



CAHRC-CCRHA

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.

POLICY, RESEARCH, AND NEWS TRACKING

Industry Perceptions and Awareness

[Cafta welcomes Canadian government's opposition to Mexico's biotech corn ban](#) The national coalition of export-focused agriculture commodity organizations is welcoming the Canadian government's position on Mexico banning the use of biotech corn in tortillas or dough. Trade Minister Mary Ng and Agriculture Minister Lawrence MacAulay have announced Canada will participate as a third party in the dispute settlement proceedings initiated by the U.S. against Mexico. The Canadian Agri-Food Trade Alliance (CAFTA) is welcoming the Canadian government's decision to join the U.S. as a third party as the issue has escalated to the formal dispute settlement stage. [Read more...](#)

[Industry, farmers call fuzzy sustainability definition a barrier to emissions progress](#) A survey finds producers prefer outcome-based incentives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions as well as tax credits and non-financial incentives such as improved extension services. Canadian farmers want a clear, common definition for sustainable agriculture and its associated practices, according to a recent survey from the Canadian Agri-Food Policy Institute. That would make it easier to navigate the programs and incentives available to encourage widespread adoption of those practices, according to comments from those who participated in the survey. [Read more...](#)

[Dairy code update requires cattle movement](#) Most dairy farmers in Western Canada will feel minimal effects from changes to the national [Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Dairy Cattle](#), which come into effect April 1, 2024. However, farmers with tie stalls may need to make some changes. Cows housed in tie stalls – in which they are tethered to the stall – will need to have freedom of movement for at least some part of the day. Initially, tie stalls developed when cows were grazed and then brought into the stalls for milking and some feeding. Most new barns in the country are now free stall or pack barns, where cows have the freedom to move around all the time, other than when being

milked. The good news for dairy farmers in Western Canada is that most of them have already moved to free stall systems. [Read more...](#)

Immigration and Foreign Workers

[Atlantic beef products going to Brazil to find skilled workers](#) Atlantic Beef Products is going abroad to find specialized staff because it's having a hard time finding the right workers on P.E.I. The meat packing company is heading to Brazil for a recruitment mission with the goal of finding between 15 and 30 workers who have experience in the beef processing industry. Company recruiters, with the help of provincial and federal immigration officials, will visit the Brazilian cities of São Paulo and Goiânia over a seven- or eight-day stretch in late September. [Read more...](#)

[Canada reviewing allegations Ontario farm wrongfully dismissed migrant workers](#) The [federal government](#) is investigating allegations that a farm in southwestern [Ontario](#) sent six Jamaican seasonal workers home earlier than planned after they protested their living and working conditions. A spokesperson for [Employment and Social Development Canada](#) said it is currently reaching out to its counterparts with the Jamaican government to better understand the allegations involving the farm in Norfolk County. [Read more...](#)

People, Wages and Workplace Culture

[Statscan says farm households becoming more diverse, smaller](#) Statistics Canada (StatsCan) has published data providing a socioeconomic snapshot of Canada's evolving farm population. As of 2021, the farm population represents just 1.6 per cent of the total population in Canada. But how are they categorized? Data from the census shows that the face of Canada's farm population is changing — farm households are becoming more

diverse and smaller. Additionally, greater percentages of farm households are living in urban areas, while income continues to outpace that of the total population. [Read more...](#)

[Un agriculteur Québécois sur 10 prévoit de fermer son entreprise](#) Les agriculteurs sont particulièrement touchés par l'inflation, dans la mesure où 11 pour cent d'entre eux prévoient arrêter ou fermer leur entreprise, selon un sondage réalisé par l'Union des producteurs agricoles (UPA). La hausse du coût des intrants de production, comme les engrais, le carburant et les semences, a été plus de deux fois supérieure à l'inflation entre janvier 2020 et septembre 2022, selon l'UPA, qui demande l'aide du gouvernement du Québec. [En savoir plus...](#)

[Farm groups call for exemption to filing Underused Housing Tax forms, citing financial and administrative burden to farm operations](#) Half a dozen national farm organizations and their members are raising concerns about unintended consequences from the federal government's Underused Housing Tax (UHT) that took effect last year. The Canadian Federation of Agriculture, Canadian Cattle Association, National Cattle Feeders Association, Fruit and Vegetable Growers of Canada, Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association, and Canadian Canola Growers Association have signed a letter written to National Revenue Minister (and former ag minister) Marie-Claude Bibeau, Agriculture Minister Lawrence MacAulay, and Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland asking to have farms exempted from the requirement to file a UHT return for each residential property each year. [Read more...](#)

[L'entreprise duBreton demande de sortir du « système »](#) Le producteur de porc biologique duBreton se dit « prisonnier d'un système » et lance une dernière tentative pour sauver une partie de la production porcine indépendante au Québec. L'entreprise beauceronne souhaite pouvoir conclure des ententes de commercialisation directement avec les producteurs. duBreton n'est pas le seul à se plaindre des décisions des Éleveurs du porc du Québec. Au printemps, la productrice porcine indépendante Cécilien Berthiaume a convoqué les médias pour présenter une solution pour sauver les entreprises familiales menacées de fermeture. Cela faisait suite à l'annonce de la fermeture de l'usine Olymel de

Vallée-Jonction et à la nécessité pour les producteurs de réduire leurs troupeaux pour sortir de la crise.

