



**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.**

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*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

**The Latest Labour Market Data:** Get the latest stats on Canada's labour market, particularly in agriculture. Access the [report](#) and request specific data sets or presentations by

emailing [outreach@cahrc-ccrha.ca](mailto:outreach@cahrc-ccrha.ca).

**KAP and CAHRC Labour Roundtable: Join us in Winnipeg this Friday** as we delve into the National Workforce Strategic Plan (NWSP) for Canada's agriculture and food sectors! Started in 2021 with the Government of Canada's support, this plan aims to stabilize the industry's workforce by 2030. The focus of this event will be to discuss the NWSP and apply it using a provincial lens. There's still space, secure your spot [here!](#)

**Upgrade Your Skills:** One way to address our labour shortage is to understand how we can attract and retain workers who have not been historically part of the sector but who bring a valuable set of skills to agriculture. That's why we're introducing our IDEA course. **This pilot program, which is free to register for before April 1**, provides knowledge and insight on inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility to ensure businesses in agriculture can not only attract new employees of diverse backgrounds, but thrive with them. Find out more and register [here](#).

**CAHRC Commentary in the News:** CAHRC executive director, Jennifer Wright, made an inaugural appearance in Policy Options magazine to discuss the details of the LMI report, how its recommendations are related to the National Workforce Strategic Plan and what effective policymaking looks like in action. Read [it all here](#).

**Recruit and Empower the Next Gen of Agriculture:** Apply for CAHRC's Growing Opportunities project and access Canada's largest online campus recruiting platform. **Receive a \$7,000 subsidy for each student you hire.** [Start your application process today.](#)

**Introducing CAHRC Connect:** Join an online community of agriculture leaders, learners, and employers. CAHRC Connect, a pilot project, offers HR and EDI info, networking opportunities, webinars, and expert Q&As. **Access is completely free!** [More info here.](#)

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## POLICY, RESEARCH, AND NEWS TRACKING

### Industry Perceptions and Awareness

[Un projet de ferme sur l'avenue du Parc.](#) Une ferme en pleine ville ? C'est le projet inusité d'une entreprise montréalaise qui espère faire pousser laitues et fines herbes – et éventuellement élever des poissons – sur l'avenue du Parc. Daniel Feinglos, l'entrepreneur à l'origine de l'idée, a déjà acheté les trois bâtiments qu'il compte transformer. Le projet a reçu un feu vert préliminaire de l'arrondissement, mais devra encore faire l'objet d'approbations. [En savoir plus..](#)

[4-H Canada forced to lay off staff following major federal funding cut.](#) 4-H Canada says it has had to make the difficult decision to lay off seven staff members following a major cut to the funding it receives from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. The move comes after 4-H Canada was informed mid-way through the fiscal 2023-24 year that its funding under the federal AgriCompetitiveness Program was approved, but at a significantly lower level than requested and past funding. [Read more...](#)

[52% of farmers think securing trade agreements and market access is a win for their farm.](#) For exportable commodities such as canola, pork, beef, seafood, and wheat, trade is a fundamental staple of creating value for products being produced by Canadian agriculture. RealAgristudies asked Canadian farmers and ranchers about how they view certain policies impacting their operations. Twenty per cent of producers believe that trade and market access have a very positive impact and 32 per cent believe the impact is slightly positive. [Read more...](#)

[College Royal celebrates 100 years of bringing agricultural life to the city.](#) College Royal returned to the University of Guelph this weekend, but this year's event was extra special: the agricultural tradition is celebrating its 100th year in the community. The school says the campus-wide open house typically attracts more than 20,000 people every year with a wide

variety of activities from animal shows to food competitions and a whole lot more. College Royal is billed as North America's largest student-run open house. [Read more...](#)

## People, Wages and Workplace Culture

[De jeunes agriculteurs préoccupés par l'augmentation de la valeur des terres agricoles.](#) Le prix des terres agricoles explose un peu partout au pays, selon le dernier rapport de Financement agricole Canada (FAC). Un agriculteur et un professeur en sociologie estiment que cette tendance est inquiétante pour l'avenir du secteur agricole, car il est de plus en plus difficile pour les jeunes agriculteurs d'acquérir des terres. En 2023, la Saskatchewan a connu la plus forte augmentation de la valeur des terres agricoles cultivées au pays. [En savoir plus...](#)

