

AGRIWORKFORCE NEWSFEED

Latest Headlines for CAHRC Partners



The AgriWorkforce Newsfeed is a bi-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 bi-mensuel 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

Transform the Way You Manage Your Agricultural Workforce: Winter cohorts of the [Ag HR Management Program](#) are now underway. With more training groups set to start over the next few weeks, there are limited spaces available. **Funded options are available for [employers based in BC or the rest of Canada](#).** Whether you are navigating seasonal labor challenges, building an employee handbook, or looking to improve worker retention, this program provides the skills, tools, and strategies that can be adapted to your operation. Register while spaces last!

Growing Opportunities Winter Term: Looking to bring fresh talent into your ag business this winter? There are **limited spots available for CAHRC's Growing Opportunities Winter Term**. Part of the Student Work Placement Program, this program connects post-secondary students with agricultural employers for paid, work-integrated learning placements. [Learn more and apply here](#).

Le programme hivernal Possibilités croissantes: Vous cherchez à recruter de nouveaux talents pour votre entreprise agricole cet hiver ? **Reste quelques places disponibles pour le programme hivernal Possibilités croissantes du CCRHA**. Dans le cadre du Programme de stages pratiques pour étudiants, ce programme met en relation des étudiants de l'enseignement supérieur avec des employeurs agricoles pour des stages rémunérés intégrés à l'emploi. [Postulez ici](#).

BC Agri HR Toolkit is Now Live: The BC Agriculture HR Toolkit is now live, a **free online resource** for employers across British Columbia. BC employers, start building your HR foundation today. [Access the Toolkit here](#). Want to discover how to maximize your Toolkit membership? Attend one of our walkthroughs - **[next session, tomorrow, January 29th](#)**.

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POLICY, RESEARCH, AND NEWS TRACKING

Industry Perceptions and Awareness

- **['Positive day' for Canadian agriculture: Sask. welcomes new canola deal with China](#)**. Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe had a front-row seat to a trade deal with China that he says marks a "positive day" for Canadian agriculture. Moe sat beside Prime Minister Mark Carney as members of the federal cabinet met with Chinese officials this week. Even Moe admits it was an unusual sight. [Read more...](#)
- **[Perspectives économiques FAC: Une rentabilité sous pression en 2026](#)**. Jean-Philippe Gervais, vice-président exécutif, stratégie et impact et économiste en chef à Financement

agricole Canada (FAC), ainsi que son collègue Krishen Rangasamy, directeur, services économiques et économiste principal, ont fait le tour de la situation lors d'un webinaire. Ils ont énuméré les facteurs à surveiller en 2026 ainsi que les impacts possibles pour les principaux secteurs agricoles. [En savoir plus...](#)

- **[Le ministère fédéral de l'Agriculture annonce des suppressions d'emplois.](#)** Le ministère fédéral précise que les centres de recherche de Guelph, en Ontario, de Québec et de Lacombe, en Alberta, ainsi que quatre fermes de recherche satellites en Nouvelle-Écosse, en Saskatchewan et au Manitoba, fermeront leurs portes. [En savoir plus...](#)

People and Workplace Culture

- **[Canada and Ontario Investing \\$20 Million to Protect Local Farmers and Agribusinesses.](#)** The governments of Canada and Ontario are investing up to \$20 million through the new Market Diversification and Trade Resiliency Initiative to help farmers, food processors and agribusinesses sell more Ontario grown products around the world. The Initiative will fund a variety of projects to increase competitiveness for farmers and agribusinesses and support their expansion into new and international markets as part of the provincial government's plan to protect Ontario's agribusiness sector. [Read more...](#) ([Français](#))
- **[Canada and Manitoba extend mental health support for farmers.](#)** The federal and Manitoba governments are renewing funding for mental health services aimed at the province's farming community, announcing a two-year, \$300,000 extension to the Manitoba Farmer Wellness Program (MFWP). [Read more...](#)
- **[Potentiel et défis économiques dans le secteur agricole.](#)** Le Canada a encore du chemin à parcourir s'il veut tirer profit des 44 G\$ que l'équipe de réflexion de RBC entrevoit pour les dix prochaines années. Lisa Ashton, directrice des politiques agricoles à l'institution bancaire, a déclaré lors du récent Forum SaskCrops les 13 et 14 janvier dernier que le potentiel est immense, mais que d'énormes défis se présentent également. [En savoir plus...](#)

