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JUNE 2022



MWAF NEWS

MWAF has a busy summer ahead with the launch of its new website just around the corner that will make it easier and more convenient to access our enhanced services, and keep up to date on news relevant to women in the ag and food industry. We will also be hosting more events, including our ever-popular AgChats, and of course are planning for the in-person AGM that will be held late summer or early fall, so stay tuned to our social media channels for more details to follow.

UPCOMING EVENT - DISCUSSION PANEL: Money Matters for Your Ag and Food Business - Monday, June 27 1:30-2:45 p.m. CT

Join us for this discussion panel and learn all about the financial side of a business.

Do you want to start a business in the agriculture or food processing sector? Do you have a business and want to scale it up? Money matters at each stage, from the start up, to scale up, for your cash flow, and to control the debt load. Obtaining financing can be frustrating but there are organizations that provide advice and programs designed for women and support them through each stage of the business journey.

The panellists will share information about their services such as business advising, training and financing. The panel will also feature a farmer who will talk about her own experience with financing and launching a new venture. Ask questions specific to your business and learn how you can move ahead with your business idea. Register [here](#).

Panellists:

- Laura Lazo**, Manitoba Women in Agriculture and Food (MWAF), Chair and Moderator
- Wendy Yan**, Futurpreneur, Business Development Manager
- Genni Hibbert**, Farm Credit Canada (FCC) Relationship Manager, Commercial Financing
- Alanna Keefe**, Women's Enterprise Centre of Manitoba (WECM), Director of Stakeholder Engagement
- Lourdes Still**, Masagana Flower Farm & Studio, Farm Owner/Operator

First Women in Ag Round Table - Peers Meet.

MWAF recently hosted its first Women-in Ag round table. The plan is to meet regularly to talk about our experiences, careers and businesses, and, later on, identify solutions that we can bring to our own workplaces. The meetings are not webinars, they are INFORMAL virtual conversations. From time to time, we will also have guest speakers.

Our first speaker was Shannon Weatherall, FCC's Senior Vice-President of Prairie Operations. She shared details about her background and leadership journey, FCC's culture, leadership and mentorship, and her key learnings were:

- Get comfortable with being uncomfortable
- Feedback is a gift
- Lean into excellence rather than perfection
- Balance safety and purpose – love more than you fear
- Build a strong network of mentors/partners

We talked and laughed, and, before we knew it, our time was up.

We'll meet again in the fall. The guest speaker is Jennifer Marchand, Cargill's Associate VP & Government & Industry Relations Leader. If you would like to join us, please email mbwomeninagnfood@outlook.com.

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

We are still accepting ideas for topics or speakers you would like to see on the agenda at our in-person AGM, as well as your preferred location.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES:

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 purchase of new automated equipment and technology. The application intake is now open [here](#).

Local Food Infrastructure Fund.

This program is aimed at community-based, not-for-profit organizations with a mission to reduce food insecurity by establishing and strengthening their local food system. The current intake is June 1, 2022 to July 15, 2022 and will focus on projects that either create a portion of (or expand) a food system or implement an entire food system. Grant funding: \$100,000 and up to \$500,000. [Apply 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. [Find out more here](#).

Canada-Manitoba Job Grant

Intake one for the 2022/23 Canada-Manitoba Job Grant is now open. It provides funding to cover up to 75% of eligible costs to provide training for employers, employees and interns. You can also apply for funding to attend the Advancing Women's Conference because it is an eligible cost. Eligible dates include training that began on or after April 1, 2022 and ends on or before March 15, 2023. COVID-19 related training is also eligible for funding as is for Mandatory Entry-Level Training (MELT). Applications and more details [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. We cover up to 75% of costs to pursue and sign collaborative R&D agreements with international partners and investors. More details [here](#).

FEATURED CAREERS

Real Agriculture - Social Media Lead - Remote

(Closing date: June 17, 2022).

Richardson - Sales Agronomist - Minnedosa, MB.

(Closing date: June 23, 2022).

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 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.

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

WECM News

Upcoming Training and Events

IN-PERSON: ToGetHer Stronger | Business Breakfast Series

Why Understanding the Economic Environment Matters

June's Business Breakfast is fast approaching: bookmark June 21 and join us at Inn at the Forks. Tracey Code, Director, National Accounts for Scotiabank will speak on how to **maximize your business in a post Covid economy**.

Business Breakfast Event Details

Tuesday June 21, 2022

8:00 to 9:30AM CST

Inn at the Forks

75 Forks Market Road

[#ToGetHerStronger](#)

REGISTER HERE FOR THE ABOVE WECM IN-PERSON: ToGetHer Stronger Business Breakfast event

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, Karina5@foodbeverage.mb.ca

Learn more and register [here](#).

