

OCTOBER 2022



One of the many volunteers who came out to help with harvest day for Harvest of Hope Growing Project in Moosomin.

## Harvest of Hope Growing project raises \$70,000

BY SIERRA D'SOUZA BUTTS  
LOCAL JOURNALISM INITIATIVE REPORTER

Oct. 14 was harvest day for Moosomin's Harvest of Hope Growing Project. The group had revenue of \$130,000 from the project and after input costs, an estimate of \$70,000 will be donated to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

"The Harvest of Hope is a Canadian Foodgrains Bank community growing project," said Kyle Penner organizer of Harvest of Hope in Moosomin.

"All of our proceeds of our grain today go to help feeding hungry people in Canada and other parts in the

world."

This year, there were 33 Canadian Foodgrains Bank projects that covered approximately 3,500 acres in Saskatchewan.

Moosomin Harvest of Hope was the largest growing project in Saskatchewan.

"I think it's important thing that we recognize our spot in the world as leaders in agriculture," Penner said.


"We've been really blessed with lots of great ground, with farmers who are fantastic at what they do, and the ability to share that with people who can't, or who are

less fortunate than we are."

On the day of the event, there were seven volunteers who came out with their combines to help with harvest and 14 volunteers to help throughout the day.

However, Penner said there is about 40 to 50 volunteers who help with the growing project over the course of the year.

"That's one of the best parts about the community growing project is that we have so many people who are willing to get behind this cause," Penner said.

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# Ag minister returns from trade and investment mission to Mexico

BY SIERRA D'SOUZA BUTTS  
LOCAL JOURNALISM  
INITIATIVE REPORTER

Saskatchewan Agriculture Minister David Marit recently returned from a trade and investment mission to Guadalajara, Saltillo and Mexico City.

Marit initially went to Mexico to attend the Tri-National Agricultural Accord in Saltillo from Oct. 18 to 19, and arranged times to also meet with grain companies and livestock associations.

"We went down there for the Tri-National Accord to talk about trade being important to us," said Marit.

"We had some good discussion there and we thought since we were down there, we're going to tie in some meetings as well."

The Accord brings to-

gether elected agricultural leaders and senior officials from Canadian provinces and U.S. and Mexican states to discuss agriculture and trade policy issues.

"In the meetings we met with a company in Guadalajara called Grupo Vida who sources all their oats from Western Canada," said Marit.

"We've built a relationship with this family. We had lunch with them and a meeting with them, then we went to the Tri-National Accord after that, then we were off to Mexico City."

"In Mexico City we met with the largest bread maker in the world, Grupo Bimbo. Then we also met with the largest grain buyer in Mexico called Trimax. They also buy grain and trade, they build as well."

"We met with the livestock association, we met with the canola crush folks too. Then we were there for the Canada-Mexico Chamber of Commerce 40th anniversary reception as well."

The purpose of the trade and investment meetings was to promote Saskatchewan as a top supplier of high-quality cattle genetics, and profile the province's food and feed ingredients.

"We had some great meetings, some great opportunities and discussions about what we do in Saskatchewan and how we do it," Marit said.

"Obviously their concern is that their customers are starting to ask not only where the crop is growing, but how it is growing too,"

Continued on page B12



Left are, Deputy Ministry for the Ministry of Agriculture Rick Burton, Managing Director for the Mexico Trade office Horacio Cuevas, Saskatchewan Agriculture Minister David Marit, Ambassador of Canada to Mexico Graeme C. Clark, and President and CEO of Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership Chris Dekker.



David Marit, minister of agriculture and minister responsible for Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation recently attended the Tri-National Agricultural Accord in Saltillo, Mexico from Oct. 18-19.



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# Redvers Ag building new 6,000-square-foot Kubota dealership

BY KARA KINNA

A new 6,000-square-foot Kubota dealership is currently under construction in Redvers. The dealership is being built by Redvers Ag and is slated to be complete in the fall or early winter of 2023.

The dealership is being built just west of the existing Redvers Ag building at the junction of Highways 13 and 8.

Redvers Ag took on the Kubota brand two years ago, and owner Perry Dangstorp says it was a good decision.

"It was a good opportunity and Kubota is a strong brand," he says.

"We never carried a small tractor or any lawn and garden equipment before. The smallest size of tractor we sold previously was the size of the biggest one Kubota made. Carrying Kubota allowed us to carry construction equipment like skid steers, compact track loaders and excavators, which we never sold before, and then Kubota's lawn and garden and turf equipment. So basically there was no product overlap, everything we got from Kubota was new to us."

Dangstorp says Redvers Ag is the main Kubota dealership for the area, seeing customers from as far as the U.S. border, St. Lazare, Manitoba, White-wood and Oxbow.

The new dealership will include a show room, parts department and sales department.



A rendering of the new 6,000-square-foot Kubota dealership being built by Redvers Ag.

Redvers Ag was started by Dangstorp's great-grandfather in 1954, and he says this next step will cement the business's future.

"My great-grandpa built Redvers Ag, the building we are operating out of

right now, so it's an investment for the future moving forward to be tied in with Kubota," says Dangstorp.

"It shows that we are committed to Redvers Ag and to Kubota, and it's going to be a priority of ours.

"I took over Redvers Ag 10 years ago and we were a short-line dealer primarily selling Versatile, MacDon, and Degelman products. It was a little harder to invest in your business because at any point, any one of those brands could

have sold and then you would have one less product line to sell. But Kubota gave us a big territory, so the opportunity is much better than we have had with any other manufacturer.

"It's good that we have

a brand that we can invest in for the future, and then hopefully I have something better to pass on to the next generation. If my kids want to take it over, or someone else, it will be a very good, viable business."

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Per cent change in farmland values		
	Average per cent change January 2022 - June 2022 (6 months)	Average per cent change July 2021 - June 2022 (12 months)
B.C.	6.5	15
Alta.	5.9	5.8
Sask.	8.4	14.9
Man.	6	13.6
Ont.	15.6	27.7
Que.	10.3	13.5
N.B.	3.4	8.1
N.S.	6	14
P.E.I.	14.8	26.4
N.L.	N/A	N/A
Canada	8.1	13.1

## Farmland value increases override concern over higher interest rates

Average farmland values continued to increase in most parts of Canada, despite higher interest rates in the first half of 2022, according to a mid-year review by Farm Credit Canada (FCC).

"Strong farm cash receipts, buoyed by robust commodity prices, have managed to quell some of the profitability challenges from higher interest rates and farm input costs," said J.P. Gervais, FCC's chief economist. "Producers are still making strategic investments in their operations and buying farmland, which is in short supply and high demand. This healthy farmland market is a good indication there is confidence and optimism in the future of the industry among producers."

