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AUGUST 2022



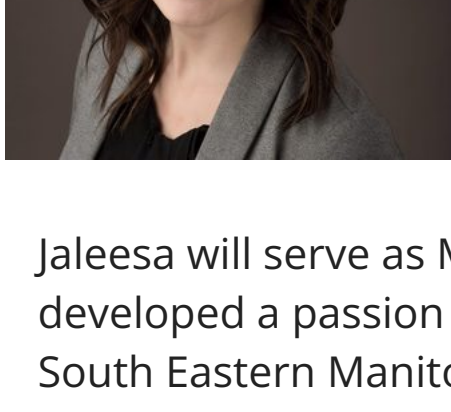
MWAF NEWS

MWAF welcomes new Board members.

We are excited to welcome Maryam Bafandkar and Jaleesa Miller to the MWAF Board.



Maryam has a masters in Applied Computer Science from the University of Winnipeg and works for ENTERPRISE MACHINE INTELLIGENCE & LEARNING INITIATIVE (EMILI) as a Technology Analyst and Researcher. She is also an instructor at the University of Winnipeg teaching the Big Data Platforms course. She worked on Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning projects in digital agriculture and health applications for more than five years. She has designed and developed machine learning algorithms and deep learning models to predict highly similar plants, such as weeds and profitable crops. Maryam loves developing AI applications, teaching, and inspiring people to improve the agriculture and food industry with AI solutions.



Jaleesa will serve as MWAF's Director of Finance and Business Development. She developed a passion for agriculture at a very young age, growing up on a farm in South Eastern Manitoba. She studied Agri-Business at Lakeland College in Vermilion, Alberta and has been in the agriculture banking industry for the last 12 years, most recently at RBC Royal Bank in Winnipeg as a Senior Commercial Account Manager, specializing in agriculture. Jaleesa strives to support farmers and business owners to work towards their farm or business goals and dreams by providing business and financing advice. She enjoys connecting with likeminded women in the agriculture industry, which led her to MWAF.

OTHER NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

New MWAF website nearing completion

We are close to launching the new MWAF website in September/October that will provide improved functionality and a host of new features including online purchasing options for memberships and other services such as MWAF workshops and job posting packages.

We thank you for your patience as we continue to make various options on our website functional. Stay tuned for updates.

Professional co-development opportunities for French-speaking women in agriculture.

The Agricultrices du Québec are inviting all French-speaking women in agriculture, who are living and working outside of Québec, to participate in a new project supporting women-led agricultural entrepreneurship in Canada.

The project, funded by Agriculture and Agri-food Canada, gives women working in agriculture an opportunity to participate in professional co-development groups.

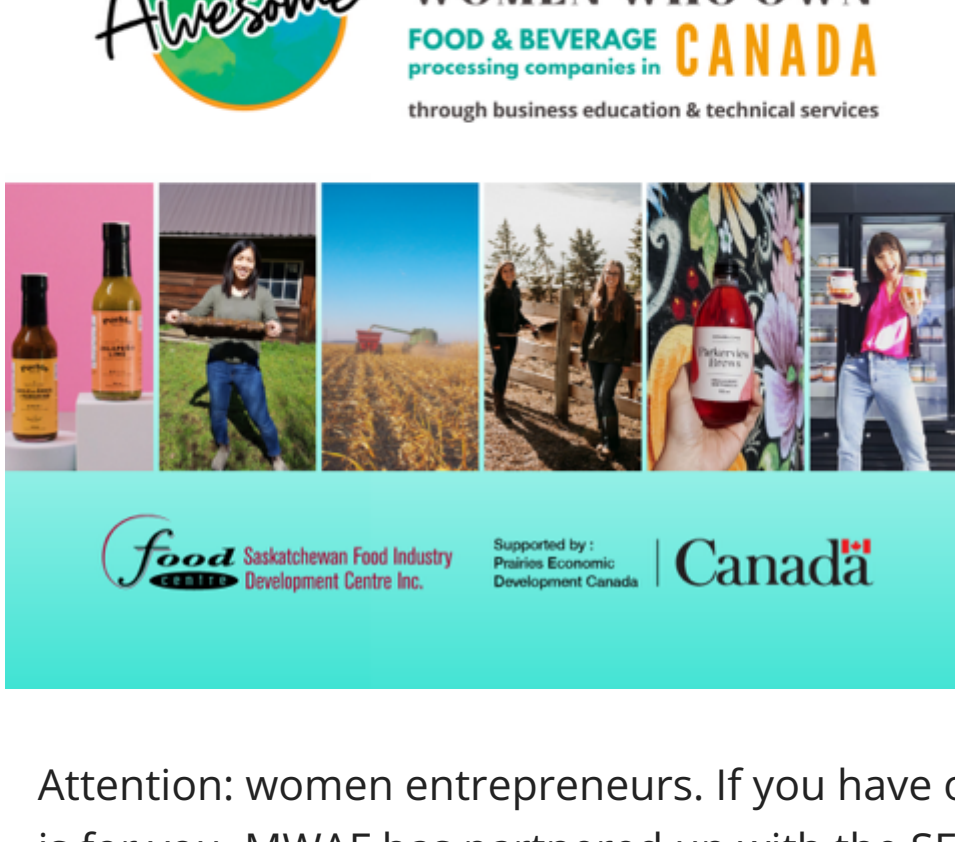
The cells are planned for the autumn-winter season of 2022-2023. If you are interested, contact [Marla Alkayed](mailto:MarlaAlkayed@upa.gc.ca), project officer, by email or at 514 431 3756 or register via this [link](#) (indicate your province in the address).