[Des menstruations à la maternité, l'agriculture tarde à s'adapter aux réalités des femmes.](#) << Être une femme, c'est difficile. Surtout à ce temps-là de notre vie; il y en a qui sont affectées chaque mois. Physiquement, c'est une grosse affaire. Notre corps ne veut pas nous supporter parce qu'il y a d'autres défis biologiques qui se passent. >> Pour ralentir le travail dans ces métiers rythmés par la nature, Michelle Baril en appelle à plus de flexibilité. [En savoir plus...](#)

## Immigration and Foreign Workers

[Study: Fewer recent immigrants are seeking Canadian citizenship.](#) A recent study by Statistics Canada has revealed that fewer recent immigrants in Canada are pursuing Canadian citizenship compared to 20+ years ago. The study, which looks longitudinally at data from 1996 to 2021, revealed that there was a nearly 30 per cent drop in citizenship rates among recent immigrants, with most of this reduction occurring in the last 10 years. The term "immigrants" is used by Statistics Canada to denote those who have received Canadian permanent residence (PR). [Read more...](#)

[Half of all Canadians say there are too many immigrants: poll.](#) High immigration levels have

traditionally enjoyed multi-partisan support in Canada, but half of all people now say that there are too many newcomers, according to a new poll. The survey conducted for the Association for Canadian Studies and the Metropolis Institute found 50 per cent of Canadians agree that there are too many immigrants coming into Canada – a number that has more than doubled since January 2023 but has remained consistent across polls conducted in the past six months. [Read more...](#)

#### [Once-celebrated P.E.I. apple orchard faces no sanctions despite foreign worker abuse claims.](#)

Canadian Nectar Products is at the centre of what federal authorities allege is a web of companies defrauding the government and foreign workers. One migrant workers' advocate on the Island says the company highlights systemic issues with oversight and accountability with Canada's temporary foreign worker program. An investigation by CBC's *The Fifth Estate* has found at least 31 temporary foreign workers, out of the 217 Canadian Nectar Products and its affiliated companies were given permission to hire from 2017 to 2021, have come forward to the federal government with abuse allegations and received federal approval to be released from their work contracts as a result. [Read more...](#)

## Automation and Technology

[Deere reaches for fully autonomous fleet by 2030.](#) As John Deere unveiled its 2025 model year product line in late February, it brought the company one year closer to a significant date: 2030. That is when the brand has promised to offer a complete fleet of autonomous equipment, able to handle a full farming season from seeding to harvest with self-driving machines. "The fully autonomous capabilities that we have available today with our 8R in tillage applications will only continue to grow and develop as we see customers trying to address that labour availability and shortage that we see in many of their operations," said Aaron Wetzel, vice-president of production systems for production and precision ag. [Read more...](#)

[Smart tech can identify sick pigs.](#) A sick pig doesn't want anyone to know it's not well, and that can stop even the best barn staff from intervening before the animal's condition worsens. With smart technology and artificial intelligence, it should be possible to flag illness long before

humans can identify it, says Tami Brown-Brandl of the University of Nebraska, speaking at the Manitoba Swine Seminar. Brown-Brandl spoke of tech currently being used on farms such as cameras, sensors, and an analytical system that is able to spot problems before humans can. [Read more...](#)

[Online mapping tool offers agricultural land use information](#). A new online tool allows users to examine agricultural land use across the country. Developed by ALCES for the Canadian Agri-Food Policy Institute (CAPI), the Agriculture Web Mapping Application Tool offers maps and datasets about land use, management practices, and agri-environmental indicators. Census, crop production, and land use data can be viewed individually or overlaid. [Read more...](#)

## Skill Development

[\\$3.5M grant to help Brock research farm grow future of sustainable agriculture](#). Brock University's cutting-edge research that advances Canada's grape and wine industry is expanding from lab to field to other areas of agriculture thanks to a \$3.5-million grant from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI). The funding supports the Clean Agriculture for Sustainable Production (CASP) Field Infrastructure project, which will include the establishment of a Brock-led research farm where scientists from Brock, other institutions, and industry will develop agricultural innovations. [Read more...](#)

## EVENTS

- [KAP and CAHRC Roundtable - Applying a Nat'l Strategy with a Provincial Lens](#), March 22
- [Canadian Cattle Association Annual General Meeting](#), March 19-21
- [Canadian Dairy Xpo](#): April 3-4
- [Canadian Roundtable for Sustainable Beef](#): April 9-11

- [Plant Forward Conference](#): April 16-18
- [National Holstein Convention](#): April 24-27

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