The highest average farmland value increases were reported in Ontario (15.6 per cent), Quebec (10.3 per cent) and Prince Edward Island (14.8 per cent), followed by Saskatchewan (8.4 per cent), which was closest to the national average increase of 8.1 per cent. More modest increases were reported in the rest of the provinces. There were insufficient transactions in the Yukon, Nunavut, Newfoundland and Labrador to fully assess farmland values.

Most land transactions were agreed to prior to the most significant interest rate increases. However, Gervais believes the more recent increases will not completely deter some pro-

ducers from making land purchases that make sense for their operations.

"There's little doubt that higher borrowing costs will slow the demand for farmland," he said. "But the fact that the supply of farmland available is limited and farm incomes are trending in the right direction could offset the impact of interest rate increases."

Provinces with a higher percentage of arable land, such as Saskatchewan and Alberta, seem to experience a slower pace of increase in land values, according to the mid-year review. Ontario's average increase was bolstered by the central regions of the province, where competition for arable land is strong but supply is limited.

Farm cash receipts climbed 14.6 per cent year-over-year for the first half of 2022, although grain, oilseed, and pulse receipts were slightly lower in the first six months, as expected due to the drought across many parts of the Prairie provinces in 2021. Receipts are projected to increase 18 per cent for the full 2022, relative to 2021.

Despite inflationary pressures and geopolitical tensions, new crop prices continue to be elevated and should generate positive profit margins, given the latest production and yield estimates, according to the mid-year review.

Gervais recommends operators maintain a

risk management plan to protect their businesses against unforeseen circumstances, such as increases in borrowing costs and unfavourable movements in commodity prices.

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The Global Institute for Food Security (GIFS) at the University of Saskatchewan (USask).

## GIFS at USask receives \$2.5 million in federal funds

With a dramatic increase in global food insecurity caused by a number of different factors, the government of Canada is committed more than ever to strengthening Canada's leadership role in food production and innovation. The government is supporting agri-food, biotechnology and biomanufacturing innovations that are needed to help meet increasing demands for safe healthy food.

To support this critical economic sector, the Honourable Dan Vandal, Minister for PrairiesCan, recently announced funding of \$2.5 million for the Global Institute for Food Security (GIFS) at the University of Saskatchewan (USask) to help build Canada's only biomanufacturing facility dedicated to advancing sustainable agriculture

and innovative food ingredients.

Saskatchewan is an agricultural powerhouse containing 44 per cent of Canada's arable farmland and home to one of the world's strongest agri-science ecosystems. It is in a unique position to help meet market needs for agri-food and biotechnology products, and to be a leader in feeding Canadians and the world.

This investment, provided through PrairiesCan's Regional Innovation Ecosystems (RIE) program, creates an agri-food hub within an emerging Canadian network of biomanufacturing centres in Quebec, Ontario, British Columbia, and now Saskatchewan that are bringing this technology to health care, materials science, and environment markets. *Continued on Page B8*



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# 2022 grains, oilseeds and pulses outlook: Canada's low stocks and dollar to strengthen crop prices

MARTHA ROBERTS  
ECONOMIC EDITOR

**FARM CREDIT CANADA**  
With the 2022-23 marketing year (MY) crop now mostly in the bins, FCC expects another year of excellent crop prices. While several crop prices fell slightly below FCC's last forecast for the 2021-22 year (soybeans, canola, lentils and durum), each crop price ended well above their respective 5-year average. FCC's forecasts show that will also be the case in the 2022-23 MY, but with most prices falling from the highs of the 2021-22 crop year.

Those excellent prices will continue to support profitability across the country. Western crop margins are expected to remain strong throughout the fall marketing season. In the East, corn and soybeans will be positive, and while winter wheat will face more pressure, they're also expected to remain positive.

## Demand remains the key driver in global crop production markets

The 2021-22 crop year faced considerable uncertainty with the Russian invasion of Ukraine throwing commodity markets into chaos. Throughout the year, FCC has monitored the impacts of both the geopolitical instability and what has turned out to be persistent global inflationary pressures on crop profitability. But a third factor has been the combination of low beginning stocks and high global demand for most crops, a supply-demand imbalance that could best be offset by a good northern hemisphere harvest of the 2022-23 crop. That has

happened, but only to a certain extent across major field crop production this year.

## Coarse Grains

The USDA estimates global ending stocks of total grains for the 2021-22 MY will have fallen marginally year-over-year (YoY), as increases in both production and total supply negate a large increase in demand. The stocks-to-use ratio shows a corresponding uptick for the year that's expected to dissipate in the coming crop year. As a result, grain carry-out stocks are also expected to shrink 3.4% YoY in 2022-23.

According to AAFC, such declines were exacerbated in Canada, where increased usage and drought-impacted production of coarse grains in the 2021-22 MY combined to produce a 13.7% decline in overall carry-out stocks. However, this should be rectified in the 2022-23 MY, as total utilization falls slightly and production rebounds to near 2020 levels.

## Wheat

Global ending stocks of wheat faced a similar crunch in the 2021-22 MY and are expected to have fallen 5.1% YoY as growth

in demand outpaced production. For the upcoming year, output is expected to increase marginally, and demand is expected to fall marginally. But taken together and despite actual and estimated growth in production after the 2019-20 MY, global demand for wheat has risen faster, pushing the stocks-to-use ratio lower each year since then.

It's a different situation for Canada's wheat ending stocks. According to AAFC, the 2021-22 drought-impacted carry-out is expected to have declined by a whopping 38% YoY, led by a 37% fall in production and a 9% increase in total use. The 2022-23 crop will wipe out that deficit, with 55.6% YoY growth in production and a 6.4% YoY decline in total use. Carryout stocks are expected to grow 71.6% YoY.

## Oilseeds

The USDA forecasts that, after taking a hit in the 2021-22 MY, the global oilseed carry-out will grow 9.7% YoY by the end of the 2022-23 MY. In Canada, AAFC doesn't expect canola production to reach the pre-drought 2020-21 level, but it will grow 38.9% in the 2022-23 MY. But with

domestic demand likely to grow 8.2% in the coming year and with staggeringly low carry-in stocks to start the year, the 2022-23 carry-out stocks are expected to fall to 500,000 tonnes.

## Disrupted supply lines, geopolitics, hurricanes and unchecked demand amid a global pandemic: how to spell I-N-F-L-A-T-I-O-N

The growing influence of climate change on global weather patterns has disrupted crop production, aiding and abetting seemingly permanent pressure on global supplies. If that's now the status quo, the more transitory influences of geopolitical turmoil and inflation during a global pandemic can produce overwhelming uncertainty in commodity markets.

