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Canadian Agricultural Human Resource Council
Conseil canadien pour les ressources humaines
en agriculture

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AgriWorkforce Newsfeed

Fil d'actualité sur la main-d'œuvre agricole

Latest Headlines for CAHRC Partners / *Dernières nouvelles à l'intention des partenaires du CCRHA*

For Distribution to Your Association Membership / *À distribuer aux membres de votre association*

The **AgriWorkforce Newsfeed** is a weekly news update for partners of the Canadian Agricultural Human Resource Council (CAHRC). It is provided as an information service only. Inclusion of any information does not represent official positions, opinions or support by CAHRC or its membership. The information is collected from a variety of sources and circulated as information only.

Le Fil d'actualité sur la main-d'œuvre agricole est un suivi hebdomadaire des nouvelles les plus récentes préparé à l'intention des partenaires du Conseil canadien pour les ressources humaines en agriculture (CCRHA). Il constitue un service d'information seulement. Son contenu n'exprime pas une position, une opinion ou un soutien officiels du CCRHA ou de ses membres. Les renseignements qu'il contient sont recueillis auprès de diverses sources et sont distribués à titre d'information seulement.

CAHRC'S CORNER

Support for you: We're proud to introduce the AgriWorkplace Skills Training Program: Up to \$5,000 wage subsidy per employee or up to \$7,500 for under-represented groups and transportation and childcare support. [Details here.](#)

Wage Incentives: Are you an agricultural employer looking to train new truck drivers? Funding for driver training and wage incentives are available at Trucking HR Canada's Career Expressway. Through this initiative, you can receive up to \$10,000. [More here.](#)

Get involved: Our National Workforce Strategic Plan aims to address some of the most pressing labour issues in Canadian agriculture and agri-food. You can support this plan and our related work by [visiting our website.](#)

Stay Connected: Follow CAHRC on [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [Facebook](#) to keep up with our work and relevant stakeholders.

POLICY, RESEARCH, AND NEWS TRACKING

Industry Perceptions and Awareness

[Agriculture's career opportunities have a perception problem](#) Those within the agricultural industry often love to tell anyone who will listen that there are many amazing career opportunities in the sector. They are right, of course – there are thousands of jobs going unfilled and plenty of career advancement opportunities for those interested. But agriculture has too much of a good thing, and there is a major human resources crisis looming unless the sector can attract talent from elsewhere. There are plans to do just that, explains Jennifer Wright, executive director of the Canadian Agricultural Human Resource Council (CAHRC); however, there's a problem: nearly half of those who responded to a recent survey about considering a job in agriculture failed to identify another job in the sector besides "farmer."

[Read more...](#)

[Hog industry under microscope in upcoming election](#) The NDP may gain power in Manitoba, but it doesn't appear that it will return to the combative relationship with the hog and pork industry that characterized its 13 years in power until 2016. Its agriculture critic struck a constructive and partnership-focused tone during an agricultural forum and other NDP candidates have not appeared to target farmers. [Read more...](#)

[Nos terres agricoles sont-elles réellement notre garde-manger?](#) On a beaucoup parlé d'autosuffisance alimentaire ces dernières années. Les restrictions imposées par la pandémie, phénomène nouveau pour la plupart d'entre nous, ont suscité des craintes et des spéculations sur notre approvisionnement alimentaire. Mais les terres agricoles sont-elles notre garde-manger ? Si c'est le cas, plusieurs étagères sont vides, écrit Michel Saint-Pierre, ancien sous-ministre québécois de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation. [En savoir plus...](#)

[Mettre Metro et les autres au pas?](#) Les dirigeants des plus grandes chaînes d'épicerie du Canada ont rencontré la vice-première ministre et ministre des Finances Chrystia Freeland et le ministre de l'Innovation, des Sciences et de l'Industrie François-Philippe Champagne à Ottawa pour discuter de la demande du gouvernement libéral fédéral que les épiciers présentent un plan pour « stabiliser » » prix d'ici Thanksgiving. À la fin de la rencontre, le PDG de Metro, Éric La Flèche, a déclaré que la réduction des prix dans les épiceries de la chaîne et la lutte contre l'inflation sont des combats de tous les jours. Étant le dernier maillon avant le consommateur, les épiciers sont à la merci des hausses de prix imposées par les fournisseurs, les grossistes et les agriculteurs, a déclaré La Flèche. [En savoir plus...](#)

[Ontario premier Doug Ford announces reversal of Toronto-area Greenbelt land removals](#)

Ontario Premier Doug Ford is reversing his plan to open the protected Greenbelt lands for housing development, he announced Sept. 21, after sustaining nearly a year of blowback over the decision that has resulted in resignations by two cabinet ministers and two top staffers.

