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NOVEMBER 2021



COMING UP

AgCHAT MAAF's virtual networking space for everyone

Mary Robinson cancelled her AgChat on Nov 28. We'll let you know the new topic and chair as soon as possible.

The two last AgChats were sold out. Registrations to our webinars have also increased and resulted in the November webinar selling out two days before the deadline for registrations.

January 24, 2022 - 7:00 p.m. CT: Enabling successful careers in agriculture: A dialogue with Farm Credit Canada's (FCC) President and CEO, Michael Hoffer and EVP and FCC Chief Operating Officer, Sophie Perreault

Join Michael Hoffer and Sophie Perreault as they reflect on their experiences in building their careers - 60 years combined - and enabling career development among their peers at FCC. They will share how FCC has evolved its approach to diversity and inclusion, sharing personal and organizational anecdotes from their time working at the federal Crown corporation. They will also discuss what it means to enable successful careers in the ag industry.

FCC is Canada's leading agriculture and food lender, dedicated to the future of Canadian agriculture and food. FCC provides flexible, competitively priced financing, management software, information and knowledge specifically designed for the agriculture and food industry.

Registration will open later. More details will be posted on our [Events](#) page.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Future webinars for professional development

New! Due to the success of our webinars, we will be offering more in the winter and spring and extending the length of some of them from one hour to two hours. The topics will be announced later on our [webpage](#) and [Facebook page](#)

Business Plan Development Workshop Series

This is an opportunity to learn to write your business plan guided by experts. This workshop series is delivered by the Women's Enterprise Centre of Manitoba in partnership with Farm Credit Canada and the World Trade Centre Winnipeg.

Cost: \$231 including tax. MAAF offers a subsidy to cover 50% to 75% of the cost. Details and dates are [here](#) or email us at mbwomeninagnfood@outlook.com

FEATURED CAREERS

Operations Coordinator, Winnipeg - term position - Canterra Seeds

Production Operator - Winnipeg - Masterfeeds

To see all current opportunities visit our [careers page](#). Our page is updated regularly.

CONFERENCES/EVENTS

Women in Agri-culture Celebration - Nov 15-18. This virtual event consists of a collection of videos that highlight farm women with diverse backgrounds and culture from Portage la Prairie and other Manitoba locations. The videos are being released daily at 8:30 am on our [webpage](#) and [Facebook page](#).

The event also includes a **live discussion panel**. The **topic is: What does it take to run a farm business?** The panelists, Jill Verwey (farmer & Keystone Agricultural Producers Vice-President), Ashley Nelson (farmer), and Heather Watson (Farm Management Canada Executive Director), will discuss their experiences, the issues they face and the tools they use to solve them. Host: Laura Lazo, MAAF Chair. **Nov 18, 6-7:30 pm CT. Register now.**

This virtual project will be followed by a large, in-person event in 2022 which has potential to create economic benefits for the community and for rural women. More details will be provided later.

This celebration is the first ever of its kind, and is the product of the collaborative efforts of multiple organizations in the Portage la Prairie region, under the lead of the Portage la Prairie Local Immigration Partnership and in partnership with MAAF.

Advancing Women in Agriculture Virtual Conference, November 22 & 23, 2021

Invest in yourself, advance your goals and build your network. See the exciting line up of [speakers](#). It includes:

Beverly Beuermann-King. Mental Health and Resiliency Expert. Topic: Breaking The Silence On Mental Illness: Understanding Depression Within Your Team During Change and Challenge.

Janice Bartley. Founder, Foodpreneur Lab. Topic: The Upside of Challenge.

Leslie Coleman. Vice President, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion, Nutrien Topic: Courage to Care.

Saving and networking opportunity

If we get together and register as a group (minimum six people), we can save \$50 each on the registration cost, and moreover, we'll create our own networking group to discuss how things are going, our impressions, what to ask/who to meet, how to follow up with the people we met, and stay in touch with each other after the conference. Contact Laura at mbwomeninagnfood@outlook.com