Nowhere is that clearer than in the world's fertilizer markets. The war has severely disrupted Russia and Ukraine's trade in global ag, with exports tied up in logistical stalemates, albeit with some recent loosening. However, it's unclear how long those trade routes, opened with help from the UN, will remain. Russian aggression, coupled with sanctions

from European nations against Russia, has eroded trade between the bloc and the energy-exporting giant, resulting in energy shortages and exploding prices.

It's hard to count the ways global events have impacted fertilizer prices since the pandemic's start. But, it's fair to say that the Russian war, poor weather wreaking havoc on manufacturing centres, a growing energy crunch, tight shipping and, most recently, Hurricane Ian have created a tsunami of upheaval in fertilizer markets.

Given the number of confounding factors, it's no surprise to see fertilizer prices aren't expected to loosen soon. They'll fall YoY but will remain high well past the outlook period.

## Bottom line

The enormous demand that has helped spike inflation rates globally in commodity markets and elsewhere may finally be waning. As central banks clamp down on inflation, sluggish global economic growth is widely expected. China's zero-Covid policies will likely dampen its manufacturing output and consumer demand. Asia will feel most of that im-

pact, but Brazil will too. If China isn't buying, global supplies of grains and oilseeds may see a reprieve, which may continue the slide in commodity prices we've seen from the highs reached in the first half of the year.

Reports of strong crops in Russia and China, the continued possibility of open borders in the Black Sea region, and excellent soy trade out of South America, may prove to weaken prices in the coming months. But forecasts of large declines in European crops, threatened border closures, and still-strong demand for canola, pulses, barley and wheat means continued price strength. And as the U.S. dollar strengthens and the Canadian loonie weakens, that will only add to the prices received by Canadian producers.



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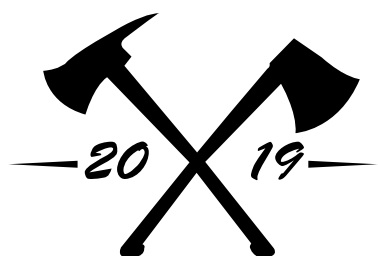
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# Saskatchewan and Manitoba increase funding to educate veterinarians at USask

Saskatchewan and Manitoba are addressing Western Canada's urgent need for more veterinarians by increasing their funding to educate more students in the Western College of Veterinary Medicine's (WCVM) Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) program at the University of Saskatchewan (USask).

During a news event at the WCVM on Sept. 29, Saskatchewan's Advanced Education Minister Gordon Wyant (KC) and Agriculture Minister David Marit announced that Saskatchewan will increase its annual quota from 20 to 25 seats for the 2023/24 academic year.

On the same morning, Manitoba's Advanced Education, Skills and Immigration Minister Jon Reyes and Agriculture Minister Derek Johnson also announced plans to add five seats to Manitoba's annual quota for a total of 20 seats (fall 2023 entry).

"Further expanding USask's capacity to train veterinarians will contribute to the sustainability of the profession and allow us to further enhance our leadership role in the veterinary sciences and in One Health," said Provost and Vice-President Academic Dr. Airini (PhD).

"The increase in provincial funding is so appreciated, and it will allow us to deliver essential veterinary medical education, advance interdisciplinary collaboration and research, and amplify our contributions to the health and wellness of western Canadian communities."

The WCVM accepts 88 veterinary students to its DVM program each year. Through the veterinary college's Interprovincial Agreement (IPA) with Saskatchewan, Manitoba and British Columbia, each province has an annual quota of seats in the DVM program based on a cost-sharing formula.

"We welcome this commitment from our provincial partners that will help to address Western Canada's urgent need for more veterinarians," said WCVM Dean Dr. Gillian Muir (DVM, PhD).

"The provinces' support allows more students from Saskatchewan and Manitoba to achieve their dreams of a career in veterinary medicine. It's also a sound investment in protecting the health and wellness of all animals—from companion animals and wildlife to livestock that play a critical role in Canada's agriculture industry and the country's economy."

Several factors—including a rapid increase in pet ownership, a rise in veterinary professionals reaching retirement age, and a limited number of graduates each year—have led to a shortage of veterinarians and registered veterinary technologists (RVTs) across Canada.

In Saskatchewan and Manitoba, the shortage is especially apparent in rural communities where veterinary clinics provide essential services for livestock producers and the agriculture industry.

"Today's investment in additional student seats demonstrates our government's commitment to addressing the shortage of veterinarians across the province," said Marit. "This initiative, along with the expansion of the Saskatchewan Loan Forgiveness for Veterinarians and Veterinary Technologists, will ensure that ranchers have access to the veterinary experts they need to provide the highest level of care for their animals."

"Animal health enables the success of our province's agricultural industries, so investing in the training of more veterinarians, particularly those with large animal expertise, will ensure this valuable support is available when needed," said Johnson.

During the WCVM event, several of the college's veterinary students demonstrated their clinical skills in the BJ Hughes Centre for Clinical Learning—the college's clinical simulation centre—for the Government of Saskatchewan representatives.

"I'm really excited for the future of veterinary medicine in Saskatchewan. I think this is a great opportunity for our province, especially with the shortage of veterinarians," said Jackson Goudy, a second-year WCVM veterinary student from Stoughton, Sask., and president-elect of the Western Canadian Veterinary Students' Association.

"Increasing the number of students who can attend vet school and enter the profession is the logical first step in addressing the veterinary shortage," added Michelle Streeter, a fourth-year WCVM student who grew up in rural Manitoba.

"I am also hopeful that Manitoba's decision to increase seats draws more students from the Prairies who are interested in working in rural mixed animal practice, since agriculture is such an integral part of so many local communities."



More students from Manitoba and Saskatchewan can apply for the WCVM's veterinary program, thanks to increased funding from the two provinces.

Christina Weese photo







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# GIFS at USask receives \$2.5 million in federal funds

*Continued from Page B4*

This new infrastructure will help Canadian researchers and processors better compete in agri-food industries, increase the pace of research into sustainable agriculture, attract foreign investment to Canada, and supply training in this growing field of research, while creating high-quality jobs in Saskatchewan.

GIFS plays a critical role in the discovery, development, and delivery of innovative agri-food and biotechnology products that meet market demand efficiently and sustainably. This expansion will combine genomics, machine learning, and automated biology to create proteins, peptides, and metabolites. These building-block technologies can help food last longer, make plants more resistant to disease, reduce allergens, or improve nutrition in food products.