Les Agricultrices du Québec font appel aux agricultrices francophones qui vivent et travaillent hors du Québec pour un nouveau projet de support à l'entrepreneuriat agricole féminin pancanadien.

Le projet, supporté par Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada, offrira aux femmes travaillant en agriculture la chance de participer à des groupes de co-développement professionnel.

Les cellules auront lieu pendant l'automne et l'hiver 2022-2023. Si vous êtes intéressées, n'hésitez pas à contacter Maria Alkayed, agente de projet, malkayed@upa.gc.ca ou 514 431 3756 ou à vous enregistrer via ce [lien](#) en indiquant votre province dans l'adresse.

MWAF collaborates with Saskatchewan Food Industry Development Centre (SFIDC) to support women in the food industry.



Attention: women entrepreneurs. If you have or want to start a food venture, this is for you. MWAF has partnered up with the SFIDC to support your food business. The Centre has an accelerator program specifically designed for women entrepreneurs, that is called "AWESOME".

The AWESOME Program supports women who own food processing companies in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. It provides start-up and growth services through one-on-one and group business development education. For more information email: awesome@foodcentre.sk.ca

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES:

Prairie Watersheds Climate Program - Prairie On-Farm Climate Action Fund

Prairie Watersheds Climate Program (PWCP) has been launched by the Manitoba Association of Watersheds (MAW), Prairie On-Farm Climate Action Fund information is available through Manitoba Watershed Districts and Saskatchewan Association of Watersheds. Application intake information will follow in summer 2022. Learn more [here](#): or contact pwcp@manitobawatersheds.org

PWCP aims to provide knowledge, tools, skills, and financial incentives to help farmers adopt and deploy real, measurable and practical climate solutions across Manitoba and Saskatchewan through implementing Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs). **The three BMP streams in the PWCP program are: Improving nitrogen, management, increasing adoption of cover cropping, Expanding the adoption of rotational grazing.** MFGA is a supporting partner for this program in Manitoba. More info [here](#).

Supply Management Processing Investment Fund.

A program to help processors of supply-managed commodities adapt to market changes. It provides non-repayable contributions to support investments in dairy, poultry, and egg processing facilities that improve productivity and/or efficiency through the use of new automated equipment and technology. The application intake is now open [here](#).

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.

Eligible applicants include the following:

- For-profit organizations, including corporations and cooperatives
- Processors of supply-managed commodities
- Dairy processors
- Poultry Primary processors (chicken and turkey)
- Poultry Further processors (chicken and turkey)
- Hatcheries (broiler, egg-type or turkey)
- Egg graders
- Egg processors

Intake is open now and on a continuous basis.

[Find out more here.](#)

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

CanExport Innovation.

Innovators from Canadian organizations may access up to \$75,000 in funding to assist with research and development (R&D) for a single technology. The program covers up to 75% of costs to pursue and sign collaborative R&D agreements with international partners and investors.

