



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.

CAHRC'S CORNER

Support for you: We've launched our **AgriWorkplace Skills Training Program**. The initiative includes a wage subsidy of up to \$5,000 per employee, or up to \$7,500 for under-represented groups, plus transportation. Did we mention there's also childcare support? [Sign up 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 Canadian agriculture's most pressing labour issues. You can support the plan and our related work by [visiting our website](#). We also have a supporter badge you can showcase—contact us if you're interested.

New data... Coming soon: Mark your calendars! November 1, we're hosting our **Virtual Agri LMI Summit**. This event will unveil data that connects the dots on key labour supply and demand knowledge gaps. Learn about these important insights that will help us get closer to addressing our workforce challenges. [Sign up here.](#)

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

[Farmers share their views at Canada's Outdoor Farm Show](#) Farmtario asked producers three

questions during Canada's Outdoor Farm Show: What are the top three challenges on your farm, how are you managing rising input costs, and what are your thoughts on the government's focus on funding sustainability initiatives rather than yield as it used to? Producers' answers touched on topics such as interest rates, labour, trade issues, and capacity issues with an aging workforce. [Read more...](#)

[Consultations underway on final hurdle to approving gene-edited crops in Canada](#) It's been a long process, but Canada is nearing a final decision on the use of gene editing in crop development. The final assessment – that of feed for livestock – is nearing completion, as [the consultation wraps up next month](#). The first two hurdles gene editing had to clear – food safety and environmental impact – were completed in 2021 and 2022, respectively. Once the Canadian Food Inspection Agency completes this last hurdle, it will be a waiting game to see what the final rule is on gene editing use in plant breeding in Canada. [Read more...](#)

[New alliance aims to move Canada's agri-food system to net zero](#) This week, seven founding members launched the Canadian Alliance for Net-Zero Agri-food (CANZA). The intended goal of the alliance is to help Canada feed a growing population while reducing emissions, becoming more sustainable, and creating new economic opportunities for Canada. Supported by the Arrell Food Institute at the University of Guelph and delivered by the Natural Step and the Smart Prosperity Institute, the seven inaugural partners in the net-zero alliance are: RBC Royal Bank, Loblaw Companies Limited, Maple Leaf, Nutrien, BCG Centre for Canada's Future, and McCain Foods. [Read more...](#)

Immigration and Foreign Workers

[Comment Saint-Hyacinthe est devenu un aimant à immigrants](#) Saint-Hyacinthe, la capitale agroalimentaire du Québec, devient-elle aussi un centre d'immigration ? Les épiceries africaines et latino-américaines se multiplient et se développent à mesure que des immigrants comme Hélios Oropeza s'y installent. Oropeza a acheté sa maison à Saint-Hyacinthe pour la moitié du prix d'une maison équivalente dans une grande ville. Ingénieur agronome de formation dans son pays d'origine, il n'est ni agronome ni ingénieur aux yeux des ordres

professionnels. Il travaille toutefois maintenant comme contremaître chez Olymel, le troisième employeur de la région. La nécessité règne en maître dans les chaînes de production qui manquent de main d'œuvre qualifiée. [En savoir plus...](#)

[Canada's temporary migrant worker program fails both labourers and employers, Senate committee hears](#) Independent Ontario senator and chair of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs and Science Ratna Omidvar and other senators visited P.E.I. and N.B. last month to investigate concerns brought forward by temporary migrant workers, their employers, and advocates. Committee members visited multiple farms and fishery plants – the two main industries for temporary foreign workers – to hear concerns about the workers' housing, working conditions, and general well-being. [Read more...](#)

[Syrian immigrant plants his own little paradise in western Quebec](#) At the age of 45, far from his birthplace in Syria, Fater Youssef doesn't often slow down to consider the road he's taken since his arrival to Canada 12 years ago. Despite a difficult growing season, the owner of Croque Pomme is going all out to collect his harvest of ripe apples. Youssef took the reins of the Croque Pomme orchard in 2020 after spending years in the fields as an employee. [Read more...](#)

People, Wages and Workplace Culture

[Government commits \\$8 million towards farmers and farm family mental health resources](#) The governments of Canada and Ontario are committing more than \$8 million to support the mental health and wellness of farmers and their families. With this commitment, three programs – the Farmer Wellness Initiative, the In the Know program, and the Guardian Network – will continue to be available to everyone who needs them. These initiatives are designed to meet the unique mental health needs of farmers and their families and are delivered by the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) Ontario Division. Funding will also be available over the next two years so organizations can produce customized materials, engage speakers, and/or develop other promotional activities that will provide farmers and their families with mental health-related information. [Read more...](#)