The federal investment helps GIFS produce these technologies quickly, decreasing the time researchers need to test theories, and creating exponential opportunities for innovation in agriculture, agri-food and biomanufacturing. It will also improve Canada's biomanufacturing capacity for other stakeholders in the agriculture and biotechnology sectors as the federal government



expands Canada's domestic biomanufacturing sector.

"Supporting the creation of an agri-food hub in Saskatchewan and building on the already strong research and development being done at GIFS and USask strengthens Canada's position as a global leader in the agri-food industry," said The Honourable Dan Vandal, Minister of PrairiesCan. "Our government knows of the immense potential in Saskatchewan to meet the growing global demand for food products, and whenever we see an opportunity to partner with this sector to help reach its goals, we will be there."

"Our government is investing heavily to make our agriculture more resilient to the climate crisis," The Honourable Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food said. "Through research and innovation projects like those led by GIFS and the University of Saskatchewan, our agricultural producers and agri-food entrepreneurs will have additional

tools to ensure food security here and abroad."

"This facility at GIFS will become the engineering biology focal point for agriculture in Canada and strengthen USask's profile for delivering advancements in agri-food and biotechnology needed to ensure global food security," Dr. Baljit Singh, USask Vice-President Research said.

Steve Webb, CEO of GIFS commented, saying, "Adhering to the A, B, C's of biomanufacturing—automation and miniaturization, biology, and computation—this unique technology platform helps reduce the time it takes to trial innovative solutions and get them to market. Once online, the platform will decrease the room for error through automating lab processes, boast a deep understanding of biological structures and processes, and add powerful computing solutions, like artificial intelligence, to rapidly scale up the design and production of more nutritious and sustainable crops and food products."

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# 2022 cattle and hogs outlook update: Spectre of demand destruction looms over livestock markets



BY MARTHA ROBERTS, ECONOMIC EDITOR  
FARM CREDIT CANADA

Continued strength in cattle prices has pushed the average 2022 price for cattle in the East and West beyond FCC's August outlook forecast. And while annual average hog prices are now forecast slightly under that last one, they'll remain higher year-over-year (YoY) and well above their previous 5-year averages.

Such strong prices will keep cow-calf profitability above breakeven throughout the remainder of 2022, while strength in feed costs and current packer "congestion" will continue to pressure feedlot profitability. The year's margins are expected to be better than their respective 5-year averages for cow-calf operations and considerably weaker for feedlots, which should finally find some relief in 2023.

Hog margins are forecast to be mixed throughout the outlook period. Isowean margins in the east and west will remain below their 5-year averages this year, while farrow-to-finish operations' margins will best their 5-year averages. Eastern farrow-to-finishers won't quite reach the positive margins of their previous 5-year average, but they'll be well above breakeven.

However, globalized inflation has raised headwinds to Canada's livestock sectors with high feed costs and the possibly reduced global demand for meat. That's influencing the current basis in Western Canadian cattle markets, as U.S. packers face limited supply from a shrinking herd and early drought-induced marketings.

At the same time, according to Anne Wasko, Canadian packers can't get current. In the third quarter, slaughter numbers are down, and plants aren't working to capacity as packers face challenges to move the beef along. Not even the highly supportive CAD can offset the influence of the supply congestion in Canada. Production is further delayed with feed costs rising faster than the loonie is

falling and limited trucking available to move cattle after auctions.

In the U.S., a smaller sow herd will mean fewer farrows and a smaller swine herd overall (a 1.2% YoY fall). The USDA expects a smaller slaughter in 2022 and a second year of retracted growth in YoY pork production. Global demand for U.S. pork is expected to drop 8% YoY, and if pork supplies don't get used, those currently strong prices may fall.

## Feed costs on the rise

After a brief reprieve, feed costs are once again climbing. FCC's forecast for average feed barley in 2022, revised higher than our August projections, is now up 11.8% YoY and up 37.7% over the 5-year average. Corn is also higher than in August, up 12.9% YoY and 37.1% over the 5-year average.

## On the eve of demand destruction

In its October outlook, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) downgraded its expected global economic growth from 6.0% in 2021 to 3.2% YoY (falling to 2.7% in 2023) and projected inflation for 2022 at 8.8% (falling to 6.5% in 2023 and to 4.1% by 2024). Under such recessionary pres-

ures, consumption of red meat is likely to decline.

## China steps back

That's happening in some of the world's most important red meat markets. According to the IMF, China's expected growth will falter in 2022, falling from 8.1% in 2021 to 3.2% in 2022.

Continued on Page B14 *€*

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**Above left:** Champion Bred Heifer - KCH Black Lass 2110J (KCH Cattle Co.)



**Above right:** Champion Heifer Calf - KCH Rose 204K (KCH Cattle Co.)



**Above left:** Reserve Champion Heifer Calf - EMF Keepsake 6K (Eden Meadow Farm)



**Above right:** Reserve Champion Bred Heifer - KCH Queen 2107J (Steppeler Farms)

## Black Gold Classic jackpot held October 1 in Virden

This year was the first year for the Black Gold Classic jackpot. The goal for the cattle show was to allow exhibitors the chance to exhibit their cattle whether it be their first trip to town or one last time before the major fall cattle shows commence in November.

The show happened October 1 at the Virden fair grounds. It was an afternoon show and the organizers couldn't have asked for better weather for October 1! They ended up having around 50 head and were very happy with the turn out and excited to be able to host the show again next year on September 30, 2023.

The committee consisted of local producers Cody Renz, Naomi Best, Amanda Scott, Everett More, Greg Tough, Ashlee Mitchell and Trevor Nolan.

Black Gold Classic would like to **THANK** all our sponsors, exhibitors, judges and the Virden Agriculture Society for making this show happen! We look forward to seeing everyone next year. Mark your calendars for Saturday September 30th, 2023

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# Is the labour shortage here to stay?

BY ANTOINE DUCHAÎNE, INTERN ECONOMIST,  
FARM CREDIT CANADA

The labour shortage has been front-page news for some time now. Access to labour is a major concern in agriculture and agri-food processing. The shortage of workers has developed because of low growth in labour supply compared with demand. Retiring baby boomers and low population growth are the main reasons for the slow growth in labour supply. Is the labour shortage here to

stay? Could it worsen if the current trends continue?

Potential supply is defined here as the active population, while potential demand is the total number of jobs occupied and vacant. We talk about potential supply and demand because we ignore wages determined at the point where the supply and demand curves intersect.