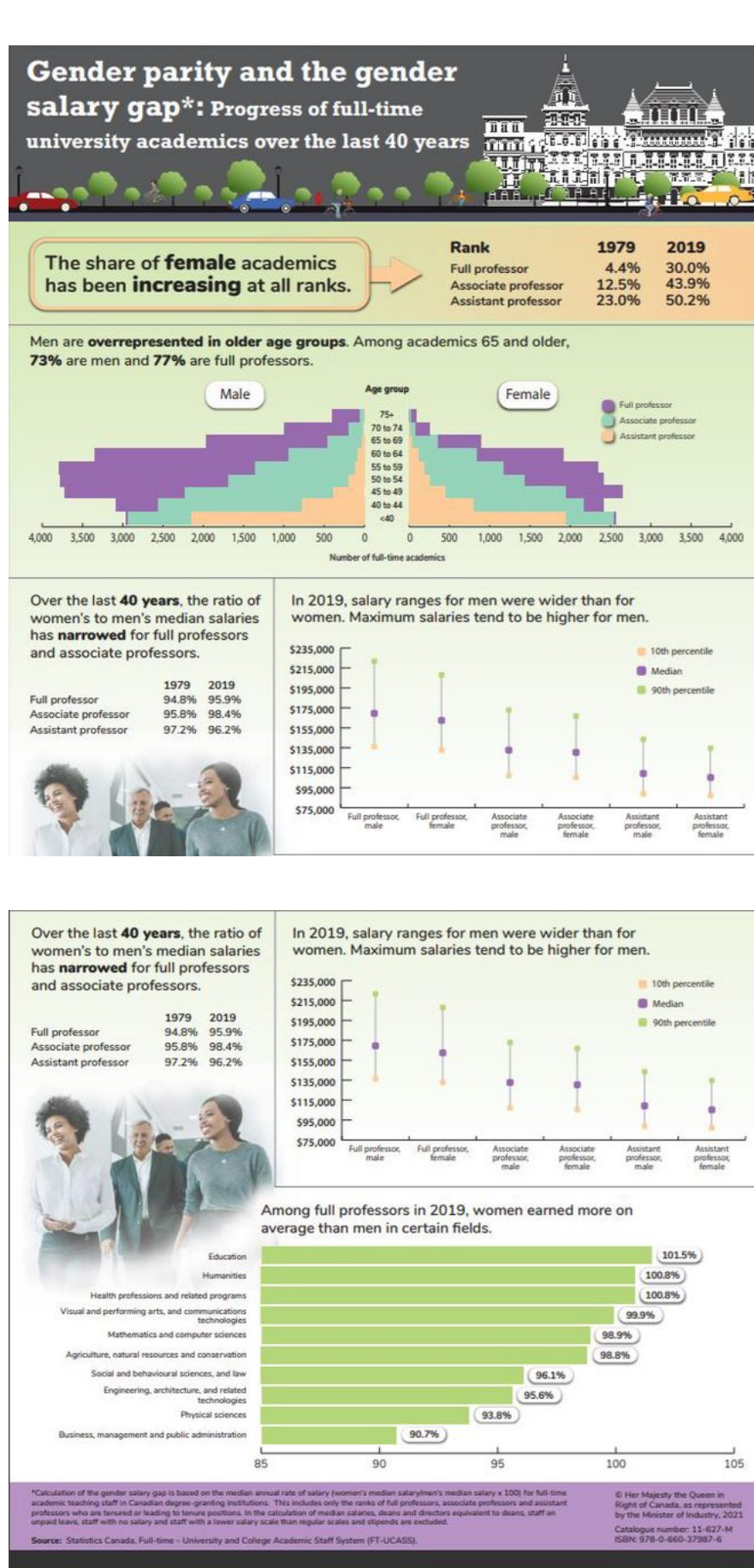
DID YOU KNOW?

In this issue we focus on raising awareness about the gender gap and the role of Indigenous women in the sector.

The gender gap is narrowing in the academic sectors. The share of female academics has been increasing at all ranks.

Over the last 40 years, the ratio of women's to men's median salaries has also narrowed for full professors and associate professors.

Source and infographic (below) [Statistics Canada](#)



Gender and climate are intertwined. Climate change disproportionately affects women and girls. "80 per cent of the displaced by climate related disasters and changes around the world are women and girls." That's because women in developing countries interact more with environmental factors, e.g., they collect water for cooking and cleaning, use the land for livestock, collect firewood, etc. They are also the first to be affected by climate change when they are forced to travel farther and farther to find the resources their families need. Source: United Nations [Read more here.](#)

Finding hope in Indigenous food. Indigenous women are playing a role in restoring traditional food knowledge.

