19, SCIC is taking additional safety precautions to keep staff and producers safe during inspections.



# Available to All Saskatchewan Producers

We recognize the need to enhance our safety protocols and have made several changes to keep both our employees and customers safe. These revised procedures include maintaining appropriate physical and social distancing, increasing sanitation measures and following all Saskatchewan Health Authority guidelines.

Wildlife damage claims will be assessed to determine if an inspection is required. SCIC encourages producers to share as much detail as possible over the phone, through email or text so adjusters can complete field inspections on their own. Providing photos and drawing maps is extremely helpful for adjusters to locate the wildlife damage. If livestock is being preyed on by wildlife, producers will also be asked to email or text pictures of the attack. The pictures will be reviewed to determine approval of the claim. If an inspection is required, a SCIC adjuster will conduct the inspection while practicing appropriate physical distancing.

## SCIC is Moving to Direct Deposit

SCIC is moving towards direct deposit as its preferred method for issuing producer payments from the Crop Insurance, AgriStability and Wildlife Damage Compensation Programs. Direct deposits are a secure and efficient method for producers. Producers can sign up for direct deposit by visiting [scic.ca](http://scic.ca). Producers can also sign up or modify their direct deposit information by calling their local SCIC office. ■

## Filing a Claim

**Notify SCIC as soon as wildlife damage is detected.**

It is important to contact your local customer service office prior to harvesting or feeding and grazing any damaged crops. An adjuster may need to complete an inspection to verify damage.



Notify SCIC as soon as wildlife damage is detected.



If a predator has attacked your livestock, take photos of the area and preserve evidence of the loss.



An adjuster may need to complete an inspection to determine if there is sufficient evidence of wildlife damage.

**Glad you asked...**

To learn more about the types of damage covered and eligibility for compensation, visit [SCIC.ca/wildlife](http://SCIC.ca/wildlife) or call 1-888-935-0000.

SCIC has 21 customer service offices throughout Saskatchewan. Producers can find their local office by visiting [www.scic.ca/contact-us/](http://www.scic.ca/contact-us/). Producers are encouraged to contact SCIC to discuss their risk management plans.

SCIC head office: 1-888-935-0000

E-mail: [customer.service@scic.ca](mailto:customer.service@scic.ca)

Additional information is available online at [www.scic.ca](http://www.scic.ca).

# Farm And Ranch Water Infrastructure Program

The Farm and Ranch Water Infrastructure Program (FRWIP) helps producers develop secure and sustainable agricultural water sources.

Through the program, eligible producers can access a rebate of 50 per cent of eligible costs to a maximum payment of \$50,000 to help develop a well, dugout and/or pipeline.

To learn more about FRWIP, please contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377 or visit [saskatchewan.ca/CAP](http://saskatchewan.ca/CAP).



## Water Testing



[saskatchewan.ca/livestock](http://saskatchewan.ca/livestock)

The Ministry of Agriculture's livestock and feed extension specialists can help with your livestock water quality questions. Contact us for these free services:

- Water sampling;
- Advice on testing; and
- Interpretation of water testing results.

For more information, contact the Agriculture Knowledge Centre at 1-866-457-2377.