Figure 1 shows that the gap between potential supply and potential demand has

grown increasingly narrow since 2011. This situation has created an increasingly tight labour market. Figure 1 also shows projections for potential labour supply and demand. Labour supply scenarios have been taken from a Statistics Canada study conducted in 2019. We have produced potential labour demand projections by taking economic growth and assuming that COVID-19 has not had a structural effect on the labour market. Regardless of the scenario considered in terms of potential supply, we can see that the gap will continue to shrink.

To quantify the extent of the future labour shortage, we can use the inverse relation-

ship between the ratio of potential supply to potential demand (hereafter, "the ratio") and the vacancy rate. The ratio measures the relative labour shortage, whereas the vacancy rate quantifies the impact of the labour shortage on employers. When the ratio decreases, the vacancy rate tends to increase. The ratio applies to all sectors but impacts vacancy rates differently across sectors due partly to working conditions specific to each sector and their geographical distribution.

Table 1 shows that we can expect an increase in the vacancy rate for all labour supply growth scenarios.

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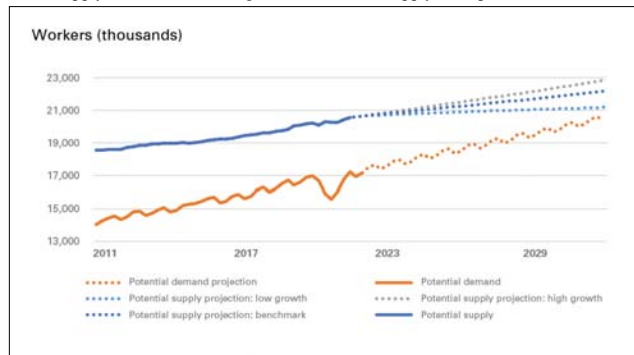


Figure 1: Changes in potential labour supply and demand in Canada

Year	Potential supply and demand ratio (benchmark, low, high)	Vacancy rate (benchmark, low, high)		
		All sectors	Agri-food processing	Agriculture
2011	1.30	1.65%	NA	NA
2016	1.24	2.43%	3.00%	3.50%
2021	1.24	4.73%	5.43%	5.50%
2026**	1.14, 1.15, 1.15	4.13%, 4.47%, 3.89%	4.59%, 4.89%, 4.38%	5.85%, 6.21%, 5.59%
2031**	1.08, 1.04, 1.12	5.05%, 5.81%, 4.52%	5.40%, 6.08%, 4.94%	6.84%, 7.66%, 6.27%

\* Seasonally adjusted in the fourth quarter due to high seasonality  
\*\* Projections

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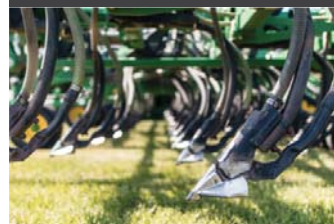
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# Ag minister returns from trade and investment mission to Mexico

Continued from page B2

"We have a great story to tell here about how in Saskatchewan, over 95 per cent of the land is zero-till or minimum till, some of these companies did not know that," said Marit.

"We just expressed our stories and told them that and they were very interested in more discussion around that. We even talked to some companies that are really looking at some investment opportunities as well."

Marit was asked how he explains Saskatchewan's story when speaking about the province's products.

"I promote what we've been doing for 40 years, I talk about continuous cropping, minimum and zero-till, how that's impacting the environment, and how our new technology is really changing the landscape of agriculture in the world," Marit said.

"If you look at the zero-till manufacturing, it was really born and raised in this province, and has grown out of this province. We talked about our high-quality food too."

"I think another thing that helps resonate with them is that I'm a farmer and when you tell them that, they sort of start looking at you like, 'tell your story,' and we do."

"That's sort of how we tell our story and say here's why you should be coming and endorsing your product here. As well from a business climate, that is attractive, but also from a stable government as well."

"They really do like what we're doing here in Canada. The other thing that came up is Saskatchewan having 40 per cent of all the arable land in Canada. When you start seeding 35 or 36 million acres and we only have 1.2 million people, then they start to grasp how big this place is."

"We usually show in a display how big Saskatchewan is. The province of Saskatchewan is two-thirds of the size of Mexico. When they start to see that sort of area, and then when we start telling them what our goals are for production, they start looking at it more closely. They also want to start doing more business in Canada than they do in the U.S."

"We have a good story to tell and these companies are really interested in what we're doing in the province of Saskatchewan."

Mexico was Saskatchewan's fourth largest export market in 2021 with \$993 million of sales, most of which were agri-food products for \$958 million.

In 2021, Saskatchewan's agricultural exports were worth \$17.5 billion which set a new record in the province, surpassing the previous year by 27 per cent.

"Mexico has now become our fourth largest agriculture partners globally. We have United States as our first, then China, Japan, then Mexico," Marit said.

"We're seeing increases in grain and wheat purchasing, there is even a pulse buy now with lentils and dry peas. We're still seeing the big purchases on canola, canola meal and canola oil. Oats is becoming a bigger player, as well as oat milk seems to be selling well in the Latin community."

"We see great opportunities for growth into Mexico, and obviously we reciprocate by taking in a lot of vegetables and products from Mexico as well."

Marit was asked why it is important that Saskatchewan continues to have a strong trading and exporting relationship with Mexico.

"Of course it's part of the CUSMA (Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement) trade agreement which makes it easier for companies to do business in Mexico and vice-versa," he said.

"I think the biggest thing is we see opportunity because the companies in Mexico like to do business with Canadian companies. That's what we heard, that they like to do business with Canadian companies. I think our reputation is there for delivering a consistent product and a high-quality product."

"This grain company that I met with, they like the consistent supply of obtaining wheat, and their customers are demanding that Canadian wheat be in their flour as well, which they are seeing in the quality of bread and things like that."

"We see this growing, we met with some oil crushers where they have a percentage of canola, a percentage of soy bean, or palm oil, but we even spoke about why they want to increase that and the canola side is obviously for health."

Marit said the biggest potential for growth in Saskatchewan's exports is in all of its commodities, which includes dry peas, lentils, durum, canola seed, canola oil, canola meal, canary seed and oats.

"I see growth in all of it, even in livestock genetics. I obviously see growth in the wheat side, definitely growth on the canola side as well, and even oats," he said.

"When we talked to these companies and the owners of these companies, their biggest question to us was, in their term, regenerative agriculture. We would say we've been doing that for 40 years with continuous cropping and they understand that, but they didn't realize that is what we have been doing so we had a good story to tell them."

"I would say the impression I got from these companies is that they were very excited to see some data and stats on exactly what we are doing, and how long we've been doing it for, as well what it means to the environ-

ment and everything else."

Marit spoke about what the ministry was hoping to get out of these meetings with investors.