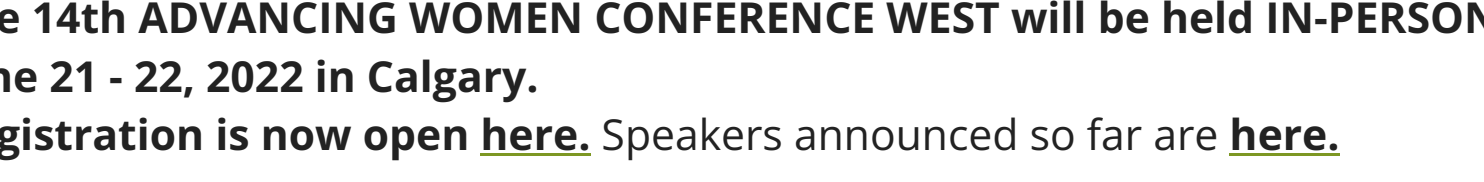
The 14th ADVANCING WOMEN CONFERENCE WEST will be held IN-PERSON June 21 - 22, 2022 in Calgary.

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

MFGA'S 2022 REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE CONFERENCE 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. This 1.5 day event will feature North American keynote speakers, including Kara Kroeger and 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 agriculture practices. *Stay tuned for registration and agenda details.*

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



CAHRC Growing Opportunities Wage Subsidy - Summer Student Placements Still Available!

Funded by the Government of Canada through the [Student Work Placement Program](#), Growing Opportunities offers registered Canadian businesses, startups, and not-for-profits related to the primary agriculture sector a subsidy on each qualifying student's wages.

New Compensation and Eligibility Criteria May 1

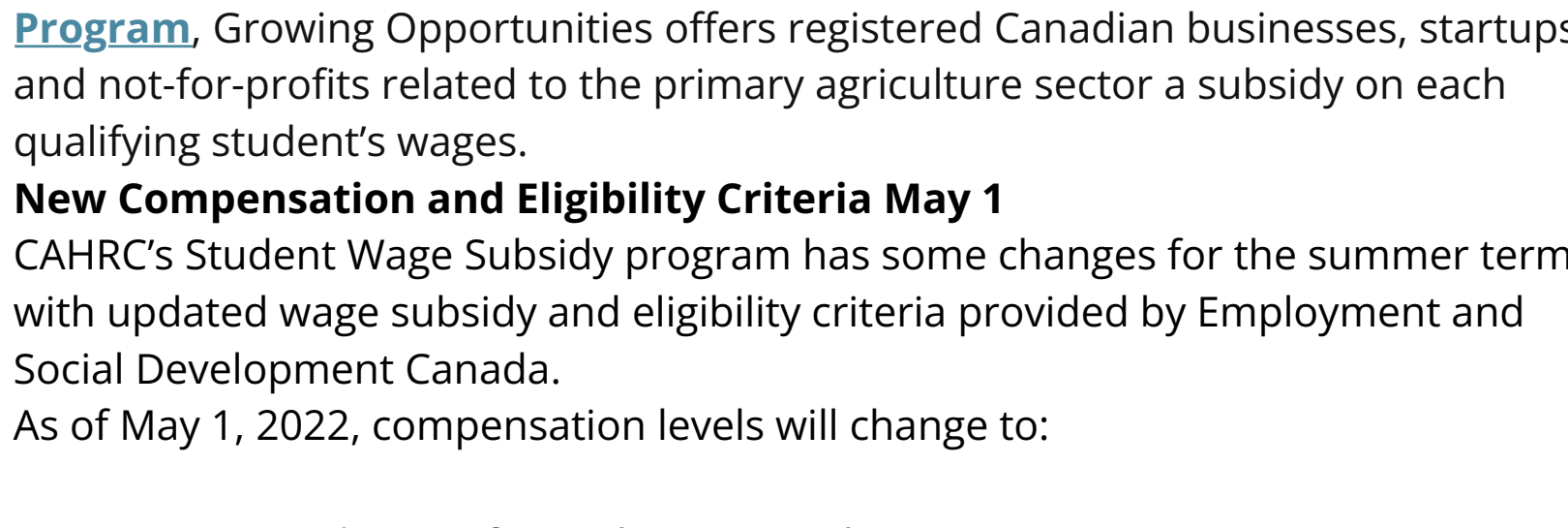
CAHRC's Student Wage Subsidy program has some changes for the summer term with updated wage subsidy and eligibility criteria provided by Employment and Social Development Canada.

As of May 1, 2022, compensation levels will change to:

- 50% (up to \$5,000) for each net new placement; or
- 70% (up to \$7,000) for each net new student placement from under-represented groups including women in STEM, Indigenous students, newcomers, persons with disabilities, visible minority as well as first-year students.

Full text can be [found online](#) and if you have any questions do not hesitate to contact Nadee Imran, [AgriTalent](#) Program Manager at nimran@cahrc-crrha.ca.

Farm Women - Participate in Farm Management Canada's National Survey for your chance to win \$500!



The roles and participation of women in farming is changing. Farm Management Canada and CentricEngine Inc. have undertaken a research that will provide a baseline for understanding the roles, status, barriers and opportunities to support women involved in farming. The survey (see above) should take less than 30 minutes to complete.

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 coverable activities. More details [here](#).

BECOME AN MWAF MEMBER TODAY

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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