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APRIL 2022



COMING UP

AgCHAT MWF's virtual networking space for everyone

Stay tuned for AgCHAT to resume in June.

WHAT'S NEW?

What do you want to see at MWF's AGM?

We are starting to plan for our first in-person Annual General Meeting in two years. We would love to hear from our members if you have any ideas for topics or speakers you would like to see on the agenda, and your preferred location. We will do our best to accommodate your wishes within our capacity and funding.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES:

Innovation Growth Program (IGP)

Businesses may apply for a non-repayable grant of up to \$100,000 per project to cost-share eligible expenses on a 50/50 basis. The IGP provides cost-sharing assistance to Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs) to assist them in: developing and commercializing new innovative products and processes, reduce risks associated with innovative product development, accelerate growth and strengthen your financial position.

[Click here for more information or to apply.](#)

Application closing dates:
June 15, 2022, September 15, 2022, December 15, 2022, March 15, 2023.

Workforce Development Program

This program assists companies to assess human resource (HR) management needs and develop and implement HR and workforce training and development plans. Funding is variable and can be used for a variety of objectives including to hire external support to build company capacity and/or to develop and deliver internal training.

[Find out more here.](#)

Jobs and Growth Fund in Western Canada (JGF)

This program provides funding to businesses and organizations to help create jobs. All projects must be completed prior to March 31, 2024 as no further funding will be available past that date. Businesses, not-for-profits and Indigenous organizations are eligible. Applications will be accepted through a continuous intake process.

[Apply here](#) or contact PrairiesCan - Manitoba at 204 983 4472 or email wd.mb-mb.deo@canada.ca

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

SPIN-Farming Starts Business Accelerator to Serve New Generation of Growers

PLEASANTDALE SK- March 23, 2022 -- A farm business accelerator program is now available through SPIN-Farming. It equips participants with a plan with a measurable gross revenue target.

The program can be completed in two weeks, and includes two components: answering six questions and conducting a half-hour online plan review with Wally Satzewich, pioneering urban farmer and creator of SPIN-Farming.

This program gives new farmers a way to set a realistic first-year income goal and create a production and marketing plan to reach it," Satzewich says. The point is to figure out the minimal amount of growing space needed to reach the desired income level.

"In farming, a lot of figures are based on acres of production. It is easier for beginning farmers to use a smaller standard unit. SPIN-Farming's standard unit is 1,000 sq. ft. segments of production. SPIN has established yield and revenue benchmarks for a wide variety of crops based on that unit of production.

[Applications for the Farm Business Accelerator can be made here: https://spinfarming.com/business-management/farm-business-accelerator/](https://spinfarming.com/business-management/farm-business-accelerator/)

AWESOME (Advance Women Entrepreneurs) Program - Saskatchewan Food Industry Development Centre.

A program designed to support women who own food manufacturing companies in the Canadian Prairies. The AWESOME team provides business development support through one-on-one and group education services.

[Find out more information here.](#)

DO YOU HAVE A VACANCY?

If you post it on MWF's [career page](#), it is free for now.

Send your job posting link, indicating how long it should be on the page to: mbwomeninagnfood@outlook.com

FEATURED CAREERS

Scouler - Manitoba:

Product Group Manager - Sunflower - Winkler

(Deadline: May 21, 2022)

Originator - St. Jean Baptiste

(Deadline: May 22, 2022)

Senior Originator - St. Jean Baptiste

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

DO YOU SELL FARM-RELATED PRODUCTS AND SERVICES?

You can advertise them on MWF's Facebook page each Friday. This is a free service for members who have paid for the 2022 membership. Membership information can be found [here](#). **If you are a member, send us a brief Ad about your product or service** to mbwomeninagnfood@outlook.com The Ad should say what you are offering, contact information and a link if available.

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2022

Your 2021 membership has expired. Please, see <https://www.mwaf.ca/mwaf-membership> for information on how to renew or join as a new member.

CONFERENCES/EVENTS

The 14th ADVANCING WOMEN CONFERENCE WEST will be held IN-PERSON June 21 - 22, 2022 in Calgary.

Registration is now open [here](#). Speakers announced so far are [here](#).

MFGA'S 2022 REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE CONFERENCE announces well-regarded, award-winning researcher and author, Fred Provenza as its first keynote speaker.

Fred Provenza is professor emeritus of Behavioral Ecology in the Department of Wildland Resources at Utah State University. Provenza directed an award-winning research group that pioneered an understanding of how learning influences foraging behavior and how behavior links soils and plants with herbivores and humans. He is one of the founders of BEHAVE, an international network of scientists and land managers committed to integrating behavioral principles with local knowledge to enhance environmental, economic, and cultural values of rural and urban communities. He is also the author of Foraging Behavior and the co-author of The Art & Science of Shepherding and the sole author of Nourishment: What Animals Can Teach Us about Rediscovering Our Nutritional Wisdom.

DATES: NOVEMBER 14-15, 2022, VICTORIA INN, BRANDON, MB

CAFA CONFERENCE: From Fields to Files: How AI and Machine Learning Change Everything.

Elbow, SK May 26. Learn more and register [here](#).

CAFA has extended its members price to MWF members. In the comments section of the registration form, indicate you are a MWF member.

Check out CAFA's Cultivating Business Magazine for April, 2022 [here](#).

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Web Portal to connect Manitoba grain farmers and livestock producers.

The Manitoba Forage and Grasslands Association and Manitoba Organic Alliance have created the [Manitoba Grazing Exchange](#) website to make it easier for livestock producers, in search of grazing or feed, to connect virtually with grain producers who may have pasture or feed available.

COMPETITIONS AND GRANTS

Grant opportunity for farmers: Ag Action Manitoba Training - Training and Consulting - applications on a continual basis subject to funding.

This grant helps farmers improve their business knowledge, develop management skills and develop farm business plans, for the purpose of growing profitable farming operations in Manitoba. Farmers under 46, and beginning farmers are eligible to apply. The grant covers 50 per cent of eligible expenses, with funding caps from \$500 to \$2,500 for eligible activities. [More details here.](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Action still needed to address the gender wage gap in all industries.

The recent 2019 - 1 Year American Community Survey shows that women in agriculture generally earn about 80.1% of what their male counterparts earn. But in the finance and insurance industry (both very important sectors which support agriculture) women earn only 59.2% of what their male colleagues earn. [Read the full article here.](#)

BECOME AN MWF MEMBER TODAY

JOIN OUR BOARD OR VOLUNTEER

Are you looking for a rewarding experience? Get involved in MWF 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 MWF, 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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