"The biggest thing was continued trade and expanded trade, but there's a third element here as well and that's foreign investment attraction into Saskatchewan," he said.

"We see that as an opportunity when these companies are starting to focus on where their clients are looking at for a niche market or niche product. We think the best way for them to achieve that is to look at investment here."

"We told them that there are companies around the world that are now looking to invest into places where the product is growing, instead of just depending on how the product is getting to them, that they want to make sure they're at the source of where the product is so that they can guarantee supply."

Aside from trying to increase trade investments for Saskatchewan's agriculture sector, Marit said they were hoping to also expand the province's critical minerals, oil and gas, and mining sectors as well.

"We were hoping to expand the oil and gas, and the rare earth elements, but the folks that we were going to meet with had schedule changes and we had difficulty making that work," he said.

"We were really focused on the Ag side for this one, but we did reach out to other companies to have a discussion, but we can't do anything about scheduling at the last minute and that's sort of what happened. It was just unfortunate, for reasons, that they weren't able to meet with us."

Marit was asked what was the most important part that came from the trade mission to Mexico.

"I would say relationship building. I think it was key for us to meet with these companies to tell our stories, and it was important for us to understand what their needs are," he said.

"I heard it pretty clear of the reputation that our companies have built in trading with companies in Mexico, and the importance of continuing that. Also, it was very important for me to say to them, thank you. Thank you for doing business with Saskatchewan companies, for buying Saskatchewan products, and helping the farmers and ranchers in this province be able to sell their products. That was first and foremost the first thing out of my mouth every time I met with them was to thank them very much for doing business with Saskatchewan."

Marit said it was great working with the ministry of

agriculture, the director for the trade office in Mexico and other partners during his visit.

"My chief of staff was with me, Brady Peter. We have a trade office in Mexico and Horacio Cuevas is our man on the ground there. It was incredible the doors that this man was able to open for us," said Marit.

"He was amazing. For me to get a meeting with the CEO of Grupo Bimbo and the owner of Trimax is incredible because their time is obviously very precious. I can't say enough about the meetings that this team put together us."

"For example, at the Tri-National there was a session that I chaired, I was talking about Saskatchewan's story and what we do. I had Horacio do the presentation, he did it in Spanish, this was bilateral between Canada and Mexico. After he was done presenting, there were about 11 Mexican state representatives in the room, all 11 came up to him and gave him their card, and wanted to continue the discussion."

"That tells me a lot, and that's what we were seeing. Even in the discussion that we had privately with one of the states of the ministry, which was on how we can collaborate to all work together, about how we can help them with new technology in agriculture, how we do our service extensions in Saskatchewan, and how we can work together. It was because of Horacio that both of those meetings were pulled together."

"It was a very busy five days, but we'll hope to see if there's any groups from the trip in the next few months, hopefully."

## Saskatchewan will host next year's Tri-National Accord

Saskatchewan will be hosting next year's Tri-National Accord in 2023.

"We put that offer on the table to have it in Saskatchewan for next year. We don't have a time frame yet, but we will be hosting it in 2023," Marit said.

"There were three provinces there (in Mexico), there was about 12 U.S. states, mostly from the southern part of the U.S., and there was 11 or 12 Mexican state representatives there as well."

"In Saskatchewan, we'll probably see a big uptake from our northern, mid-west states because our focus is agriculture so we can see some good representation there."

Marit said they are still working on the details for the accord in Saskatchewan for next year.

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# Wrapping up the 2022 harvest

And just like that, it was over—harvest that is! At the time, those 27 (not consecutive) days felt more like 87 days, but now that a month has gone by since we finished, it really feels like it was nothing more than a blip on the radar. Just don't tell my guys that; I'm pretty sure it didn't feel like just a little blip to them.

One day, during harvest 2022, we were clipping right along, me on the littlest machine, the men on the bigger ones. Well, let me rephrase that. I was not the one clipping right along. In fact, after leaving a relatively wide open quarter, we were now on one that had a large slough or two and as a result, I was relegated to the "short" rows and to the area around the power poles.

I know they thought I was moving pretty slow that day but there are some things my guys probably don't know about me. One is that I slow down for mice. Let's hope they don't read this particular column. You know how your combine chases at least one mouse out the end of a wheat swath and normal operators lift those headers as they quickly swing that machine around and back down to the next swath, running over any rodents in their path? Yeah, well not me. I slow right down to give the mouse ample time to get out of the way before I turn and my big tires squash them flat and that means every time I turn, I move really slowly instead of whipping right around.

So on this particular day, not only am I turning slowly at the end of every swath, I am turning lots because I am on the short swaths. And that's when it happened—I got a charlie horse. Not in my calf as I might sometimes get in the middle of the night, but one right up my neck and into the back of my head. Oh my word! That is nasty, let me tell you and until a few months ago, it's something I have never before experienced.

My hand tightened around the back of my neck but instead of stopping my machine, I kept rolling (slowly), alternately using my right hand to steer then raise or lower the header as my left hand kept rubbing and squishing the muscle on my neck. Needless to say, there is no auto steer or any such thing on the little old machine I was driving (and yes, it does look like a toy machine out there in the field). As luck would have it, as I clutched my neck, my hubby radioed, "Have you dumped once yet?"

At that moment in time, I couldn't even reach for the radio, let alone turn my head to see how full or how 'not full' I happened to be. A good ten minutes went by before my neck relaxed and I could check my hopper. But before I could answer my guy, he's asking, "Can you hear me Donna? Why aren't you answering me?"

"No, I haven't dumped yet," I eventually responded only to hear him say, "What's taking you so long?"

"Yeah, well, I've got the toy combine and the little wee rows," I said, never once saying a thing about the charlie horse and certainly not a word about the mice.

The Lighter Side of  
Life...  
DOWN ON THE FARM  
by donna beutler  
FREELANCE PHOTOJOURNALIST  
dl\_beutler@yahoo.ca



As afternoon rolled into early evening, my machine started groaning a bit and I was sure I would be calling it a day rather early but once the sun was fully set, I was on a real roll—I got my speed back up to my pre-sunset speed and I eventually hit the long rows and away I went. Of course, my guys were still doing circles around me but I was happy. After all, I was saving mice, answering radio calls, one hand was steering, one hand was raising and lowering the header as needed, and I was keeping my neck so relaxed even my massage therapist would have been proud! The bonus that night was this perfect breeze that kept the wheat dry as we rolled along late into the night.