[Québec solidaire veut une aide d'urgence pour les agriculteurs](#) Québec solidaire demande au gouvernement du Québec d'accorder une aide d'urgence au secteur agricole, durement touché par les événements climatiques extrêmes de l'été. Des précipitations importantes ou des épisodes de sécheresse ont endommagé les récoltes de nombreux agriculteurs au cours de l'été. La Financière Agricole du Québec indemnise les entreprises agricoles assurées pour leurs pertes. Au 4 août, 2 466 constats de dégâts ont été enregistrés depuis le début de la saison, notamment dans les cultures maraîchères, les petits fruits, les légumes de transformation et les céréales. [En savoir plus...](#)

Automation and Technology

[Autonomous farming showcase returns to show](#) The demand for farm labour and the challenge to find workers is driving development of [autonomous farm equipment](#). Chuck Baresich, founder and president of Haggerty AgRobotics, has been collaborating with agriculture technology companies around the world to bring their technology to Canada to test at Canada's Outdoor Farm Show. The autonomous agriculture demonstration will take place on the west demo field on Oxford Road #30 in Woodstock, Ont., between the middle machinery and lower machinery malls. [Read more...](#)

[Kemin opens first facility to produce proteus line of clean label, dry proteins](#) [Kemin Industries](#) has opened a new manufacturing facility in Verona, Missouri, to produce its Proteus line of clean label functional proteins for a variety of meat and poultry applications. The 38,000-square-foot facility cost \$70 million and employs nearly 30 full-time workers in the Verona community. The production plant will have an initial capacity to produce enough functional protein to treat more than a billion pounds of meat, poultry, and protein-based applications. [Read more...](#)

[New dairy experience comes to Canada's outdoor farm show](#) Visitors to [Canada's Outdoor Farm Show](#) may have noticed significant changes over the years to the iconic Dairy Innovation Centre. Gone are the robotic milking systems, replaced by the latest in dairy technology and management as showcased by many new companies. The building has undergone significant renovation and will feature new penning and livestock handling areas. "The dairy barn has been getting a whole revamp," says Brayden Bell, field manager with the show. "A lot of things have been ripped out and switched up." [Read more...](#)

[Government of Canada announces investment in BioFuelNet Canada to strengthen bioeconomy](#) Francis Scarpaleggia, Member of Parliament for Lac-Saint-Louis, Quebec, announced an investment of up to \$5.3 million on behalf of the Honourable Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, to BioFuelNet (BFN) Canada under the AgriScience Program – Clusters Component, part of the Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership. The objective of the Biomass Cluster is to help expand and invigorate Canada's bioeconomy through the development of biomass supply chains and cutting-edge technologies to produce biomass and value-added agricultural products. BFN aims to strengthen the Canadian agricultural sector through increased biomass production, the development of cutting-edge conversion technologies, GHG emission reductions, and opportunities for carbon sequestration. To reach this goal, the Cluster has proposed research which include: growth of biomass crops on marginal lands, the development of microbial biostimulants, and various conversion technologies. [French info here.](#) [Read more...](#)

Skill Development

[U of G launches hands-on master's program in plant agriculture](#) The Ontario Agriculture College at the University of Guelph (U of G) has announced a new master's program focused on plant agriculture. Scheduled to start in fall 2024, the program – housed in the

Department of Plant Agriculture – will address the demands of employers in the private and public sectors who are looking for professionals with advanced expertise in plant breeding, crop production, and plant science. It allows recent graduates and professionals to quickly upgrade their education and training without the need to conduct academic research through a traditional thesis-based program. [Read more...](#)

[Bioenterprise relaunches Foodshift program with open call for applications](#) With Government of Canada support through the [Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario \(FedDev Ontario\)](#), [Bioenterprise Canada](#) is relaunching its FoodShift program. FoodShift is a \$2.4-million green initiative to help southern Ontario food and beverage processing organizations future-proof their businesses by adopting and integrating clean technologies and/or process optimization projects. [Read more...](#)

[Beef research mentorship program names four recipients for 2023](#) Four Canadian researchers have been paired with mentors in the industry through the Beef Cattle Research Council's Beef Researcher Mentorship Program. The program links new researchers with two mentors working in relevant areas of the Canadian beef industry. Part of the mentorship award also includes a travel budget to attend industry events and actively participate in the mentorship experience. [Read more....](#)

EVENTS

- [NORTH AMERICAN EUROPEAN UNION AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCE](#), September 12-14
- [CANADA'S OUTDOOR FARM SHOW](#), SEPTEMBER 12-14
- [ATLANTIC OPEN FARM DAY](#), SEPTEMBER 17

- [INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PRECISION DAIRY FARMING](#), SEPTEMBER 18-19
- [PULSE AND SPECIAL CROPS CONVENTION](#), SEPTEMBER 26-28
- [GALA AGRICULTRICES DU QUEBEC](#), OCTOBER 14
- [CANADIAN WESTERN AGRIBITION](#), NOVEMBER 20-25
- [GROWCANADA CONFERENCE](#), NOVEMBER 28-30
- [NATIONAL FARMERS UNION ANNUAL CONVENTION](#), NOVEMBER 23-25

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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](#).

SUPPORT FOR YOU: CAHRC's Growing Opportunities project is open for the fall! Recruit through Canada's largest online campus recruiting platform and enjoy up to a \$7,500 subsidy for each student. Learn more and start your [application process 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](#).



For more information about this Partner Update or to find out more about CAHRC Partnership, please contact Jennifer Wright | jwright@cahrc-ccrha.ca

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