NOTE: CanExport Innovation has resumed funding for travel and travel-dependent activities that comply with Government of Canada's [travel advisories](#). Applicants are responsible for ensuring that travel restrictions are lifted in Canada and in destination countries before submitting an application.

More details [here](#).

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.

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

More information available [here](#).

JOB BOARD

We are in the process of updating the Job Board with new functions and features, so it may not be as up to date, or have as many jobs listed as usual. Please bear with us while we make the Job Board even better than before and check the page often for updates.

DO YOU SELL FARM-RELATED PRODUCTS AND SERVICES?

You can advertise them on MWAF'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.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2022

Your 2021 membership has expired. Please, see our [membership page](#) for information on how to renew or join as a new member.

CONFERENCES/EVENTS

Food & Beverage MB CULTIVATE: Sustainability Conference & Trade Show September 7, 2022 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM (CDT) - Winnipeg, MB

The inaugural "CULTIVATE Sustainability Conference and Trade Show" is a day of knowledge sharing and engagement with industry thought leaders and innovators in sustainability, packaging, technology, automation, supply chain logistics, equity, diversity, inclusion, and more.

Interact with an extensive array of industry investors and innovators at the trade show. Network with practitioners and fellow food and beverage processors and make the connections you need to turn your sustainability integrations into your competitive advantage.

For more information on sponsorships, trade show booths and attendance contact: Karina Shaw, 204-982-6375, KarinaS@foodbeverage.mb.ca

Learn more and register [here](#).

PROTEIN INDUSTRIES CANADA 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Protein Industries Canada's in-person Annual General Meeting (AGM) and conference is on **September 13 & 14** in Winnipeg, MB at the Hotel Fairmont Winnipeg.

The event will start on the afternoon of Tuesday, Sept. 13 with an optional tour of Roquette Canada's facility in Portage la Prairie, followed by an evening networking reception. Wednesday, Sept. 14 will include the AGM (hybrid) and a full day of speakers and interactive panels. Registration is FREE. More details [here](#).

MFGA'S 2022 REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 14-15, 2022, VICTORIA INN, BRANDON, MB

Lock down your calendar right now for the **2022 MFGA Regenerative Agriculture Conference**, to be held November 14-15, 2022, Victoria Inn, Brandon, Mb.

Registration has opened. This 1.5 day event will feature North American keynote speakers, including Kara Kroeger, David McInnes, Kimberly Cornish, Ryan Boyd, Fred Provenza, along with local producer panels, all focusing on regenerative agriculture and the great potential of profitable farm operations via your farm's soil, herds, and learning more about the potential for human health benefits from soil-benefiting agricultural practices. Day 1 launches with a special **YOU'VE GOT CARBON - NOW WHAT?** session. Agenda, speakers and registration details can be found [here](#). **EARLY BIRD PRICING UNTIL OCTOBER 1.**

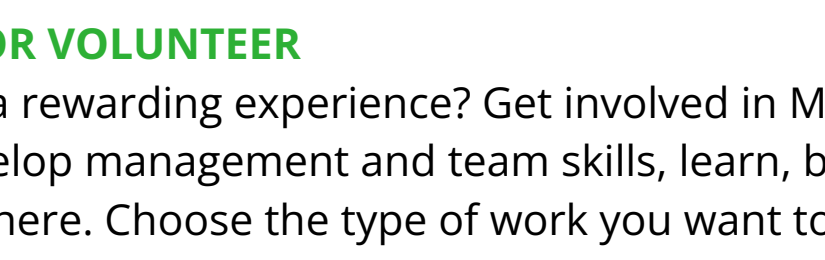
CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF FARM ADVISORS (CAFA) Manitoba's Farm Management Update Nov. 17, 2022 at The Caboto Centre, Winnipeg.

Includes a farm tax update, farm legal update and so much more! Details coming at www.CAFAnet.ca.

COMPETITIONS AND GRANTS

Grant opportunity for farmers: Ag Action Manitoba Training - Training and Consulting - applications on a continual basis subject to funding. Final deadline November 18, 2022.

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](#).



JOIN OUR BOARD OR VOLUNTEER

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