[Menace de grève à la Corporation de la Voie maritime du Saint-Laurent](#) Les syndiqués qui travaillent pour la Corporation de la Voie maritime du Saint-Laurent en Ontario et au Québec ont voté à 99 pour cent en faveur d'une grève si les négociations n'aboutissent pas à une entente avant le 21 octobre. Les négociations ont débuté en juin dernier et se sont poursuivies jusqu'au 29 septembre. faire appel à un conciliateur pour faciliter les discussions dès le début des négociations. Toutefois, le directeur québécois d'Unifor, Daniel Cloutier, affirme que l'employeur doit offrir de meilleures augmentations salariales pour que les travailleurs soient d'accord. Le syndicat affirme que les travailleurs de la Voie maritime gèrent le transit de plus de 200 millions de tonnes de marchandises chaque année et méritent des salaires équitables pour leur travail vital et exigeant. [En savoir plus...](#)

[Les épiciers indépendants réclament une pause dans la hausse du prix du lait](#) Vendredi, les épiciers indépendants du pays ont demandé à l'entreprise publique qui gère l'approvisionnement et les prix des produits laitiers de suspendre toute nouvelle augmentation des prix du lait. Cette approche intervient dans un contexte de pression politique visant à maintenir les prix alimentaires à un niveau bas. La Commission canadienne du lait révisé, chaque automne, le prix payé aux producteurs laitiers pour leur lait et annonce si ce prix augmentera ou diminuera en février suivant.

La Commission a déjà informé plusieurs groupes industriels, dans une note publiée vendredi, que le prix du lait à la ferme pourrait augmenter de 1,77 pour cent en février sur la base de ses calculs et de son enquête sur les coûts de production. Toutefois, si une ou plusieurs de ces parties prenantes invoquaient un « mécanisme de circonstances exceptionnelles », l'ajustement des prix ne serait pas fixé par la formule mais plutôt par le biais de consultations, a indiqué la Commission. [En savoir plus...](#)

Automation and Technology

[Ontario company launches facial recognition for barns](#) An award-winning Canadian tech start-up that enables livestock producers to protect against entry by disease-risky vehicles has launched a new service to do the same for human visitors.

Protocol is billed by Guelph-based Farm Health Guardian as a "system us(ing) facial recognition

technology to proactively control livestock and poultry barn entry points, enabling farm managers to lower the risk of disease entry and protect animal health.” It could eventually replace cumbersome and failure-prone controlled-entry systems that use keypads, fobs, or card scanners. [Read more...](#)

[Optimizing carcass cooling can boost processing plant margins](#) A sensor-based system for carcass cooling could save [processing plants](#) considerable money while also improving meat quality. The innovation by Manitoba-based Mode40 recently received funding from the Canadian Agri-Food Automation and Intelligence Network Beef and Pork Primary Processing Automation and Robotics program. At a time when margins are slim for the meat processing sector, and the pandemic put a spotlight on its labour shortages, worker safety, productivity, and supply chain disruptions, this is much-needed technology to improve the entire food system. [Read more...](#)

Skill Development

[Regenerative ag certification received](#) Axten Family Farms of Minton, Sask., has become the first Canadian operation to receive regenerative agricultural certification from Regenified, a regenerative agriculture verification and certification body. The Tier 5 certification signifies the highest level of regenerative practices and requires rigorous in-field evaluation, practice assessment and verification, and outcomes assessment to measure progress. [Read more...](#)

[Manitoba college unveils scholarships](#) Westman Group Inc. (WGI) and companies under its umbrella will invest an additional \$300,000 in student financial awards for Assiniboine College in Brandon, Manitoba. The scholarships will be for students entering their second year of studies at the college. WGI intends to distribute a \$5,000 annual award on behalf of each of its six divisions, for a total distribution of \$30,000 per year for a 10-year period to students entering their second year in programs that correspond to the industries in which each of the divisions operates. [Read more...](#)

[Applications now open for the 2024 Agriculture Student Scholarship in Saskatchewan](#) The

Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan announced applications are now being accepted for the 2024 Agriculture Student Scholarship Program. The scholarship amounts have increased this year to \$6,000 for the top recipient and three runner-up scholarships of \$3,000 each. This year's theme is farming and environmental sustainability. Scholarship applicants are encouraged to explore the idea of environmental sustainability within farming and the importance of public perception of modern farming practices. The scholarship encourages conversations about where our food comes from and how everyone along the value chain shares a role in communicating about food production. [Read more...](#)

EVENTS

- [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 4
- [CANADIAN WESTERN AGRIBITION](#), NOVEMBER 20-25
- [NATIONAL FARMERS UNION ANNUAL CONVENTION](#), NOVEMBER 23-25
- [GROW CANADA CONFERENCE](#), NOVEMBER 28-30

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