Immigration and Foreign Workers

- **Quebec immigration overhaul: Lawsuit may be coming.** A possible lawsuit over Quebec's immigration overhaul is adding a new layer of uncertainty for employers already grappling with the fallout from sudden rule changes. CBC reports that at least one immigration lawyer appears to be preparing a legal challenge to the province's decision to abolish a key pathway to permanent residency. [Read more...](#)
- **Arrivals under Temporary Foreign Worker Program drop to lowest level in two years.** Monthly new arrivals on work permits issued through Canada's Temporary Foreign Worker Program (TFWP) have sunk to their lowest level in nearly two years, according to the latest data published by the federal government. There were only 2,615 new admissions through the TFWP in November of 2025—the most recent month for which data is available. [Read more...](#)
- **Canada LMIA Processing Times 2026 Updated Guide for Employers and Workers.** Hiring foreign workers in Canada requires careful planning, and timing plays a major role in that process. The latest update on Canada LMIA processing times gives employers and foreign workers a clearer picture of how long Labour Market Impact Assessment applications are currently taking across different streams. [Read more...](#)

Automation and Technology

- **Seven research sites to close, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada confirms.** CThree Agriculture Agri-Food Canada research and development centres and four satellite research farms will close, the federal government has confirmed. Research and development centres at Guelph, Ont., Quebec City, Que., and Lacombe, Alta., will close, an AAFC spokesperson said in a statement on Friday afternoon. [Read more...](#)
- **Ontario introduces Soils GeoHub.** For farmers, having access to accurate soil information is essential for making informed decisions about crop selection, farm management, and land stewardship. This is why the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Agribusiness (OMAFRA) has launched the Ontario Soils GeoHub, a free online platform that helps farmers make better use of provincial and federal soil data. [Read more...](#)

Skill Development

- **Ontario CCAs and Ontario Soil and Crop collaborate to elevate agronomic advice.**
Attendance at the Ontario Certified Crop Advisor Association (CCA) annual meeting this week topped 250 CCAs and industry representatives — that's a crowd executive director Susan Fitzgerald hasn't seen since pre-COVID. [Read more...](#)
- **USask leads livestock research with massive government investment.** Nearly \$4.7 million in support from the provincial and federal governments is going to innovative livestock-focused agricultural research projects and partnerships led by the University of Saskatchewan (USask). Seventeen USask-led livestock and forage projects are receiving funding from this year's Agriculture Development Fund (ADF), a joint fund between the provincial government and the Government of Canada. [Read more...](#)
- **UAbbotsford student uses farming passion to win Western Canada education award.**
Janessa Vaandrager's journey to keep her family legacy alive has captured national attention, earning her one of this year's WestGen Endowment Fund Scholarships. Growing up on her family farm in Abbotsford, Vaandrager was surrounded by the agricultural community at an early age, even competing in countless 4-H competitions for nine years. [Read more...](#)

Events

Find CAHRC Here:

- [NLFA AGM](#), Jan 28-29
- [KAP AGM](#), Feb 3
- [Experience Guelph Job Fair](#), Feb 9
- [Future of Food Conference](#), Feb 10
- [Aspire Career Summit](#), Feb 11

Other Events:

- [Salon Industrie et Machinerie Agricole de Québec](#), Jan 29-31
- [Islands Agriculture Show](#), Jan 30-31
- [National Poultry Show](#), Feb 4-5
- [Farming Smarter](#), Feb 11

- [Crop Connect, Feb 11-12](#)
- [Ontario Fruit and Veg Convention, Feb 18-19](#)
- [London Farm Show, Mar 4-6](#)
- [Canadian Crops Convention, Mar 10-12](#)
- [Ottawa Valley Farm Show, Mar 10-12](#)
- [Western Canadian Dairy Seminar, Mar 10-13](#)
- [GreenTech Americas, Mar 24-26](#)



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