



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

More support for you: Participate in our AgriWorkplace Skills Training Program. The initiative includes a wage subsidy of up to \$5,000 to train and build up the skills of new and old

employees. Did we mention there's also childcare support for participants? [Details here](#).

New data: We've got the latest labour market information statistics. If you haven't already, check out our executive summary on key labour supply and demand data across the agriculture sector. These important insights will help us get closer to addressing our workforce challenges. Find our [report here](#).

In the news: In case you missed it, Rebecca Balsdon, CAHRC's stakeholder and engagement specialist, was on Valley Heritage Radio, sharing CAHRC's latest initiatives. [More 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 Express Way. Through this initiative, you can receive up to \$10,000. [More here](#).

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

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.

FARM STRESSORS STUDY

Colleagues at Northumbria University in the UK are running a short survey to better understand the causes of stress in farming in Canada (and the UK). It takes 5 minutes to complete. If you are able to spare the time we would be very grateful. The Canadian survey link is: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/FarmStressCanada>

What's your biggest stress?

We are trying to understand better what causes stress to members of the farming community in both Canada and the UK.

Can you spare five minutes to answer five short questions about what causes you to feel stress on the farm?

If you are involved in farming in Canada and aged over 18 years, we would like to hear from you.

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/FarmStressCanada

For more info contact sarah.l.kyle@northumbria.ac.uk






This study has received ethical approval from the Northumbria University Ethical Committee under reference 4941

Quel est votre plus grand stress?

Nous essayons de mieux comprendre les causes du stress des agriculteurs au Canada et au Royaume-Uni.

Pouvez-vous nous accorder cinq minutes pour répondre à cinq brèves questions sur les causes de votre stress en agriculture?

Si vous travaillez dans l'agriculture au Canada et que vous êtes âgé de plus de 18 ans, nous aimerions lire vos commentaires.

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/stressagricole

Pour plus d'informations, contactez sarah.l.kyle@northumbria.ac.uk

Université de Northumbria, Newcastle






Cette étude a reçu l'approbation éthique du Comité d'éthique de l'Université de Northumbria sous la référence 4941.

Collègues de l'Université de Northumbria au Royaume-Uni mènent une enquête courte sur le stress agricole au Canada (et au Royaume-Uni). Prend 5 min. Votre avis est précieux! Merci
 Lien vers l'enquête canadienne ci-dessous: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/stressagricole>

POLICY, RESEARCH, AND NEWS TRACKING

Industry Perceptions and Awareness

[Canadians trust farmers despite high food costs —for now.](#) Rising food prices have been drawing the ire of the Canadian public, but the bulk of that frustration and anger is not directed at farmers. While food retailers are viewed unfavourably, farmers remain one of the most trusted demographics in the food system, according to the latest Canadian Centre for Food Integrity consumer trust survey. However, that trust is at risk. Lack of understanding about food production and the workings of food supply systems poses risks to the high levels of public trust in Canadian farmers. [Read more...](#)

[Honesty key in building public trust through food marketing.](#) Canadian consumers have a high level of mistrust when it comes to food labels and marketing. That was a key takeaway in a

recent report from the Canadian Centre for Food Integrity. The report showed that 62 per cent of Canadians have concerns about misleading food labels and marketing. [Read more...](#)

Immigration and Foreign Workers

[Surge of Western Canada businesses looking to hire temporary foreign workers.](#) According to statistics provided by Employment and Social Development Canada, as of Nov. 5, the number of Labour Market Impact Assessment applications – the first step toward hiring a temporary foreign worker – has increased 39 per cent nationwide compared to the same period last year. In Western Canada, the increase was even higher at 83 per cent. [Read more...](#)

[New humanitarian pathway for Colombian, Haitian and Venezuelan foreign nationals launched.](#) Canada announced Nov. 17 that it will be providing an alternative to irregular migration by welcoming 15,000 people through a family-based humanitarian pathway in addition to existing programs. The Honourable Marc Miller, Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship, announced that the dedicated humanitarian pathway will provide permanent residence to Colombian, Haitian and Venezuelan foreign nationals. The pathway is now open for applications. [Read more...](#)

People, Wages and Workplace Culture

[Plus d'argent pour les producteurs en difficulté.](#) Le Programme Investissement Croissance Durable du MAPAQ assouplit ses règles, un geste qui vise à bonifier l'aide apportée aux producteurs agricoles affectés à la fois par les difficultés météorologiques de l'année 2023 et les pressions inflationnistes présentes depuis la pandémie. Près de 2600 entreprises seraient admissibles à l'aide gouvernementale. [En savoir plus...](#)

