



Agriculture and Food Council

The Agriculture and Food Council (AFC) is a leader in Alberta's agriculture and food industry. It is a unique agent with a vision for Alberta's agriculture, food and life sciences industry to be globally competitive, profitable and sustainable.

To help realize this vision, the Council has developed various partnerships with industry, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, and Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development.

It operates the targeted programs and initiatives outlined in this brochure, and is increasingly viewed by industry partners as a catalyst for policy discussions on important issues and trends affecting the industry.

AFC is a non-profit society formed in 1994 as a result of the Creating Tomorrow consultation process between the Alberta government and Alberta's agriculture and agri-food industry.

It is an industry-led organization comprised of volunteer member representatives from across Alberta's agri-food industry, including a student member. An election is held every spring to replace members whose terms have expired.

Advancing Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food (ACAAF)

ACAAF is a five-year, \$240 million program announced in 2004 to position Canada's agriculture and agri-food sector at the leading edge and to help producers seize new opportunities. Funding for the program is provided by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

The Agriculture and Food Council administers Alberta's \$29 million share. ACAAF Alberta funds eligible projects led by industry stakeholders, contributing to new directions within the agriculture and agri-food industry.

The ACAAF program is delivered under three pillars:

Pillar I Industry-led Solutions to Emerging Issues;

Pillar II Capturing Market Opportunities by Advancing Research Results; and

Pillar III Sharing Information to Advance the Sector.

ACAAF Alberta also administers the Speaker and Event program, and the recent Biofuels Opportunities for Producers Initiative.

Value Chain Initiative

The Value Chain Initiative helps progressive agriculture and food organizations develop successful value chains and other collaborative relationships, and creates awareness for the potential of value chains.

AFC views value chains as an effective way to build a competitive advantage for Alberta's agriculture and food industry in the new global economy.

The Value Chain Initiative includes the program areas of:

- Retail and Food Service Value Chain Programs work with Alberta suppliers to become innovation partners with retailers or food service customers;
- Action-Based Learning Program matches businesses with Masters level students to complete value chain business analysis; and
- Advanced Value Chain Management Training.

The Value Chain Initiative is a collaboration between AFC, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, and Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development.

Innovation in Agribusiness Management Fund (IAMF)

IAMF supports projects that are focused on one or more of its three key objectives: human resource management, transition, and leadership building capacity.

IAMF resources are provided in partnership with Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development; Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada; the Renewal Chapter of the Agricultural Policy Framework (APF): A Federal-Provincial-Territorial Initiative; and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Canadian Adaptation and Rural Development Fund.

Advanced Leadership and Management Development Program (ALMDP)

ALMDP provides funding to assist Alberta agribusiness managers to access programs and courses that develop skills in the areas of leadership and management.

ALMDP provides up to \$7,500 per person, per year, to support education and training through eligible courses and programs.

ALMDP is supported by funding from Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development; Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada; the Renewal Chapter of the Agricultural Policy Framework (APF): A Federal-Provincial-Territorial Initiative; and the Agriculture and Food Council's Innovation in Agribusiness Management Fund (IAMF).

Human Resource Projects

Alberta Agri-Business Network

The Alberta Agri-Business Network is aimed at energetic agri-business people who are early in their careers. The goal is to foster the creation of business networks for the agriculture and food industry. This will allow participants to share experiences and learn from one another in a confidential, supportive environment.

There are two types of network groups: Production Networks and Business Networks. Interested participants are still welcome.

Soil to Sky

Soil to Sky is a web portal designed to attract young job seekers toward a career in agriculture and food by providing career information and links to employers in a single location.

Please visit Soil to Sky at:

www.soiltosky.ca

These human resource projects are funded through a partnership of the Innovation in Agribusiness Management Fund (IAMF), Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development, and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, and the Renewal Chapter of the Agricultural Policy Framework (APF): A Federal-Provincial-Territorial Initiative

Environmental Policy Initiatives Project (EPIP)

The Environmental Policy Initiatives Project (EPIP) is designed to obtain stakeholder feedback on land use and environmental stewardship issues.

EPIP builds on two discussion papers prepared as a result of Ag Summit in 2000. They are: Land Use Policy and the Agri-Food Industry in Alberta, and Recognizing and Supporting Environmental Stewardship within the Agri-Food Industry.

EPIP is funded in partnership with Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development, and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Canadian Adaptation and Rural Development (CARD) fund.



For more information

Please visit the AFC website for further information about our programs and initiatives.

www.agfoodcouncil.com

Or, you may contact us as provided below.

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Agriculture and Food Council of Alberta



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