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Immigration and Foreign Workers

[Ottawa faces class action alleging rules around migrant workers are discriminatory](#) In 2014, a 22-year-old identified in court documents only as A.B., reached out to a compatriot from Guatemala and scraped together \$3,000 to pay for a job offer in poultry catching from the man's employer in Quebec. He would end up spending most of his next nine years in Canada as a migrant worker – on six separate closed work permits, which only allowed him to work for his sponsoring employers despite what he described as abusive and exploitative conditions and treatment. The young man is leading a class-action lawsuit initiated against the Canadian government for violating migrant domestic workers' and farm workers' Charter Rights under the closed work permit regime. [Read more...](#)

[Farm labour shortage becomes key issue](#) Manitoba's political parties target immigration to alleviate labour shortages that affect every sector in the province. Farmers need more and better workers. That's something Manitoba's main political parties appeared to agree upon during an election forum held by the Manitoba Farm Writers and Broadcasters Association Sept. 12. However, none offered to quickly solve the problem or provide simple solutions if they win the Oct. 3 election in Manitoba. [Read more...](#)

People, Wages and Workplace Culture

[Kenyan potato producers cultivate Ontario connections](#) Seven years ago, Chris and Ashley Gasperi planted four acres of potatoes on their idle land in Kenya. Today, their company, FreshCrop Ltd., is one of Kenya's largest certified seed producers, with thousands of [potato producers](#) under contract, and is now in the process of building a 20-acre French fry processing facility and biofertilizer plant. [Read more...](#)

[Les agriculteurs n'en peuvent plus : «La pire année qu'on n'ait jamais connue»](#) Les fortes pluies de cet été sont tombées comme un coup de massue sur la tête de nombreux producteurs agricoles du Québec, leurs plants pataugeant dans l'eau ou pourrissant dans la serre. Le temps

pourri a également fortement affecté le moral des producteurs, avec de plus en plus de besoins en soutien psychologique. Au Coeur des Familles Agricole aide depuis 20 ans les agriculteurs québécois traversant des périodes psychosociales difficiles. Leurs conclusions sont inquiétantes. [Read more...](#)

[Farmers would save almost \\$1 billion with proposed carbon tax exemption](#) The Canadian Taxpayers Federation (CTF) is calling for the Senate to quickly pass a bill that expands carbon tax exemptions for farmers. This comes in response to analysis released on Sept. 15 by the Parliamentary Budget Officer (PBO), which indicates that such an expansion would result in nearly \$1 billion in savings for farmers by 2030. The federal government granted an exemption from carbon taxes for diesel and gasoline used in agriculture but did not include natural gas and propane in the exemption. [Read more...](#)

[Décès à la Ferme Norlou: le travailleur a été écrasé dans un mélangeur à nourriture](#) La CNESST, la Commission de la santé et de la sécurité du travail du Québec, a conclu que le décès d'un travailleur étranger agricole survenu le 19 octobre 2022 à la Ferme Norlou Inc. à Saint-Luc-de-Vincennes aurait pu être évité si les dangers liés à la machinerie qu'il utilisait avaient été clairement identifiés et affichés. [En savoir plus...](#)

[Canada Beef names new incoming president](#) Canada Beef and the Canadian Beef Check-Off Agency have announced that Eric Bienvenue will join the team as incoming president effective October 3, 2023. Bienvenue brings 30 years of experience in the pork and poultry industries to Canada Beef. Current president Michael Young will mentor Bienvenue for a six-month transition period, at which time Young will retire and Bienvenue will become president. [Read more...](#)

[Nationwide truck driver shortage threatens Canada's supply chains and economy](#) Canada is experiencing a nationwide truck driver shortage that, in recent years, has resulted in shipment delays, out-of-stock retail shelves, and increased prices. The current workforce is rapidly approaching retirement and without a concrete solution to attract and retain new drivers, the existing, unsustainable model poses a risk to the national economy. [Read more...](#)