COUNTRY GUIDE article by Helen Lammers-Helps

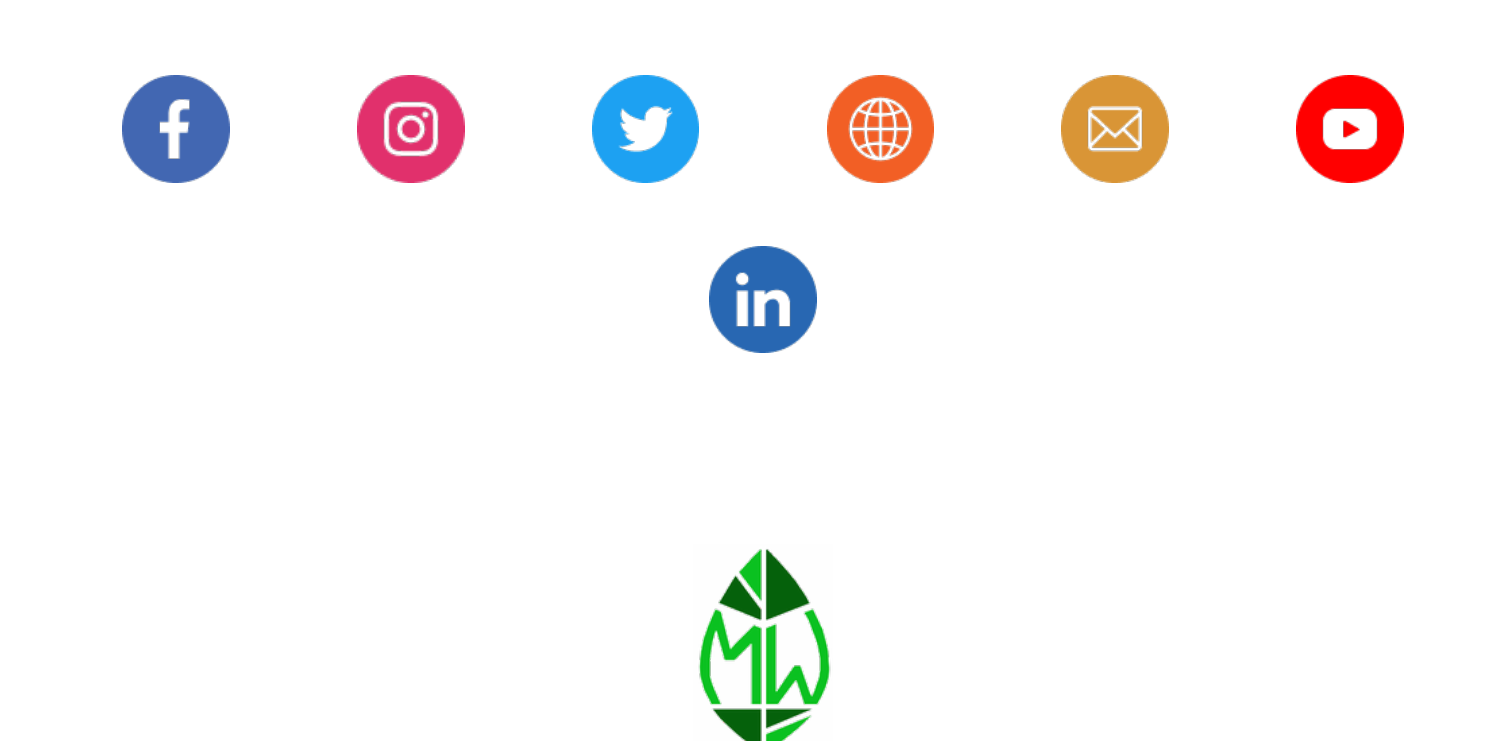
One of the consequences of the residential school system has been the loss of traditional food knowledge and, consequently, identification with indigenous culture. Dr. Adrienne Lickers Xavier, acting director of the Indigenous studies program at McMaster University in Hamilton says that "If cultural food is missing, it affects us mentally, socially and physiologically". Some indigenous women are trying to change that. For seven years Lickers Xavier headed up "Our Sustenance, a community education and food access" program that was responsible for a local farmers market, community gardens, good-food box program, and other community programs at the Six Nations of the Grand River Reserve near Brantford, Ontario. Also, Chef Tawnya Brant, serves food that is both culturally relevant and healthy at her restaurant on the Six Nations of the Grand River Reserve. She focuses on preparing healthy meals using local traditional and foraged Haudenosaunee ingredients. [Read more here.](#)

BECOME AN MAAF MEMBER TODAY

JOIN OUR BOARD OR VOLUNTEER

Are you looking for a rewarding experience? Get involved in MAAF and grow your potential. You'll develop management and team skills, learn, build a network, and get your name out there. Choose the type of work you want to do and how much time you commit. At MAAF, we believe that "we do what we can and not more". We have a number of opportunities such as social media, fundraising, membership, networking, website development and marketing but you can choose the role that fits your interests.

Or maybe you have children that need to do volunteer hours for school? There are lots of opportunities to help. [Contact us](#) and let us know what you would like to do.



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