

## **Agriculture in Alberta Education Program Overview** **May 26-28, 2016** **Calgary - Lethbridge**

*Develop an understanding about Agriculture in Alberta to bring current, relevant and meaningful context to the classroom and inspire the next generation of stewards by:*

- *providing an overview of current and best practices agriculture - including both crops & live-stock - with an emphasis on sustainable agriculture and innovation*
- *on-the-ground experiences and opportunity to ask questions directly to experts in the agricultural sector*
- *fostering connections between teachers and sector stakeholders*
- *profile current teaching resources; identify gaps where further support is needed*

### **Thursday May 26 - Agriculture Overview and Livestock Focus**

*Program Registration 9:30-10am*

*Location: Ralph Klein Park, Stickleback Room*

**10:00 am**

#### **Welcome and Introduction**

We will introduce you to Inside Education, the other participants from across Alberta and the program itself as we prepare for our agricultural journey.

*The Inside Education Team*

#### **An Overview of Agriculture in Alberta**

Speaking to the significance of agriculture in our province, Dean Dyck will highlight the past, present and future of the agricultural sector while highlighting the key topics of sustainability and innovations that will frame our discussions throughout the program.

*Dean Dyck, Alberta Agriculture*

#### **Agriculture Education & Journey 2050**

The world-class education programs by the Calgary Stampede reach thousands of students every year. The education programming coordinator, Robyn will speak to us about the relevance of agriculture education for today's students and will guide us through the interactive, sustainable agriculture game, Journey 2050.

*Robyn Kurbel Calgary Stampede & Journey 2050*



**12:30 pm Board Coach Bus with Bag Lunch Provided by Farm to Fork Catering**

**2:00 pm**

**Nanton Feedlot Tour**

Our first tour of the program will give us a behind the scenes look at role feedlots play in the beef industry . Self-professed “cow-lover” Rick Sears will show us the ins and outs of his facility and allow us the opportunity to meet the veterinarians, nutritionists and other folks that keep the cattle healthy during their time at the feedlot.

*Rick Sears, Chinook Feeders; in association with Alberta Cattle Feeders Association*

**Waldron Ranch and Grazing Co-op Tour**

On the eastern slopes of the Canadian Rockies one can still find the native grasslands that once were. We will learn about the Waldron’s collaboration with the Nature Conservancy of Canada and how cattle grazing and conservation have found common ground.

*Mike Roberts, Waldron Ranch*

**5:00-7:30 pm**

**Dinner at the Sierra West Longhorn Saloon**

Get ready to dust off your boots with a game of horseshoes while we get to know one another during this laid back evening of food and fun. We’re cooking up a true taste of Alberta with a BBQ, baked beans and apple crisp. Hosted at a unique cattle ranch a beautiful setting right off the cowboy trail on the foothills of Alberta’s eastern slopes.

**7:30-9:00 Travel to Lethbridge and Check-In to the Lethbridge Lodge**

**Friday May 26 - Grain Farming and Agricultural Innovations**

**7:00 - 8:00 Breakfast at the Lethbridge Lodge**

**8:15 Board bus**

**Have your questions ready!**

Local experts *David Hill, Southern Alberta Agriculture, University of Lethbridge & Ron McMullin, Alberta Irrigation Projects Association* will be joining us for this full day of tours featuring producers and innovations in agriculture.

**TOUR STOP #1 - Irrigation in Action**

Bring your camera! From this viewpoint just outside of Lethbridge the group will see how an irrigation system delivers water to irrigated farms, municipal districts, acreages and wetlands. This



interconnected system of canals accesses water from the nearby Waterton, Belly and St. Mary rivers.

*Gordon ZoBell, Raymond Irrigation District*

### **TOUR STOP #2 - Potato Domes & Biofuels**

There is lots to see and learn at this Domes Technology and Biofuels Farm! We will be on and off the bus checking how these technologies are promoting sustainable agriculture and innovation on these 4000 acres of irrigated land.

*Harold Perry, Perry Farm, Coaldale*

### **~12:15 pm Lunch at Broxburn Vegetables & Cafe**

### **TOUR STOP #3 The Future of Food Production**

Aquaculture is a rapidly growing field in Alberta. Learn how this unique innovation is changing the agricultural landscape with a tour of the Aquatic Centre of Excellence at Lethbridge College. Our hosts are also excited to speak to the excellent curriculum connections and how to apply aquaculture education in your school.

*Nick Savidov & Erik Bergen, Lethbridge College*

### **TOUR STOP #4 Meeting Global Food Needs: The Role of Research**

Attention teachers interested in STEM connections this tour is for you! This talk and tour at the Lethbridge Research and Development Centre study plots will showcase the importance of science and technology in ensuring sustainable food production now and into the future.

*Yves Plante, Lethbridge Research and Development Centre*

### **TOUR STOP #5 Irrigation Demo Farm**

Southern Alberta is a relatively dry and arid place and water is critical to food production. Learn how Alberta is ensuring our irrigation systems balances the multiple demands placed on this valuable resources by changing the way we water.

Rod Bennett, Alberta Irrigation Technology Centre

**5:00 pm Return to Hotel**

**5:30/6:00 pm Walk to dinner at the Telegraph Tap House**

### **Optional Permaculture Walking Tour with Synergy Urban Farming**

**Saturday May 28 - Agriculture Education**

**7:00 - 8:30 Breakfast at the Lethbridge Lodge & Hotel Check Out**



**8:30 Bus to Helen Schüler Nature Centre, Lethbridge**

**What about Watershed's**

Agriculture is deeply connected to the water within a watershed. Learn about the role of Watershed Planning and Advisory Councils (WPAC's) and find out what the Oldman Watershed Council is doing to promote water and agriculture connections in the classroom.

*Sofie Forsstrom, Oldman Watershed Council*

**Agriculture Education Panel Discussion**

Hear from a passionate teacher and a support organizations that are doing amazing things with agriculture education in classrooms and beyond. As they each take a few moments to share their story, best practices and resources you will gain ideas and inspiration that can be tailored to your school and students.

**Featuring:**

*Cathy Price, Teacher, Dr. Elliott School*

*Karen Carle, Alberta Agriculture Education Specialist*

*Luree Williamson, CEO, Agriculture for Life*

*Kent Lewarne, Nutrients for Life Education Coordinator*

**Program Debrief and Reflection**

This is your chance to work with the ideas, resources and your colleagues to reflect upon experience and generate ideas for your classroom.

*Facilitated by Inside Education*

**12:15 Bag Lunch and Travel Back to Calgary**

**\*\*ETA back at Ralph Klein Park by 2:30pm**

*This Inside Education Program is possible thanks to the support of:*