Automation and Technology

[New pork research barn called a 'game changer'](#) A new \$20-million facility is expected to make Ontario a leader in cutting-edge [swine research](#). The Ontario Swine Research Centre is Canada's most advanced pork research facility and will be capable of cutting-edge research related to the sector. The Ontario Swine Research Centre officially opened Aug. 24 and will diversify swine research into nutrition, genetics, reproduction, nutrient management, and animal health and welfare, with additional consumer-oriented goals. [Read more...](#)

[Une nouvelle usine d'enrobage d'engrais est inaugurée en Ontario](#) Sollio Agriculture a officiellement inauguré sa nouvelle usine d'enrobage d'engrais CRF Agritech le 18 septembre à St. Thomas, en Ontario. D'un point de vue environnemental, les premières études de la Ferme de recherche agricole Sollio et de l'Université McGill démontrent que l'utilisation de l'engrais PurYield peut réduire les émissions de gaz à effet de serre de 30 pour cent. Une validation scientifique est également en cours. [En savoir plus...](#)

[Fighting livestock disease using facial recognition technology](#) Two companies have come together to help farms take biosecurity to the next level, and better protect animal health. Farm Health Guardian Ltd. and NoveTechnologies, LLC have come together to launch Protocol – a biosecurity management system that utilizes facial recognition technology for controlled access of livestock barns. [Read more...](#)

[CFIN awards more than \\$3M to canadian Cellular food projects](#) The [Canadian Food Innovation Network \(CFIN\)](#) is awarding \$3,159,379 to two foodtech projects that are creating resiliency within Canada's food sector through cellular food innovation. The projects are valued at over \$6 million and are funded through the organization's Food Innovation Challenge Program. [Read more...](#)

[Mobile app gives farmers across canada easier access to veterinarians](#) As farmers face a shortage of large-animal veterinarians, a mobile app has emerged giving farmers easier access to vets without leaving the barn. The app, called [VETSon](#), allows farmers and veterinarians to set up virtual appointments – and have prescribed medications for livestock delivered straight

to the farm. VETSon just won an innovation in livestock award at Canada's Outdoor Farm Show in Woodstock. [Read more...](#)

[John Deere and DeLaval form Partnership on Milk Production Centre](#) John Deere and DeLaval have joined efforts to create the Milk Sustainability Center (MSC), a digital ecosystem to help dairy farmers improve the efficiency and sustainability of their operations. The ecosystem will be open for partners to join, with the object of providing farmers with data needed for a holistic view of the dairy operations, the company said in a news release. [Read more...](#)

Skill Development

[Farm Credit Canada and Agtech Accelerator partner on new venture cap funding](#) Farm Credit Canada has announced a new financial commitment in the development of agriculture startups through a partnership with Saskatchewan-based Agtech Accelerator. The accelerator is a venture-backed program founded by Cultivator powered by Conexus, Emmertech, and Economic Development Regina (EDR). [Read more...](#)

[New program teaches communication in ag](#) Until recently, Canadian students who wanted to study agriculture communications had no options within their own country: they had to attend programs at U.S. colleges and universities. But as of this fall, they can study online thanks to a program closer to home, at Olds College in Alberta, where an agriculture-focused communications program has launched. The inaugural year of the Agriculture Communications Certificate program has attracted students from Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and beyond. [Read more...](#)

[New mentorship program targets young grain farmers](#) The Wheat Growers Association is looking for young farmers who want to know more about agricultural policy objectives. The program now seeks applications from [young farmers across Western Canada](#). In November, the board will select two applicants who will get a taste of the board experience. [Read more...](#)

EVENTS

- [GALA AGRICULTRICES DU QUEBEC](#), OCTOBER 14
- [CANADIAN AGRICULTURAL SAFETY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE](#), OCTOBER 16-17
- [2023 CONGRESS OF THE ORDER OF AGRONOMISTS OF QUEBEC](#), OCTOBER 19-20
- [2023 ACFFA AQUACULTURE RESEARCH, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FORUM](#), OCTOBER 25-26
- [ROYAL AGRICULTURAL WINTER FAIR](#), NOVEMBER 3 -12
- [ORGANIC ALBERTA 2023 CONFERENCE](#), NOVEMBER 3-4
- [NATIONAL ORDER OF AGRICULTURAL MERIT CEREMONY](#), NOVEMBER 24
- [CANADIAN WESTERN AGRIBITION](#), NOVEMBER 20-25
- [NATIONAL FARMERS UNION ANNUAL CONVENTION](#), NOVEMBER 23-25
- [GROW CANADA CONFERENCE](#), NOVEMBER 28-30

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