Now to be fair, hubby doesn't always consider late nights on the combine a bonus, at least at the time, but when it's all said and done, done is always the best feeling and the late nights are quickly forgotten! And once the combine has been washed down and the cab has been vacuumed and cleaned, it feels totally real—we are done done! And on a beautifully warm Thanksgiving Monday, one of the last amazingly hot fall days, it was combine cleaning day and there's no better feeling than having some post-harvest days to get things cleaned up and put away. Many are the years in times past when we've finished a few hours before the weather turned nasty and winter settled in.

With harvest out of the way by early October, I had the perfect opportunity to get a bit more yard work done before freeze up. I was determined to move some rock into a newly created "rock bed" carefully put together in little spurts over the previous five weeks. As I began, I was wishing I hadn't retired our old wheelbarrow to the farm because I could really use it for moving rock.

I ran to the farm to grab one and hubby and I got the job done in short order. The following day, the 'farm grandkids' came to spend a few after-school hours with me. The twins (11) didn't even bother to come in for snack so intent were they on raking and wheelbarrowing leaves from our lawn (few) and the neighbour's lawn (many), bagging them and getting them ready for the town to pick up.

They literally worked non-stop for three hours and I was glad to see the wheelbarrow was getting lots of use during its visit

to town. As the days went by, the wheelbarrow sat in the backyard, in no hurry at all to return to the farm until one weekend morning, I received this text: "You still have the wheelbarrow, Grandma?" "Yup," I said, "do you need it?" The little men of few words responded, "Yup, we need it." I promised to get it to them within the next few days but their response was, "Need it now." And of course, knowing the boys had work to do at the farm, I headed out to the farm for the wheelbarrow drop off.

At the farm, the twins have quite the collection of rakes (they ask for things like these for their Christmas presents) as they have an acre or two of lawn covered in leaves at this time of year. Piles of leaves have dotted the lawn and it was clear the boys had been hard at it in recent days. In fact even though they can use the side-by-side for their tubs and wheelbarrows and rakes (literally a dozen different styles of rakes), they have hooked the wagon they had when they were toddlers to their pedal bike and loaded all the tools of their trade into that wagon. I still haven't figured out how those long-handled rakes stay standing in the wagon but the boys have it cased!

With piles of leaves scattered everywhere, even the old dog was in his glory because every night he curls up on a pile somewhere in the yard and settles in for a well-deserved good night's sleep. Those poor dogs had many sleepless nights when bear came into the yard during harvest time to feast on the fallen apples in the back yard, causing them to bark all night long for many nights. The best part about the old dog curling up in the leaves was that the younger dog who sleeps on a doggie bed wanted to sleep next to her buddy. And that's when you would see her car-

rying her soft cuddly bed right up next to the pile of leaves that the old dog was in, set her bed down and crawl in next to him. And the next night, they would move to another pile of leaves.

These are memories that form in our mind that won't soon be forgotten just like our nights around the campfire behind the camper as we watched the stars in the sky awaiting the return of the men from the field; our treks to the field or to the creek in the open air ATV; the tailgate meals; the moving of trucks and machinery from one field to the next in anticipation of getting that one more field wiped off the to-do list.

And now as the machinery has been retired for the year, the RV has been closed up, the ATV has been parked and the riding mower has been nestled into its spot in the old shop, the hockey nets are in place out on the front lawn for lacrosse practise and now hockey practise, and we are switching gears for the inevitable moment the snow begins to fall (or has already started falling in some parts of the province.) I watch this from afar as hubby and I decided to sneak in a little mountain get-away time and wouldn't you know, we have had great traveling weather here in Banff/Canmore and are glad we weren't on Saskatchewan highways when the snow hit there!

With a grand view of the mountains from our hotel room, the farm seems far away. Or it did until the Stats Can survey reached us once again. I must be on the five-year hit list for farm surveys and I always overlook them because the subject line is in French. Until the phone call comes that asks why I haven't yet done my farm survey because "it is mandatory." And every time I ask, even though I know the answer, "Did you send that to me in French?" And yes, the subject line is in French though the survey is in English. It's one of my pet peeves and since I have very little to complain about, I allow this wee little thing to get under my skin. Silly, I know.

Anyhow here's to the end of the harvest season. May your complaints be few (and more substantial than mine lol); your blessings be many and your love of life on the farm outweigh the stresses and burdens that inevitably show up in all our lives from time to time. Here's hoping you get some down time with those you love and that we will all remember the words of this short but 'says-it-all' quote: the important things in life are not things at all.

## 2023 agriculture student scholarship accepting applications

Applications are now being accepted for the 2023 Saskatchewan Agriculture Student Scholarship Program.

"The agriculture industry is full of opportunity for the next generation of students," Saskatchewan Agriculture Minister David Maritz said. "This scholarship is an investment in the bright minds of our province and ensures the sustainability of the sector."

This year's theme is 'farming and the environment.' Applicants are encouraged to explore the idea of environmental sustainability within farming and the importance of public perception on modern farming practices. Applicants should focus on progressive environmental practices conducted by produc-



ers and the importance of relaying that message to the public to enhance trust in the industry.

Students are invited to submit a creative three-minute video or 1,000-word essay discussing farming and the environment. Scholarships will be awarded to students in Grade 12 and/or recent graduates entering

agriculture-related post-secondary studies in 2023. One winning scholarship of \$4,000 and three runner-up scholarships of \$2,000 will be awarded.

The deadline for applications is March 1, 2023. For more information on the Saskatchewan Agriculture Student Scholarship Program, visit saskatchewan.ca/ag-scholarship.



In the creation of this poignant, high-quality, fine-art book, **Dion Manastyrski** roamed the Canadian prairies, photographing old abandoned houses, barns, schools and churches. He interviewed over 70 people who lived that past way of life, when the small family farm was at the heart of rural life on the prairies.

Also included are 50 historical photos and documents from government archives. The photos and their words are interlaced to tell a story that begins with the pioneer years and covers many aspects of their lives over the 150 years.



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# 2022 cattle and hogs outlook update

**Continued from Page B9**

Not surprisingly, the USDA forecasts 2022 Chinese beef consumption to grow a relatively slow 2.6 % YoY, a slowdown from the previous 3-year average of 8.6% annual growth. And after growing their imports 31.8% each year on average between 2018 and 2021, imports are expected to grow 3.8% in 2022 (Figure 1) and to shrink 9.2% in 2023.

China's recent incredible growth has led to the inevitable shift, but the lack-of-growth trend is also shown in the U.S. and Japan, Canada's other two largest beef export markets.

Chinese pork consumption has almost recovered to pre-African Swine Fever (ASF) levels and is on a YoY upswing as their domestic pork production picks up, and more meat becomes available. At the same time, their pork imports have fallen to just above pre-ASF levels.