[Drew Spoelstra elected Ontario Federation of Agriculture president.](#) Drew Spoelstra, a dairy and crop farmer from Binbrook, Ont., has been elected as the new president of the Ontario

Federation of Agriculture (OFA). Spoelstra was chosen to lead the provincial farm lobby at an executive meeting following the conclusion of the organization's annual convention in Toronto last week. He has served on the OFA board as the director representing farmers from Halton, Hamilton/Wentworth and Niagara since 2013 and has most recently held the role of vice president. [Read more...](#)

[Ottawa takes stance on right to repair.](#) The federal government is siding with Canadian farmers on the right-to-repair debate. A statement from the federal government calls for an adjustment to the Competition Act that would prevent manufacturers from refusing to provide the means of device and product repair in an "anti-competitive manner." That would presumably include certain software and modules on farm equipment that has been off limits to equipment owners. [Read more...](#)

[OFA recognizes five young leaders at annual convention.](#) Five young people currently pursuing future careers in agriculture have each won a bursary of \$2,000 from the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA). The undergraduate, postgraduate and apprenticeship awards were presented at the OFA's Annual General Meeting in Toronto Nov. 20. [Read more...](#)

Automation and Technology

[Ag productivity gain rate is shrinking.](#) Canadian agriculture productivity is growing, but the rate of growth is slowing. The comments came during a discussion with Fred Wall, FCC's vice president of marketing and digital agriculture, at the Agriculture Enlightened conference in Winnipeg Oct. 26. Productivity growth is still strong in the labour sector, but agriculture will have to embrace advances like artificial intelligence in machinery if it wants that aspect of the industry to keep pace. [Read more...](#)

[\\$25-million program aims to boost agri-food innovation in Ontario.](#) The Agri-Tech Innovation Initiative will disperse \$25 million in Sustainable Canadian Agricultural Partnership funding to drive agriculture and food sector production capacity and energy efficiency. Cost-share programs like this one help agriculture businesses fund changes in their business that keep

them competitive. Funding applications open on Feb. 15, 2024, and could provide up to \$100,000 for innovative technology and equipment projects. [Read more...](#)

[Canada, B.C. supporting B.C. farmers with access to technology.](#) B.C. farmers looking to grow their businesses in the face of rising costs are getting support for accessing new technologies from items such as robotic and automated equipment, farm management software and digital sensors, which will help them increase production, efficiency and profitability. The new B.C. On-Farm Technology Adoption Program will provide as much as \$3 million over the next two years from the governments of Canada and British Columbia. [Read more...](#)

[Protein industries Canada expands call for AI projects.](#) Protein Industries Canada is opening an expanded call for projects under the Pan-Canadian Artificial Intelligence Strategy. This call will consider projects that span the entire agriculture and food value-chain, from seed genetics to on-farm production through to ingredient manufacturing, food processing and logistics. As AI continues to make inroads into agriculture and food, it will be an important tool to improve the industry in the face of evolving challenges. [Read more...](#)

Skill Development

[Olds College launches new indoor certificate program.](#) Olds College of Agriculture & Technology in Alberta is launching its Indoor Agriculture Certificate program, the first of its kind offered in Canada. Designed to meet the surging demand for skilled professionals in the controlled environment agriculture (CEA) sector, this four-month program will equip students with the knowledge and hands-on experience for a fulfilling career in controlled environment agriculture, addressing the growing demand for sustainable and high-tech farming methods. [Read more...](#)

[Semican poursuit sa croissance dans l'alimentation humaine.](#) Semican reçoit un coup de pouce de Québec pour poursuivre ses démarches de croissance à l'interne. Les installations de Princeville pourront bénéficier de l'injection de près de 3,1 M\$ de la part d'Investissement Québec. Les sommes serviront à l'aménagement d'une chaîne de production automatisée pour

la transformation de l'avoine en gruau et en amandes d'avoine, ainsi qu'à l'intégration verticale de la production de Semcan. [En savoir plus...](#)

EVENTS

- [GrowCanada Conference](#), November 28-30
- [Bill S-211, An Act to enact the Fighting Against Forced Labour and Child Labour in Supply Chains Act and to amend the Customs Tariff \(webinar\)](#), November 30
- [14th Annual Canadian Agri-Food Policy Conference](#), January 25-26
- [The Future of Food Conference 2024](#), February 13
- [Canadian Federation of Agriculture Annual General Meeting](#), February 27-28

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