China's economic slowdown will reverberate throughout Asia, crimping growth and downshifting meat consumption in neighbouring economies.

## The war doing nobody any favors

The Russian invasion of Ukraine has created logistical logjams and supply-side commodity volatility, impacting almost every sector of global agriculture. It can be tied directly to the growth in feed costs currently plaguing the North American livestock industries.

The war has led to increased global energy and food costs, raising the cost of living to the point of civil unrest and protests. That's been the case, especially for Europe, where meat consumption is expected to fall, with households reeling from energy costs in what is expected to be a cold winter.

## Is the labour shortage here to stay?

**Continued from Page B13**

Projections shown in Table 1 suggest that the vacancy rate may decrease from 2021 to 2026. This projection is made on the assumption that the impact of COVID-19 on the labour market is temporary and will gradually disappear by 2026. If the impact of COVID-19 is not transitory, our projections underestimate the vacancy rate. In any case, Canadian businesses of all sectors will be grappling with a growing labour shortage. If the long-term trend continues, the vacancy rate could be above 5% in agri-food processing and close to 7% in agriculture by 2031.

The above data are for Canada and don't capture regional differences. According to the latest data, vacancy rates in Quebec and British Columbia stand at approximately 6%, whereas they are below 4.5% in the Prairie provinces. We can't say whether these regional differences will increase or decrease, but in our analysis, we expect to see vacancy rates increase across the country.

What are the solutions to the labour shortage issues?

Slow down of labour demand growth through automation and expansion to better leverage economies of scale. With the recent interest rate hikes, however, businesses will be less inclined to make investments that won't pay off for many years.

Increase labour supply growth through immigration policies that make it easier to bring in temporary or permanent workers. In the agricultural sector in particular, the inflow of temporary foreign workers coming to Canada under the Temporary Foreign Worker Program will grow over the coming years due to the high demand. Bringing in temporary foreign workers is costly for businesses, however.

The proposed solutions will have an impact over the long term, and implementation cannot be delayed too long otherwise, the labour shortage will worsen and become a barrier to growth. Given the current situation and the above projections, both short- and long-term, businesses will need to set themselves apart and get creative to attract workers by offering advantageous working conditions, including competitive wages and benefits.

## Can domestic demand take up the slack?

With global markets retracting, the North American market remains a brighter spot. The USDA forecasts U.S. per capita beef consumption to rise slightly in 2022 and again in 2023. Their pork consumption also remains high. In Canada, beef consumption was down in the first half of 2022, but expected to be up in the second half. Canadian pork consumption was up 2.8% YoY to start the year and is expected to remain strong.

## Bottom line

Prices for Canada's red meat sectors are currently strong and expected to remain elevated throughout the outlook period. But as the world economy continues to decline and export markets respond to weaker conditions, more pressure could be applied to prices. Certainly, Canada's performance in red meat markets could take a big step backwards, especially from the highs of 2021—and it may be more a question of "when," not "if."



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Kyle Penner of Harvest of Hope (left) and Rick Block, Saskatchewan Regional Representative of Canadian Foodgrains Bank.



Seven volunteers came out with their combines on harvest day. Throughout the year of Moosomin's Harvest of Hope Growing Project, there are around 50 volunteers who help out.

## Harvest of Hope Growing project raises \$70,000

**Continued from front**

"There's people who participate, they're super generous for giving their time, and letting us use their pieces of equipment."

Penner said people from the community help out in different ways in support of the growing project.

"The committee consists of eight of us who organize the project for the year, but within the community there's probably about 50 people that contribute on an annual basis in various ways," he said.

"This year we had people who came out and seeded it, we had people who sprayed it and people that swathed it. Also our friends at Conexus who are happy to feed all the volunteers and general public that came out for lunch today, and we have people like Rick who helped organize where the money goes."

Rick Block, Saskatchewan Regional Representative of Canadian Foodgrains Bank also attended the day of harvesting.

"One of the most important things is to be present when people in the community gather," Block said.

"If people are gathering, particularly in doing something around raising awareness or raising resources for this work of the Foodgrains Bank, that is in some ways the highest priority for when a regional rep would want

to be there.

"Coming to events like these where people are coming together on their own initiative, on their own time. They are giving energy and time to a project like this which is essentially where the dollars earned are going to the Foodgrains Bank."

"There's an awareness that's being raised in this community about the issues around hunger. Obviously we do include that thinking locally, this project really responds to the issues around hunger internationally."

Block shared his thoughts about Moosomin's Harvest of Hope developing a project this large.

"It's a small community doing a big project, but really it does represent the generosity this town has," he said.

"It represents the big heartedness of people in small communities here. I work in urban and rural environments, just because someone lives rurally and sometimes maybe we think their world is more around their rural area, but lots of people rurally have travelled in different areas."

"I think many people in Canada, whether it's their own travels or reading, they recognize that we have a lot of strong supports and structures in our country, that frankly other people in some other countries don't necessarily have."

"Moosomin is one of 30 of these growing projects in Saskatchewan. They are small communities, but they have a much bigger vision of what they could do in terms of having an impact in the wider world."

Block was asked how a project like Moosomin's helps make a difference to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

"Very tangibly, very practically. There's a committee here, there's a leadership group that recognized years ago the need and a place where they were able to rent land," said Block.

"They've been connecting with lots of Ag businesses in the Moosomin area. Being able to provide inputs that are often contributed as an in-kind donations by various companies. A lot of the Ag businesses are key partners in this."

"Another group that are key partners in this are those who farm. There's going to be someone who volunteers to put the seed in the ground in the beginning of the year, one or two would volunteer to do the in-crop herbicide applications."

"In a way it often culminates at harvest because that's a time when you can get a lot of families that are eager to contribute to this project, some bring combines, some bring trucks,

some bring grain carts, and it's really a fun way to cap off the growing year."

"In a couple weeks the rest of the group will hear some of the financial contributions because the grain goes into the bulk system. It's the financial value of that grain that is then forwarded to the committee and Canadian Foodgrains Bank."

"Essentially that money is utilized for our international projects and programs that go to alleviate hunger."

"There is a lot of need in the world right now, dollars from this project, you can't pin point

exactly, but there's a lot of response happening to a situation in Ukraine, both in Ukraine and on its borders, to the current situation in Pakistan in relation to the floods that happened. There's a large response in Eastern Africa because there is a large region with large populations on the cusp, and there's numerous other hot spots whether they're related to conflict."

"Also there's work that we do that's very much upstream around helping small holder farmers learn how to become more food secure and resilient."



Kids were enjoying time outside with their families on harvest day.

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